

#DIBS BY NEXTILLO

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SERVICE

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY SYNDROME



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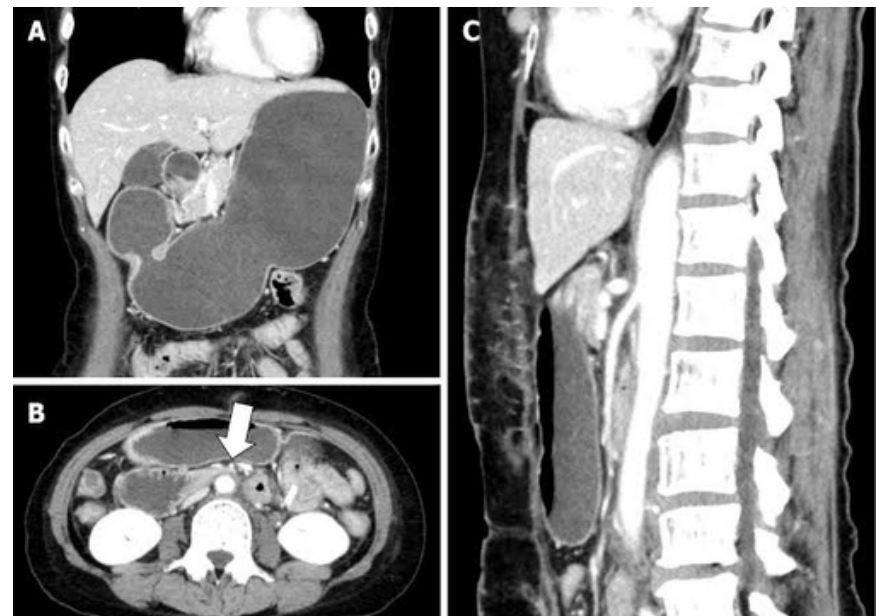
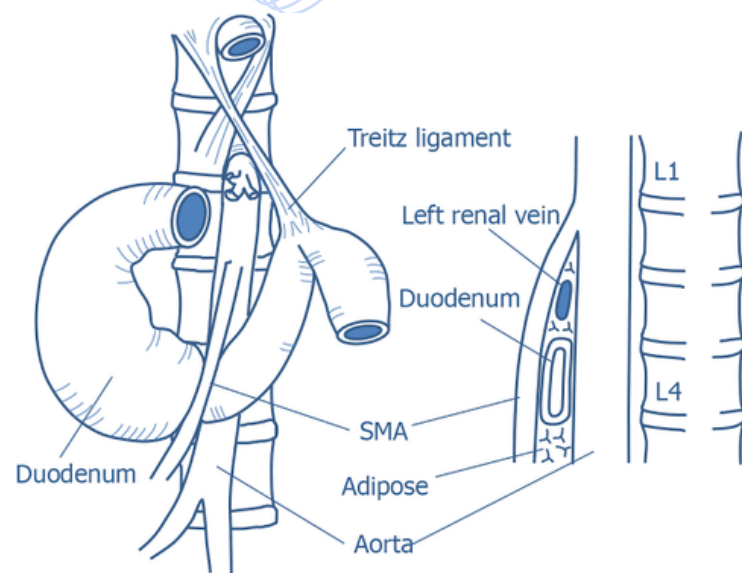
Superior Mesenteric Artery Syndrome, also known as [Wilkie's syndrome](#), is a rare condition characterized by [compression of the third part of the duodenum](#) between the abdominal aorta and the superior mesenteric artery. This compression [results in partial or complete obstruction of the duodenum](#).



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CLINICAL IMPRESSION





PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

1. Reduced Aortomesenteric Angle:

Anatomical variations or rapid weight loss can reduce the angle between the aorta and the superior mesenteric artery, leading to compression of the duodenum.

2. Nutritional Status:

Severe weight loss or wasting conditions can decrease the mesenteric fat pad, exacerbating the compression.



CLINICAL FEATURES

Abdominal Pain:

Epigastric or periumbilical pain, often exacerbated after eating.

Nausea and Vomiting:

Due to the obstruction of the duodenum.

Weight Loss:

Can be significant and rapid, contributing to the development of the syndrome.

Postprandial Distention

Symptoms worsen after meals.





DIAGNOSIS

Upper Gastrointestinal Imaging:

Barium swallow or upper gastrointestinal series can reveal characteristic findings, such as the “bird beak” appearance due to duodenal narrowing.

CT or MRI:

Imaging can confirm the compression and rule out other causes of obstruction.





MANAGEMENT

1. Conservative Management:

Nutritional support and addressing underlying causes, such as promoting weight gain, may be sufficient in mild cases.

2. Enteral Feeding:

Feeding through a nasojejunal tube can bypass the compressed area, allowing nutritional support.

3. Surgical Intervention:

Duodenojejunostomy to bypass the obstruction or mobilization of the duodenum.



SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY SYNDROME

Question:

A patient presents with postprandial abdominal pain, nausea, and significant weight loss. Barium swallow reveals a “bird beak” appearance in the upper gastrointestinal series. What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A) Crohn's Disease
- B) Superior Mesenteric Artery Syndrome
- C) Peptic Ulcer Disease
- D) Acute Appendicitis

Ans: B) Superior Mesenteric Artery Syndrome