


IMAGES IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Pediatrics

Infant with accidental ingestion of heated tobacco

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1 | PATIENT PRESENTATION

A 10-month-old girl was brought to the emergency department by her mother for accidental heated tobacco (iQOS ILUMA, TERE Heat stick) ingestion. After her mother noticed that some heated tobacco sticks on the sofa were missing, she was brought to the hospital rapidly. Her vital signs were stable, and her general appearance was lethargic. On physical examination, there were no abnormalities. Because it was within 1 hour of accidental ingestion and there was a potential nicotine intoxication, we judged that gastric lavage was indicated. After we inserted the nasogastric tube for gastric lavage, the radiograph presented a rectangular foreign body in the stomach. The size of the foreign body was 12 mm long and 3 mm wide. (Figure 1)

2 | DIAGNOSIS

2.1 | Heated tobacco blade ingestion

Before the gastric lavage, she vomited the tobacco leaves and the blade with sharp edges. There was no oral bleeding or bloody stool. She was discharged from the hospital with 24-hour follow-up.

Since the launch of heated tobacco products, the number of sales has been growing worldwide.¹ In Japan, younger people tend to use heated tobacco.² In addition, the case of accidental ingestion of heated tobacco has been increasing.³ Clinical physicians need to know that depending on the type of heated tobacco, a blade is built into the stick. (Figure 2) Its shape is sharp, and the possibility of physical damage to

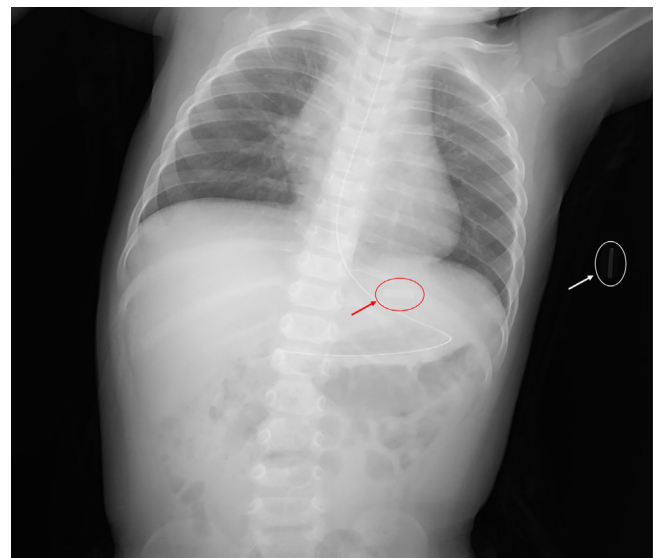


FIGURE 1 Abdominal radiograph identifying a foreign body (red circle and arrow) and the iQOS stick the mother brought (white circle and arrow).

the digestive tract cannot be denied. It may be better to remove the blade using a magnet catheter.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

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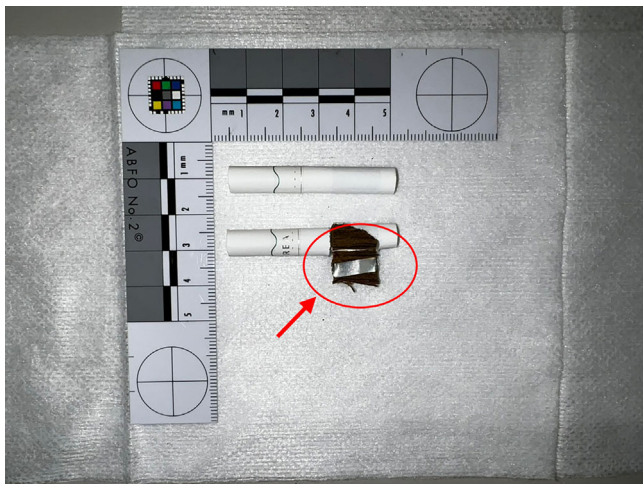


FIGURE 2 iQOS stick with a sharp blade.

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How to cite this article: Maruyama T, Sasaoka D, Fujii Y, Mori S, Inoue T, Ogawa A. Infant with accidental ingestion of heated tobacco. *JACEP Open.* 2023;4:1–2.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/emp2.12959>