Single-balloon endoscopy to remove a migrated esophageal stent in the small bowel

A 49-year-old woman was admitted to the hospital emergency department having had abdominal pain for 16 hours. She had previously undergone placement of a fully covered anti-reflux metal stent to treat esophageal achalasia (achalasia of cardia). On physical examination, the abdomen was soft with normal bowel sounds. However, there was tenderness on deep palpation of the left lower abdomen. All laboratory test results were within reference ranges. An abdominal radiograph demonstrated an impacted metal foreign body in the left lower portion of the abdomen in a 49-year-old woman. There were no signs of pneumoperitoneum.

![Abdominal radiograph demonstrated an impacted metal foreign body in the left lower portion of the abdomen in a 49-year-old woman. There were no signs of pneumoperitoneum.](image1)

The stent was found approximately 150 cm from the pylorus.

![The stent was found approximately 150 cm from the pylorus.](image2)

The stent was grasped with a snare.

![The stent was grasped with a snare.](image3)

Retrieved stent.

![Retrieved stent.](image4)

guish from other causes of acute abdomen. The management of asymptomatic foreign bodies is variable and has been generally dictated by the size, type of foreign body, and anticipated likelihood of complications. If symptoms occur or there is concern regarding potential complications then removal is undertaken. Options for removal include endoscopy and surgery [4]. Laparoscopy has an important emerging role in both the diagnosis and the surgical management of ingested foreign bodies [5].

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References

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