[EP18.07] Retained surgical sponge in abdomen and pelvis: ultrasonographic and radiographic findings in nine patients
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Purpose
To review the ultrasonographic and radiographic features of retained surgical sponge and to correlated the findings with the pathologic findings in nine patients.

Materials and Methods
This retrospective study was institutional review board approved. A total of 9 patients (2 men and 7 women) with retained surgical sponge (RSS) were included from June 1996 to July 2015. Patient characteristics including gender, areas of location within the body, time interval until diagnosis, clinical presentations and complaints were retrospectively evaluated. All the patients were operated after ultrasound (US), Computed tomography (CT) and/or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) examination. The imaging appearances were compared with operation findings.

Results
All of the patients Nine cases of pathologically proven retained surgical sponge were reviewed and classified into three types, depending on ultrasonic appearance. On CT and MRI scanning it appeared as a mass with density and signal similar to that of the soft tissue. Contrast enhanced Computed tomography (CE CT) and Contrast enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (CE MRI) scanning showed only the enhancement of the membrane and no enhancement of crumpled gauze itself.

Conclusion
These characteristic US findings, together with a history of surgery, permit the correct diagnosis of retained surgical sponge.