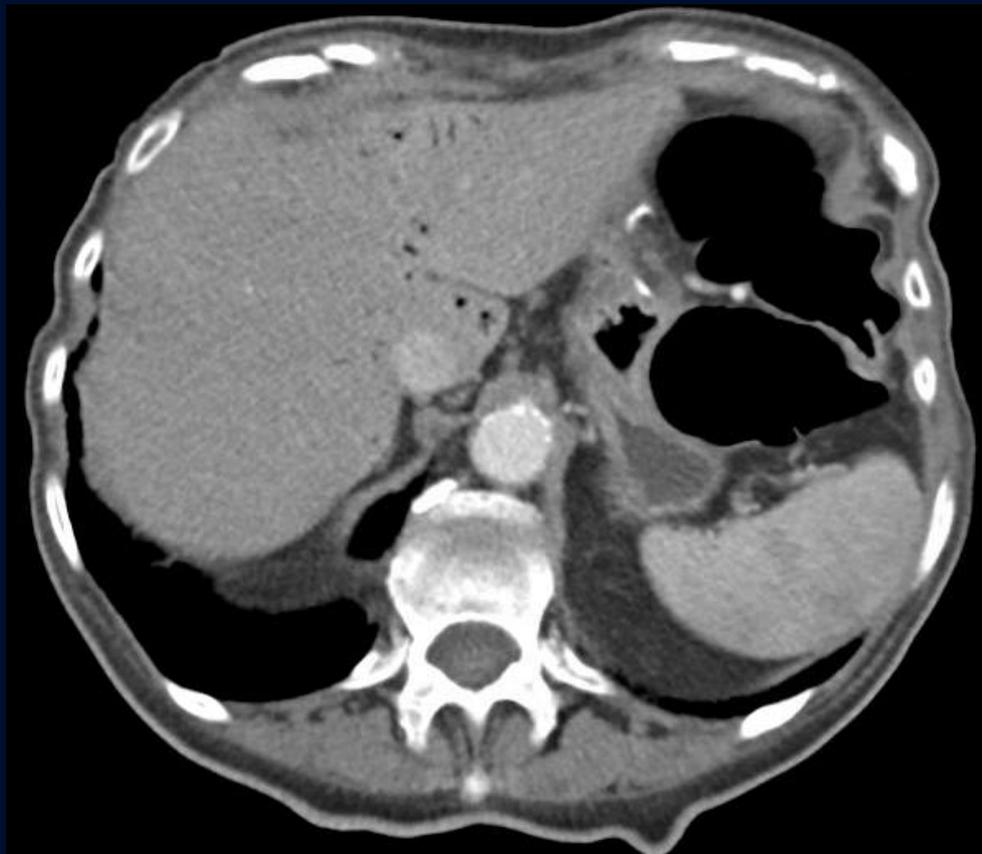
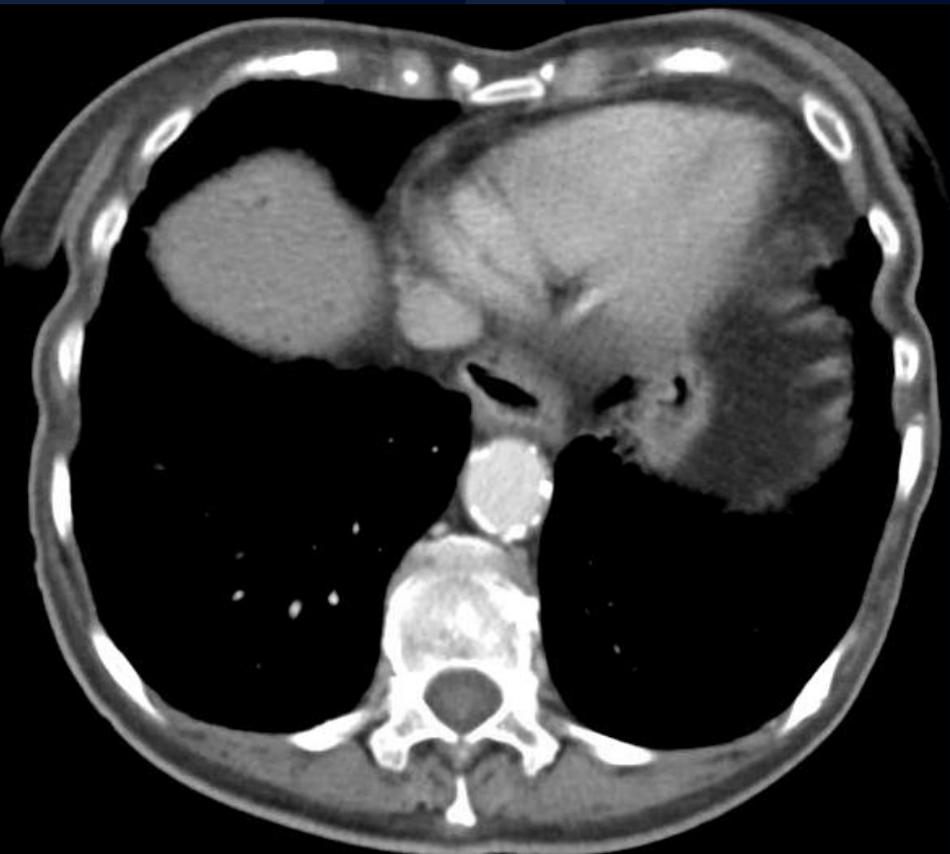


