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# Indian Pediatrics IP CaRes Case Reports

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# Academics

# **Social Pediatrics**



# Humanities CROSSWORD CLOSE ENCOUNTERS CLOSE ENCOUNTERS GRIN and SHARE IT BOOK REVIEW

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- Clinical Crossword: Theme Nurturing Care

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# Peristaltic Waves: A Clinical Clue of Infantile Hypertrophic Pyloric Stenosis

A 6-week-old male child was admitted with recurrent episodes of vomiting after breastfeeding for 10 days. Initially, the vomiting was nonbilious but had recently become projectile. There was no history of fever, diarrhea, jaundice, or lethargy. Despite being always hungry and vigorously suckling when breastfed, there was a significant history of loss of weight since birth (weight 3270 g). Urine output was normal. At admission, weight was 2515 g. The baby was severely dehydrated. Peristaltic waves moving from the left to the right side of the upper abdomen were observed [Figure 1 and Video 1]. However, an olive-shaped mass was not palpable in the abdominal midline. Hypochloremic, hyponatremic, hypokalemic metabolic alkalosis was found, with elevated urea and creatinine levels. Dehydration correction was started. Infantile hypertrophic pyloric stenosis (IHPS) was suspected which was confirmed when an abdominal ultrasonogram detected a thickened pylorus muscle with elongated pyloric canal. The baby underwent laparoscopic pyloromyotomy successfully and has been thriving in follow-up.

IHPS is the most common cause of gastric outlet obstruction in infancy and one of the most common causes of surgery in a young infant.<sup>[1]</sup> The classic triad described in this condition is visible peristalsis, palpable pyloric mass, and projectile vomiting. However, their simultaneous occurrence is rarely seen, as in this case.<sup>[2]</sup> A palpable mass is seen in 60%–80% of cases. Peristaltic wave is because of attempted forceful movement of the gastric contents past the narrow pyloric canal and is an important clue for early diagnosis.<sup>[3]</sup>



**Figure 1:** A wavelike elevation observed on the left upper abdomen. The peristaltic wave moved to the right side

# **Declaration of patient consent**

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form, the legal guardian has given consent for images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The guardian understands that the names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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# **Conflicts of interest**

There are no conflicts of interest.

## Rajeev Pothala, Kishore Kumar Narahari, Chanchal Kumar

Department of Pediatrics and Neonatology, Ankura Hospital for Women and Children, Hyderabad, Telangana, India

Address for correspondence: Dr. Chanchal Kumar,
Department of Pediatrics and Neonatology, Ankura Hospital for Women and
Children, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana, India.
E-mail: drchanchalkumarkem@gmail.com

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