



The Catheter Balloon Dilated to Remove the Foreign Body in the Vagina of Young Female Without Hymen Injury

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Case Introduction

A 6-year-old female child inadvertently inserted a 2 cm magnetic sphere, which was owned by her sibling, into her vaginal canal during play. The interaction between the sphere and the vaginal wall led to heightened vaginal discharge and discomfort [1]. During the evaluation at the gynecology clinic, a standard abdominal X-ray was requested to check for a foreign object. To resolve the situation, an 8 mm catheter balloon was placed in the patient's vagina while she was under general anesthesia. After 5 ml of saline was injected into the balloon, it inflated, helping to dislodge the magnetic bead. A follow-up vaginal irrigation showed that the hymen was intact and undamaged (Figure 1 & 2).



Figure 1: Digital radiography for young girl.



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Figure 2: A steel ball removed from the girl's vagina.

Discussion

The management of vaginal foreign bodies presents varying degrees of complexity when comparing young girls to married women. In the context of China, it has been observed that the incidence of vaginal foreign bodies is notably higher among young girls, frequently resulting in heightened vaginal discharge and a greater susceptibility to infections [1-2]. The underdeveloped nature of the vulva in prepubescent females frequently results in a scarcity of appropriate instruments for the swift and safe extraction of foreign objects. In cases involving small foreign bodies, such as mud, vaginal irrigation may serve as an effective method for their removal [1,4]. Nevertheless, in the case of larger foreign bodies, conventional techniques frequently utilize clamping instruments, which can inadvertently cause harm to the vagina, cervix, and hymen [3-4]. This may re-

sult in extended procedural durations and heightened physical and psychological distress for the young female patient [1,5]. The catheter expansion technique presents a straightforward and efficient alternative that does not necessitate the use of intricate instruments and is associated with a lower risk of hymenal injury. This method effectively alleviates discomfort and mitigates both physical and psychological trauma in young girls following the procedure.

Author Statements

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