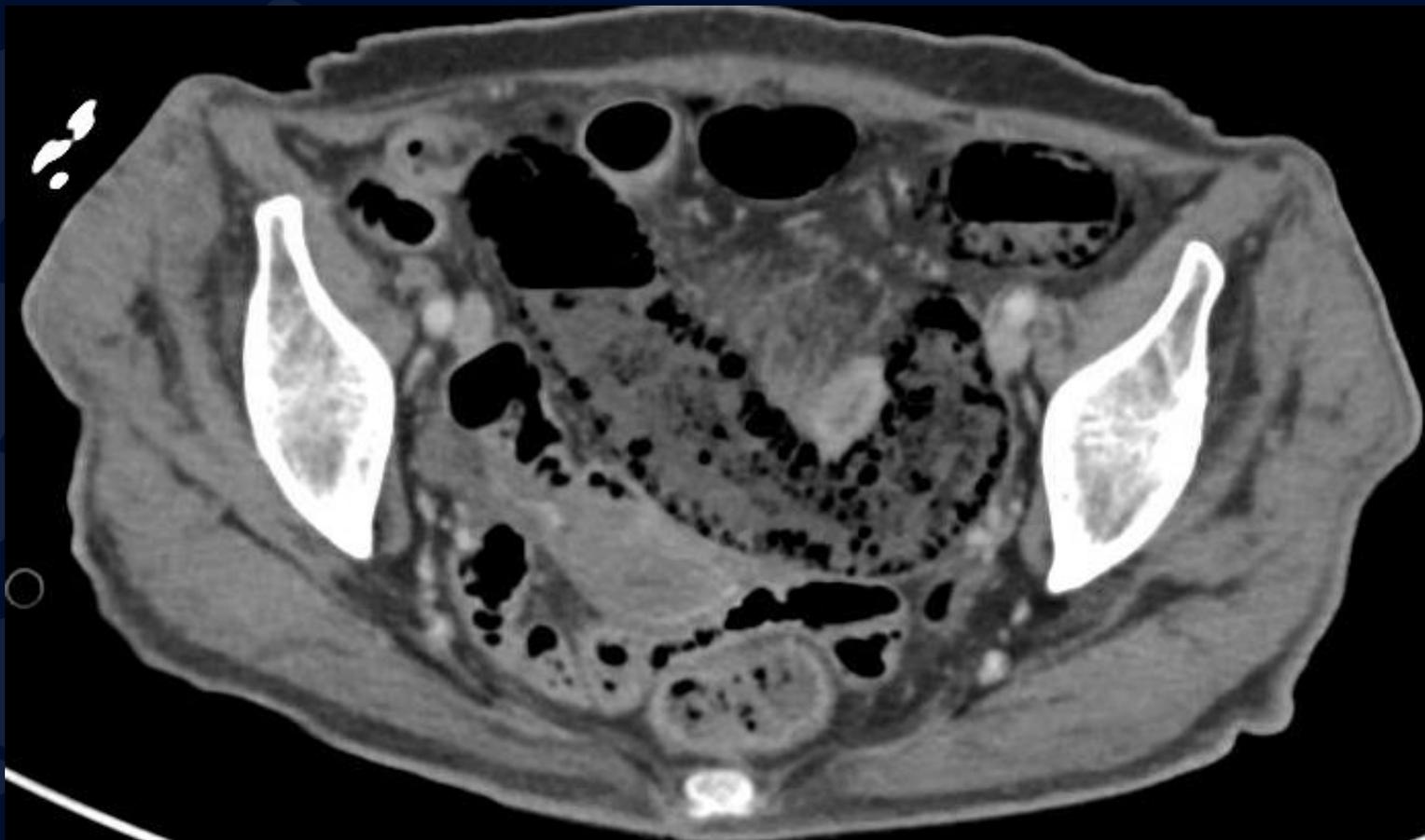
86-year-old female presenting
with 1-day history of abdominal
pain, nausea, vomiting, and non-
bloody diarrhea

