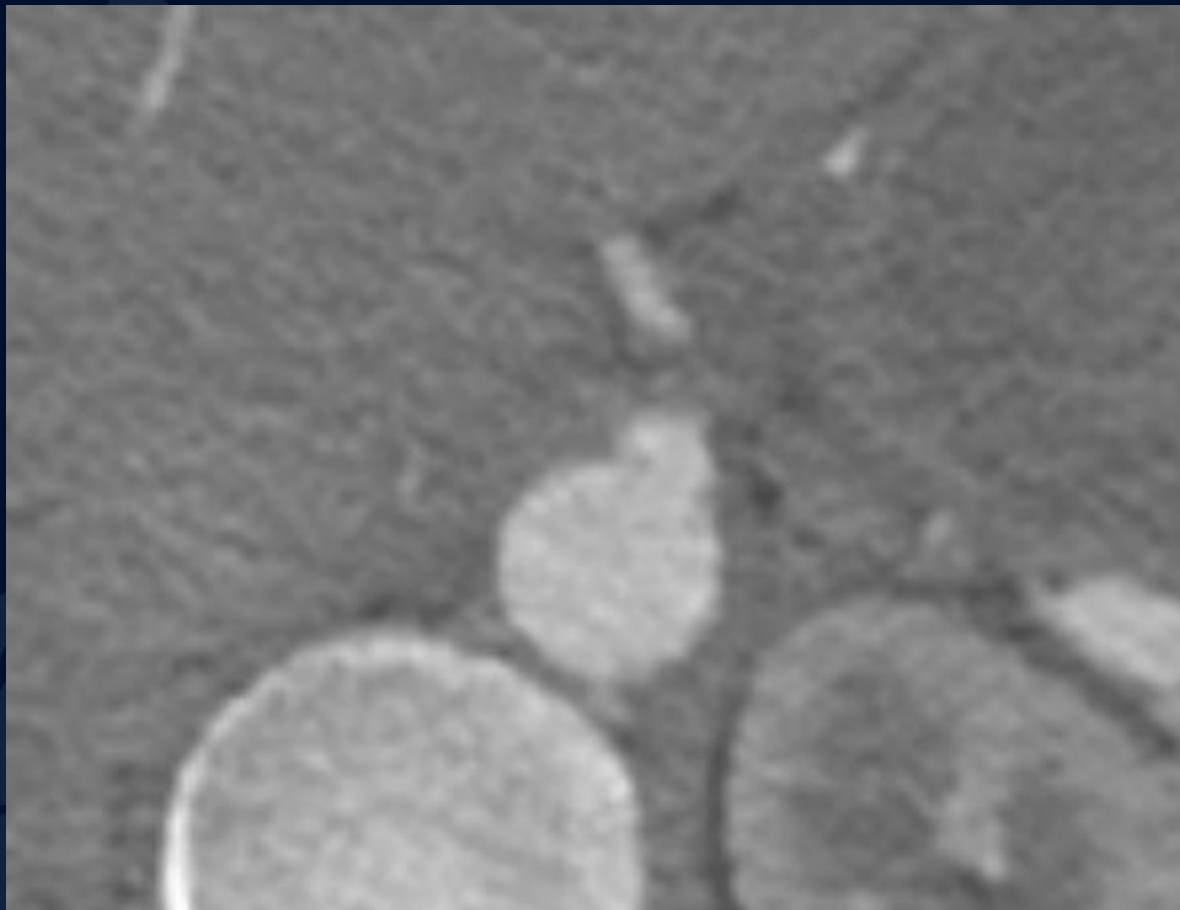


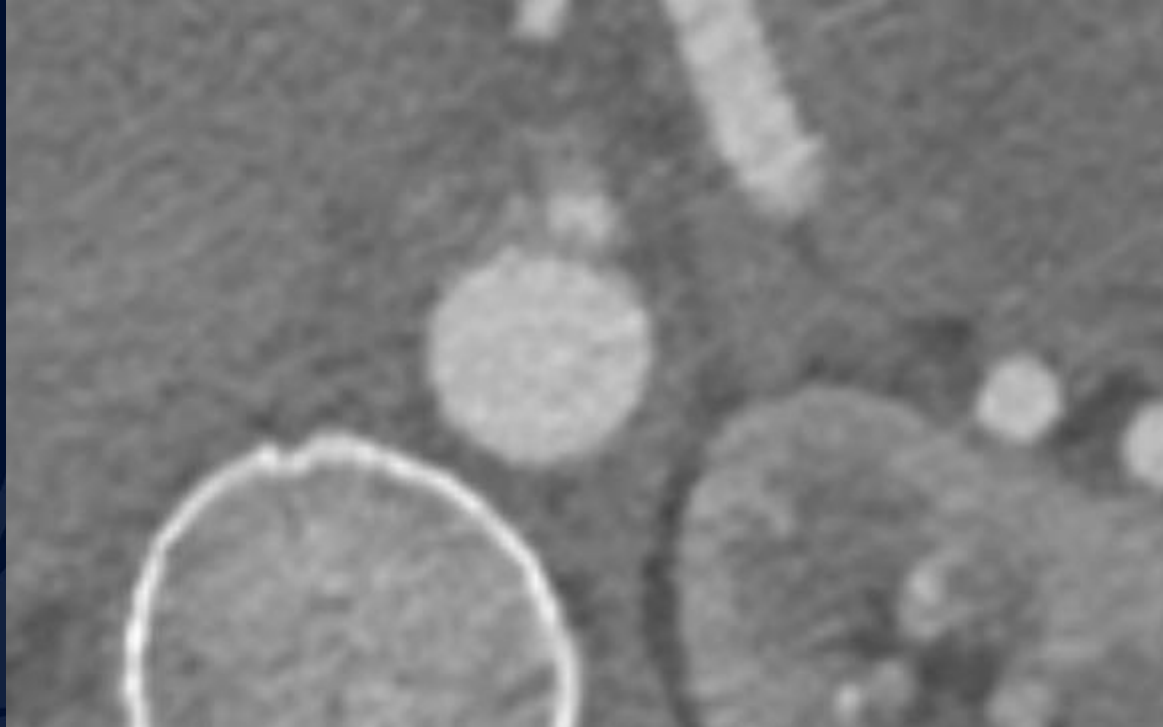
