

# The role of CT scan in the management of colorectal malignancy.

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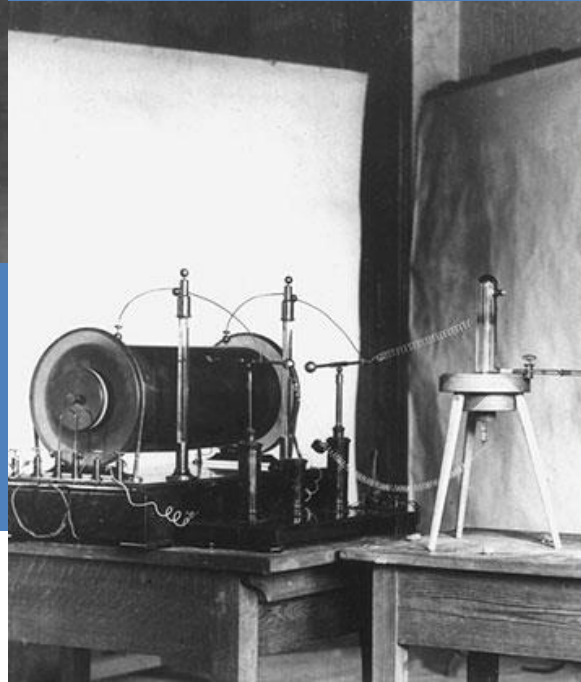
Mymensingh Medical College.

# So, what's the difference in between 2

- Same.
  - CAT -used earlier in its history.
  - CT - recent up-to-date term.
- Early beginning---
  - EMI scan.
  - Named for the EMI Company.



## From x-rays to multislice CT scans: A brief history



Wilhelm Röntgen,  
Nobel prize in physics,  
1901



A print of the left hand of  
Anna Bertha Ludwig  
Röntgen, 22 Dec.1895

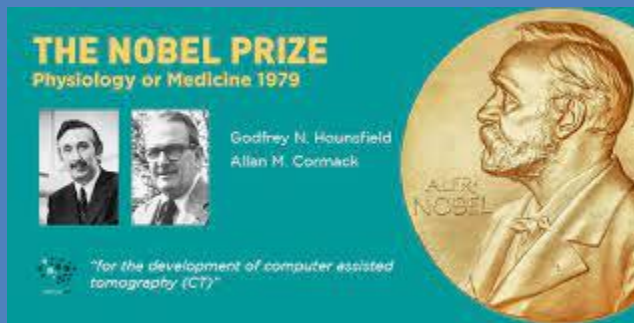
In 1895 a German physicist [Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen](#) 1<sup>st</sup> detected x-rays.

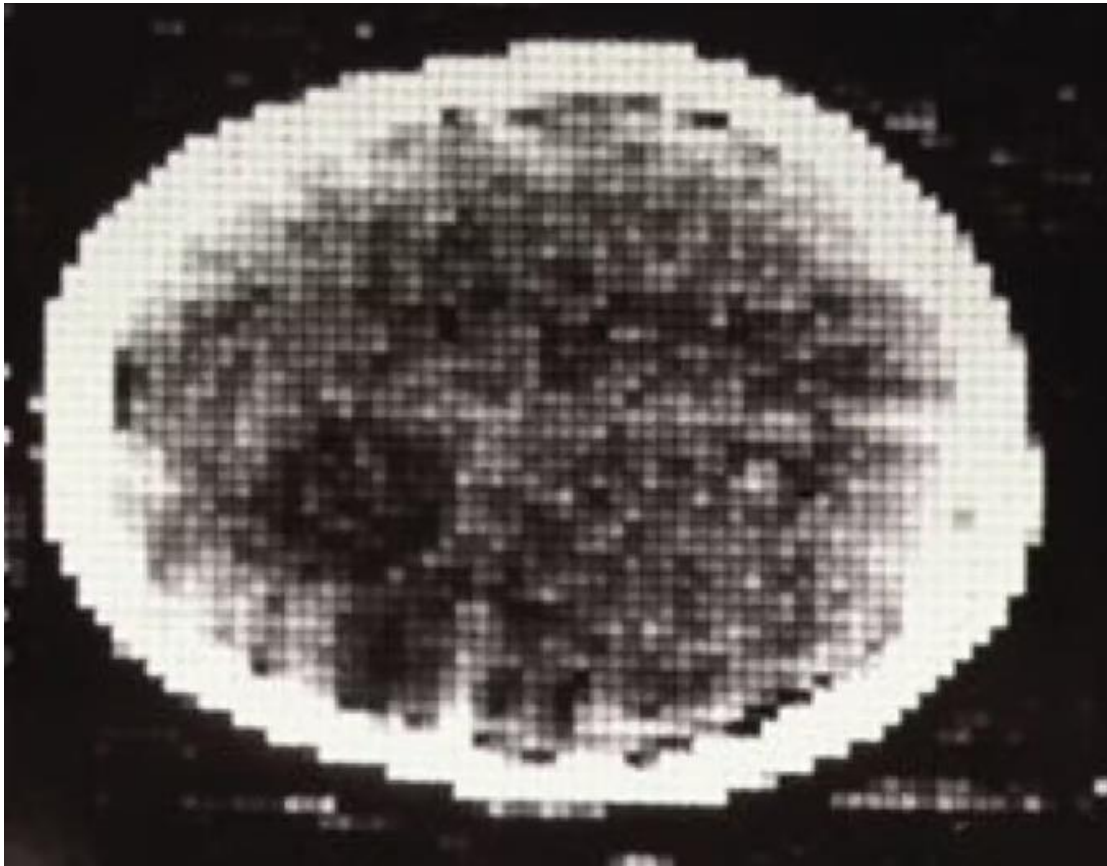
Usage of x-rays in medicine in 1896.