Xenia Bradley, MS3

CT IV Contrast



CT IV Contrast

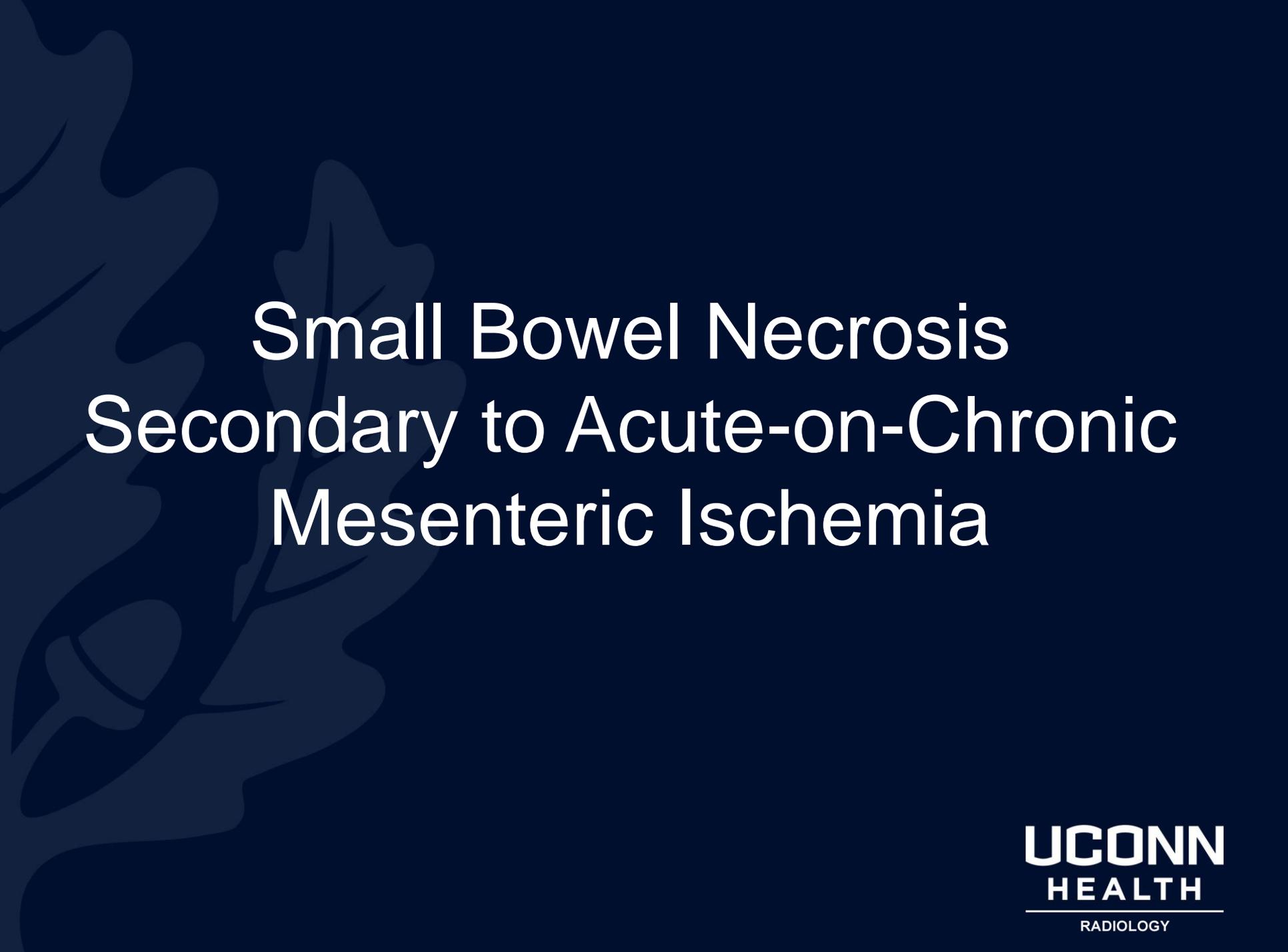


