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## Self intraurethral injection of baby oil: a case report

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## ABSTRACT

Self penile injection can result in an important uncommon urological disorder. However, the self intraurethral foreign body injection is extremely rare. Here, the author reports a case of a male patient presenting with urethritis due to self intraurethral baby oil injection. This disorder was self limited after conservative treatment. Based on the literature searching, this case report might be the first world report on urological problem due to self intraurethral oil injection.

**1. Introduction**

Penis is an important sexual organ. In some primitive cultures, local people believe that the “large penis” is a symbol of effective sexual function. This belief leads to several primitive practices and manipulations on the penis. Self penile injection can result in an important uncommon urological disorder. The injection of foreign body into subcutaneous tissue of penis is reported<sup>[1,2]</sup>. This condition seems to be a hard-to-manage urological condition<sup>[1,2]</sup>.

Not only direct foreign body injection into penile structure but also foreign body injection into penile urethra appeared. The self intraurethral foreign body injection is extremely rare. Here, the author reports a case of a male presenting with urethritis due to self intraurethral baby oil injection. This disorder was self limited after conservative treatment.

**2. Case report**

A 19 years old male patient visited the physician complaining on a pain sensation in his penile urethra. He noted that he passed abnormal whitish urine. From history taking, he had performed self intraurethral baby oil injection (5 cc via plastic syringe) three days before. After

injection, he felt pain and he passed abnormal urine on the third day. Hence he decided to visit the physician for getting proper treatment.

On physical examination, there is no external gross abnormality of the penis. No swelling is observed at penile orifice. The urinalysis was done and the result was within normal limit except for increased white blood cell (50–100 cells/HPF). A sterile urethritis was diagnosed. The physician prescribed for paracetamol and prednisolone (5 mg/day). On the following up in the next week, the patient revealed no symptom and the urinalysis returned normal.

**3. Discussion**

The aim of penile foreign body injection is sexual arousal purpose<sup>[1,2]</sup> and the clinical characteristics of a case with penile foreign body is shown in Table 1. However, this practice can result in urological problem. Oil injection can result in chronic granuloma<sup>[3]</sup>. In some serious cases, the penile amputations have to be done. Therefore, early detection and proper management are required<sup>[1,2]</sup>.

Nevertheless, a special form of injection, intraurethral injection is rarely reported. Indeed, the self intraurethral application of drug is mentioned in urology. The indication is erectile dysfunction<sup>[4]</sup>. However, the problem of abnormal foreign body injection can be expected. Most reported cases are solid foreign body insertion in psychiatric patients and the results can be fatal<sup>[5–7]</sup>. Based on the literature

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**Table 1**

Clinical characteristics of a case with penile foreign body.

	Parameters	Extraurethral	Intraurethral
Solid foreign body	Commonness	Common	Common
	Cause	Usually intentional insertion (can be self-insertion) Accident	Usually urethral stone (which is passed from upper urinary tract)
	Type of foreign body	Plastic particle Pearl	Stone
	Signs & symptoms	Mass at penile body Inflammation Pain during sexual intercourse	Acute urinary obstruction Hematuria Pain in urethra
	Complication	Infection	Infection Anuria
	Treatment	Surgical removal	Removal by intraurethral removal apparatus Pushing back of stone into urinary bladder
	Liquid foreign body	Commonness	Rare
Cause		Intentional injection (can be self-injection)	Intentional injection (can be self-injection)
Type of foreign body		Oil Paraffin	Oil Paraffin
Signs & symptoms		Mass at penile body Inflammation Pain at penis	Pyuria Pain in urethra
Complication		Infection Gangrene (paraffinoma)	Infection
Treatment		Surgical removal	Steroid Antibiotic (if infection is detected)

searching, this case report might be the first world report on urological problem due to self intraurethral oil injection. Focusing on the problematic oil, it is the skin care oil for children hence it might cause little irritation. However, it can cause the sterile urethritis. Inflammation of the penile urethra can be implied by the sterile pyuria[8–12]. This is a common sign of intraurethral foreign body induced disorder[6]. In this case, the conservative treatment with steroid can result in a favorite outcome. There is no need for antibiotic use.

### Conflict of interest statement

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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