Unilateral absence of ovary and fallopian tube

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Description

A 19-year-old young woman was admitted to our Unit for irregular menstrual cycles within 40- to 60-day intervals for 7 months. She had no history of abdomino-pelvic surgery or acute pelvic pain. Pelvic magnetic resonance imaging revealed a right ovarian mass (Figure 1A & B), measuring 6.0 cm X 5.1 cm X 5.0 cm.

The patient underwent laparoscopy. At the laparoscopic examination, we evidenced a right ovarian teratoma about 6.0 cm X 6.0 cm and a small mesosalpinx cyst about 2.5 cm X 2.0 cm on the right fallopian tube (Figure 2A). On the left, neither fallopian tube nor ovary was detected (Figure 2B). We performed laparoscopic cystectomy and sutured residual ovarian tissues for hemostasis. Subsequent urinary ultrasonography demonstrated a normal urinary tract without any congenital anomaly. The pathological examination confirmed the diagnosis of mature teratoma and right mesosalpinx serous cyst. The patient was successfully discharged at the third day with no complications.

Partial or complete absence of unilateral ovary and fallopian tube is a rare occurrence, and the true etiologies remain unclear. Two possible hypotheses might be responsible [1-3]: (1) adnexal torsion (2) a defect in the development of the Mullerian and mesonephric system, either entirely or localized on one side of the genital ridge and the caudal part. Neither of the hypotheses could explain all of the sporadic cases reported to date. In the present case, the lack of other associated malformations makes the hypothesis of congenital defect unlikely, though no history of abdominal pain, the absence of unilateral ovary and tube does not exclude the possibility of a torsion that had occurred during fetal life.

**Figure 1:** Pelvic magnetic resonance imaging revealed a right ovarian mass measuring 6.0 cm X 5.1 cm X 5.0 cm. (A) Sagittal plane. (B) Cross-section plane.

**Figure 2:** Laparoscopic view. (A) Right ovarian teratoma, right fallopian tube and a mesosalpinx cyst. (B) Absence of the left ovary and fallopian tube.

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**Ethics committee approval:** The study was approved by the institutional ethical board.

**References**