

Surgical Treatment of an Occlusion Caused by Ingested Foreign Bodies

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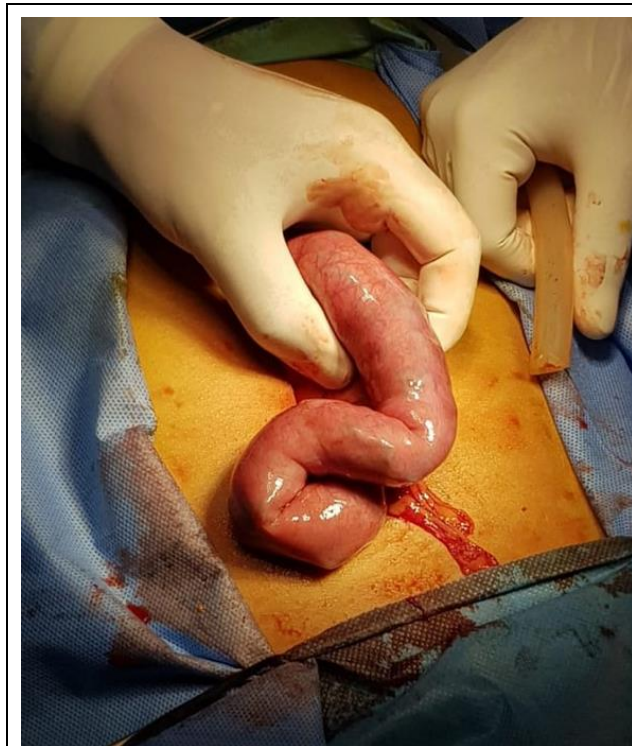


Figure 1: Intraoperative image showing a foreign body inside the small intestine.

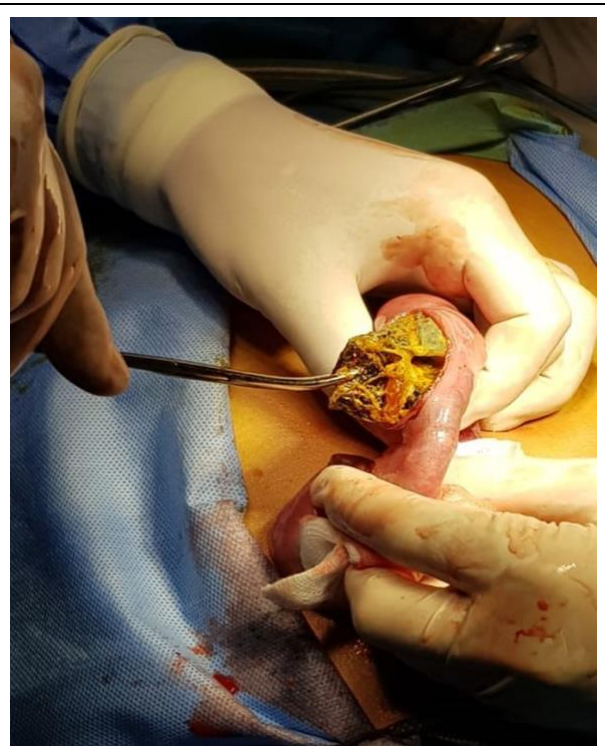


Figure 2: Enterotomy and extraction of foreign bodies.



Figure 3: Foreign bodies extracted from the stomach and small intestine.

Clinical Image

Ingestion of foreign bodies is a frequent situation in emergency departments. Patient's eating habits and their age determine the type of foreign body. Children, prisoners, psychotic patients and children with psychomotor retardation or behavioral problems are the mostly concerned.

We report the case of a 36-year-old male prisoner admitted to the emergency department with abdominal pain and an occlusive syndrome with cessation of bowel movements and gas. Abdominal CT scan shows a bowel obstruction upstream of an obstacle at the ileo-caecal junction. The patient was treated by laparotomy, and an enterotomy and gastrotomy were performed with extraction of foreign bodies. The post-operative course was straightforward.