Extraperitoneal Placement of a Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter

Yasuna Nakamura, Yu Kurata, Yoshifumi Hamasaki and Masaomi Nangaku

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An 85-year-old mildly obese woman was referred to our hospital due to peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter dysfunction. One month earlier, she had received PD catheter insertion because of end-stage renal disease attributed to ANCA-associated vasculitis. She complained of abdominal pain even during the initial PD solution infusion. Both PD fluid infusion and drainage immediately became impossible. Using abdominal radiography and computed tomography (Picture A, B, C and D), the PD catheter was located in the peritoneal cavity. Considering the possibility of PD catheter obstruction due to intraperitoneal structures, such as the omentum, catheter repair surgery was performed. However, during surgery, the catheter was found to be located in the pre-peritoneal fat layer. The catheter was therefore removed and reinserted. Accidental PD catheter placement in the extra-peritoneal space should be considered in cases of catheter malfunction manifesting immediately after insertion, although it is difficult to diagnose such cases by imaging alone (1, 2).

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Division of Nephrology and Endocrinology, The University of Tokyo, Japan
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Correspondence to Dr. Yoshifumi Hamasaki, yhamasaki-tky@umin.ac.jp
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