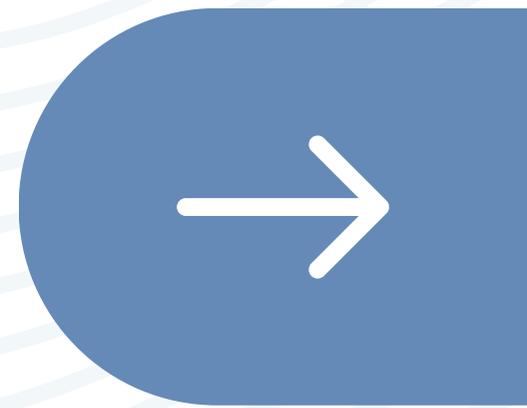


#DIBS BY NEXTILLO

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SERVICE

CHOLEDOCHAL CYST (PART 1)





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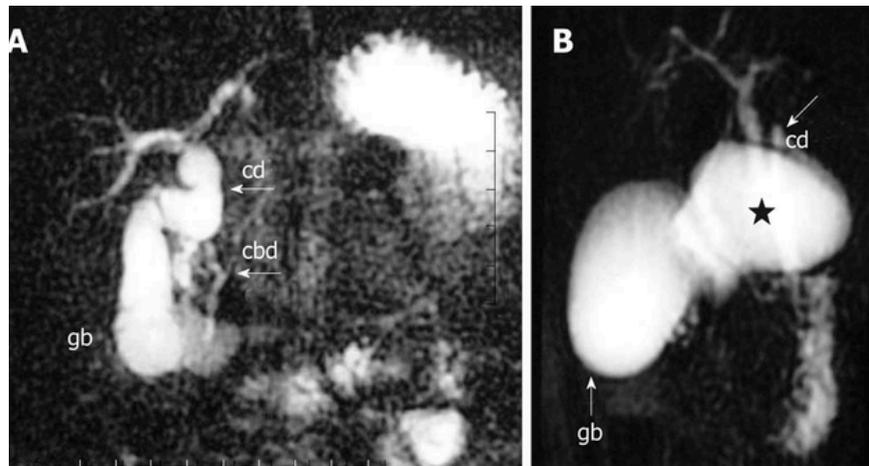
DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SERVICE

CHOLEDOCHAL CYST (PART 1)

A choledochal cyst is a congenital (present at birth) abnormality characterized by the presence of a cystic dilatation (enlargement) in the bile ducts. The bile ducts are responsible for carrying bile from the liver to the small intestine. This condition involves an abnormal structure that can affect the intrahepatic (within the liver) and extrahepatic (outside the liver) bile ducts.



VISUAL REPRESENTATION



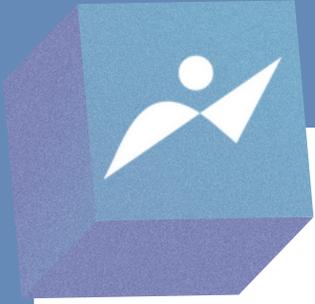
MRCP images showing choledochal cyst



CHOLEDOCHAL CYST (PART 1)

Clinical Features

- **Jaundice:** Jaundice is a common symptom due to the **obstruction of bile flow**.
- **Abdominal Pain:** Patients may experience abdominal pain, especially in the **upper right quadrant**, as a result of cyst enlargement or complications.
- **Palpable Abdominal Mass:** in some cases, a palpable mass can be felt in the abdomen, **particularly in infants**.
- **Hepatomegaly:** Enlargement of the liver (hepatomegaly) may occur due to the backflow of bile.
- **Vomiting: Persistent vomiting** may occur, often related to the obstruction of bile flow.
- **Prolonged Jaundice in Infants:** Choledochal cysts may present with **prolonged jaundice in newborns and infants**.
- **Dark Urine and Pale Stools:** Obstruction of the bile ducts can lead to **dark-colored urine and pale stools**.
- **Recurrent Abdominal Infections:** Due to the stagnant bile, there is an **increased risk of recurrent infections in the bile ducts (cholangitis)**.



CHOLEDOCHAL CYST (PART 1)

Diagnosis

- **Blood Tests: Liver Function Tests (LFTs):** Evaluating liver enzyme levels to assess liver function and detect any abnormalities associated with bile duct obstruction. **Imaging Studies:**
- **Ultrasound:** A non-invasive imaging technique that can reveal the presence of a cystic dilation in the bile ducts and assess its size and location.
- **Magnetic Resonance Cholangiopancreatography (MRCP):** This imaging modality provides detailed images of the bile ducts, helping to define the anatomy and identify the presence of a choledochal cyst.
- **Computed Tomography (CT) Scan:** CT imaging can be used to visualize the cyst and its relationship with surrounding structures.
- **Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP):** ERCP can provide detailed images and is useful for confirming the diagnosis and assessing the extent of the cyst.
- **Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI):** MRI may be used to obtain detailed images, especially when assessing the relationship between the choledochal cyst and neighboring structures.
- **Cholescintigraphy (HIDA Scan):** A nuclear medicine test that involves injecting a radioactive tracer into the bloodstream, which is then taken up by the liver and excreted into the bile. This can help assess the patency and function of the bile ducts.



IMPORTANT ONE LINERS

- *Most common type of choledochal cyst - **Type I > Type 4 > Type 3***
- *Type VI- cystic dilatation of cystic duct (not a part of Todani's classification)*
- *Stones in Gallbladder: **Cholelithiasis***
- *Stones in Bile duct: **Choledocholithiasis***
- *Stones in Cysts: **Cystolithiasis***



MCQ

Question: A 4-month-old infant presents with jaundice, abdominal pain, and a palpable mass in the right upper quadrant. Liver function tests show elevated bilirubin levels. Imaging reveals a cystic dilation of the common bile duct. What is the most appropriate next step in management?

- a) Initiate antibiotic therapy
- b) Perform endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)
- c) Order a liver biopsy
- d) Plan for surgical excision

Answer: d) Plan for surgical excision