

**Abstract**

Chylous ascites is characterised by the accumulation of lymphatic fluid in the peritoneal cavity. Although the main causes in developing countries are tuberculosis and filariasis, it also occurs in liver cirrhosis. It can be the initial presentation of liver cirrhosis or can occur in the course of the disease. In this case chylous ascites was an incidental finding, and well responded to initial management. It was attributed to the possible early portal hypertension. This case enlightened us that when there is a possible aetiology, treating the underlying condition is the crucial step in the management before suspecting exotic causes.

**Key words:** chylous ascites, spontaneous, cirrhosis, non-alcoholic.