# 53F with chronic epigastric pain

Victoria Greenwood, MS4

Ryan Joyce, MD

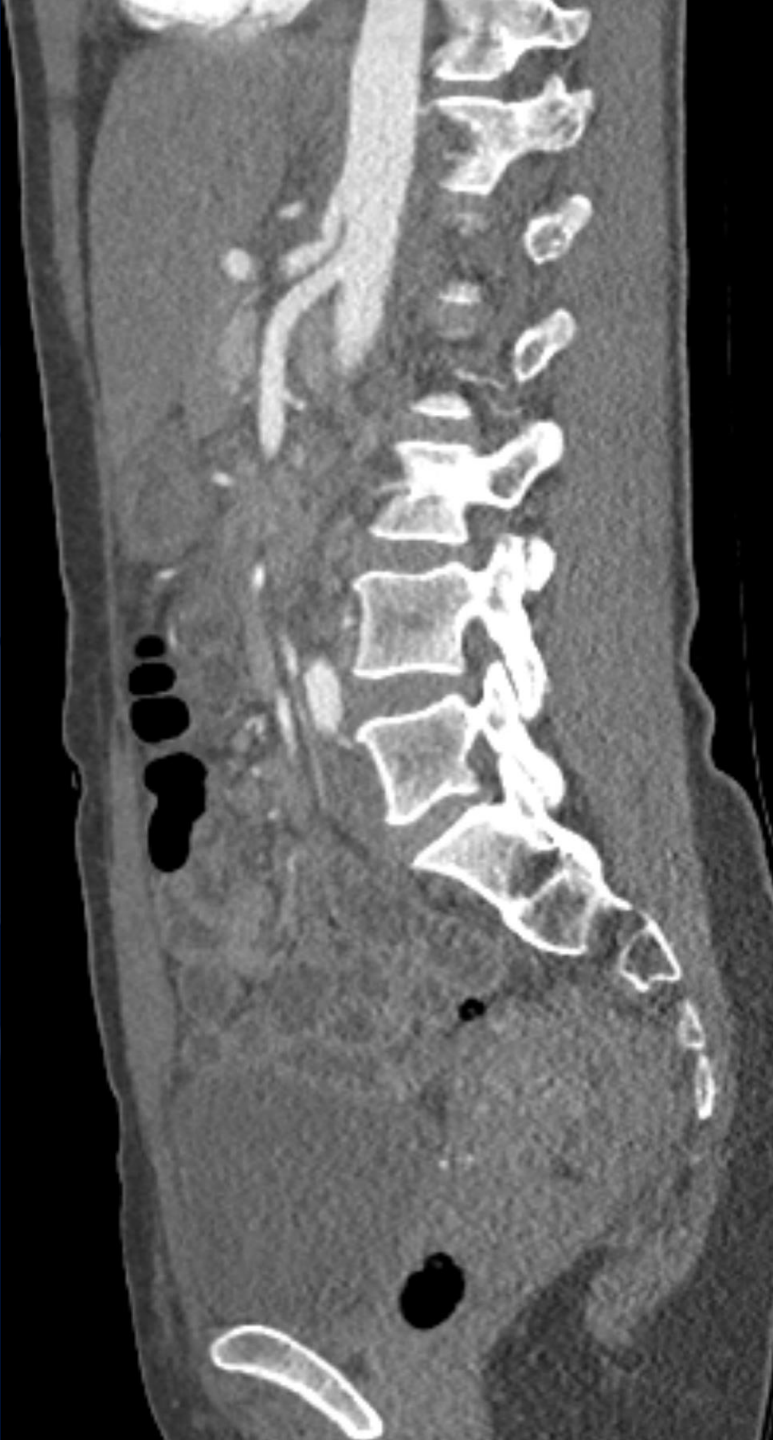
Charan K singh, MBBS.

