

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The authors present an interesting case of a 20-year-old female patient who was diagnosed with Nutcracker Syndrome. This condition, characterized by left flank pain, hematuria and pelvic congestion syndrome, is often difficult to diagnose. The possibility that this condition has an origin in the bladder is certainly possible as a rare presentation of Interstitial Cystitis/Painful Bladder Syndrome. Symptoms can wax and wane for many years prior to diagnosis. Additionally, patients may present with signs of narcotic addiction and psychiatric disturbances such as anxiety and depression. A complete evaluation of the upper and lower urinary tract is mandatory to rule out other causes of hematuria, particularly small renal masses and obstructing stones in caliceal diverticuli.

Treatment for Nutcracker Syndrome can be challenging. The authors describe their success with intravascular stent placement. However, open surgery may be required for refractory cases. Our experience with similar patients presenting with Loin Pain Hematuria Syndrome indicates that additional benefit can be obtained with renal autotransplantation. This procedure was performed in patients who failed conservative management with surveillance and oral analgesics. In those patients, long term relief was achieved with renal auto-transplantation.¹

References

1. Pukenas BA, Zaslau S. Loin Pain Hematuria syndrome: case series. *WV Med J* 2003;99(5):192-1993.

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