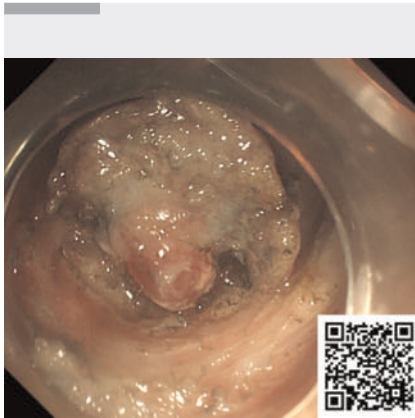


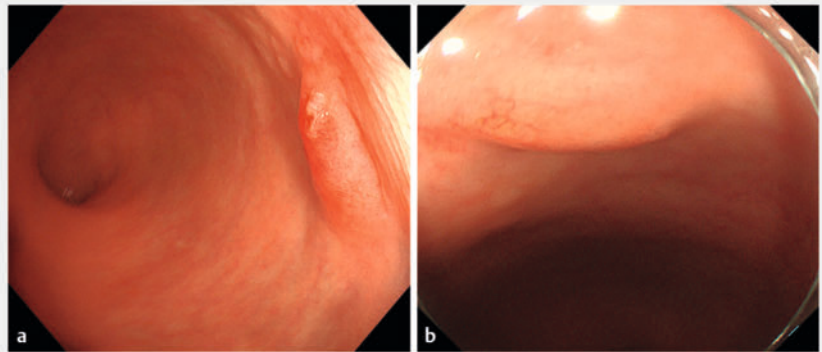
## Rectal pulse granuloma: a rare condition presenting as a subepithelial lesion

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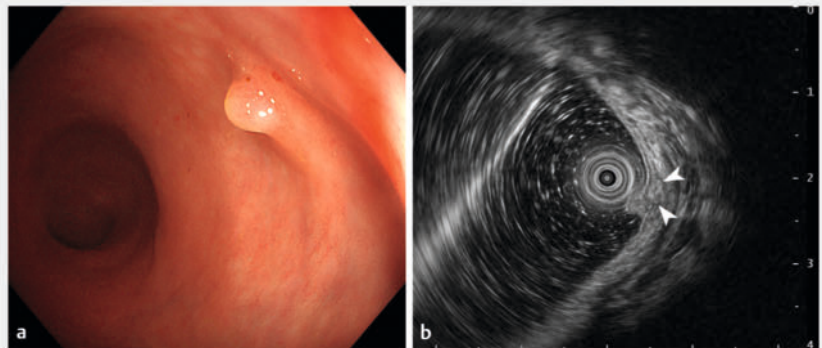


**▶ Video 1** Endoscopic submucosal dissection of a subepithelial lesion initially seen as a subepithelial protrusion in the distal rectum on colonoscopy and confirmed to be originating from the submucosal layer on endoscopic ultrasound; histopathology of the resected specimen showed it to be a pulse granuloma.

A pulse granuloma is a rare benign entity that typically occurs in the oral cavity [1]. Herein, we report a case of a subepithelial lesion (SEL) located in the distal rectum, which was diagnosed as a rectal pulse granuloma after its removal by endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD). A 66-year-old man with no significant medical history underwent colonoscopy for adenoma screening. Colonoscopy revealed multiple polyps, along with a subepithelial protrusion in the distal rectum, which was approximately 0.7 cm in size, with erosive changes of the overlying mucosa (▶ Fig. 1 a). The patient underwent endoscopic polypectomy 1 week later, at which time the erosive mucosa was noted to have recovered completely (▶ Fig. 1 b). After 10 weeks, the patient underwent further tests, with white-light endoscopy now showing an ill-defined submucosal bulge with a convex polyp on its surface (▶ Fig. 2 a). Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) revealed a 5.2×3.1-mm heterogeneous mass originating from the submucosal