CT IV Contrast



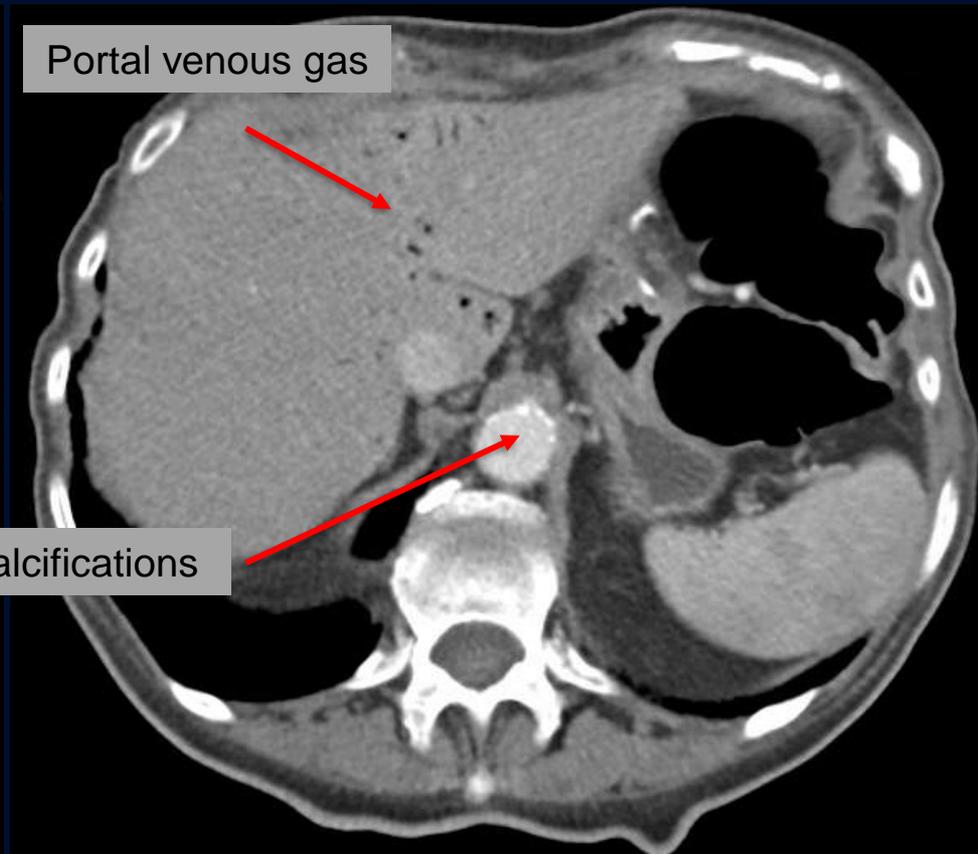
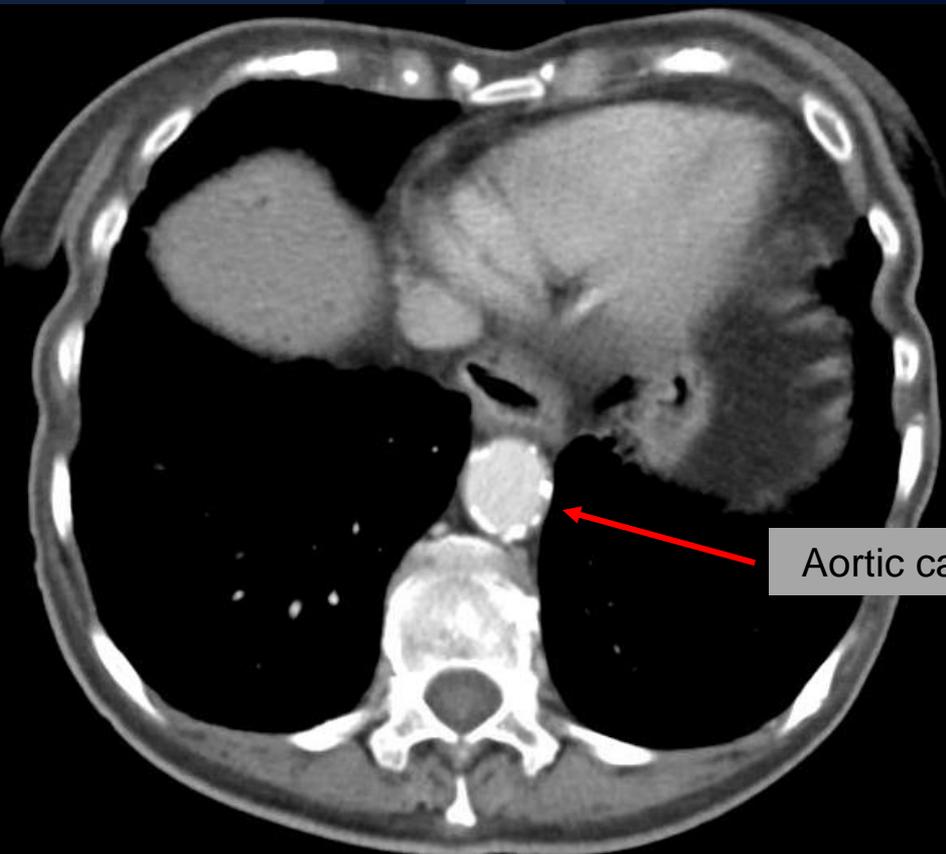


