Obstructive Shock Caused by a Giant Hiatus Hernia

Seiji Morita\textsuperscript{1,2}, Keiji Sakurai\textsuperscript{1}, Yasue Watanabe\textsuperscript{1} and Tomoya Nishino\textsuperscript{1}

Key words: obstructive shock, giant hiatus hernia

(Intern Med 53: 2755, 2014)  
(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.53.3280)

An 82-year-old woman was brought to our hospital by ambulance with vomiting. At admission, she complained of severe nausea, and her systolic blood pressure was 40 mmHg. There was no evidence of bloody vomitus. Hypotension prolonged despite massive transfusion. Computed tomography performed to determine the cause of hypotension revealed a giant hiatus hernia (GHH) that occupied the posterior mediastinum (Picture). We believed that compression of the heart by the GHH caused the hypotension. Therefore, a nasogastric tube was inserted, which immediately drained a large amount of fluid and air. After drainage, her hemodynamic status improved significantly. She underwent elective surgery for GHH removal and was discharged without any complication.

Although obstructive shock, which is shock caused by physical obstruction, is rare (1), it should be considered in patients who present with prolonged hypotension despite transfusion.

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

Reference