Answers to Medical Quiz

A1. Figure 1 is ultrasound and figure 2 is MRI.
A2. Large left homogeneous cyst behind the urinary bladder.
A3. Simple left ovarian cyst.

DISCUSSION

An ovarian cyst is a sac filled with fluid, soft tissue or both. An ovarian cyst is common in young females1.

A patient with an ovarian cyst has variable presentations depending on the size of the cyst. Usually, an ovarian cyst is asymptomatic and most of the time discovered incidentally during ultrasonography. Some patients may present with acute abdominal pain due to stretching of the ovarian capsule, rupture of the ovarian cyst or due to torsion2.

Diagnosis of ovarian cyst is best confirmed by pelvic ultrasound. Other modalities, such as CT or MRI could be used for a complex ovarian cyst. Cancer antigen and tumor markers could be useful in the diagnosis of complex ovarian cysts3,4.

There are many pathological types of ovarian cysts in children, mainly benign and rarely malignant1. The types of ovarian cysts in females before menopause could be classified into simple, endometrioma and dermoid. The most common is the simple, which is large, and could regress after few months and cause ovarian torsion. Management of ovarian cyst depends on the symptoms, size, composition and age of the patient1.

Most incidental small, simple ovarian cysts do not require treatment. The functional ovarian cyst could be treated with oral contraceptive pills. Surgical intervention is indicated in symptomatic, large cyst (more than 10 cm) and complex ovarian cyst. Excision of ovarian cyst could be performed either by open or laparoscopic approach4,5.

CONCLUSION

Ovarian cyst is a very common pathology in menopause females. Simple ovarian cyst is the most common type. Symptoms and signs depend on the size and type of the cyst. Surgical management is indicated in large symptomatic and complex ovarian cyst.

Potential Conflicts of Interest: None.
Conflict of interest: None.
Sponsorship: None.
Submission Date: 18 July 2016.
Approval Date: 19 July 2016.

Ethical Approval: Approved by Department of Surgery, Salmaniya Medical Complex, Kingdom of Bahrain.

REFERENCES