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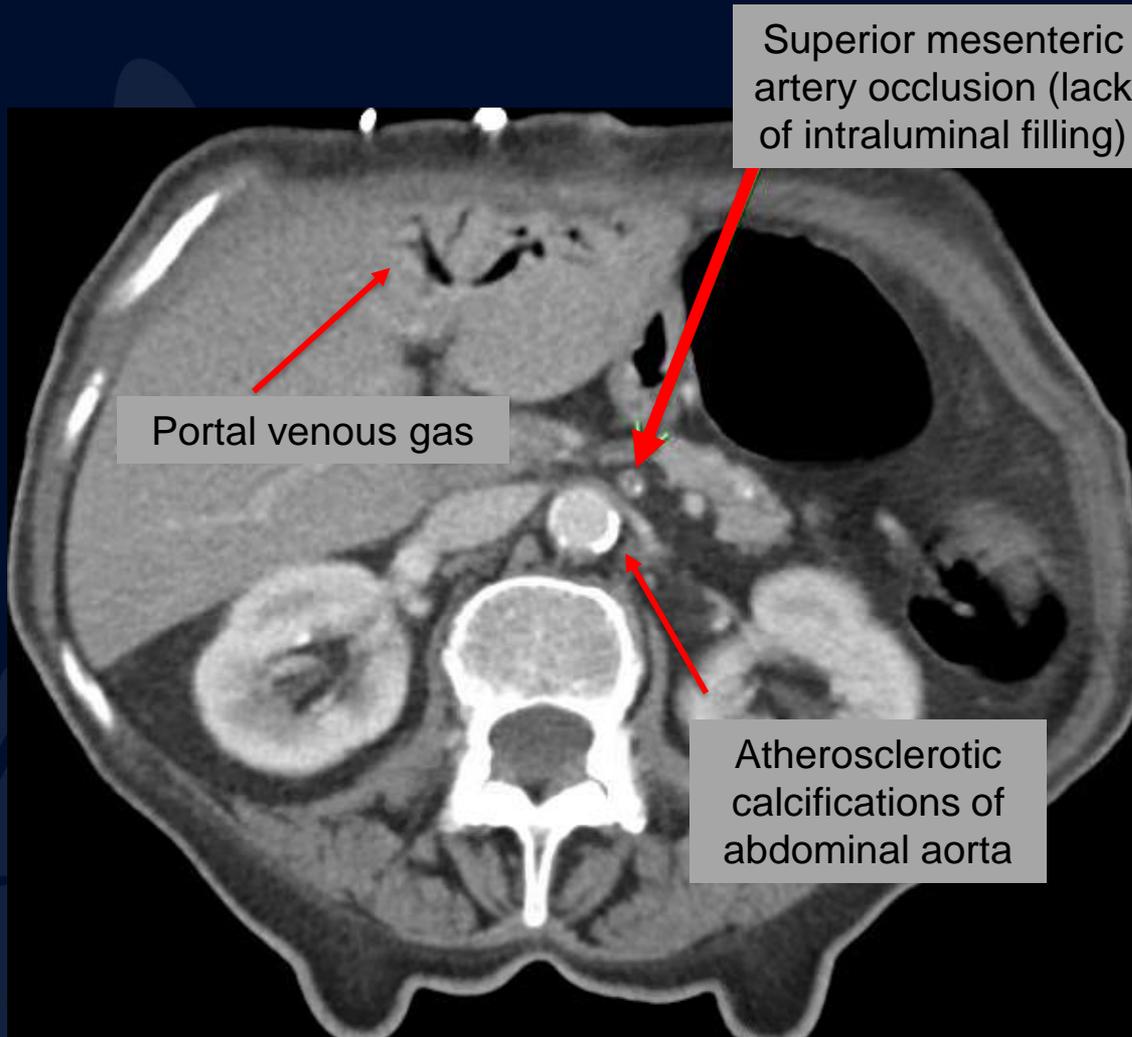
The background features a dark blue, stylized leaf pattern on the left side, with the leaves overlapping and creating a sense of depth. The rest of the background is a solid dark blue color.