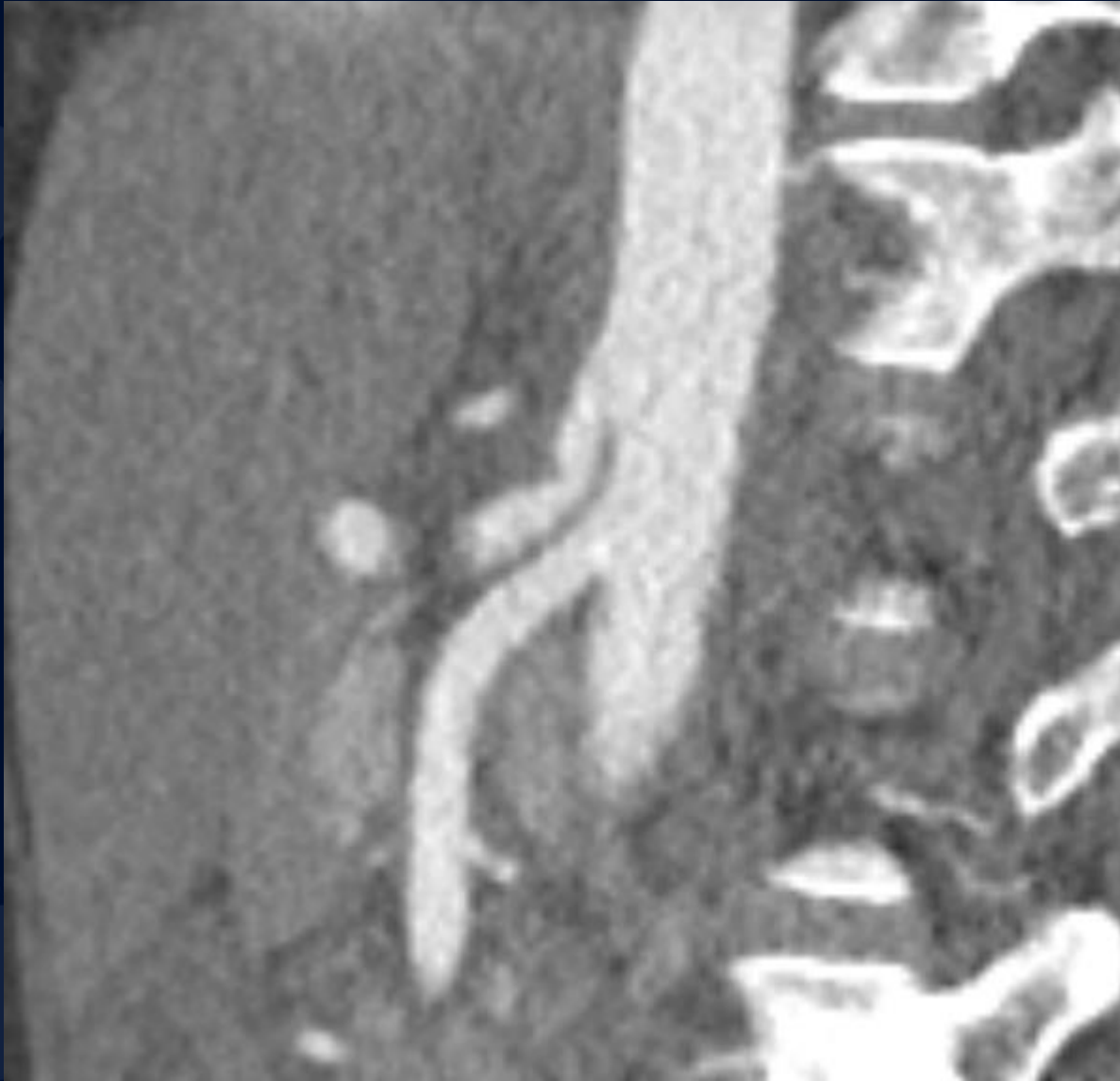




**UCONN**  
**HEALTH**

RADIOLOGY







A large, stylized oak leaf graphic in a dark blue color, positioned on the left side of the slide. The leaf has a prominent central vein and several smaller veins branching off it. The leaf's edge is serrated.

?



