

Page Kidney: A Rare Cause of Resistant Hypertension Early After Renal Transplantation

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A 21-year-old man underwent pre-emptive kidney transplantation from a living-related donor due to end-stage kidney disease with unknown etiology. Serum creatinine level decreased from 6.5 mg/dL to 1.6 mg/dL on the first day of transplantation. Postoperative Doppler ultrasonography was within normal limits. The following day, blood pressure increased up to 200/120 mmHg despite triple anti-hypertensive treatment. In addition, hemoglobin levels decreased from 9.4 g/dL to 7.9 g/dL. Therefore, the patient was evaluated for anemia and resistant hypertension.

Post-transplant anemia is an overlooked diagnosis. Nevertheless, it has been reported with a prevalence of up to 90% in the early stages

of kidney transplantation. The pathogenesis of post-transplant anemia is multifactorial. It includes allograft dysfunction, iron deficiency, surgical blood loss, drugs, inflammation, erythropoietin deficiency, and hemolysis.^{1,2} Likewise, postoperative hypertension is not rare in renal transplant recipients. It occurs due to allograft dysfunction, hypervolemia, postoperative pain, drug toxicity, or renal artery stenosis.³

Anti-thymocyte globulin and mycophenolic acid treatments were thought of as contributors to anemia in this case. Tacrolimus levels were within normal limits. No signs of hypervolemia or hemolysis were present. Pain management was adequate. Doppler ultrasonography showed no evidence of renal artery stenosis or hemorrhage

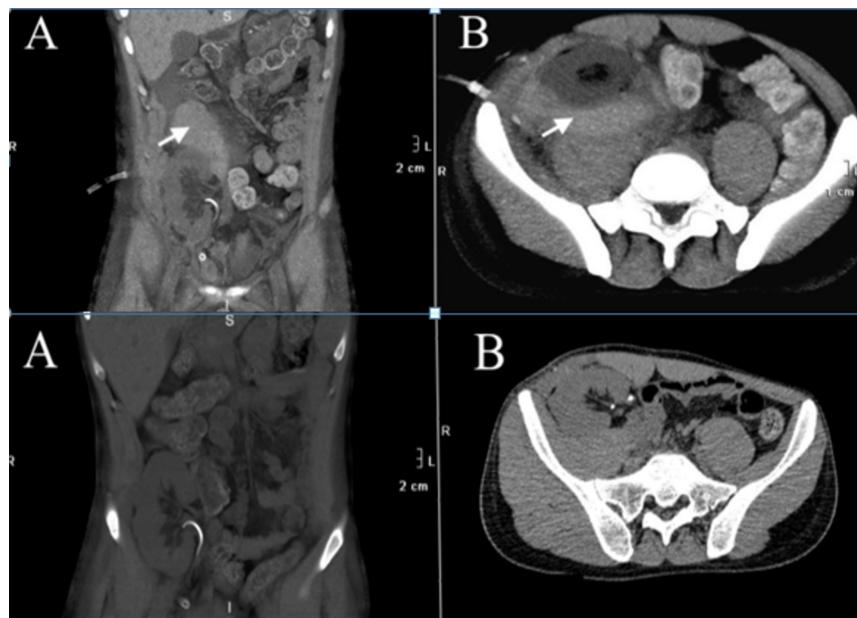


FIG. 1. A, B. Upper images: Abdominal computed tomography shows hematoma on the posterior aspect compressing allograft. Arrow indicates hematoma. (A) Coronal plane, (B) Axial plane. Lower images: Abdominal computed tomography after surgical hematoma removal. (A) Coronal plane, (B) Axial plane.

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on postoperative day 1; nonetheless, computed tomography was performed to rule out hemorrhagic complications. It revealed a $6 \times 10 \times 15$ cm-sized hematoma on the posterior aspect of the allograft (Figure 1, upper images). Hence, Page kidney diagnosis was made.

Page kidney is a rare cause of hypertension in both native kidneys and allografts. Secondary hyperaldosteronism related to external compression drives the pathogenesis of this phenomenon. It can occur due to hematoma, urinoma, or lymphocele after trauma, biopsy, and surgical complications.⁴ It is usually related to subcapsular hematoma. However, a perirenal hematoma that compresses the kidney can also cause Page kidney, similar to the present case.⁵ After surgical hematoma evacuation, hemodynamic stabilization was restored rapidly (Figure 1, lower images)

Although postoperative hemorrhagic complications usually cause hypotension, Page kidney must be borne in mind as an exception.

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