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Original Article

Perianal abscess: a descriptive analysis of cases treated at the Hospital Santa Marcelina, São Paulo[☆]



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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Perianal suppurations have an incidence of 1–2:10,000 inhabitants per year and represent about 5% of proctology consultations, more frequently in males, being rare in childhood. Although perianal or anorectal abscess is an entity of relatively simple diagnosis and treatment, in a considerable percentage of patients difficulties will be found, especially considering that the initial treatment of these patients is performed by non-specialist physicians.

Objective: This is a retrospective survey of cases of perianal and anorectal abscess operated in Santa Marcelina Hospital between October 2011 and December 2014.

Patients and methods: A retrospective study of patients operated on an emergency basis for perianal and/or anorectal abscess in Santa Marcelina Hospital between October 2011 and December 2014, being excluded patients with inflammatory bowel disease. Data of gender, age, clinical presentation, the season of the year in which the abscess occurred, time of progression of symptoms, comorbidities, signs of Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) on admission, surgeries carried out, reoperations and clinical outcome were analyzed. **Results:** Electronic medical records of 52 patients (73.1% male) who underwent surgical treatment of anorectal and perianal abscess were analyzed. The mean overall age was 43.03 years, and all patients reported pain as the main symptom, with a mean time of symptoms of 6.5 days. As for the season of the year of onset and diagnosis of perianal abscess, 61.5% of patients had this pathology in the summer and spring months.

[☆] Study conducted by Program of Medical Residency in Coloproctology, Department of General Surgery, Hospital Santa Marcelina, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

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Conclusion: In our study, it can be observed a higher incidence of perianal abscess in males and in the warmer months; furthermore, just over half of the patients developed perianal fistula in their progression.

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Abscesso perianal: análise descritiva de casos atendidos no Hospital Santa Marcelina, São Paulo

R E S U M O

Palavras-chave:

Abscesso perianal
História clínica
Sinais de síndrome da resposta
inflamatória sistêmica
Cirurgia
Sazonalidade

Introdução: As supurações perianais apresentam uma incidência de 1-2:10000 habitantes por ano e representam cerca de 5% das consultas proctológicas, com maior frequência no sexo masculino, sendo raras na infância. Embora o abscesso perianal ou anorretal seja de diagnóstico e tratamento relativamente simples, uma percentagem considerável representa maior dificuldade para tal, notadamente pelo fato do atendimento inicial desses pacientes ser realizado por médicos não especialistas.

Objetivo: Levantamento retrospectivo dos casos de abscesso perianal e anorretal operados no Hospital Santa Marcelina entre outubro de 2011 e dezembro de 2014.

Casística e método: Estudo retrospectivo de pacientes operados em caráter de urgência por abscesso perianal e/ou anorretal no Hospital Santa Marcelina entre outubro de 2011 e dezembro de 2014, excluídos portadores de doença inflamatória intestinal. Analisaram-se dados de sexo, idade, quadro clínico, época do ano da ocorrência do abscesso, tempo de evolução dos sintomas, comorbidades, sinais de Síndrome da Resposta Inflamatória Sistêmica (SIRS) na admissão, cirurgias realizadas, reoperações e desfecho clínico.

Resultados: Foram analisados prontuários eletrônicos de 52 pacientes submetidos à tratamento cirúrgico de abscesso anorretal e perianal, dos quais 73,1% pertenciam ao sexo masculino. A média de idade geral foi de 43,03 anos e todos os pacientes relataram dor como sintoma principal com média de tempo de sintomatologia de 6,5 dias. Quanto à época do ano do aparecimento e diagnóstico do abscesso perianal, 61,5% dos pacientes apresentaram a patologia nos meses de verão e primavera.

Conclusão: Em nosso trabalho, pode-se observar maior incidência de abscesso perianal no sexo masculino e nos meses mais quentes e que pouco mais da metade dos pacientes desenvolveram fistula perianal na evolução.

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Introduction

Perianal abscess is defined as a collection of pus located in perineal tissues¹ and is the most common proctologic disease requiring an emergency surgical treatment.² On the other hand, anorectal abscesses result of a cryptoglandular infection,³ usually of idiopathic etiology⁴ and located in the inter-sphincteric space.⁵

But although most of the time perianal or anorectal abscesses are an entity of relatively simple diagnosis and treatment, in a considerable percentage of patients, difficulties will be found, especially considering that the initial treatment of these patients is performed by non-specialist physicians.⁶

Anorectal abscesses are classified into five types, with incidences defined: perianal (60%), ischiorectal (30%), inter-sphincteric (5%), supralevator (4%) and submucosal (1%).⁷

Perianal suppurations have an incidence of 1-2:10,000 inhabitants per year and represent about 5% of all proctology

consultations, being more frequent in males and occurring uncommonly in children.^{5,8} In the United States, the estimated incidence is between 68,000 and 96,000 cases per year. However, the actual incidence of perianal abscesses is underestimated, considering that this is a condition that nowadays can be seen with spontaneous drainage; in addition, there is the possibility of treatment in the emergency room itself, or even in the physician's office.⁹

In this study, our goal was to conduct a retrospective study of cases of perianal and anorectal abscess operated in Santa Marcelina Hospital between October 2011 and December 2014.

Materials and methods

This is a retrospective study through an analysis of electronic medical records of patients operated on an emergency basis for perianal and/or anorectal abscess in Santa Marcelina

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