

Rupture of a malarial spleen

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In tropical countries, rupture of a spleen enlarged as a result of malaria is not uncommon (see Tropical splenomegaly Delayed presentation following a 'trivial' injury is not infrequent. In such patients, radiological embolisation may be performed if available, and splenectomy should be considered before a perisplenic haematoma ruptures, a complication that is associated with a worse prognosis. Surgery in such patients is challenging and early ligation of the splenic vessels along the superior border of the pancreatic body should be considered before disturbing the haematoma.

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