Reviewer's report

**Title:** Synchronous presentation of acute acalculous cholecystitis and appendicitis in a 23 year old male.

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 29 June 2011

**Reviewer:** Vasileios Papadopoulos

**Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?:** Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

**Has the case been reported coherently?:** Yes

**Is the case report authentic?:** Yes

**Is the case report ethical?:** Yes

**Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?:** No

**Is this case worth reporting?:** Yes

**Is the case report persuasive?:** Yes

**Does the case report have explanatory value?:** No

**Does the case report have diagnostic value?:** No

**Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?:** Yes

**Is the anonymity of the patient protected?:** Yes

**Comments to authors:**

Acute acalculous cholecystitis (AAC) is one out of four specific forms of acute cholecystitis and it is a rare condition. The appropriate timing for laparoscopic cholecystectomy in the treatment of acute cholecystitis remains controversial. More recent evaluation indicates early laparoscopic surgery may be a safe option in acute cholecystitis, although conversion rates may be higher. Early operation is the treatment of choice because delayed surgery carries a risk of failure of conservative treatment, recurrent symptoms, while waiting for operation and a longer overall hospital stay and greater overall costs. However, these advantages of early laparoscopic cholecystectomy can be offset by the potential hazards of serious complications; so many surgeons prefer delayed cholecystectomy in acute cholecystitis.
I think that a comment about this controversy it is necessary.

The final decision for the management of AAC must depend on:
1. Severity of acute cholecystitis (grade),
2. Patient’s physical status (ASA score) and
3. Laparoscopic skill of the surgeon on call.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests