



Image of the Month

Exploratory Laparoscopy in Polytrauma:
Knife Extraction[☆]

Laparoscopia exploradora en politraumatizados: extracción de arma blanca

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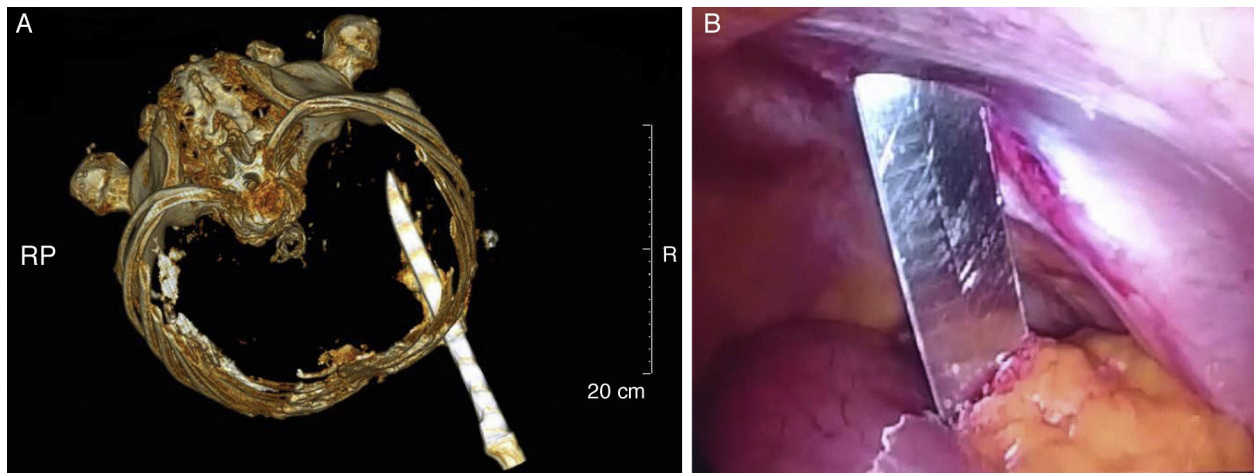


Fig. 1

The patient is an 86-year-old male who was brought to the emergency room for a self-inflicted stab wound. He presented a revised trauma score of 12 points. After primary and secondary examination, and given his hemodynamic stability, a CT scan was done (Fig. 1A), which showed a 22 cm knife situated in the left hypochondrium, piercing the omentum. However, we observed no injuries to adjacent organs, pneumoperitoneum or hemoperitoneum. Urgent laparoscopy was indicated, which allowed a safe extraction of the knife (Fig. 1B) and meticulous revision of the abdominal cavity, where no injuries were detected. Exploratory laparoscopy is a tool to consider in hemodynamically stable patients with stab wounds.

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