# Celiac artery compression syndrome



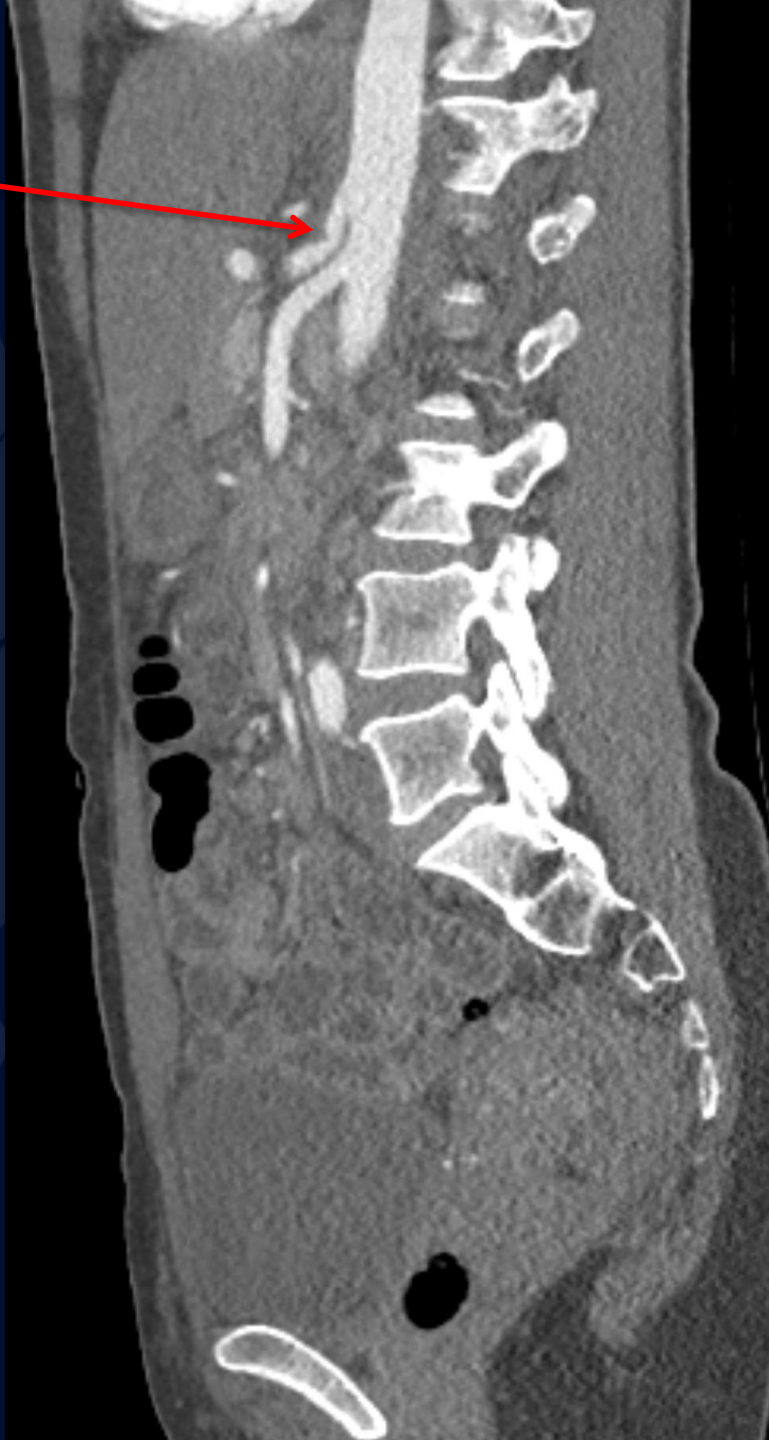
Aorta

Patent  
celiac  
artery  
origin

Mild dilatation of celiac artery distal to kink

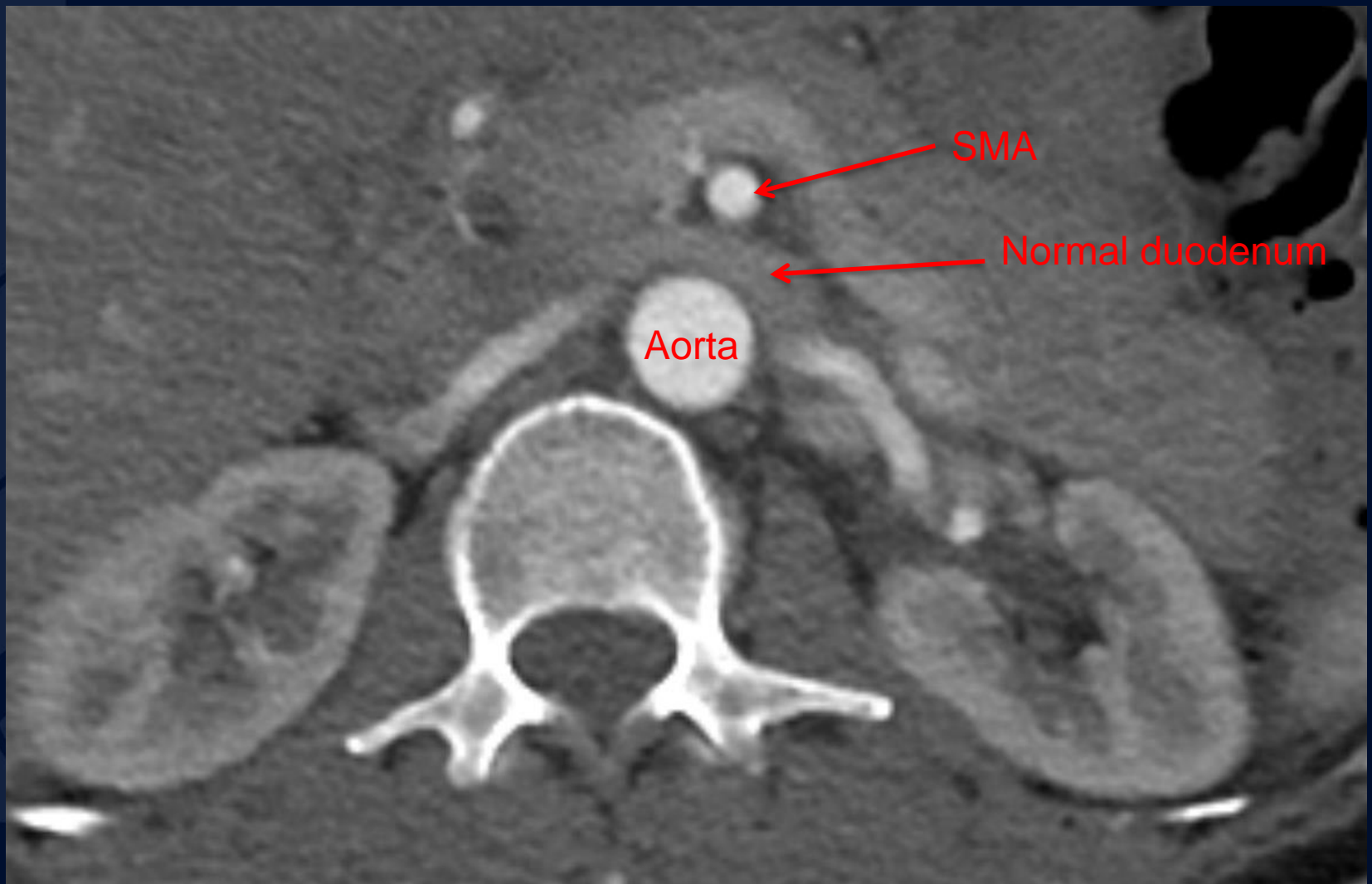


Notched or  
kinked  
appearance of  
proximal celiac  
artery  
secondary to  
compression by  
the median  
arcuate ligament



Notched or kinked  
appearance of proximal  
celiac artery





# Celiac artery compression syndrome (aka median arcuate ligament syndrome)

- Diagnosis best made on CTA or MRA images
- Median arcuate ligament: fibrous arch which at the crura of diaphragm which overlays aorta
- Celiac artery compression accentuated during expiratory phase of respiration; expiration useful during imaging for detection
- Compression of celiac artery may occur at the proximal celiac artery, demonstrating a notched or kinked appearance from external compression rather than internal stenosis

# Celiac artery compression syndrome

- A.K.A. celiac axis syndrome, median arcuate ligament syndrome, and Dunbar syndrome
- Diagnosis of exclusion for chronic epigastric or abdominal pain
- Symptom triad: postprandial abdominal pain, weight loss, +/- abdominal bruit
- Epidemiology: F>>M, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> decades of life, low BMI
- Definitive Dx made with CTA/MRI + US
- Treatment: surgery in highly select patients



# References

1. Gloviczki P, Duncan AA. Treatment of celiac artery compression syndrome: does it really exist? *Perspect Vasc Surg Endovasc Ther* 2007; 19:259.
2. Kim EN, Lamb K, Relles D, et al. Median Arcuate Ligament Syndrome-Review of This Rare Disease. *JAMA Surg* 2016; 151:471.
3. Weber JM, Boules M, Fong K, et al. Median Arcuate Ligament Syndrome Is Not a Vascular Disease. *Ann Vasc Surg* 2016; 30:22.