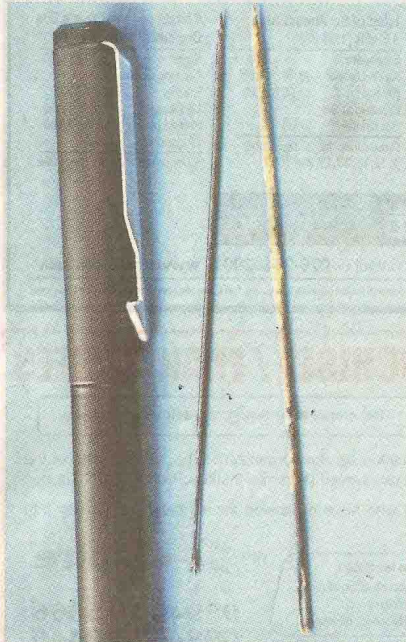




**DOC REMOVES
NEEDLES FROM
GIRL'S LIVER**

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PICS: DILIP THAKER



Woman with two 9-cm-long needles in liver operated upon

Patient does not know how they got there; doctor compares the 4-hour complicated surgery to finding needle in a haystack

MEHUL JANI

The Medisurge Hospital treated quite an unusual case. That of a woman with two needles in her liver! And, the woman did not even know how they got there.

The 20-year-old patient, (name withheld to protect identity), a native of Rajasthan, was brought to Ahmedabad after visits to several doctors failed to provide hope to the family.

The MA student is now recuperating after a successful four-hour operation on Tuesday.

She complained of abdominal pain two months ago. It

soon became unbearable. A CT scan and an ultrasound at a Jaipur hospital revealed accumulation of pus in the liver and the presence of two needles.

"After losing hope of proper treatment in Jaipur, we brought her to Ahmedabad. Here too, we visited many doctors. My brother-in-law had sought an appointment at Medisurge, so I decided to give it one last try or else, take her back home and leave her to God's mercy," said the father who works in a travel agency.

More scans revealed that the needles were 9 cms long. Hepatobiliary surgeon at Medisurge, Dr Hitesh Chavda

told AM that the needles seem to have been ingested, and instead of moving towards the intestines from the stomach, got lodged in the liver.

Dr Chavda operated upon her with Dr Pinkesh Thakkar and Dr Kinjal Pandya.

"It was an unusual case. The patient herself does not know how she ingested the needles," said Dr Chavda. Taking them out was like literally finding needle in a haystack, the doctor said.

One of the needles had rusted leading to septicemia. "The patient is doing well, but will remain under observation for week," the doctor said.



Dr Hitesh Chavda, the hepatobiliary surgeon at Medisurge who removed the needles