

## A rare case of idiopathic spontaneous rupture of a right gastroepiploic artery

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Idiopathic spontaneous intraperitoneal hemorrhage (ISIH) reported by Barber in 1909, is a rare and fatal condition without a trauma or underlying diseases in elderly hypertensive patients with atherosclerosis. The incidence of a gastroepiploic artery rupture is rare, of which a non-aneurysmal rupture is rarest. We reported a case of an old woman presenting shock due to fatal hemoperitoneum after diagnostic gastroscopy was finally diagnosed as ISIH. An 83-year-old woman with dull epigastric pain for several days underwent gastroscopy. During the endoscopy, 0.3cm sized polyp was removed with forcep biopsy and no significant bleeding was noted (Fig. A). She had a history of hypertension, sliding hiatal hernia, and one vessel disease treated with DAPT for 2 months. Two hours later, she presented acute abdominal pain and hypotension, and then transferred to ER department. Her vital signs: BP 64/42mmHg; HR 101/min. Initial Hb of 9.8g/dL dropped to 8.6g/dL. She underwent contrast-enhanced abdominal computed tomography (CT), showing extraluminal active bleeding with hematoma around gastric antrum without free air (Fig. B). Since she was in the post-endoscopic biopsy, we performed an emergency gastroscopy, suspecting biopsy site bleeding, but no intragastric bleeding was observed. Celiac angiography showed focal extravasation at right gastroepiploic artery (Fig. C), and bleeding was successfully controlled by embolization. She restarted antiplatelet drug because the hematoma decreased in the follow-up CT and was discharged on the 7th day of hospitalization due to lack of further bleeding. In this case, the patient maintaining DAPT was turned out ISIH right after the endoscopy, allowing treatment with embolization without laparotomy with no complications. There may be unidentified aneurysmal ruptures, but no aneurysmal findings were seen in her previous CT. We need to consider spontaneous rupture of visceral arteries in the elderly with hypertension or atherosclerosis when abrupt abdominal pain or shock occurs. This is the first case report of idiopathic spontaneous rupture of the right gastroepiploic artery successfully managed by transarterial embolization in Korea.

