Meckel's diverticulum on third-generation video capsule endoscopy: intradiverticular ulcer, ectopic gastric mucosa, and active bleeding



▶ Fig. 1 Images obtained during small-bowel video capsule endoscopy showing: a an ileal diverticular orifice with the double-lumen sign. b ulceration with a visible vessel (Forrest IIa); c ectopic gastric mucosa (black arrows); d the presence of intradiverticular bleeding (red arrow, diverticular orifice; green arrow, ileum).



Video 1 Appearances of a Meckel's diverticulum on third-generation video capsule endoscopy.

A 29-year-old man presented with acute rectal bleeding causing hemorrhagic shock. The patient had presented with a similar episode of digestive bleeding 4 years previously, with no diagnosis being found. His physical examination did not reveal any clinical abnormalities. Gastroscopy, colonoscopy, and abdominal computed tomography angiography (CTA) were normal. Small-bowel video capsule endoscopy revealed an ileal diverticular orifice, with the double-lumen sign. After passage of the capsule into the diverticulum, an ulcer with a visible vessel (Forrest IIa) was observed at the bottom of the diverticulum. located next to a patch of heterotopic gastric mucosa. During this examination, active bleeding was seen from this area of ulceration (► Fig. 1; ► Video 1).

A Meckel's diverticulum was suspected. A ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate scintigraphy scan was performed, which confirmed the presence of ectopic gastric mucosa, corresponding to a probable Meckel's diverticulum (**Fig.2**). Surgery allowed the excision of a diverticulum of 6×2×1 cm that was found 70 cm above the ileocecal valve. Histological examination confirmed the presence of ectopic fundal mucosa within the diverticulum (**Fig.3**). The patient left hospital 3 days after the surgery and has not represented with any further recurrence of bleeding.

Meckel's diverticulum is a vestigial remnant of the omphalomesenteric duct, located on the antimesenteric border of the ileum, within 100 cm above the Bauhin's valve. About 50% of symptomatic Meckel's diverticula have been found to contain ectopic tissue, especially gastric mucosa (35%-45%), which can cause ulceration and hemorrhage; 75% of hemorrhagic Meckel's diverticula contain gastric ectopic mucosa [1]. Abdominal CT is an insensitive test for detection, especially in adults. In patients with obscure gastrointestinal bleeding, smallbowel video capsule endoscopy is a po-



► Fig. 2 ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate scintigraphy (Meckel's scan) showing ectopically located gastric mucosa.



Fig.3 Histological appearance on hematoxylin, eosin, and saffron (HES) staining showing ectopic fundal mucosa.

tentially interesting test for the diagnosis of Meckel's diverticulum, with a positive predictive value up to 85% [2]. ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate scintigraphy (Meckel's scan), which specifically detects gastric mucosa, is more sensitive in a pediatric population (85%-90\%) than in adult

patients (60%). This test is particularly effective when there are symptoms related to the ectopic gastric mucosa, such as bleeding [3].

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Competing interests

None

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Bibliography

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