Scrotal Cystocele by Computed Tomography and Ultrasound

Cistocelo Escrotal por Ecografia e Tomografia Computorizada

Diana PENHA¹, Erique GUEDES PINTO², Ana COSTA¹

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Palavras-chave: Cistocelo/radiografia; Cistocelo/ultrassonografia; Escroto/radiografia; Escroto/ultrassonografia; Hérnia Inguinal/radiografia; Hérnia Inguinal/ultrasonografia

A 44-year-old man is investigated for an intermittent left inguinal swelling and sent for ultrasound investigation which suggested an inguinoscrotal hernia. Because of discrepancy with the symptoms, a computed tomography (CT) is performed which reveals a scrotal cystocele.

Scrotal cystocele is the herniation of the urinary bladder through the scrotal sac. Besides being rare¹, it can be easily mistaken for an inguinoscrotal hernia.

A clinical clue is the association between voiding and reduction of the scrotal cystocele.

Ultrasound scan may show no communication between the bladder and the scrotum (Fig. 1) or only a small beak-like indentation of the bladder.² Even if a communication is seen, it may suggest an inguinoscrotal hernia instead. Lying supine for the ultrasound scan will allow for the fluid to drain back into the pelvis.

Careful review of the CT images (Fig. 2) will reveal the fluid filed tubular structure extending from the urinary bladder (*) into the scrotal sac, with wall thickening (black arrow) and extending through the inguinal canal and displacing the testis (white arrow). The lining of the inguinal canal (hollow arrow) is seen separating the herniated fat tissue from the subcutaneous fat plane. The urine contained in the herniated bladder (white *) is not opacified because the wall thickening is obstructive to the passage of contrast.

REFERENCES