



BRIEF COMMUNICATION

## Postcircumcision epidermoid inclusion cyst of the vulva containing multiple stones

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### KEYWORDS

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The occurrence of inclusion cysts of the external genitalia following circumcision is well documented. It may involve the clitoris, the vulva, or the vagina. However, postcircumcision stone-containing cysts have not been described in the English literature. A case of inclusion cyst of the vulva containing multiple stones following circumcision is presented in this report.

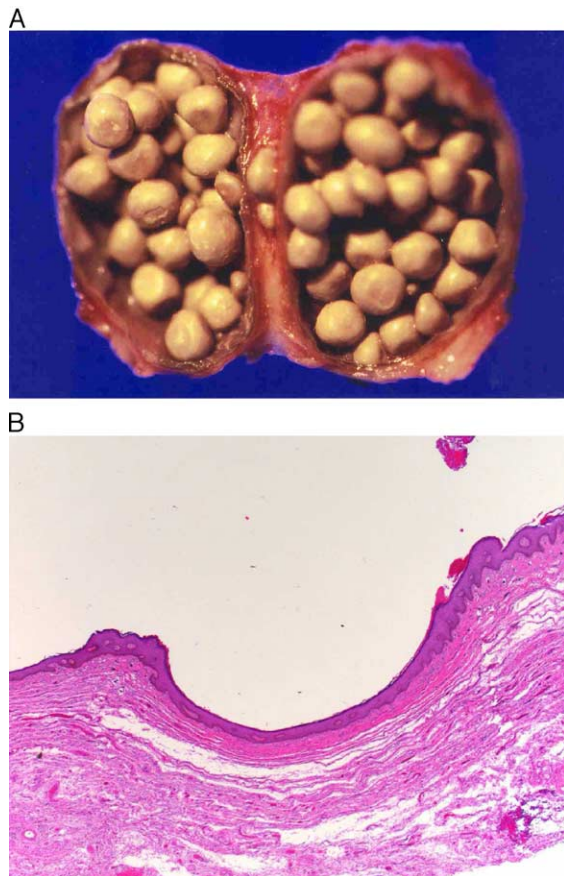
A 31-year-old nulligravida presented to the outpatient clinic at King Faisal Specialist Hospital-

Jeddah because of vulvar swelling. On pelvic examination she was found to be circumcised, and there was an inclusion cyst in the midline at the site where the two labia majora were sutured together above the level of the introitus. The cyst was excised intact and sent for histopathologic evaluation. The gross histopathologic evaluation revealed a cystic structure measuring  $4 \times 3.8 \times 3.5$  cm and containing numerous stones that varied in size from 2 to 7 mm (Fig. 1A). The microscopic examination revealed an epidermal-type inclusion cyst that was lined with stratified squamous epithelium with no evidence of dysplastic changes. There were indentations in the epithelium caused by the pressure of the stones (Fig. 1B). The patient had an uneventful postoperative course. A follow-up visit after 1 year revealed no evidence of recurrence of the cyst.

The practice of female genital circumcision (FGC) is common in some communities, especially the Middle East and parts of Africa. The procedure has a variety of forms and often includes clitoridectomy. The World Health Organization has clas-

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**Figure 1** (A) The cyst containing numerous variable sized stones. (B) Section reveals the lining of the cyst, which is stratified squamous epithelium with no evidence of dysplastic changes. The indentations of the epithelium as a result of the stones effect are seen. (Hematoxylin eosin stain, original magnification  $\times 400$ ).

sified FGC into 4 types, the first 3 including procedures of increasing invasiveness and the last one being a general category including unclassified genital injuries [1]. Type III refers to the excision of part or all of the external genitalia and the

narrowing of the vaginal opening by means of stitching. This type of circumcision is common in African countries and seen in Saudi Arabia almost exclusively in patients of African origin. The occurrence of postcircumcision inclusion cysts is a well-documented complication of female circumcision [2].

A primary vaginal stone associated with circumcision has been previously described [3]. However, stone-containing cysts associated with circumcision have not been described in the English literature, which was reviewed through a Medline search. Thus, the present case of a stone-containing cyst as a complication of female circumcision is, to the best knowledge of the authors, the first reported, at least in English.

The clitoris, vulva, and vagina can be affected with epithelial inclusion cysts following circumcision; the symptoms may include localized pain, discharge, dyspareunia, pruritus; and walking may also be affected [4]. The usual management of postcircumcision epithelial inclusion cysts is complete excision of the cysts [4].

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