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Two Cases of Adhesiolysis as an Effective Treatment for Encapsulating Peritoneal Sclerosis After Kidney Transplantation

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Objectives : Encapsulating peritoneal sclerosis (EPS) is a rare but fatal complication of peritoneal dialysis. Although there are many management strategies for EPS, including steroid, tamoxifen and surgery, the mortality rate is still high. EPS can occur any time despite the patient had kidney transplantation, and importance of aggressive management for post-transplantation EPS is coming out lately.

Methods : We report 2 cases of EPS after kidney transplantation successfully treated with adhesiolysis

Results : A 56-year-old woman who had kidney transplantation a year ago, after 16 years of peritoneal dialysis followed by a year of hemodialysis presented with acute abdominal pain. Laboratory findings revealed severe infection and electrolyte imbalance, and abdominal CT scan showed severe intestinal obstruction and perforation. After emergent percutaneous drainage insertion, adhesiolysis was successfully performed. The other patient, a 61-year-old woman who had kidney transplantation 2 years ago, after 12 years of PD presented with clinical symptoms of partial intestinal obstruction, not at acute condition. Because chronic ileus and malnutrition were not improved by prednisolone and repetitive percutaneous drainage, finally adhesiolysis was performed. Both patients are stable without any abdominal symptoms after surgery.

Conclusions : In conclusion, we suggest that an aggressive adhesiolysis is the ultimate treatment method for post-transplantation EPS with acute or chronic progression.

Keywords : Encapsulating peritoneal sclerosis, kidney transplantation, surgical procedure