Case Report

Paraphimosis – A case report and medicolegal importance


Abstract
Paraphimosis has been described by standard text books of forensic medicine as a cause of temporary impotence but present case suggests that it can be an evidence of sexual activity / intercourse also.

Case Report
An accused of rape and abduction, aged 25 years, was brought for examination of potency on 22.10.2002 in our OPD. On examination, the accused was found to be suffering from paraphimosis, ulceration on coronal sulcus, pus, edema and multiple prick marks. He was treated at a hospital where multiple pricks were made to treat the illness. He was not suffering from sclerosis of the prepuce and STD.

Patient was taken into confidence and he gave the history that he developed this problem while making an attempt to perform sexual intercourse. He consulted the doctor late due to fear of information by doctor to police. This opinion was given by concerned forensic expert that he was temporarily impotent. The police was annoyed. They thought this opinion may cause damage to their case. So it was clarified subsequently that paraphimosis could be the result of sexual activity/sexual intercourse.

Discussion
When the tight foreskin is retracted, it may sometimes be difficult to return and a paraphimosis results. In this condition the venous and lymphatic returns from the glans and distal foreskin is obstructed and these structures swell alarmingly, causing even more pressure within the obstructed ring of prepuce.

A large hydrocele, scrotal hernia, elephantiasis, phimosis, paraphimosis and adherent prepuce may cause temporary impotence by mechanical obstruction to coitus, as these conditions can be remedied by proper surgical treatment.

Adults usually give a history of sexual intercourse prior to occurrence of paraphimosis. The sexual activities like erotic dancing, penile erection and delayed penile detumescence have been reported causes of paraphimosis.

Conclusion
1. The present case suggests that paraphimosis is not only the cause of temporary impotence but could be the evidence of sexual activity/activity.
2. It has been reported that occasional patient presents with acute paraphimosis that has been present for many hours to days. This is typically seen in adolescent who is reluctant to reveal the problem to his parents. Similarly, the false fear of report to police by treating doctor as in present case may be the another reason of delayed consultation.

References
Mathur et al : Paraphimosis

3. Partha Sarathy T. K. Reduction of paraphimosis and dorsal slit procedure common bedside procedure no. 4. www.medindia.com


Corrigendum
(For Vol. 30, No.1)

1. Tenure of Governing Council shall be read as “2008-09”.
2. Page-1 : “Pankaj Markey” is second author in case report entitled “Lizard Bite……”.
4. Page-6 : All authors are from “Forensic Medicine Department” their respective college.
6. Page-23 : Acknowledgment shall be read as “Authors are thankful to Director, State FSL, Sagar, M.P. for ……”.

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