Gallbladder sludge in a pregnant woman as the cause of severe complicated hemorrhagic-necrotizing pancreatitis with a spectacular manifestation

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ABSTRACT

Pancreatitis is an obvious but rare event in pregnancy. From mild disease to multiorgan failure and sepsis, acute pancreatitis has numerous causes and often an unpredictable outcome. The authors present a case of a 22-year-old pregnant woman with severe pancreatitis due to biliary sludge. The unusual clinical manifestation of pancreatitis in our patient is worth emphasizing: massive bleeding from the upper alimentary tract and two concomitant pancreatic fistulas. The bleeding

was a manifestation of pancreatic juice-induced injury to the splenic artery, whereas the fistulas were a consequence of disconnected duct syndrome and superficial necrosis of the pancreatic head. After two and a half years of treatment, the patient was on a regular oral diet with supplementation of pancreatic enzymes, and showed normal glycaemia levels. She returned to full physical activity.

Keywords: Biliary sludge, hemorrhage, pancreatic fistula, pregnancy, severe pancreatitis

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