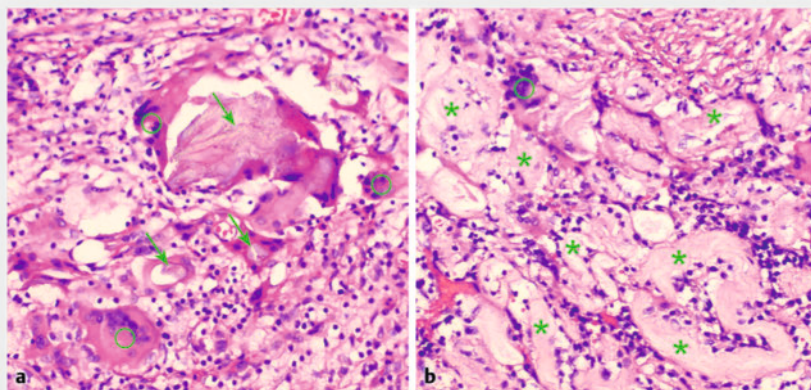
**▶ Fig. 1** Endoscopic images showing a distal rectal subepithelial lesion: **a** as a subepithelial protrusion with erosive changes of the overlying mucosa; **b** 1 week later, with no evidence of the erosive overlying mucosa.



**▶ Fig. 2** Appearance of the lesion 10 weeks later on: **a** colonoscopy, showing an ill-defined submucosal bulge with a polyp on its surface; **b** on endoscopic ultrasonography, showing a 5.2×3.1-mm heterogeneous mass originating from the submucosal layer (arrowheads).

layer (▶ Fig. 2 b). The lesion was removed by ESD (▶ Video 1). Histologic analysis revealed acute and chronic inflammatory cells, foreign-body giant cells, plant-like matter, and convoluted hyaline rings, supporting the diagnosis of a pulse granuloma with a foreign-body reaction (▶ Fig. 3), consistent with a pulse granuloma. The patient was discharged following ESD, without any complications. Since it was first described in the lung in 1969 by Knoblich [2], pulse granuloma has been reported in the oral and nasal cavity, skin, knee, fallopian tube and

ovary, and intrahepatic portal vein [1, 3]. It can also occur in the stomach, small intestine, colorectum, peritoneum, and mesentery [1, 4, 5]. A pulse granuloma is characterized by a chronic granulomatous reaction to a foreign body of vegetable origin [4]. In the present case, the mucosal damage seen above the lesion may have been the path by which the foreign bodies penetrated into the submucosal layer. As a rare lesion, familiarity with this entity's distinctive histopathologic features may avoid a delayed diagnosis or misdiagnosis.



► **Fig. 3** Histopathologic appearance of the resected lesion showing a granulomatous inflammatory process, with numerous foreign-body giant cells (circles), plant-like matter (arrows), and convoluted hyaline rings (stars), suggestive of a pulse granuloma (hematoxylin and eosin [H&E] staining, magnification  $\times 200$ ).

Endoscopy\_UCTN\_Code\_CCL\_1AD\_2AG

### Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

### The authors

**Cong Yuan**<sup>†1</sup>, **Xue-Mei Lin**<sup>†2,3</sup>, **Chun-Hui Xi**<sup>1</sup>, **Dan Sun**<sup>1</sup>, **Xiao-Bo Wang**<sup>1</sup>, **Guo-Dong Yang**<sup>1</sup>, **Xian-Fei Wang**<sup>1</sup>

- 1 Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy Center, Affiliated Hospital of North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong, China
- 2 Pathology, Institute of Basic Medicine and Forensic Medicine, North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong, China
- 3 Pathology, Affiliated Hospital of North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong, China

### Corresponding author

**Xian-Fei Wang, PhD**

Department of Gastroenterology, Affiliated Hospital of North Sichuan Medical College, No. 1, Maoyuan South Road, Shunqing District, Nanchong 637000, Sichuan, China  
2750853458@qq.com

<sup>†</sup> These authors contributed equally.

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Endoscopy 2024; 56: E593–E594

DOI 10.1055/a-2351-3633

ISSN 0013-726X

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