



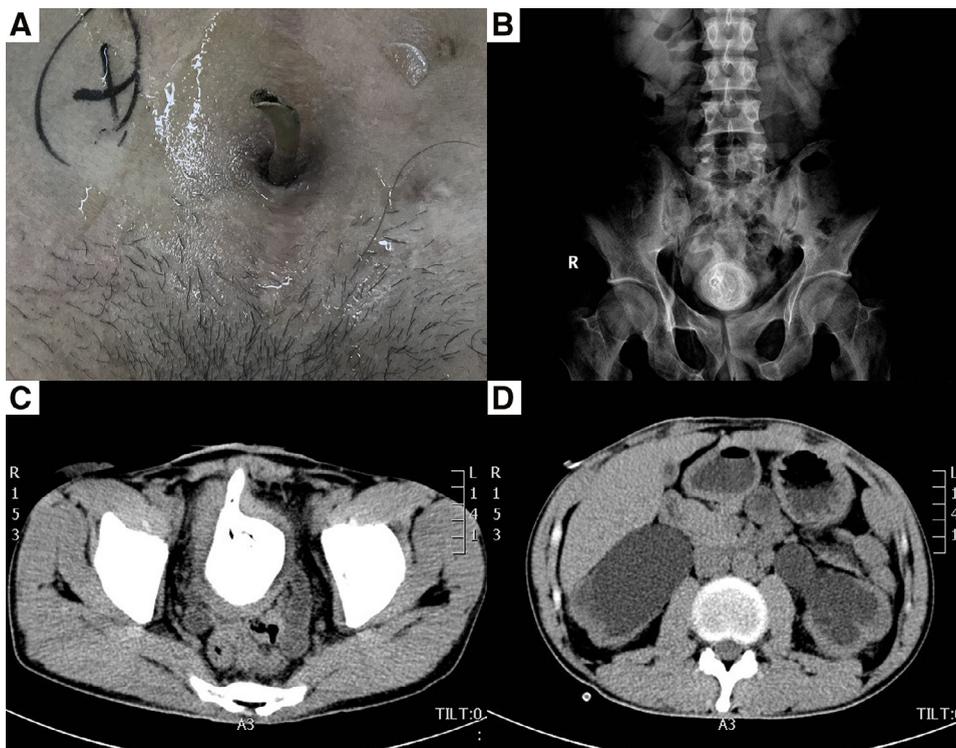
## What Would a Suprapubic Catheter Indwelling for 4 Years Be Like? A Case Report

Kun-Ru Yang, Shui-Qing Wu, Ke-Qin Zhou, Men-Jiang Tu, Xiaokun Zhao, and Ran Xu

A 35-year-old male of 165 cm height and weight of 65 kg, had a suprapubic catheter indwelling for 4 years without replacement for urethral stricture. The catheter became gradually obstructed, and urine leaked out around the suprapubic catheter. A lumbar abdominal distension, an inferior abdominal mass and renal failure prompted him to seek medical attention in our hospital in September 2018. This clinical case is hereby presented from 3 aspects of imaging, lab examination, and operation. UROLOGY 126: e3–e4, 2019. © 2019 Published by Elsevier Inc.

**W**hen the patient was examined, it was obvious that the suprapubic catheter was broken (Fig. 1A). A hard, oval mass of about

6 × 6 cm could apparently be felt in the lower abdomen. An X-ray image indicated a giant, oval stone at the bladder area (Fig. 1B). The stone tightly wrapped the balloon of



**Figure 1.** Photos and images of preoperation examination.

**It was obvious that the suprapubic catheter was broken (A); a giant, oval stone at bladder area revealed in X-ray image (B); CT scan revealed the presence of a stone rounded onto the terminal of catheter and the balloon (C); and indicates a severe bilateral hydronephrosis and hydroureter (D). CT, computed tomography.**

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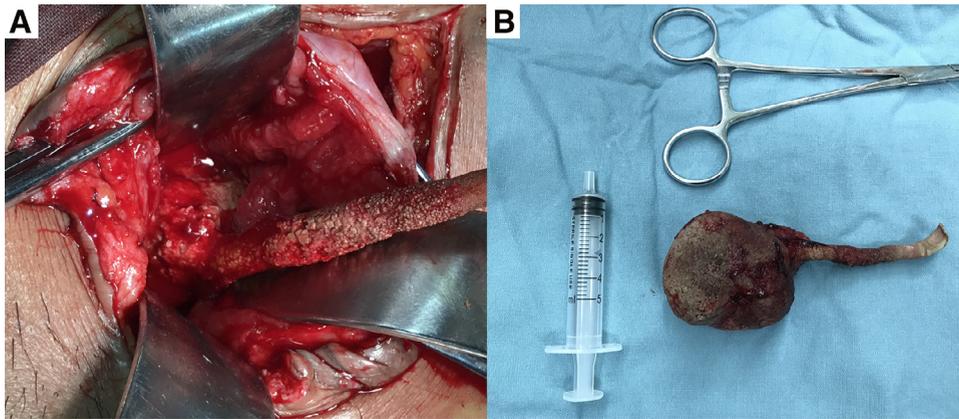
From the Department of Urinary Surgery, The Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, Changsha, Hunan, China

Address correspondence to: Xiaokun Zhao, M.D., Department of Urinary Surgery, The Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, No.139 Renmin Zhong Road, Furong District, Changsha, Hunan 410000, China. E-mail: xiaokunzhao@csu.edu.cn

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the catheter as observed from the computed tomography scan (Fig. 1C). The patient had suffered severe bilateral hydronephrosis and hydroureter (Fig. 1D) with moderate anemia, abnormal routine urine, and renal failure.

A suprapubic bladder cystolithotomy was performed to remove the stone (Fig. 2A), and a new suprapubic



**Figure 2.** Intraoperative photos and images.  
**The suprapubic cystolithotomy and the eroded catheter (A), the whole stone extracted from patient (B).**

catheter was inserted. It was found that the patient's bladder had been contracted, the catheter had been heavily eroded and the stone wrapped around the catheter balloon and terminal. The stone was about  $6.0 \times 5.0 \times 4.4$  cm with a weight of about 117 g (Fig. 2B). The stone was composed of struvite (magnesium-ammonium-phosphate), apatite (calcium-phosphate) and calcium oxalate crystals according to infrared spectroscopic analysis. The anterior urinary tract stricture was solved by a 2-stage urethroplasty.

After sustainably draining the bladder postoperation, the patient's serum creatinine sharply decreased from 745.9  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  (preoperation) to 568.0  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  (first week postoperation) and 438.3  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  (first month postoperation).

### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary material associated with this article can be found in the online version at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.urology.2019.01.018>.