1<sup>st</sup> commercial CT- 1<sup>st</sup> October 1971 by  
Sir Godfrey Hounsfield.

Nobel prize- 1979.





# History of CT scan

- These 1<sup>st</sup> images were blurry and took a lot of time.
- Pictures with an 80×80 resolution & 5 minutes for each image.
- Nowadays 1024×1024 resolution with a scan time 0.3 sec/frame.



# Generations of CT

- 1<sup>st</sup> generation- EMI scanner.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation- reducing time.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation- wide fan beam.
- 4<sup>th</sup> generation-
- 5<sup>th</sup> generation- Electron beam CT.
- 6<sup>th</sup> generation- Spiral CT.
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Multiple detector array.

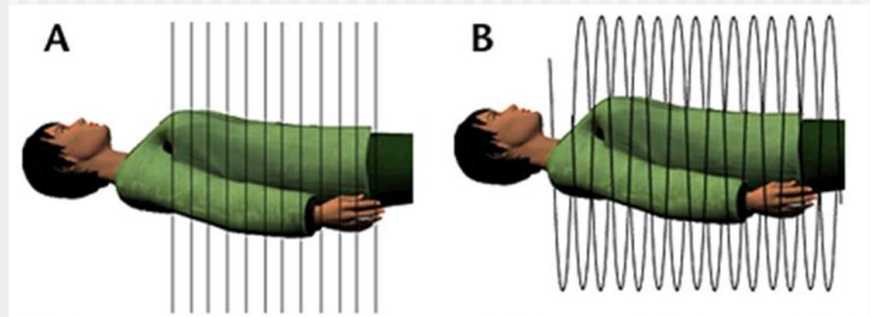


# Types of CT scanner

- Conventional or serial.
- Helical or spiral.

