Asymptomatic Colonic Anisakiasis

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Picture A.

Picture B.

Picture C.

A 41-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital with a diagnosis of colon adenoma in an asymptomatic condition. Endoscopic mucosal resection incidentally revealed a submucosal tumor (SMT) in the ascending colon. The diameter of the tumor was approximately 3 cm, and the lesion was accompanied by surface erosion (Picture A, B). Colonoscopy performed at the previous hospital did not disclose

the tumor. When the colonoscopy image was inverted, an *Anisakis* larva was found behind the tumor (Picture C): the *Anisakis* larva was therefore removed using forceps. We subsequently discovered that the patient had eaten raw squid two days before admission. Anisakiasis is a human parasitic infection of the gastrointestinal tract, particularly the stomach. It is reported in geographic areas where fish is consumed raw, including Japan; however, anisakiasis of the colon is rare and often manifests as SMT (1). Therefore, some cases may be rediagnosed as colonic anisakiasis following surgery for SMT (2).

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

References

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