

Ocular Perforating Injury Caused By Pecked Stork

Author details: Duong Dieu,

MD, Ph.D. Faculty of Medicine, Nguyen Tat Thanh University-Ho Chi Minh City
Add 300A Nguyen Tat Thanh Street- Dist 4-HCM City, Vietnam –
Email: duongdieumd@gmail.com; duongdieumd@ntt.edu.vn

Abstract:

Domestic henpecking of human eyes is rare and has been reported with varied visual outcomes. An ocular perforating injury on the 2 year- old boy caused by stork was reported. This complicated case is acute endophthalmitis that caused blindness. The enucleation of the right eye was done. Some considerations, in this case, are warning for prevention. Storks tend to peck at the cornea immediately causing perforation of the eyeball or rupture eyeball. Parents need to pay attention to their children not to close the storks to avoid unfortunate accidents as well as should not hunt the wildlife birds.

Keywords: ocular perforating injury, caused by stork, acute endophthalmitis, enucleation.

Introduction:

Eye injuries in children in activities are also common due to sharp objects like toys, plastic swords, plastic guns...[1,2,3]. In developing countries especially in remote areas, where people living together with wildlife birds so the accident can be caused by these wildlife birds can occur. This paper presents an ocular perforating injury caused by the stork. This complicated case is acute endophthalmitis that caused blindness and it was enucleated. To date, to our knowledge, ocular injury caused by stork has never been reported in the ophthalmic literature [3, 4, 5]. Stork pecking eye trauma causes avoidable blindness and the public should guard against it, especially among children. In this paper a very rare case of uniocular blindness in a two-year-old boy following a stork peck that caused a penetrating eye injury is reported.

Case Report (Figure attach)

History: One day previous hospital admission: In the countryside, the baby stork was caught by the hunters. After that, these legs' baby stork is fixed but the sharp-beak stork is freed. People often put this stork after fixing its legs at the house's corner. A 2 year- old boy's eye was suddenly pecked by this stork when he was moving closer to the stork. He had cried panicked bitterly, his mother came immediately and detected the bleeding from her child's eye. The mother took the child to the health care station of the village to bandage the injured eye. [1,2,3]. The day after, her mother brought him to the hospital for treatment.

At Ophthalmology Department of the provincial hospital:

Ocular Examination revealed: eyeball perforation: perforating of the cornea, iris prolapse, crystalline lens rupture, vitreous prolapse, soft eyes. VA: no perception light. Left eye: normal. Prehistoric 2 eyes were completely normal.

Management injury eye: Right Eye: cuts off the iris, crystalline lens, vitreous prolapse; wash out the debris such as sand, dust..., sutures the corneal wound for eye preservation. Using Cephalexin plus gentamycin by intravenous injection.

Explain to the family's child about the severe eye condition.

At 12 hours after hospital admission: RE= Acute endophthalmitis (Figure bottom)

Indication: Enucleation of RE.

Surgery: RE = retrobulbar injection anesthesia. Cut off all the rectus muscles and oblique muscles then the optic nerve is the last. Place the drainage.

Pus Culture and Antibiogramme: *bacillus pseudomonas* (+), resistance all antibiotiques: genta, nebcin, cefa, amox. One week later: Child discharged: RE: dry, clean wound.

Discussion:

Stork is a type of wildlife bird that has a long beak and legs, wings to fly very far. The Mekong Delta has many storks. Stork is where ecotourism. Stork flying above morning to afternoon marauder sunset near the new nest reunion.... (Figure bottom).[1]. Storks with beak-sharp are very dangerous for people who come near them. People in this region are often hunted storks and when the storks caught only bound legs many storks together and the beak stork was free and people also less interested in the beak. Therefore when someone coming near to stork, with long-beak-sharp stork will tend to peck at the someone's eye immediately causes severe eye injury like perforated the eyeball. Our case is an unusual case of penetrating eye injury from stork peck. The peck impact was quite high as it damaged the cornea, lens, zonules, and vitreous body. Because people are living far from the tertiary healthcare level so the patients are admitted to a hospital lately after 48 hours. The injured eye became infected eye with purulent intraocular agents such as *streptococcus*, *staphylococcus*, *bacillus*, *Pseudomonas* ... too difficult in medical therapy for eye conservation.[4]

Management injury eye: Depending on the type of ocular injury, either a pressure patch or shield patch should be applied. Multiple controlled studies conducted by accredited organizations such as the American Academy of Ophthalmology have shown that pressure patching is of little or no value in healing corneal abrasions and is actually detrimental to healing in some cases. Pressure patching should never be used on an individual presenting with a corneal abrasion that has a history of contact lens wear. In this circumstance, a virulent infection caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is at a clearly delineated increased risk for occurrence. These infections can cause blindness within 24 – 48 hours and there is a possibility that the infection can move into the peri-orbital socket, resulting in the need for the evisceration of the eyeball. In rare cases, the infection can enter the brain and cause death to the patient. [3]

In cases of globe penetration, pressure patches should never be applied, and instead, a shield patch should be applied that protects the eye without applying any pressure. If a shield patch is applied to one eye, the other eye should also be patched due to eye movement. If the uninjured eye moves, the injured eye will also move involuntarily possibly causing more damage. [5,6]. The systemic analgesics, antibiotics, antitetanus, padding of the injured eye and immediate consult to an ophthalmologist should have been initial attention.

This acute endophthalmitis came from a perforated eyeball that caused loss of vision and resistance with antibiotics and hence enucleation was indicated.

Conclusion:

This case is one of the cases that we met in emergency eye injury at the provincial hospital in the Mekong Delta. This is not a child but an adult when approaching stork was dangerous especially in their eyes. Storks tend to peck at the cornea immediately causing perforation of the eyeball or rupture eyeball. Stork pecking eye trauma causes avoidable blindness and the public should guard against it, especially among children. Parents need to pay attention to their children not to close the storks to avoid unfortunate accidents as well as should not hunt the wildlife birds.

Funding: No funding or grant support was received for this work.

Conflict of Interest: No financial disclosures

References:

- i. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stork>
- ii. Rober J Cooling, Ocular injuries in Clinical Ophthalmology, Wright Bristol 1987:362-378
- iii. Basic and Clinical science course, Enucleation-Evisceration, AAO 1998: 84-87
- iv. Ayanniyi AA, Monsudi KF, Danfulani M, Jiya PY, Balarabe HA. Unicocular blindness in a six-year-old boy following penetrating eye injury from a domestic hen peck, JRSM(Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine) Short Rep. 2013 Feb; 4(2): 9. Published online 2013 Feb 12
- v. Preiser G, Lavell TE. Rooster attacks on children. Pediatrics 1987(American Academy of Pediatrics);79:426–7
- vi. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eye_injury