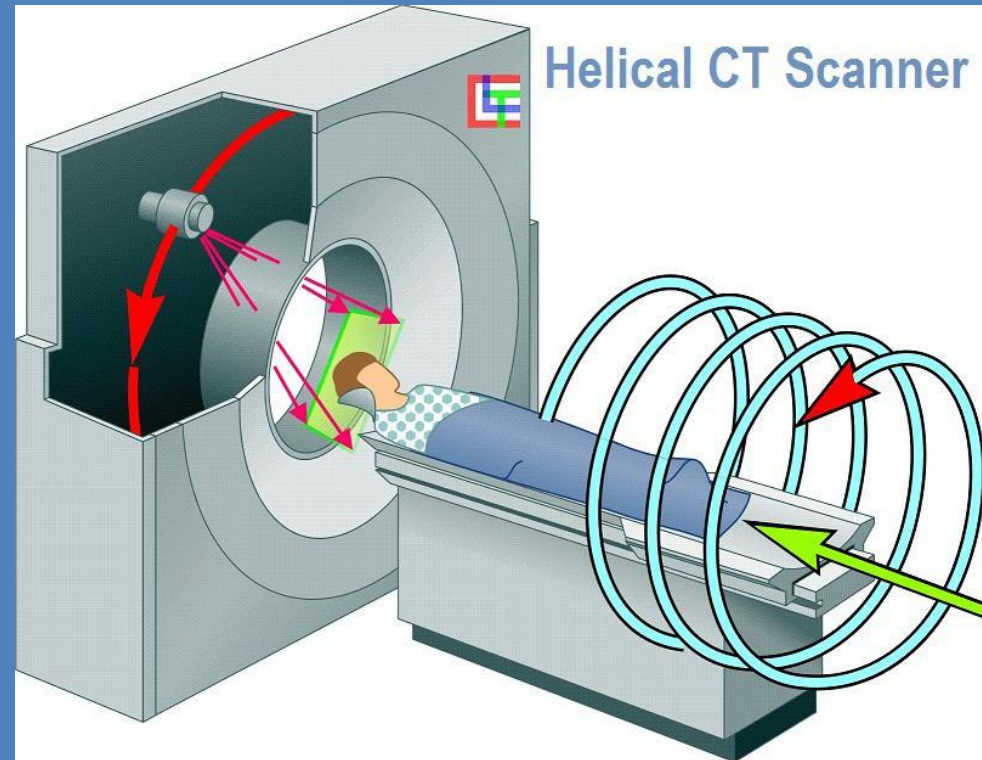
## CONVENTIONAL AND SPIRAL/HELICAL CT

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# 6<sup>th</sup> generation CT

- Helical/ Spiral CT.
- Collects image by moving around the patient.
- Mostly used nowadays.

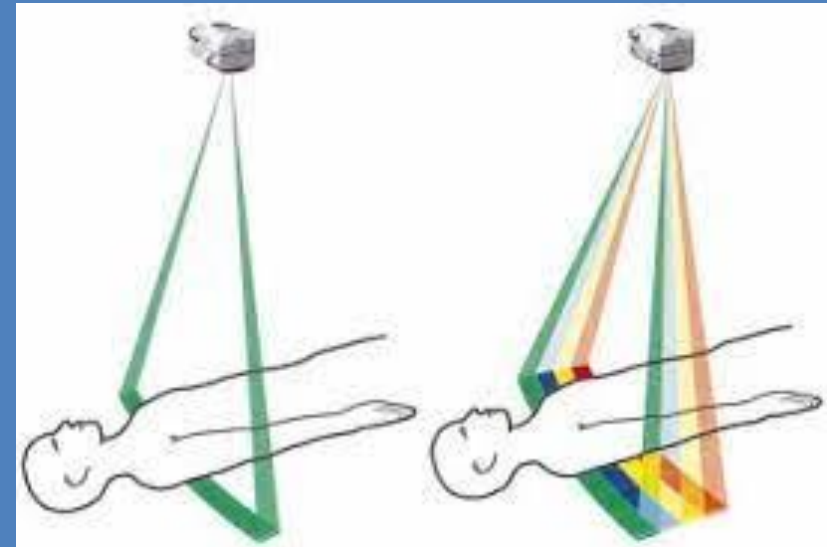
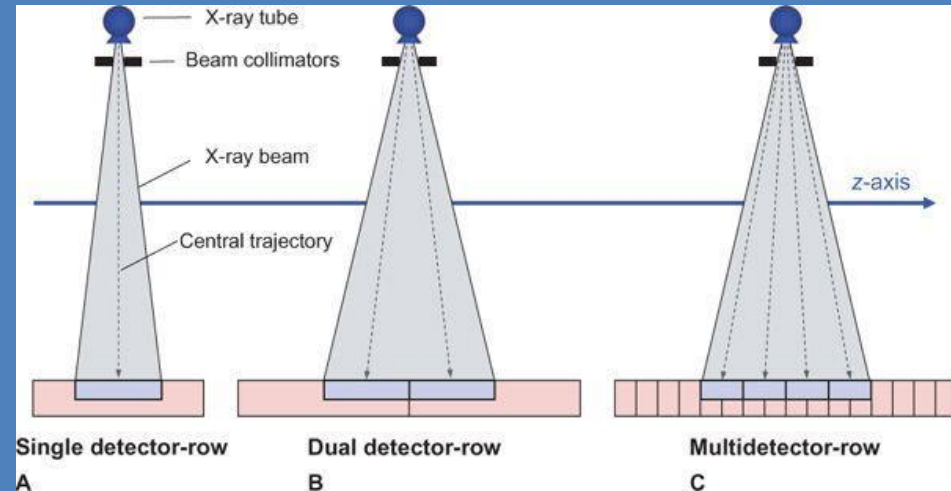


