

Nododuodenal Fistula Caused by Tuberculosis

A 39-year-old woman presented to our hospital with upper abdominal pain. She had been taking anti-tuberculosis medications for 3 months because of pulmonary tuberculosis. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy showed a creamy discharge from an opening in the duodenal bulb (Fig. 1), and abdominal computed tomography with coronal reformatting showed that the lymph nodes had eroded the adjacent duodenum, resulting in a small oval collection of gas (Fig. 2). The continuous use of anti-tuberculosis medication resulted in complete healing of the duodenal fistula. Tuberculous lesions of the duodenal bulb may primarily affect the duodenum or produce compression because of the enlarged lymph nodes. The common complications of duodenal tuberculosis are fistulous communications with

adjacent structures, perforation, and obstruction. Our case was a rare but interesting case that showed a creamy discharge from a nododuodenal fistula resulting from tuberculosis.

Conflict of interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

Dong-Gun Lee and Gwang-Ha Kim

Department of Internal Medicine, Pusan National University School of Medicine and Medical Research Institute, Pusan National University Hospital, Busan, Korea

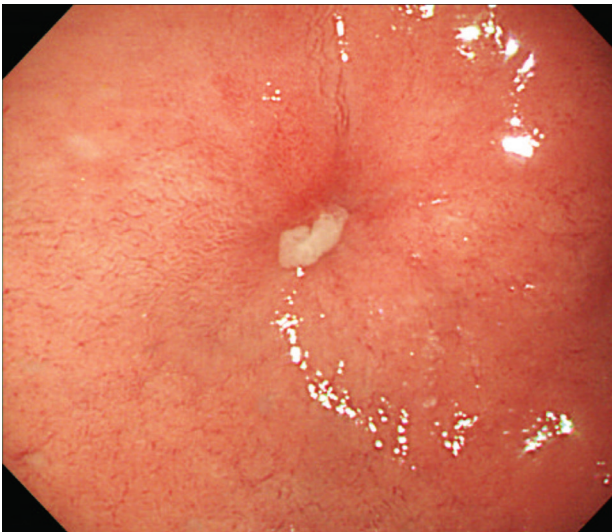


Figure 1. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy identified creamy discharges from an opening in the duodenal bulb.

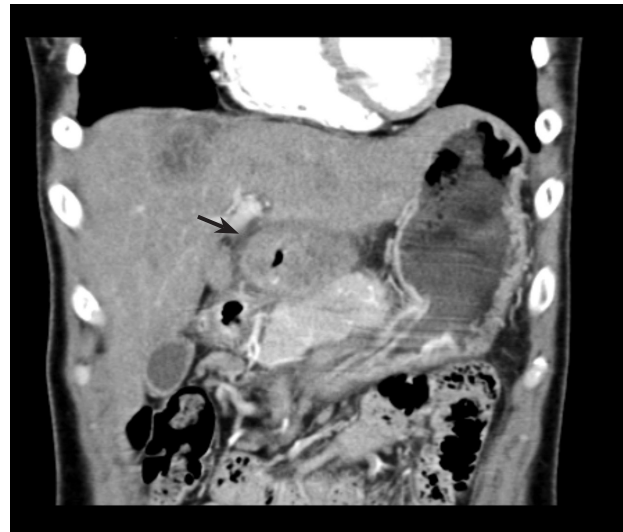


Figure 2. Abdominal computed tomography with coronal reformatting shows that the lymph nodes eroded the adjacent duodenum, resulting in a small oval gas collection in the suprapancreatic lymph nodes with foci of low attenuation (arrow).

Received : July 7, 2010

Revised : July 9, 2010

Accepted: July 19, 2010

Copyright © 2011 The Korean Association of Internal Medicine

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.