Small Bowel Necrosis Secondary to Acute-on-Chronic Mesenteric Ischemia

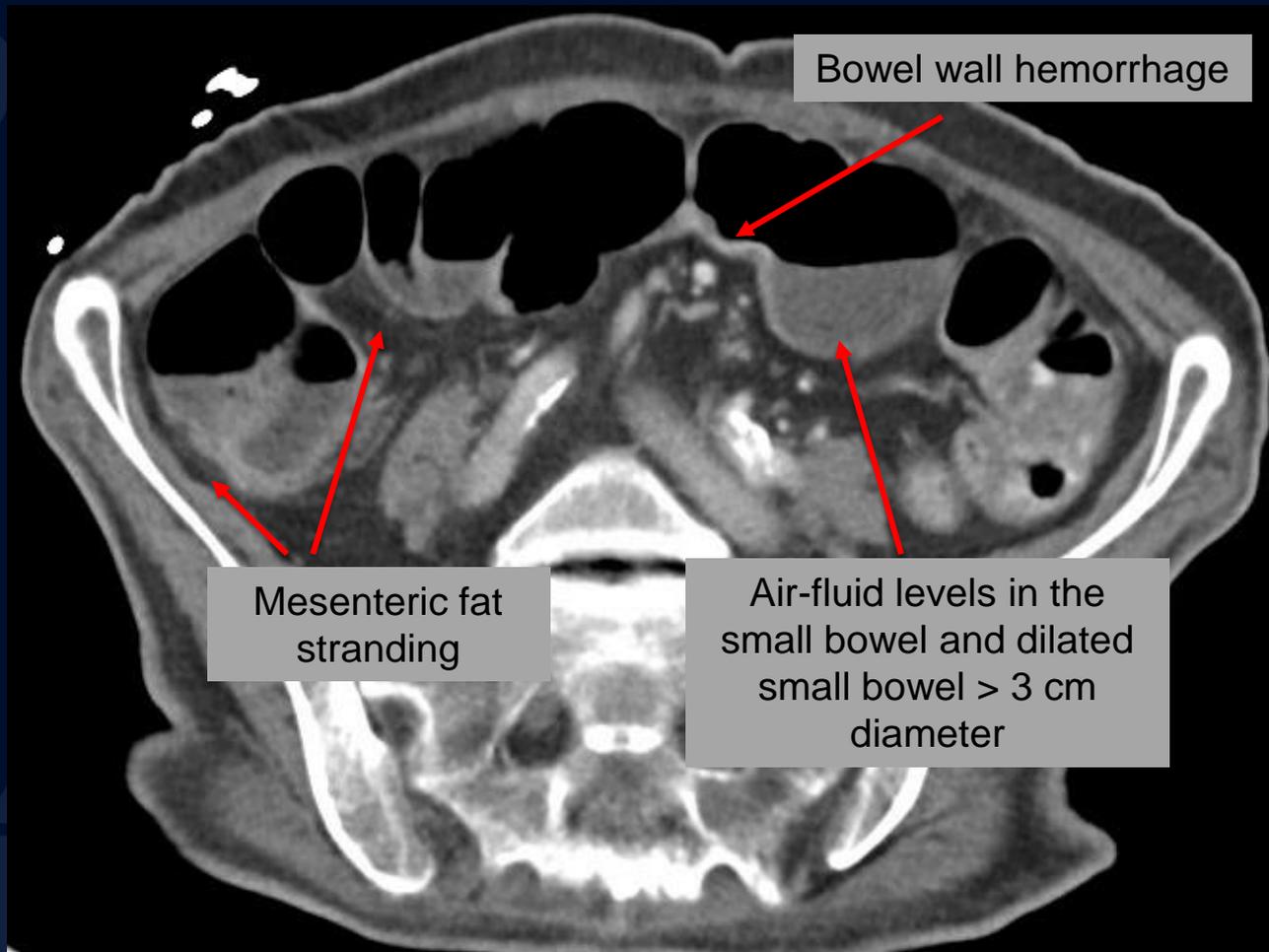
CT IV Contrast



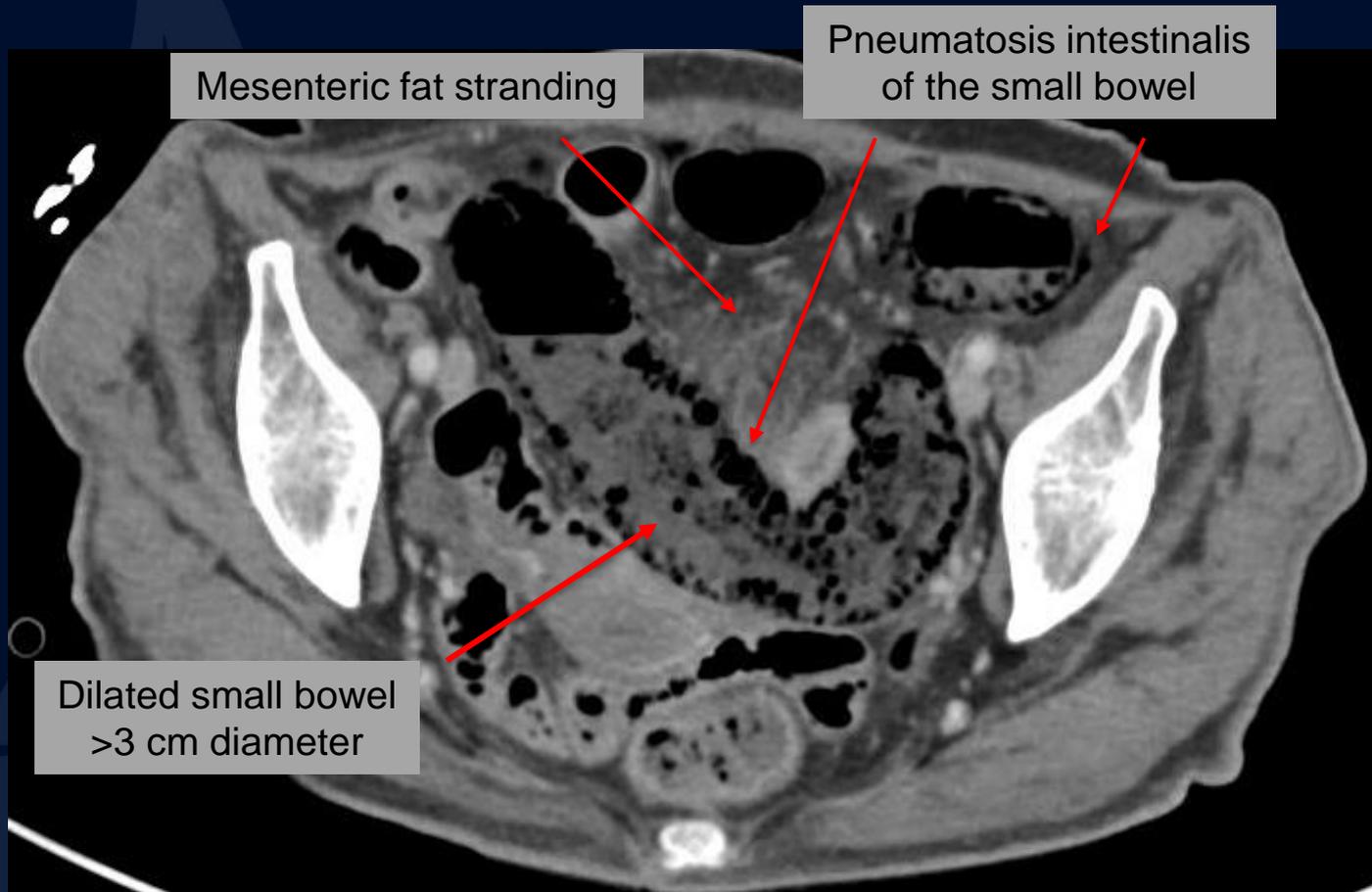
CT IV Contrast



CT IV Contrast

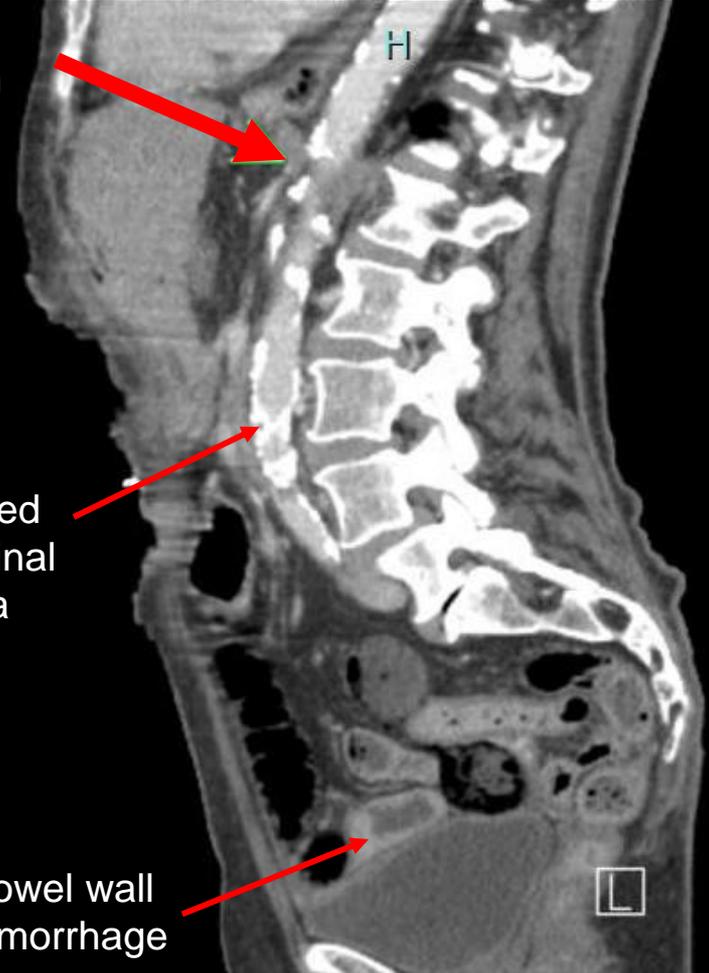


CT IV Contrast



CT IV Contrast

SMA
occlusion



Pneumatosis
intestinalis of the small
bowel

Mesenteric Ischemia

- **Pathophysiology:** vascular compromise of the bowel and its mesentery – very high mortality if not emergently treated
 - Acute mesenteric ischemia is a more common etiology than chronic mesenteric ischemia
- **Clinical presentation:** severe abdominal pain disproportionate to exam
 - Dehydration and fluid loss from third-spacing can cause mental confusion, tachycardia, tachypnea, circulatory collapse.
 - Lab findings likely include metabolic acidosis with elevated anion gap and lactate levels, leukocytosis, and hemoconcentration
- **CT** is the first-line diagnostic study
 - Pneumatosis intestinalis and portalis, pneumoperitoneum from bowel perforation, arterial changes (lack of enhancing SMA lumen), bowel changes (thick or thin wall, dilated bowel loops, air-fluid levels), free fluid, mesenteric edema
- **Treatment:** endovascular thrombolysis / thrombectomy if thrombus identifiable, necrotic bowel resection, arterial bypass
- **Prognosis:** arterial occlusive mesenteric ischemia 75-90% mortality despite treatment

References

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