47F Incidental Finding

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Duplicate IVC
Left IVC drains into Left Renal Vein.
Imaging Findings

- Left- and right-sided IVC are present inferior to renal veins
- Left IVC typically drains into left renal vein, which crosses anterior to aorta to join right IVC
- Duplicated IVCs may have significant asymmetry (left usually smaller)
Duplicate IVC

• Etiology: Persistence of left supracardinal vein
• Prevalence: 1-3%
• Most patients are asymptomatic/incidental finding
• HOWEVER, recognition important:
  – Prior to IVC filter placement
    • Suspect in recurrent pulmonary embolism following IVC filter placement
    • Need single suprarenal or paired caval filters
  – Planning abdominal surgery
  – Can be misdiagnosed as lymphadenopathy
Associations

- Circumaortic renal collar (aka circumaortic left renal vein) – accessory left renal vein posterior to aorta + anterior left renal vein
- Retroaortic left renal vein
- Crossed fused ectopia – kidneys fused & on same side
- Horseshoe kidney
- Cloacal exstrophy - exstrophy of the bladder, omphalocele, lower abdominal wall defect
References

1. Statdx
2. Radiopaedia