Successful removal of an unusual rectal foreign body with a Kocher clamp

A 26-year-old man presented at our emergency department with a history of severe pelvic pain and bloating. The patient reported that he had inserted a large light bulb in his rectum about 3 hours prior to presentation. On digital rectal examination, a foreign body with an irregular surface was palpated. An X-ray image of the pelvic region revealed a large light bulb in the rectum (Fig. 1). Attempted manual removal of the foreign body using suprapubic pressure failed. Colonoscopy revealed that the bulb in the rectum was completely obstructing the lumen (Fig. 2). A polypectomy snare failed to remove it because of the bulb’s round, smooth surface. The foreign body was completely removed without complication using a long Kocher clamp under colonoscopic observation and thus avoiding surgery (Fig. 3). Control endoscopy showed only mild superficial scratches on the rectal mucosa.

Foreign bodies have generally been inserted in the rectum for sexual gratification and are usually round and have a smooth surface [1]. It is difficult to remove these foreign bodies with standard endoscopic devices. In such cases, a surgical Kocher clamp can be used in the treatment of large rectal foreign bodies thus avoiding surgery [2].

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Fig. 1 Pelvic X-ray of the foreign body in the rectum of a 26-year-old man who had reported that he had inserted a large light bulb in his rectum about 3 hours prior to presentation.

Fig. 2 Endoscopic image of the foreign body in the rectum completely obstructing the lumen.

Fig. 3 The extracted rectal foreign body removed without complication.