Author's response to reviews

Title: Ruptured Appendiceal Cystadenoma Presenting as Right Inguinal Hernia in a Patient with Left Colon Cancer: A Case Report and Review of Literature

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Answers to the comments from Dr Alexandra Tsaroucha:

1. It is a good idea to change the title and I have completed it as your suggestion. I add "left" to describe the case more accurately.

2. In abdominal CT scans, we use iodinated, water-soluble contrast medium (IOHEXOL). The patient drinks about 1200ml (6mg/ml) of contrast medium several hours before the examination and receives intravenous injection of contrast medium (4ml/kg) just before the examination. For the presented patient, we could expect extravasation of contrast medium from the appendix or cecum if persistent leakage occurred. We understood that the iodinated, water-soluble contrast medium did not cause obvious irrigation of peritoneal cavity. Therefore, we performed it in front of the colonoscopic examination just to ensure the security. If any peritoneal signs occurred during the procedures as aforementioned, we would perform exploratory laparotomy.

3. There are several reported articles mentioning that the incidence of a second tumor originating from gastrointestinal tract, ovary, breast and kidney. I have rewritten the sentence with more explanation as your suggestion.

4. After confirming the patient's pathology, we reviewed the charts of our hospital and obtained the other nine patients who had undergone appendectomies due to mucinous cystadenoma of appendix in the past 13 years. We explained to them and invited them to have colonoscopic examinations at outpatient department. Only three of them returned to finish the examination. For the other six patients who refused to receive the colonoscopic examination, we had conversation with them by telephone and investigated whether they had ever received colonoscopic examination, colonic surgery or bowel habit change during the past follow-up period? However, there is no evidence of associating colonic cancer in the other nine patients at presentation. We need more observation for such patients.

5. I have moved these references (25, 26, 27) further up in the discussion and rewritten the conclusion.
6. Thanks for correcting my English. I am very appreciated to you