INTERESTING CLINICAL IMAGE:
Complications of Percutaneous Gastrostomy Tubes

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Interesting Clinical Image is a new section of OPUS 12 Scientist featuring interesting and controversial medical images – both radiographs and traditional photographs. Readers are encouraged to submit medical images from their institutions. Submissions should be directed to one of the Principal Editors of OPUS 12 Scientist.

Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) is the preferred method for administration of long-term enteral nutrition.\textsuperscript{1} However, due largely to the high acuity of the underlying disease among patients who receive PEG tubes, this procedure can be associated with a number of serious complications.\textsuperscript{2,3} The images above demonstrate some of these complications: \textit{Top left} – Computed tomographic (CT) image showing a PEG tube inserted through the colon (i.e., gastro-colo-cutaneous passage); \textit{Top right} – Same patient after the internal bumper of the PEG tube migrated out of the stomach and into the colon, with a tube study showing radiographic contrast in the descending colon (arrow); \textit{Bottom left} – CT images showing tube migration and perforation of the second portion of the duodenum by a balloon-type PEG catheter; \textit{Bottom right} – Buried bumper syndrome wherein the internal bumper of the PEG tube migrated into the subcutaneous tissues.

REFERENCES

\textsuperscript{[1]} Kimyagarov S, Levenkron S, Shabi A. Artificial tube feeding of elderly suffering from advanced dementia. Harefuah 2008;147:500-503, 575.