

The 'Tic'king Bleeder: A Rare Case of Bleeding Dieulafoy's Lesion in a Jejunal Diverticulum



Ans Albustamy MD¹, Prateek Harne MD², Arturo Rivera Suplee MD², Asif Zamir MD²
¹Department of Internal Medicine, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine-Doctors Hospital at Renaissance; Edinburg, Texas
²Division of Gastroenterology, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine-Doctors Hospital at Renaissance; Edinburg, Texas



INTRODUCTION

Dieulafoy lesion (DL) is a relatively rare and arguably under-recognized condition, accounting for 1-2% of acute GI bleeding¹. Most bleeding DLs occur in the stomach, followed by the small intestine, with less than 1% occurring in the jejunum². Bleeding DL on a jejunal diverticulum is even more rare, with a handful cases described in the literature³. Here we present a rare case of a bleeding DL in a jejunal diverticulum with its endoscopic management.

CASE DESCRIPTION

A 65-year-old female with history of COVID-19 infection one month prior to presentation treated with steroids and therapeutic anticoagulation presented to the ED after having multiple episodes of coffee-ground emesis and two episodes of syncope at home. Her last dose of Apixaban was 12 hours prior to admission. Physical exam revealed a blood pressure of 90/60 on norepinephrine infusion, heart rate of 96, and O2 saturations within normal limits. Her abdominal exam was soft and nontender without guarding or rebound tenderness, DRE revealed melena. Hemoglobin/hematocrit was significantly decreased at 3.6/12.8.

