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Traumatic Adrenal Hemorrhage

Cheng -Yu Wang¹ and Chun-Hung Chen^{1*}

Emergencyy Department, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwaann

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Clinical Presentation

The 44-year-old male with hypertension and diabetic presented in the emergency department with torso pain after motor vehicle crash 30 minutes ago. The pain was located at right upper quadrant, flank, chest and back. Vital signs were stable. The sonography showed ascites over Morison's pouch. The laboratory data showed GOT of 462 U/L and GPT of 497 U/L. The results of contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT) were as following: (1) right adrenal gland hematoma with contrast extravasation(**Figure 1**, **Figure 2**), (2) liver laceration Grade II (**Figure 1**),(3) pelvic fracture (**Figure 3**). He received conservative treatment and discharged smoothly 20 days later.

Traumatic adrenal injury is a relative rare event which is reported in 0.15 to 4% of the blunt abdominal trauma cases[1]. Adrenal trauma is unilateral in 75–90 % of cases and most commonly affects the right adrenal gland [2]. The clinical management of adrenal trauma is usually directed by concomitant injuries, while the adrenal trauma itself is most often managed conservatively [3]. In addition, the most common CT manifestation of adrenal trauma is 2–3-cm oval hematoma [2]. Finally, the adrenal injury is an important indicator of the severity of trauma and associated with increased morbidity and mortality [2], such as in this case.



Figure 1. Right adrenal gland hematoma with contrast extravasation.

Corresponding author: Chun-Hung Chen, Emerg egency Department, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, TTaiwan.

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Figure 2. Right adrenal gland hematoma with contrast extravasation.

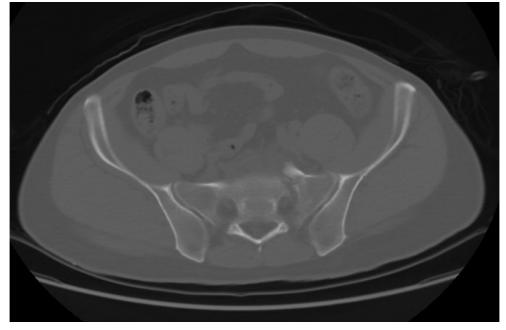


Figure 3. Left sacral alae fracture.

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