Cureus

Open Access Case Report

DOI: 10.7759/cureus.39857

Foreign Body Implanted Into the Penis During Traffic Accident

Nihat Turkmen [1] , Cemil Kutsal [1] , Abdullah H. Yavuzsan [1] , Sinan L. Kirecci [1]

1. Urology, University of Health Sciences, Sisli Hamidiye Etfal Training and Research Hospital, Istanbul, TUR

Corresponding author: Abdullah H. Yavuzsan, hiziryavuzsan@hotmail.com

Review began 03/12/2023
Review ended 05/29/2023
Published 06/02/2023

© **Copyright** 2023
Turkmen et al. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License CC-BY 4.0., which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Abstract

Although there are some reports describing foreign body implantation into the penis by intentional manipulation, no records about patients got aware of it many years after traffic accidents. A 29-year-old male patient had been severely injured in a traffic accident 13 years ago. Following a coma state for several months, he had no any symptom for a long time. Four years later, he got aware of the inconvenience on the ventral side of his penis during erection. His partner had also complained of pain during coitus. When he was admitted to our clinic, there was a semi-mobile, fibrous dense 2x2 cm knob on the ventral side of the penis consisting of a coronal sulcus. Under local anesthesia, we got out of a piece of glass. He was discharged after enough follow-up periods without complication. The interesting point of this case was not the clinical condition of the patient; it was that no one could consider a coma patient would have a complaint of penis injury several years later. This case showed us, one more time, how important the complete physical examination was.

Categories: Urology, Trauma
Keywords: genital trauma, penis, foreign body, erection, traffic accident

Introduction

Foreign bodies, such as glass or mica, being inserted into the body of the penis into the urethra, or under the skin of the penis have been reported in the literature, as well as broken needle tips remaining inside the penis following therapy [1-6]. In most such cases, the cause was intentional manipulation. However, in traffic accidents with multiorgan trauma, foreign bodies may find their way into different parts of the body, and in this paper, we present a case of a man who lived for 13 years with a piece of glass in the distal ventrum of his penis, which he acquired during a traffic accident.

Case Presentation

The 29-year-old male patient had a traffic accident 13 years ago. He was comatose for two months after the accident and received treatment for multiorgan trauma during that time. The patient reports memory loss for the next two years. He palpated a lump on the underside of his penis four years after the accident. He was complaining of pain during erection, and his partner was also uncomfortable during coitus.

When he was admitted to our clinic, there was a hard, semi-mobile, palpable lump of approximately 2×2 cm located on the ventral side of the penis, encompassing the coronal sulcus (Figure *1a*). The patient had no medical or surgical history of any disease or operation. He also did not have any urination problems. Then penile ultrasonography was applied to the patient. On ultrasonography, it was reported that there was a hyperechoic lesion with minimal vascularity around it. In the foreground, it was reported that this lesion might be a granuloma. Surgical exploration was decided because the patient had a lesion with vascularity on ultrasonography and a painful erection. Under local anesthesia, the skin, the underskin, and Colles' and Buck's fascia were passed with a circumferential incision. A 2×2 cm piece of glass, located adjacent to the tunica albuginea of the right cavernous body and the urethra (Figure *1b* and Figures *2a*, *2b*), was observed and then extracted. He was discharged after a day of follow-up without any complications.

How to cite this article
Turkmen N, Kutsal C, Yavuzsan A H, et al. (June 02, 2023) Foreign Body Implanted Into the Penis During Traffic Accident. Cureus 15(6): e39857. DOI 10.7759/cureus.39857

