

Abdominal cocoon: a potential pitfall in patients with ovarian carcinoma

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ABSTRACT

Background. Abdominal cocoon, or sclerosing encapsulating peritonitis, is a rare condition characterized by partial or total encasement of small bowel and mesentery by a thick fibrocollagenous sack that looks like a cocoon. Within the sack, bowel loops are drawn together causing intestinal obstruction.

Case presentation. We report on a 57-year-old female patient who developed a very unusual complication of ovarian cancer: abdominal cocoon formation.

Conclusions. This report highlights the need for a timely diagnosis of sclerosing encapsulating peritonitis in cancer patients.

Key words: ovarian carcinoma, sclerosing encapsulating peritonitis.

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Received December 21, 2011;
accepted April 18, 2012.