



Flank Pain in a 33 Year Old Male with Muscular Dystrophy

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Clinical Image

A 33-year-old male presented to the emergency department with a 3-day history of severe right-sided abdominal pain. The pain was sharp and intermittent in nature with no radiation. There was no associated fever or nausea or vomiting. On clinical examination tenderness was elicited in the right iliac fossa, but no rebound or guarding. The initial haematological investigations revealed white cells of $15 \times 10^9/L$ and C-reactive protein of 120. Urinalysis demonstrated a trace of blood. The working diagnosis was acute appendicitis. The patient had a contrast enhanced CT abdomen and pelvis performed, including both coronal and axial images (Figure 1 and 2)

Cross-sectional imaging demonstrated a 7 mm calculus in the proximal right ureter with mild prominence of the right renal collecting system. There was almost complete atrophy of the visualized muscles in the abdomen and pelvis, including the psoas muscles, latissimus dorsi, abdominal oblique muscles, rectus muscles and gluteal muscles. These characteristic appearances are consistent with a diagnosis of muscular dystrophy. The patient was managed with ureteric stent insertion.

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Figure 1: CT Abdomen.

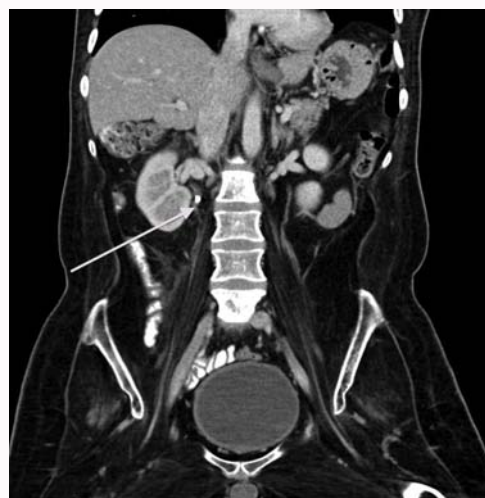


Figure 2: CT Pelvis.