

IMAGING EVALUATION OF APPENDICULAR MUCINOUS NEOPLASMS

Prutean Valeria, Rotaru Mihai,
Scientific adviser: Voizian Marin

State University of Medicine and Pharmacy „Nicolae Testemitanu”, Department of Surgery nr.1 „Nicolae Anestiadi”

Introduction

Appendiceal mucinous neoplasms (AMN) (*fig. 1*) are rare tumors (<1%) with variable malignant potential, with unpredictable biological potential to spread into the peritoneal cavity in the form of gelatinous mucin deposits.

Keywords

Appendix; Mucocele; Imaging diagnosis.

Purpose

Analysis of imaging methods in establishing the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of mucinous neoplasms with other forms of appendicular tumors.

Material and methods

AMN in most cases are detected occasionally during imaging, endoscopic investigations or during interventions performed with other indications. Ultrasonography and computed tomography being the most useful investigations for this purpose.

Results

USG is of first intention, it can identify a cystic mass with different echogenicity. CT is the method of choice for the diagnosis of AMN, can highlight well-circumcised cystic masses, intramural calcifications (in 50%) and can demonstrate the involvement of adjacent organs.

Conclusions

USG and CT are useful for the diagnosis of AMN, however the results of the investigations are nonspecific and require differentiation with other intra-abdominal tumor masses.

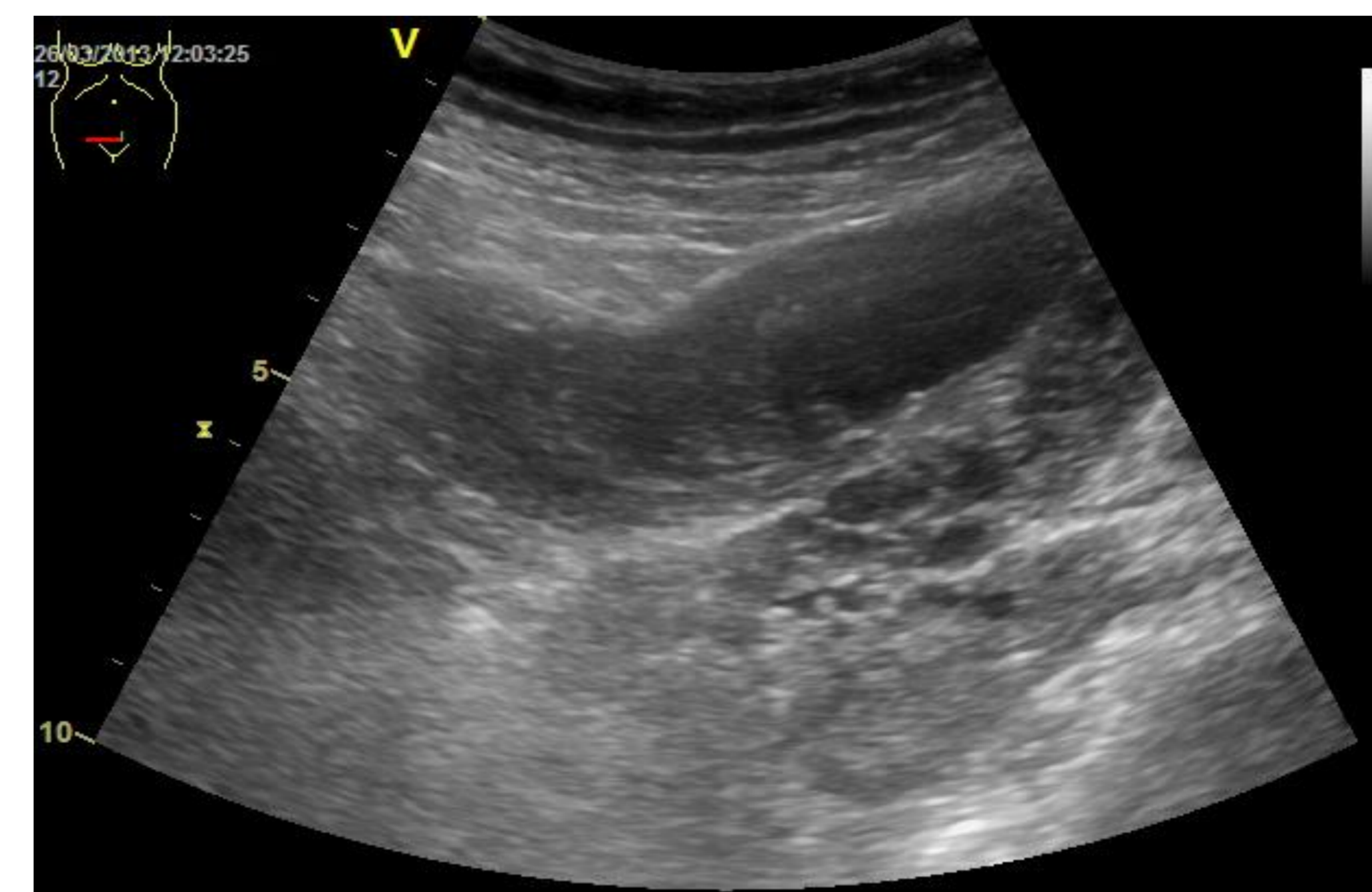


Fig. 1 USG showing a dilated appendix with hypoechoic content



Fig. 2 CT demonstrating an appendiceal mucocele with mural calcifications