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Image of the month

Mesenteric ischemia in gastrointestinal mucormycosis[☆]

Isquemia mesentérica en paciente con mucormicosis intestinal

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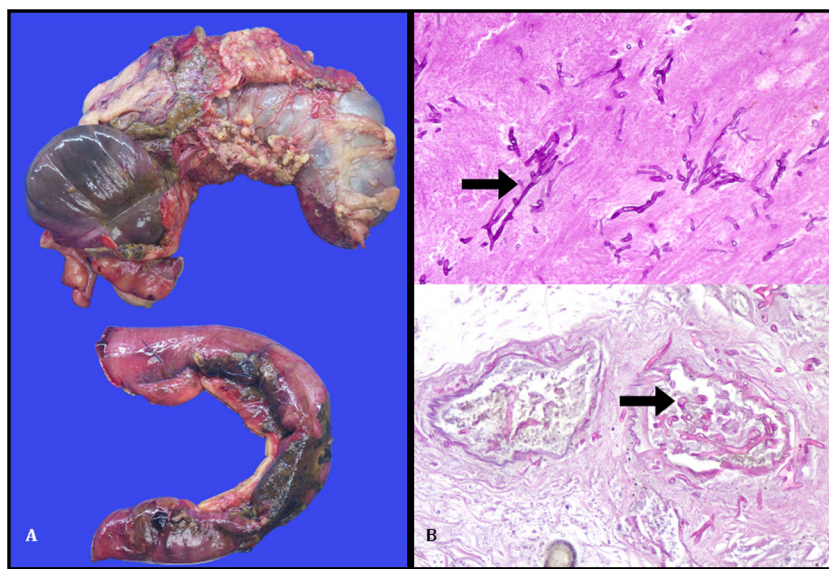


Fig. 1 – A- Right colectomy with cecal necrosis and obliterated ileocolic vessels, and ileum ischemia. B- Abundant fungal structures within vascular lumen.

A 65-year-old diabetic woman with respiratory failure due to SARS-CoV-2 infection. She presented with anaemising enterorrhagia and underwent CT angiography compatible with severe mesenteric ischaemia. Emergency surgery was performed, and colonic necrosis with ischaemic ileal perforations was observed intraoperatively, and a right hemicolectomy and ileal resection were performed. The patient progressed unfavourably with multiorgan dysfunction, and died on the 15th day. Histology confirmed angioinvasive intestinal mucormycosis with endovascular involvement (Fig. 1).

Intestinal mucormycosis is rare and fulminant, therefore, early suspicion is vital. It should be considered a differential diagnosis of acute abdomen in immunocompromised patients, high dose corticotherapy or risk factors for opportunistic infections.

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