**Machine's x-ray beam rotates around you.**

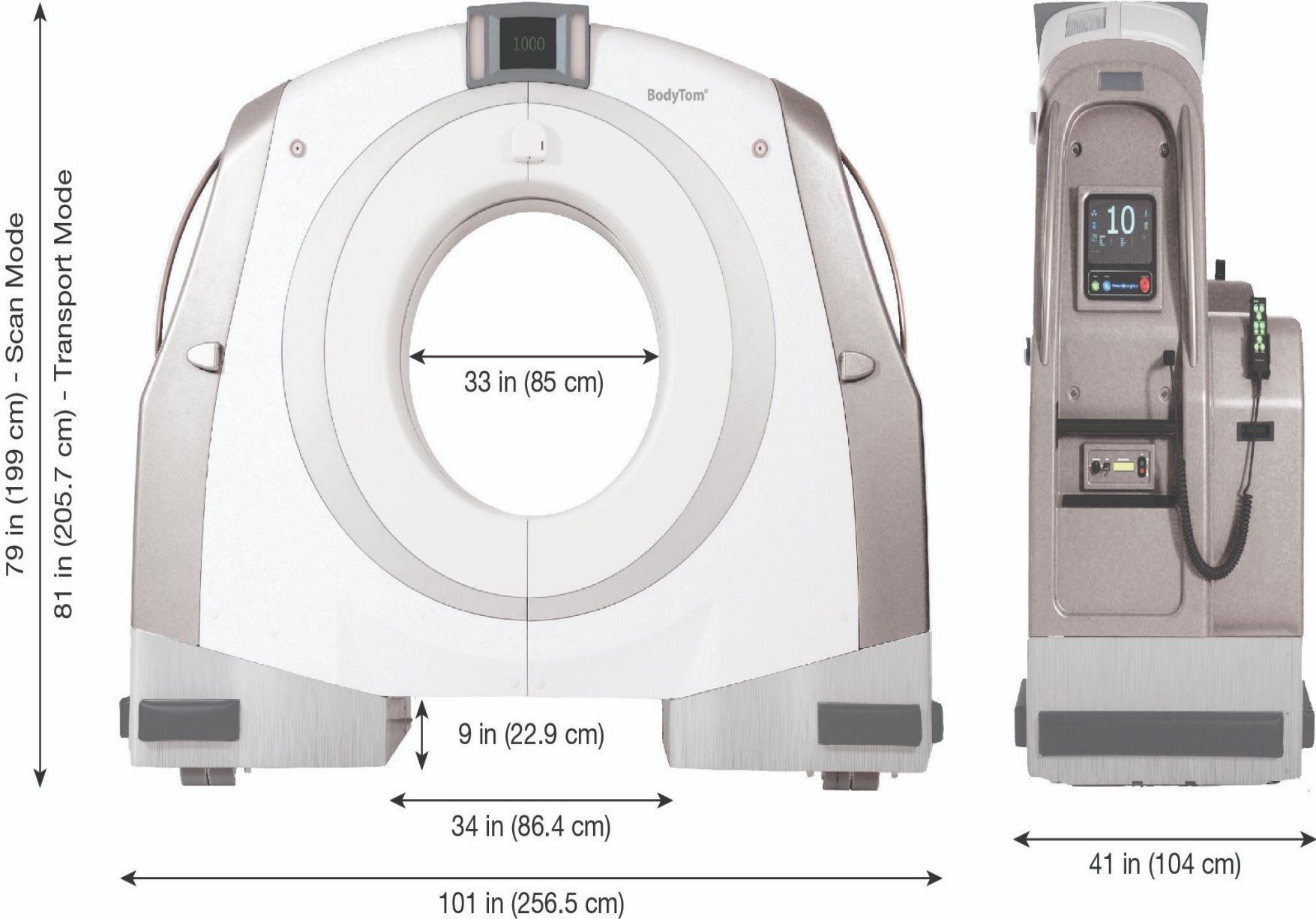


# 7<sup>th</sup> generation CT

- Since 1998.
- Allow simultaneous acquisition of multiple slice in a single rotation.
- $\frac{1}{2}$  sec rotation (0.5 sec).
- Sub-second scanner.
- 2001- 16 row spiral CT.
- 2007- 320-row spiral CT.



