Epigastric pain with sudden onset

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Observation

A 29-year-old man, with no known history, came to the emergency department with sudden onset of abdominal pain and vomiting. He was afebrile and continued to pass solid faeces and gases.

On clinical examination, there was specific pain and guarding on epigastric palpation. Laboratory results were normal. An antero posterior (AP) erect plain abdominal X-ray (Fig. 1) was taken and an abdominal CT undertaken with acquisition after intravenous injection of an iodinated contrast agent in the portal phase (Figs. 2 and 3).

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Figure 1. Plain AP erect abdominal X-ray.

Figure 2. Abdominal CT scan: axial slice after injection of an iodinated contrast agent in the portal phase.

Figure 3. Abdominal CT scan: axial slice after injection of an iodinated contrast agent in the portal phase (level of slice lower than in Fig. 2).

What is your diagnosis?

From the observations, what, from among the following, would your diagnosis be:
- obstruction of the small intestine due to adhesion;
- right paraduodenal internal hernia;
- cystic lymphangioma;
- blocked perforated ulcer;
- internal hernia through the omental foramen.

Disclosure of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest concerning this article.