

Image article

Giant Infected Spermatic Cord Cyst

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Spermatic cord cysts are benign tumors usually delimited by a thin membrane and containing liquid, located between the head of epididymis and the external inguinal ring. It is rare to find an infected content. We report the case of Mr. T.G., 71 years old, smoker, with no previous medical history. He consulted the E.R. for a scrotal swelling since 10 years, with pain and fever since the last 3 days. Clinical examinations revealed a giant right spermatic cord cyst, pushing forward the right testicle, with inflammatory signs (Figure 1). Inflammatory biological assessment was positive. Sonography revealed the presence of an echogenic and heterogeneous content. The patient underwent an exploratory scrototomy with resection of the infected cyst (Figure 2). The cyst was very adherent to the different structures, and the resection tricky. The post-operative course has been illustrated by clinical improvement, and decrease of markers of inflammation under antibiotic treatment.



Figure 1. Clinical examination showing a giant right spermatic cord cyst



Figure 2. Intraoperative picture of the infected giant cyst, with the right testicle pushed forward

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Sub Date: July 31st 2019, **Acc Date:** August 2nd 2019, **Pub Date:** August 2nd 2019

Citation: Regragui S, Slaoui A, Karmouni T, Karrakchou B, et al. (2019) Giant Infected Spermatic Cord Cyst. BAOJ Urol Nephrol 4: 034

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Infected spermatic cord are rare, this because the patients consult and undergo surgery most often before the infection occurs. Inflammation secondary to the infection transform a previously potentially simple surgical procedure to a very risky one, because of the close anatomical relations with the vas deferens. Thus, dissection requires great caution and experience.