**Weight:** 3510 lbs (1592 kg)    **Portable full body CT scan**

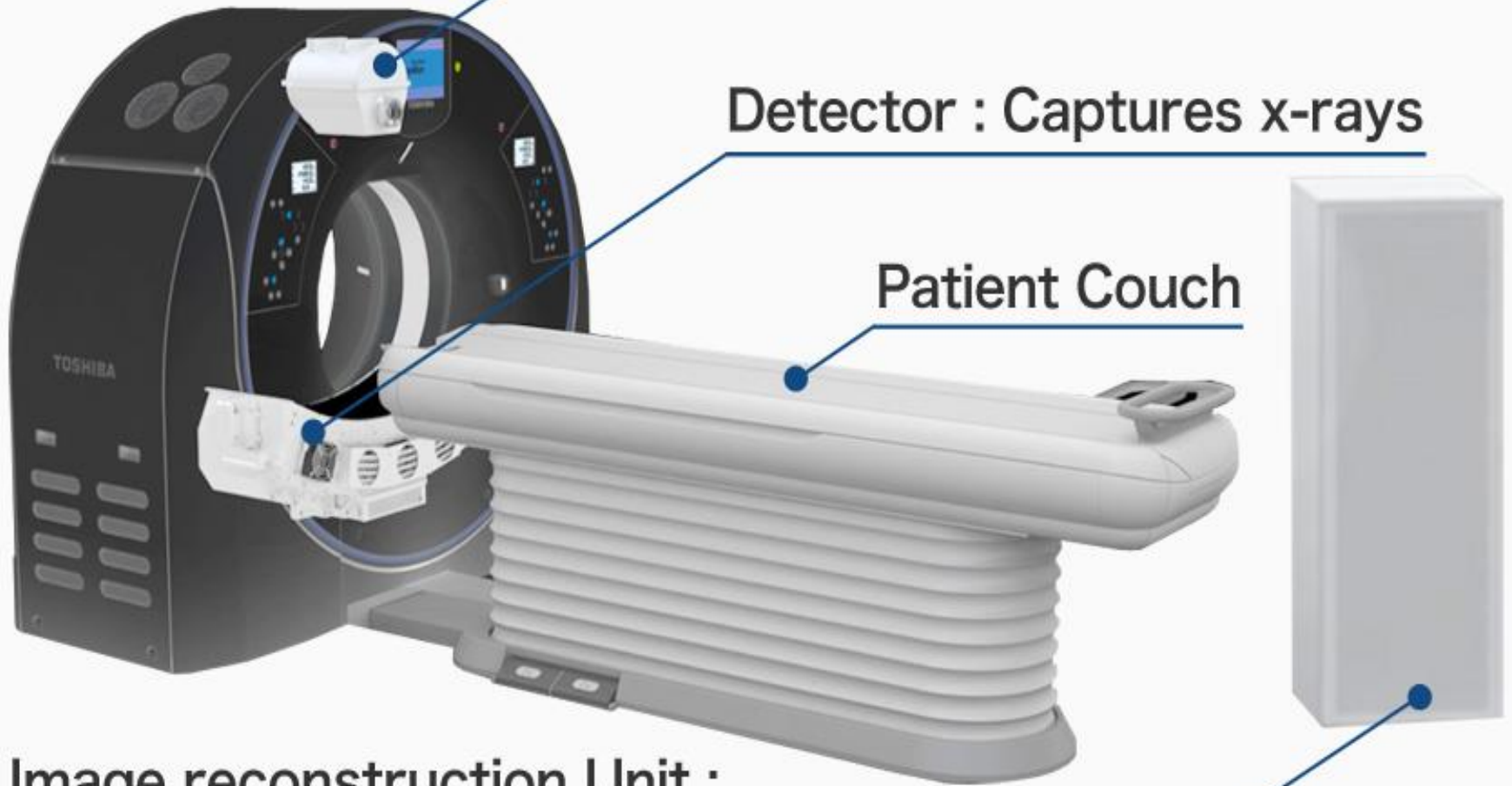


**X-ray Tube Unit : Generates X-rays**

**Detector : Captures x-rays**

**Patient Couch**

**Image reconstruction Unit :**  
creates an image from the x-rays captured  
by the detector



# Radiation exposure according to FDA

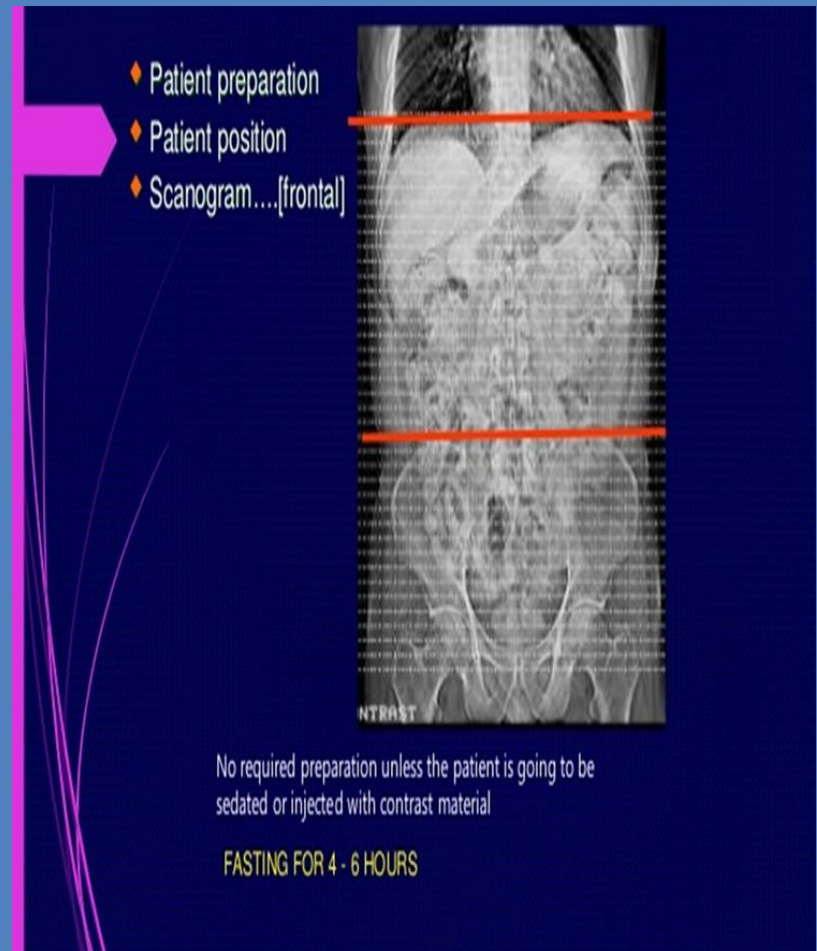
Procedure	Effective dose (msv)	No. of CXR for equivalent effective dose	Time period for equivalent effective dose from natural background radiation
CXR PA view	0.02	1	2.4 days.
Skull x ray	0.1	5	12 days.
Lumbar spine	1.5	75	182 days.
IV urogram	3	150	1 year.
Upper GI exam	6	300	2 year.
Barium enema	8	400	2.7 years.
CT scan of brain	2	100	243 days.
CT abdomen	8	400	2.7 years.
CT abdomen & pelvis	10	500	3.29 yrs.

Scientific unit of measurement for whole body---

- radiation dose (effective dose)—millisievert.

# Preparation for CT scan

- History about comorbidities, allergy etc.
- Drink plenty of water before & after.
- Removal of unnecessary metallic objects, jewellery, drug delivery patches.
- No required preparation unless pt. is sedated or injected contrast.
- Premedications (allergy cases).
- Fasting 4-6 hours.





