

Management of Complex Calculi: Is Surgery Still Useful? Case report

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1. Introduction

In recent decades, there has been a significant shift in the surgical management of renal lithiasis. Urologists face a therapeutic hurdle when treating coralliform calculi. The use of open or laparoscopic surgery has drastically decreased as a result of advancements in extracorporeal lithotripsy (ESWL), ureterorenoscopy (URS), and percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL) in terms of minimally invasive access (flexible URS, combined techniques), energy (sonotrodes, and various types of laser), and technique. [1,2,3]. We report the case of a 70 years old female patient, who consulted for a simple right renal colic, the patient underwent an KUB radiography which found a calcium-toned opacity (Figure 1). We completed with and CT scan showing a dilatation du to complex lithiasis (89x23x33mm 1141 HU) (Figure 2).

Abbreviations

PCNL: Percutaneous nephrolithotomy

ESWL: Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy

URS: Ureterorenoscopy

HU: Hounsfield Unit

The decision was a laparoscopic pyelolithotomy. Post-operative recovery was straightforward, with the removal of the JJ stent after 2 weeks (Figure 3). We therefore highlight that open or laparoscopic surgery is still a valuable tool in the surgeon's toolbox, even though its use has decreased. Laparoscopic or even open removal of stones represents less than 5% of the management techniques still used for urolithiasis [4]. Despite advances in minimally invasive endo-urological techniques, surgical management, whether open

or laparoscopic, still has its place in the management of complex calculi [5].



Figure 1: KUB radiography showing and calcium toned stones.



Figure 2: CT showing a complexe calculi 89x23x33 1141 HU.



Figure 3: Postoperative picture of the calculi

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