

# Giant tortuous umbilical vein in a cirrhotic patient

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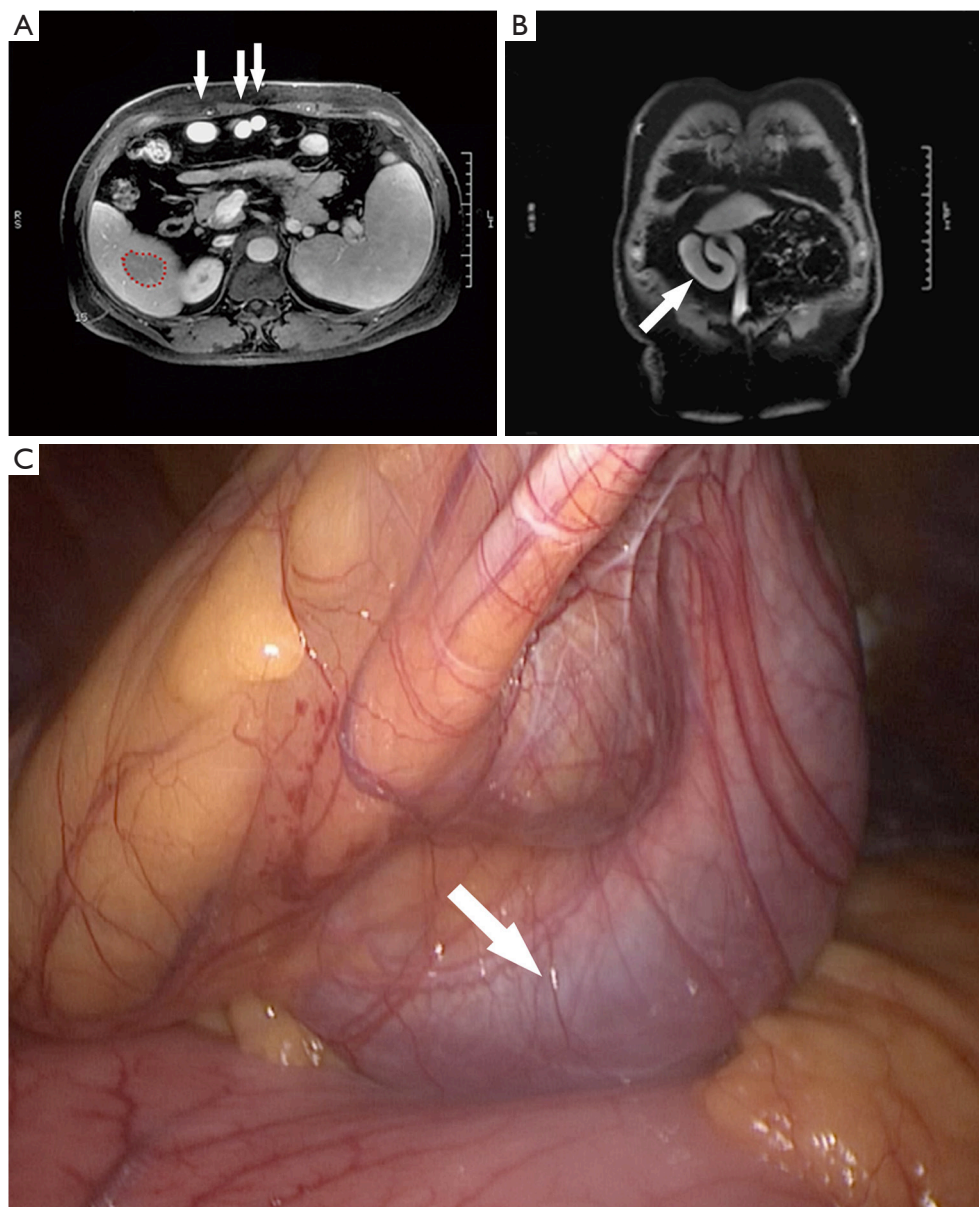
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A 59-year-old male was admitted to our department with abdominal distension, splenomegaly and liver cirrhosis. MRI showed a Segment-6 tumor (Panel A) and a giant dilated vein (Panel A and B). During the laparoscopic hepatectomy, a tortuous umbilical vein was found (Panel C). The patient had no complications or recurrence in an 8-month follow-up. Patent umbilical vein exists in about 7.4% cases of liver cirrhosis, more than 50% of which are accompanied by other collateral shunts such as esophageal, perisplenic or mesenteric veins. It was very unusual that the patient had liver cirrhosis and a giant umbilical vein but no other collateral shunts. We speculate this giant umbilical vein with the diameter of 28.0 mm (3.5 times of the mean value of 7.97 mm) may exert sufficient function to reduce the hepatic inflow pressure to a degree that other portal vein branches can be protected from dilation.

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## Footnote

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*Ethical Statement:* The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved. Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this manuscript and any accompanying images.

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