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Perforated cecal diverticulitis with CT diagnosis and medical management

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Abstract

Acute diverticulitis is a painful condition of the gastrointestinal tract that results from sudden inflammation of one or more diverticula in the bowel wall. Right-sided acute diverticulitis, such as cecal diverticulitis, is uncommon diagnosis that can be easily **misdiagnosed as acute appendicitis** as it shares similar clinical presentation. An unusual complication of right-sided acute diverticulitis such as **perforated cecal diverticulitis** has different management from acute appendicitis. Thus, definitive diagnosis of this clinical condition with imaging is crucial to optimal management. We report a case of 43-year-old man who presented to the Emergency Department with acute onset severe right lower quadrant abdominal pain associated with anorexia, fever, and nausea. Computed tomography scans obtained showed findings consistent with perforated diverticulitis limited to the cecum, and normal caliber appendix. Conservative medical treatment was decided based on localized imaging findings with excellent outcome.