**Must be still during exam.**

**Movement- produce  
blurred images.**

**Hold your breath for short  
period of time**

# Multislice CT

- *CT images are 5 mm slices.*
- *Soft tissue window view settings.*



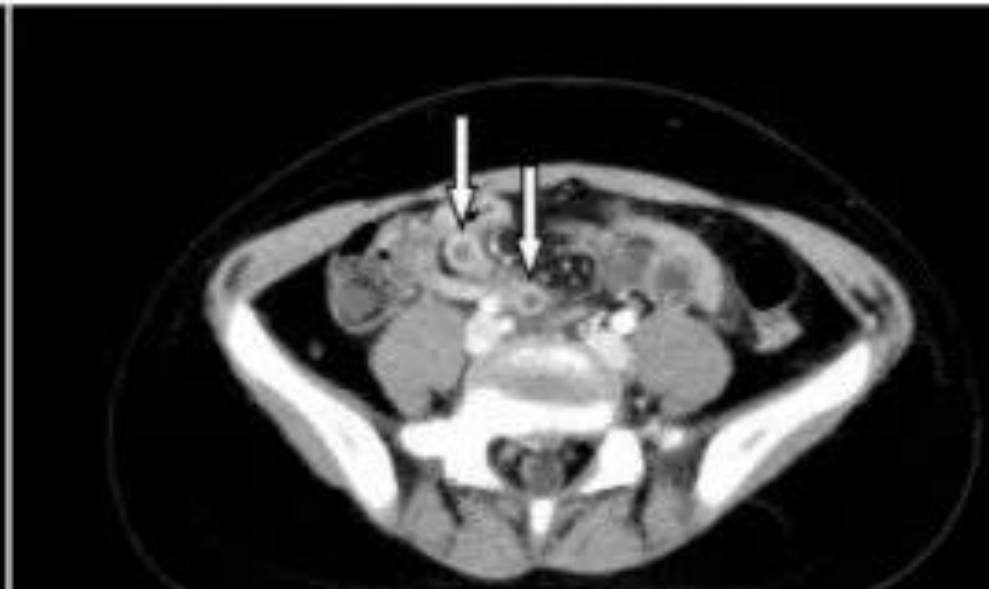
# Types of CT on the basis of contrast

- Non contrast.
- Contrast enhanced.

**Noncontrast**



**Enhanced**



# Types of contrast/ Dye

## Enhanced / not.

- Oral-(1-2 hrs)-
  - Barium sulphate.
  - Gastrographin.
- Intravenous.(50-70sec)-
  - Iodide.
  - Gadolinium---MRI.
  - Eliminated by kidney & liver.
- Rectal (immediately).
- Intra-articular.

## Typical circulation times-

- Arm vein to arm vein (total circulation time) - 25 (22-28 secs).
- Arm v. to face - 24 secs.
- Pulmonary circulation time - 6 secs.
- Arm v. to heart - 4 secs.





# Basics

## Non contrast study.

## Contrast study-

- 100 ml contrast @ 3 ml/sec.
  - Arterial phase- 20-40secs.
  - Portal venous phase- 60-80 secs.
  - Early delayed phase-
    - >180 secs, best at 4 mins.
  - Late delayed phase- 4-6 hrs.

## Nephrogenic phase -

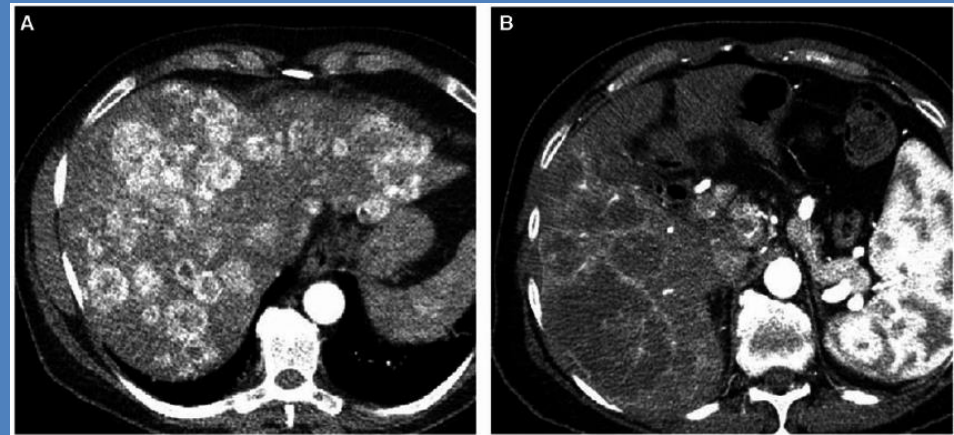
- 80-100 sec
- Kidney tumor,
- Renal trauma.

## Equilibrium/ delayed phase —

- 6- 10 min.
- Ureteral obs.
- Ureter leak,
- characterization of liver tumor.

