

“HEY , WHAT A PERVERTED JOKE ! “ : A CASE REPORT OF TRANSANAL BAROTRAUMA

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INTRODUCTION

In this era of urbanisation, the usage of high pressure air compressor in cleaning factory product has been widely used. Unfortunately, the misuse of these machines have lead to various kind of injuries such as transanal barotrauma.

CASE REPORT

A 20-year-old Bangladeshi gentleman, a factory worker , went to the emergency department with severe abdominal pain and abdominal distension. Five hours earlier, his friend played a prank by pointing a high pressure air compressor at the patient's buttocks, which was used to clean the factory product. Subsequently he developed immediate severe abdominal pain and distension. On arrival, his blood pressure was 133/87 mmHg, and his pulse rate slightly tachycardia. The abdomen was markedly distended with board-like rigidity upon examination. The digital rectal examination showed no remarkable findings. An abdominal radiography revealed a gross pneumoperitoneum. He was immediately sent for emergency laparotomy. Upon exploration, revealed a perforation of sigmoid colon measuring 1x1 cm and multiple jagged tears in the rectosigmoid measuring 3x3 cm. The patient underwent resection of the sigmoid and a primary anastomosis. He was discharged well after fifth postoperative day.

DISCUSSION

In general, transanal barotrauma is not unusual however colorectal injuries due to high pressure air compressor are extremely rare and most of them required surgical intervention. It has been estimated that the pressure of 0.27 kg/cm² can rupture the serosa and muscle of the intestinal wall. In the industrial fields, high pressure air compressor of more than 10kg/cm² is broadly used. Hence, this highly pressure has risk to cause the intestinal perforation if it is being introduced into the anus although it is just a joke as in this case report. The rectosigmoid region is the most vulnerable, with injuries commonly reported in the rectosigmoid junction, sigmoid colon, and sigmoid-descending junction.

CONCLUSION

Colorectal barotrauma due to compressed air may happen due to intentional misuse or accidental injury. Therefore, it is important to educate people about the proper use of such machines to prevent these types of accidents, since most cases are accidental and result from lack of awareness.

KEYWORDS : Air compressor , Transanal barotrauma