

# CASE REPORT

## UNUSUAL CASE OF UTERO-ENTERIC FISTULA

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**ABSTRACT:** Dilatation and curettage is one of the common minor procedures with minimal complication but can it cause major complications like perforation of uterus, so we are reporting on a case of utero enteric fistula followed by perforation.

**INTRODUCTION:** Dilatation and curettage is one of the common minor gynaecological procedure but not without major complications. Uterine perforation is one example of such complication for which conservative management is generally recommended but in some cases it may require surgical intervention. Here we are sharing one such experience of a patient who presented as the case of secondary infertility with symptom of intermittent abdominal pain and finally diagnosed as the case of utero-enteric fistula after undergoing further workup.

**CASE HISTORY:** A 30 years female patient, married since 15 years, P1L1A1 Presented to our OPD with a history of secondary infertility with HSG report.



Fig. 1 & 2

HSG S/o: Injected dye in bowel. Fistulous communication of uterus with bowel. Right fallopian tube not visualized. Left fallopian tube normal.

**Patient was posted for Diagnostic Hystero Laparoscopy after investigation:**

### Laparoscopic findings:

1. Ut normal size
2. Mild hydrosalpinx on left side
3. Loop of small intestine adherent to fundus of Uterus on its posterior part.

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## Hysteroscopic findings:

1. B/L ostiavisualised
2. Endometrium polypoidal
3. Vertical incomplete septum from fundus

## Chromopertubation:

1. B/L spill absent
2. Bluish discoloration of bowel loop
3. Dye & hysteroscopic fluid found in rectum

## And then planned for exploratory laparotomy and findings were:

### Exploratory laparotomy

#### In situ findings

1. Intestinal loop was pulled into fundus of uterus more towards posterior part.
2. There was a fistula between Ileum approx 6 inches from ileocecal junction, Uterus & sigmoid colon.

Loop of ileum, sigmoid colon separated from uterine fundus by sharp dissection.

Fistulous communication in ileum & sigmoid colon sutured with vicryl 3-0 & mersilk 2-0 in two layers after refreshing the edges.

Patency of bowel checked- bowel patent.

Uterine end of fistula closed with vicryl 3-0.

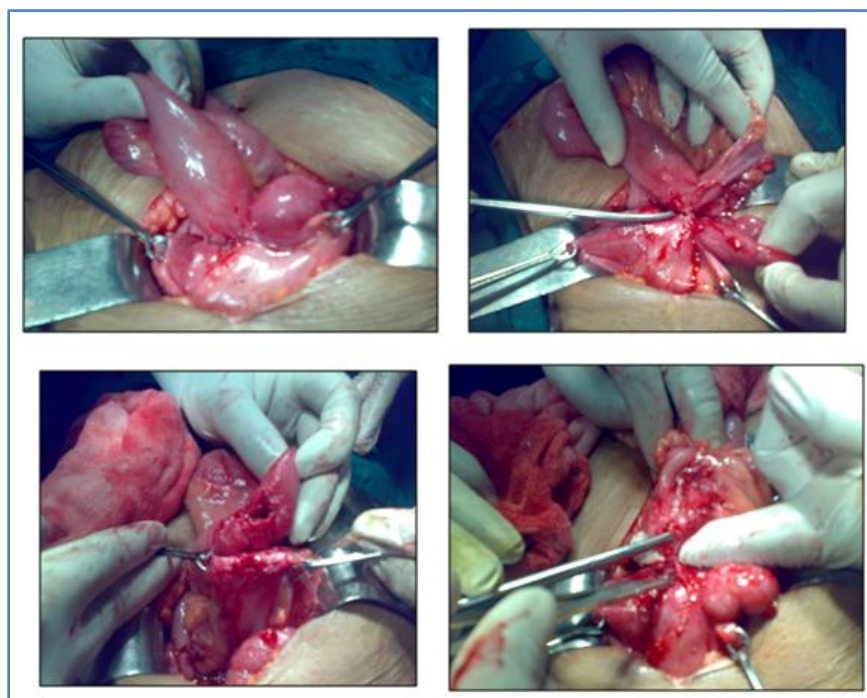


Fig. 3, 4, 5 and 6

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**Post operatively:** Started on higher antibiotics with adequate hydration patient kept NBM for 72 hrs abdominal drain removed on day 5 Suture removals done on day 10 scar healthy.



**Fig. 7: Bilateral tubal block**

Patient was discharged on 16/09/11 HPR of bowel margins: chronic inflammation.  
In view of bilateral tubal block planned for IVF.

**DISCUSSION:** D&C is a diagnostic and therapeutic surgical procedure used frequently with overall low complication rate of 0.7%.<sup>1</sup> The rate of perforation varies with the indication for the same. The perforation is more common when attempting for control of post-partum haemorrhage (5.1%) and less common for diagnostic curettage (0.3% in premenopausal and 2.6% in post-menopausal patient).<sup>2, 3</sup> In the case of the uterus, perforation ending in fistula can develop into the bladder, colon, and small intestine. Enterouterine fistulas occur infrequently. Martin et al.<sup>4</sup> published perhaps the largest review of enterouterine fistulas in 1956 which described 80 cases, 42 of which, followed obstetric injury, 17 resulting from inflammatory processes, 12 following curettage, and 9 related to carcinoma

In particular, ileo-uterine fistulas are rare. McFarlane et al.<sup>5</sup> described a jejuno-uterine fistula that developed two weeks after dilatation and curettage performed for severe postpartum hemorrhage. Duttaroy et al.<sup>6</sup> described symptoms of a jejuno-uterine fistula developing 3 months after dilation and evacuation for a spontaneous abortion. Singh et al.<sup>7</sup> described a chronic jejuno-uterine fistula following termination of pregnancy, discovered after 3 consecutive abortions. Vohra et al.<sup>8</sup> described a jejuno-uterine fistula occurring 6 weeks after curettage for retained products of conception. Simon D. Eiref et al.<sup>9</sup> described Jejuno-Uterine Fistula after Endovascular Embolization For Uterine Bleeding All cases were managed by surgical repair.

**CONCLUSION:** In conclusion we must consider certain aspects of the D&C procedure. D&C is performed in a "blind" manner, meaning that it depends on tactile feedback to the operator. Experience and skill of individual providers are essential for a safe D&C. Most uterine perforations escape a medical detection without hemorrhage or visceral injury. Perforations are more likely to be troublesome if the perforation is laterally located, the defect is more than 1.2 cm, they occur after first trimester, or they are associated with a bowel injury. In most of cases, the perforation

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is recognized by the operator during the procedure. However, in many cases, perforations may remain clinically undiagnosed and the patients were discharged. Some of these patients present subsequently with serious complications.<sup>10</sup> Only a small percentage of women with perforation suffer intestinal prolapse. Although the training level of the caregivers may also be a risk factor of intestinal prolapse,<sup>11</sup> it is not known whether intestinal prolapse is caused by chance or some other risk factors. Augustin et al.<sup>12</sup> stated "we recommended publishing of every case on the subject for construction of more precise diagnostic and therapeutic algorithm" with which we agree. This may allow for the future establishment of guidelines for dealing with this condition.

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