

Tuboovarian Abscess (TOA In Intrauterine Device (IUD) Users

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Objective: To assess the causality between pelvic abscess formation and IUD use via a hospital- setting clinical study.

Materials and Methods: Sixty-two tubo-ovarian abscesses (TOA) were observed, through a retrospective analysis, from 1995 to 2001. File records consisted of patient demographic characteristics, clinical management details, duration of IUD use.

Results: Mean age of the cases with TOA was 36.1(19-50). Of 62 cases, fourteen cases (22.6%) revealed a history of IUD use. Mean time interval of cases using IUD prior to the diagnosis was 5.7 years (1-14 years). In all cases, pelvic mass and abdominal pain were the common sign and symptoms. All cases received an initial antibiotic regimen consisted of penicillin (24 mU/day), clindamycin (900 mg/day) and gentamycin (240 mg/day). Medical treatment gave a satisfactory clinical outcome in 38 of cases (61.3%). Twenty-four cases (38.7%) underwent surgery, either in the form of laparotomic (n=19) or, in the form of laparoscopic approach (n=5). Surgery ranged from abscess drainage to more radical approaches such as total abdominal hysterectomy, unilateral or bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy

Conclusion: A substantial number of cases with IUD was encountered during a retrospective analysis of TOA in a seven year period of a university clinic. The presence of IUD should be investigated in patients with the initial diagnosis of TOA based on clinical and ultrasonographic evaluation.