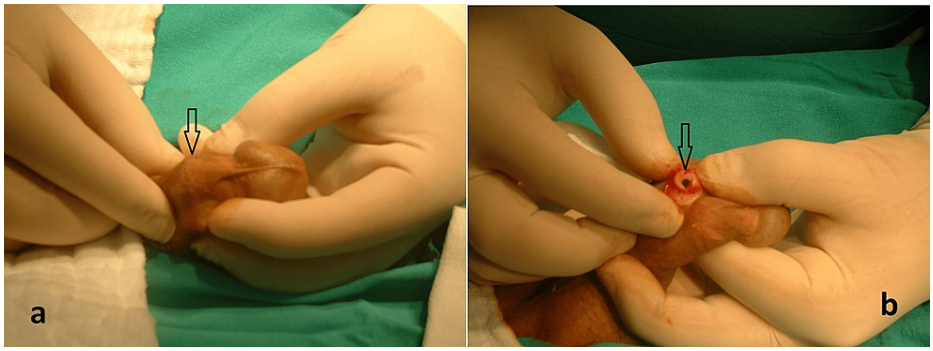


FIGURE 1: Intraoperative images before extracting the foreign body

a. Palpation of the foreign body (arrow) before the incision; b. Image of reaching foreign body (arrow) after incision of the skin, subcutaneous, Colles' and Buck's fascia.

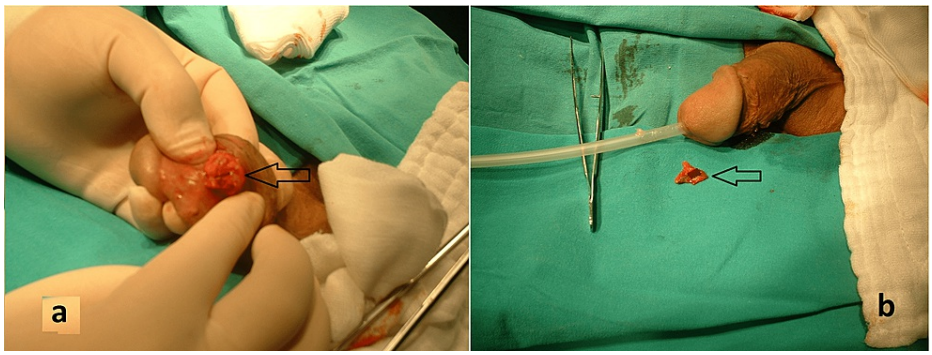


FIGURE 2: Intraoperative images after removal of the foreign body

a. Image of the incisional area after removal of the foreign body (arrow), b. Image of the removed 2 cm piece of glass (arrow).

Discussion

Many papers have reported foreign bodies in the penis and urethra. Needle tips broken during intracavernous injections [1,6], granulomas in occupational disease [2], intentionally inserting a plastic ball [4] or mica [5] under the skin, or insertion of a foreign body for masturbatory purposes [3] have all been described in different papers. However, all such papers mention intentional manipulation, and there have been no cases reporting a foreign body being implanted during a traffic accident.

Conclusions

General body traumas, like in traffic accidents, may result in loss of consciousness, and thus other pathological conditions may be ignored while attending to life-threatening problems. In this case, the patient’s vegetative state concealed his penis injury. Faced with multiple body traumas and comas, the clinicians did not consider the penis to be a part of the body worth attending to. This case shows that every part of the body can be involved in multiple trauma and that a complete physical examination is very important.

Additional Information

Disclosures

Human subjects: Consent was obtained or waived by all participants in this study. **Conflicts of interest:** In compliance with the ICMJE uniform disclosure form, all authors declare the following: **Payment/services info:** All authors have declared that no financial support was received from any organization for the submitted work. **Financial relationships:** All authors have declared that they have no financial relationships at present or within the previous three years with any organizations that might have an interest in the submitted work. **Other relationships:** All authors have declared that there are no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

References

1. Akyol I, Adayener C, Senkul T, Karademir K, Baykal K, Iseri C: Broken needle in the penis as a complication of intracavernous injection therapy. Gulhane Med J. 2007, 49:40-1.
2. Hinnen U, Elsner P, Barraud M, Burg G: Foreign body granuloma of the penis caused by occupational glass fibre exposure. Genitourin Med. 1997, 73:577-8. 10.1136/sti.73.6.577
3. Jaiswal AK: An unusual foreign body in the preputial sac . Genitourin Med. 1992, 68:334-5. 10.1136/sti.68.5.334
4. Du JN: Foreign-body implants in the foreskin . Can Med Assoc J. 1984, 130:845-6.
5. Kılıç O, Talas H, Gudelci T: Unusual foreign body on penis: mica . Turk J Urol. 2006, 32:552-3.
6. Shamloul R, Kamel I: A broken intracavernous needle: successful ultrasound-guided removal . J Sex Med. 2005, 2:147-8. 10.1111/j.1743-6109.2005.20115.x