



## Case Report

# Pelvic pseudotumor following total hip arthroplasty – case report<sup>☆,☆☆</sup>



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## ABSTRACT

Loosening is a well-known complication of total hip arthroplasty. The accumulation of detritus resulting from mechanical wear forms inflammatory cells that have the function of phagocytizing this debris. Over the long term, these cells may give rise to a local granulomatous reaction. Here, we present a report on a case of pelvic pseudotumor subsequent to total hip arthroplasty, which is considered rare in the literature. The patient was a 48-year-old black man who started to be followed up medically eight months earlier because of uncharacteristic abdominal pains, dysuria and pollakiuria. He had undergone left total hip arthroplasty 17 years previously. Through clinical investigation and complementary examinations, an extra-articular granulomatous mass was diagnosed, constituting a pelvic pseudotumor.

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## Pseudotumor de pelve pós-artroplastia total do quadril – relato de caso

## RESUMO

A soltura é uma complicação bem conhecida nas artroplastias totais do quadril. O acúmulo de detritos resultante do desgaste mecânico forma células inflamatórias que têm a função de fagocitar esses detritos e podem, em longo prazo, gerar uma reação granulomatosa local. A seguir, apresentamos um relato de caso de pseudotumor de pélvis pós-artroplastia total do quadril, considerado raro na literatura consultada. Trata-se de paciente

### Palavras-chave:

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de 48 anos, masculino, negro, que iniciou seguimento médico por dores abdominais incômodas, disúria e polaciúria havia oito meses. Apresentava artroplastia total do quadril esquerdo havia 17 anos. Após investigação clínica e por meio de exames complementares, diagnosticou-se uma massa granulomatosa extra-articular, pseudotumor de pélvis.

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## Introduction

Loosening is a well-known complication of total hip arthroplasty. The accumulation of detritus from mechanical wear forms inflammatory cells that have the function of phagocytizing this detritus. However, over the long term, formation of these cells may result in a granulomatous reaction. This has the effect of creating an abnormal additional joint mass and may lead to atypical joint or abdominal symptoms.

In the following, we report a case of loosening of an uncemented prosthesis in which an extra-articular granulomatous mass comprising a pelvic pseudotumor developed. In the literature, this condition is considered to be rare.

## Description of the clinical condition

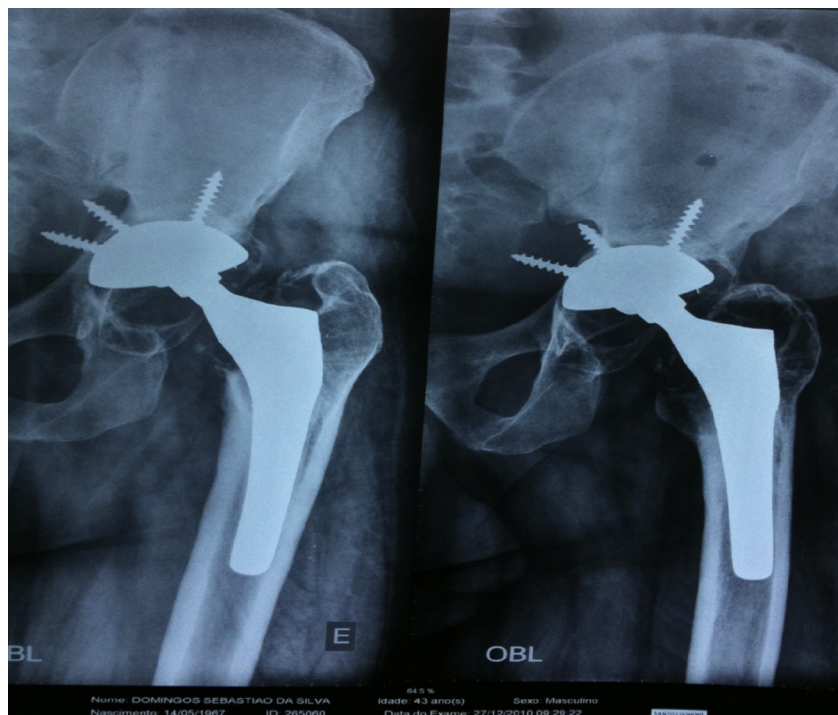
The patient was a 48-year-old black man who started to undergo medical follow-up because of abdominal pain irradiating uncharacteristically to the left hip, along with dysuria and pollakiuria, which he had had for eight months. He had undergone total hip arthroplasty 17 years earlier.

At a consultation with an urologist, no irregularities or alterations were found through digital rectal examination. The patient underwent a prostate biopsy, which did not show any neoplastic alterations.

In the orthopedic physical examination on admission, the patient presented the following:

- Inspection: no gait abnormalities; presence of a surgical scar in the posterolateral region of the left hip;
- Bone palpation: no pain in the left or right hip;
- Range of motion of the left hip: flexion of 90°, extension of 20°, abduction of 25°, adduction of 15°, internal rotation of 20° and external rotation of 15°;
- Sensitivity present and no alterations to the lower limbs;
- Muscle strength of grade V in both lower limbs;
- Peripheral pulse present and full in the lower limbs;
- After the orthopedic clinical examination, an investigation using imaging examinations was conducted (Figs. 1-3).

With the aid of the imaging examinations, surgical treatment was then proposed, with intervention by two specialists during the same operation: from the urology service to



**Fig. 1 – Radiographs of the left hip in anteroposterior and oblique views (December 27, 2010) showing total arthroplasty performed 17 years earlier.**

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