

Images in clinical medicine

A very rare case of a subhepatic appendix of 20cm length in a girl

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A very rare case of a subhepatic appendix of 20cm length in a girl

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Image in medicine

A 6-year-old girl was consulted for an appendicular syndrome that had been evolving for 3 days. The clinical examination revealed a febrile child with a temperature of 39°C and tachycardia. Abdominal examination revealed right hypochondrium defense and deep tenderness of the right flank and right iliac fossa. The biological work-up showed a predominantly neutrophilic hyperleukocytosis. Abdominal ultrasound revealed a subhepatic appendix 9mm in diameter associated with a well-limited hypoechoic collection in the right hypochondrium 4cm in length with no obvious stercolith. Surgical exploration revealed a sub-

hepatic and subserosal appendix of 20cm in length, which is a very rare anatomical variant and underlines the need to verify the convergence of

the 3 caecal bands to determine the exact site of the appendicular base. The risk is to leave an appendicular stump in place.

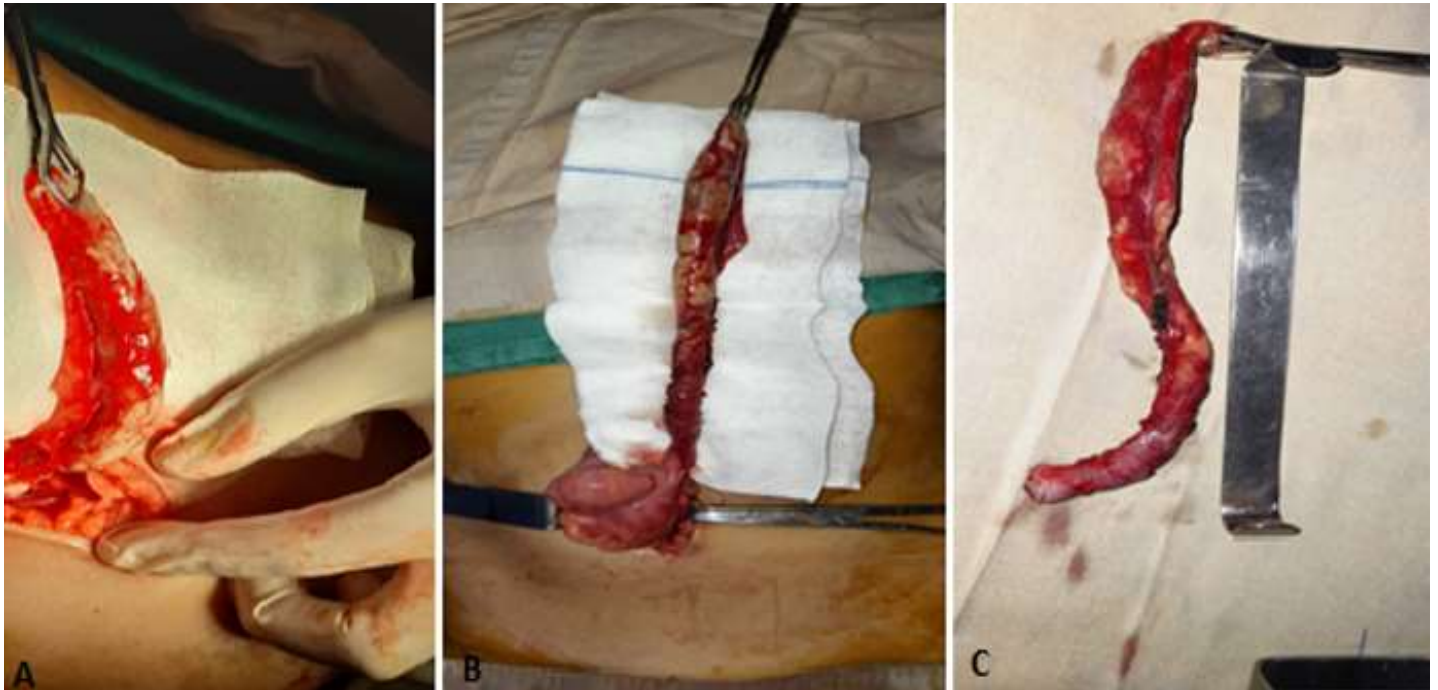


Figure 1: intraoperative images showing: A) the initial appearance of the appendix; B) extraction of the sub-hepatic appendix after retrograde dissection of the appendicular meso; C) surgical specimen of the appendix after appendectomy