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Case Report

Blunt traumatic celiac artery avulsion managed with celiac artery ligation and open aorto-celiac bypass*

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ABSTRACT

Traumatic celiac artery injuries are rare and highly lethal with reported mortality rates of 38–62%. The vast majority are caused by penetrating trauma with only 11 reported cases due to blunt trauma (Graham et al., 1978; Asensio et al., 2000, 2002). Only 3 of these cases were complete celiac artery avulsions. Management options described depend upon the type of injury and have included medical therapy with anti-platelet agents or anti-coagulants, endovascular stenting, and open ligation. We report a case of a survivor of complete celiac artery avulsion from blunt trauma managed by open bypass.

Introduction

Traumatic celiac artery injuries are rare and highly lethal with reported mortality rates of 38–62%. While the vast majority are caused by penetrating trauma, an estimated 6% of these injuries resulted from blunt force trauma, and there have been only 11 reported cases in the literature (Table 1) [1–10,12–14]. Injury patterns vary and those reported include intimal flaps, thrombosis, pseudoaneurysms, and complete avulsions. Notably only 3 of the cases of celiac artery injury due to blunt trauma reported in the literature were complete avulsions. Management options described depend upon the type of injury and have included observation, medical therapy with anti-platelet agents or anti-coagulants, endovascular placement of stents or stent grafts, and open ligation. We report the case of a survivor of complete celiac artery avulsion from blunt trauma managed by open bypass, and will present a brief review of the literature and a summary of management options.

Case report

A 75-year-old male with history of atrial fibrillation on Rivaroxaban was struck by a motor vehicle. Upon arrival he was hypotensive but with a Glasgow Coma Score of 15. A strategy of permissive hypotension was maintained based upon the patient's mental status. Plain radiographs and CT imaging were obtained and demonstrated multiple rib fractures and a celiac artery injury with contrast extravasation and associated hematoma (Fig. 1A–B). He was immediately transported to our hybrid operating room and placed under general anesthesia. Percutaneous femoral artery access was obtained and aortography was performed. This demonstrated a complete avulsion of the celiac artery with distal reconstitution via retrograde filing from the superior mesenteric artery (Fig. 2). Initially, given the stability of the patient, attempts were made to traverse the injury to perform endovascular intervention in

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 Table 1

 Characteristics of the 11 previously reported cases of blunt celiac artery injury as well as our currently reported case.

	Year	Age/gender Mechanism	Mechanism	Injury type	Management	Outcome
Brown	1998	24 M	MVC	Superior mesenteric and celiac artery disruptions	Attempted SMA bypass	Operative death
Asensio	2005 (1 of 13 patients in series)	Not specified	MVC	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified
Linuma Suchak	2006 2007	39 M 41 M	Crush injury MVC	Partial tear of celiac artery Delayed recognition of intimal flap of	Open ligation Endovascular stenting (Wallstent, Boston Scientific, Boston MA 176A)	Discharged POD#16 Discharged HD#10
Kirchhoff	2007	W 99	MVC	Delayed recognition of dissection and thrombosis of celiae artery HD#5	None	Death HD#7 from fulminant liver failure
Gorra	2009	29 M	Fall from 9 m	Dissection and thrombosis of celiac artery	Anticoagulation with Heparin and subsequently Warfarin for 3 months	Discharged HD#4, repeat imaging with asymptomatic celiac artery occlusion at 3 months
Colonna Choi	2010 2012	17 M 39 M	MVC Crush injury	Complete avulsion of celiac artery Pseudoaneurysm of celiac artery	Open ligation Endovascular stent graft placement, embolization of solenic left osetric and inferior nhranic arteries	
Sarker	2012	26 M	MVC	Dissection of celiac artery	Anticoagulation with Enoxaparin and subsequently Warfarin for 3 months	Discharged, repeat imaging with resolution of dissection at 3 months
Osborne Rosenthal	2013 2015	72 M 26 M	MVC Fall from 150 ft into	Complete avulsion of celiac artery Dissection of celiac artery	Open ligation Medical management with Aspirin 81 mg	Discharged $POD\#11$ Discharge, repeat imaging with persistent
Kronick	2016	75 M	river Pedestrian struck	Complete avulsion of celiac artery	Open aorto-celiac artery bypass	asymptomatic dissection at 2 months Discharged on HD#102, survival to 22 months

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