



A CASE OF PENETRATING ABDOMINAL WOUND WITH A SPOON IN A PRISON ENVIRONMENT

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Figure 1: vulnerating agent in place in the left pelvic fossa on inspection of the abdomen.



Figure 2 : plain abdomen, lateral view



Figure 3 : plain abdomen, frontal view

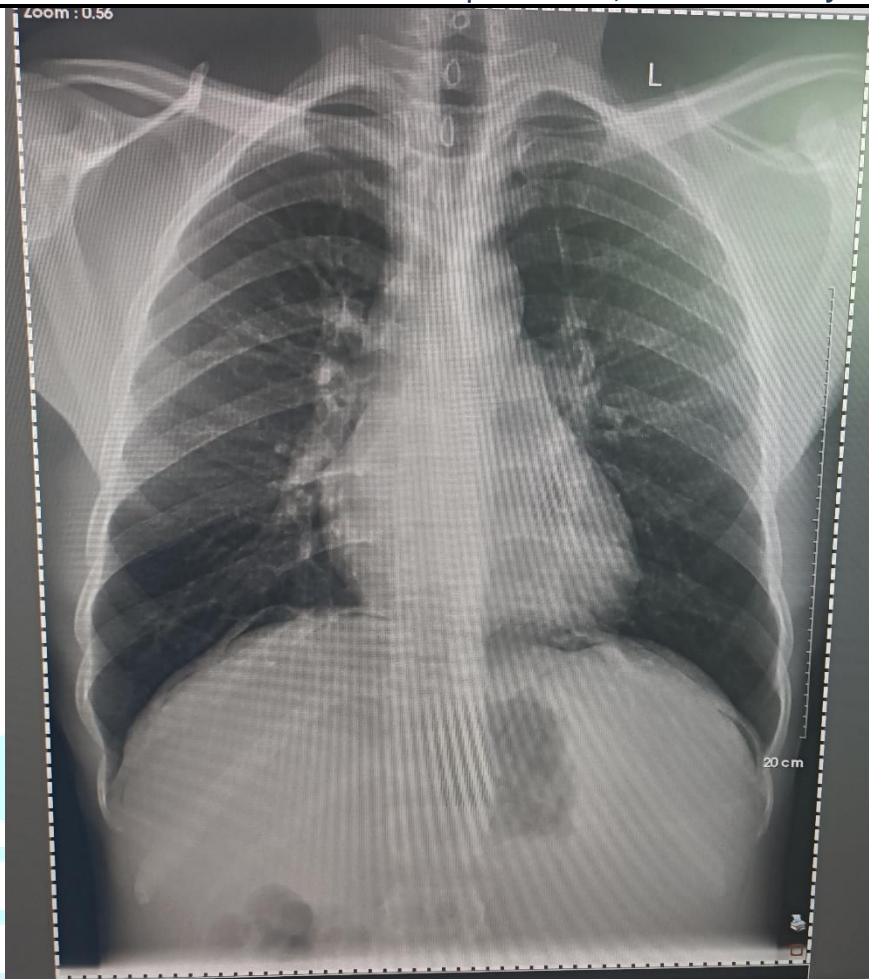


Figure 4 : Chest x-ray, frontal view

The patient, a 19-year-old inmate of a prison in Yaoundé (Cameroon), was brought to the hospital for a stab wound in the left iliac fossa caused by a soup spoon. Following the attack, the patient reportedly experienced severe diffuse abdominal pain, which prompted a visit to the emergency unit. On admission, his vital parameters were satisfactory, and he was afebrile. The vulnating agent and a frank peritoneal irritation syndrome were found on physical examination. The following plain abdominal X-ray revealed the vulnating agent and a micropneumoperitoneum.

The hypotheses of penetrating abdominal wound with injury to a hollow organ; penetrating abdominal wound associated with pre-existing pneumoperitoneum or originating from outside the peritoneal cavity were evoked, and an exploratory laparotomy was performed. No hollow organ lesions were found during surgery. The foreign body was removed and a parietal plasty performed. The postoperative course was uneventful, and the patient was discharged on the sixth postoperative day.

Keywords : clinical image, stab wound, spoon