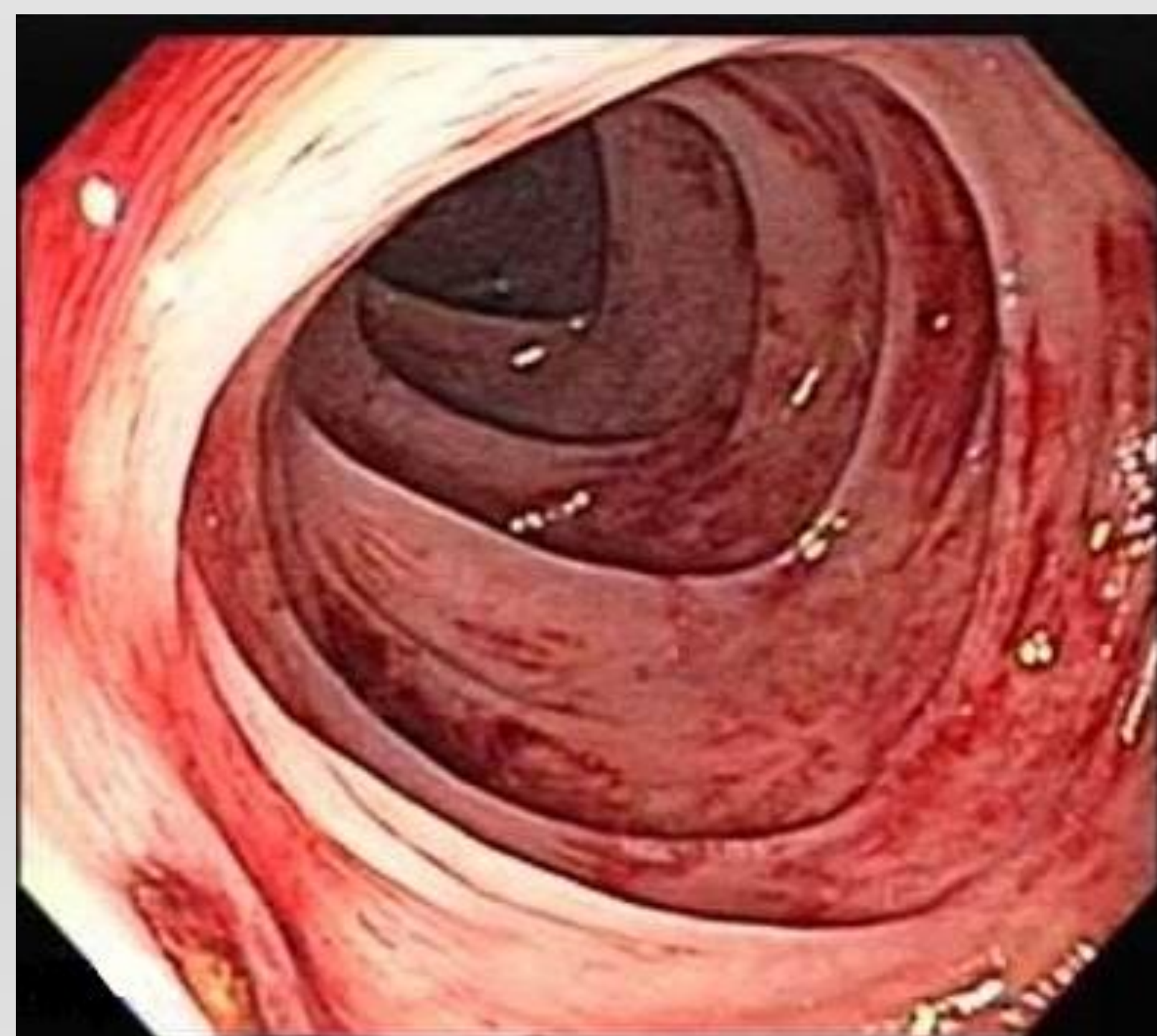


Image 1. colonoscopy revealing fresh blood all throughout colon

CASE CONTINUED

Patient was appropriately resuscitated with blood products and fluids, and she was scheduled for an EGD. Initial EGD did not identify a clear source of her bleeding, and she was scheduled for colonoscopy. Colonoscopy with deep cannulation of the terminal ileum up to 40cm revealed significant amounts of fresh blood all throughout the colon and terminal ileum.



Image 2. jejunal diverticulum with clot

Decision was made for push enteroscopy, which revealed a jejunal diverticulum containing a Dieulafoy lesion with an overlying clot. The lesion was first injected with epinephrine at 2 sites followed by a clot removal overlying the lesion using 13-0 circular snare. A clear stigma of recent bleeding was noticed from the lesion after clot removal, after which 2 metallic clips were placed over the lesion to achieve hemostasis. The patient had no further episodes of bleeding and was follow up in clinic eventually, recovering well.



Image 3. clot removal overlying the lesion using snare, with stigmata of recent bleeding

CASE CONTINUED



Image 4. 2 metallic clips were placed over the lesion

DISCUSSION

Because of the life-threatening nature of Dieulafoy lesions, identification is of paramount importance for treatment purposes. Jejunal DLs are a rare entity but should be considered in cases with negative bidirectional endoscopies⁴. In our case, push enteroscopy helped identify the bleeding lesion. DL in a diverticulum can pose a challenge to the endoscopist due to difficulty of access to the lesion. Epinephrine injection followed by mechanical clipping showed a positive outcome in our case which can be considered while approaching bleeding DLs in a diverticulum.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Baxter, M., & Aly, E. H. (2010). Dieulafoy's lesion: Current trends in diagnosis and management. *The Annals of The Royal College of Surgeons of England*, 92(7), 548-554. <https://doi.org/10.1308/003588410x12699663905311>
- ² Lee, Y. T., Walmsley, R. S., Leong, R. W., & Sung, J. J. (2003). Dieulafoy's lesion. *Gastrointestinal endoscopy*, 58(2), 236-243.
- ³ Sai Prasad, T. R., Lim, K. H., Lim, K. H., & Yap, T.-L. (2007). Bleeding Jejunal Dieulafoy Pseudopolyp: Capsule endoscopic detection and laparoscopic-assisted resection. *Journal of Laparoendoscopic & Advanced Surgical Techniques*, 17(4), 509-512. <https://doi.org/10.1089/lap.2006.0063>
- ⁴ Chung, C. S., Huang, C. T., Wang, H. P., & Lee, T. H. (2011). Single-balloon enteroscopy for the management of a bleeding Dieulafoy lesion in the jejunal diverticulum. *Journal of the Formosan Medical Association*, 110(11), 724.