Conclusion Considering the nonspecific symptoms of the disease that greatly correlate with functional difficulties the number of negative findings is not surprising. But since gastroscopy is the most sensitive method of confirmation/exclusion of the disease itself it is clear that a high number of negative findings point to the necessity of developing clearer guidelines to avoid unnecessary endoscopies. Furthermore, comparing our results with the results of similar foreign studies we can say that we are within the world average and that this indeed is a global problem that requires team effort especially at a time when the number of endoscopic procedures grows rapidly every day due to increased endoscopic possibilities.

A six-year-old girl was admitted to Pediatric Intensive Care Unit in University Hospital Centre Osijek, Croatia, because of vomiting and severe hyponatremic dehydration, uremia and oliguria. Per anamnesis, her psychomotor development was normal. Except for having bronchitis, leading to one hospitalisation, she didn’t have other serious illness or allergies.

The girl was admitted after 4 days of vomiting, about 10 times in total. She didn’t tolerate anything by mouth. Last stool was the day before her admission, normal. She was afebrile, sporadically ill. At the admission, she was conscious, afebrile, severely dehydrated, with sunken eyes, dry mouth and sticky tongue. She had no pain. From the initial laboratory: Na 113, Cl 62, BUN 35, creatinine 289, CRP 41, leukocytes 21; liver enzymes, serum amylase and lipase were normal. Abdominal ultrasound showed hepatic-like kidneys, with erased corticomedullary differentiation, as in acute kidney failure, and a lot of fecal mass in the intestines. Dehydration and hyponatremia were corrected, diuresis improved. Antibiotics were initiated because of elevated inflammatory markers. After the initial improvement, motility problems complicated her recovery. She vomited once daily, and had soft or loose stools.

The abdomen was moderately distended. Control abdominal ultrason showed liquid gastric content, now kidneys were normal, but no peristalsis. The abdominal X-ray showed one aeroliquid level, without distension. Rotavirus was isolated in the stool, which could explain gastroparesis and paralytic ileus. Nasogastric tube was placed, with gastroprotective agents and probiotics. In the following days, severe abdominal distension developed. Oral feeding was stopped, except of minimal feeding via enteral pump, but the intestinal motility did not improve. By then, she had no stool and via nasogastric tube green liquid content was evacuated daily. Nevertheless, her overall condition was stable, she remained afebrile and without pain. On the fourteenth day, endoscopy was performed. The gastroscope was inserted deep in the small intestine, there was liquid content visible aborally, but the site of the obstruction could not be visualised. Colonoscopy showed normal stool in the lumen. Abdominal MR was done, showing severe jejunal distension and transition zone toward ileum (which was normal in width) with suspected foreign body 27x24x38 mm in size, and collapsed colon distally. Surgery was done, and the object that obstructed the lumen of the small intestine was removed – a piece of polyurethane foam. The polyurethane foam is used for filling and sealing in the construction. The girl did not remember swallowing that object, and after the surgery she recovered completely.

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