# Arterial phase

- 20-40 secs.
- Normal liver parenchyma not yet enhanced.
- Hypervascular liver tumor enhance via hepatic artery.
- Hypervascular tumors enhance optimally at 35 secs.
- Hypervascular metastasis-
  - Breast.
  - Sarcomas.
  - Neuroendocrine tumors.
  - RCC.
  - Melanoma.



# Portal venous phase

- 60-80 secs.
- Detect hypovascular tumor.
- Hypovascular metastasis-
  - Colorectal cancer.

## Portal venous phase

- 60- 80 sec
- To detect hypovascular tumors

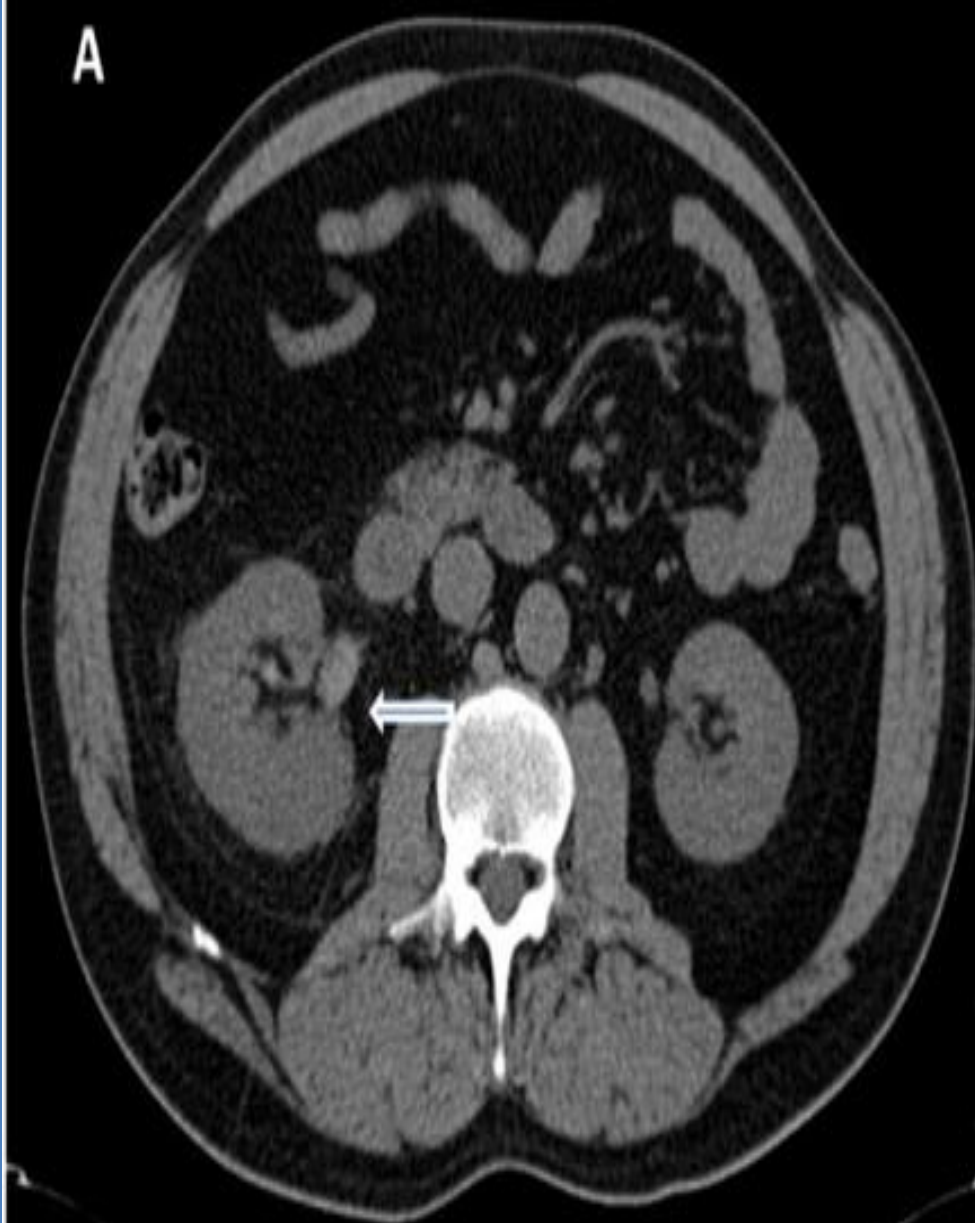
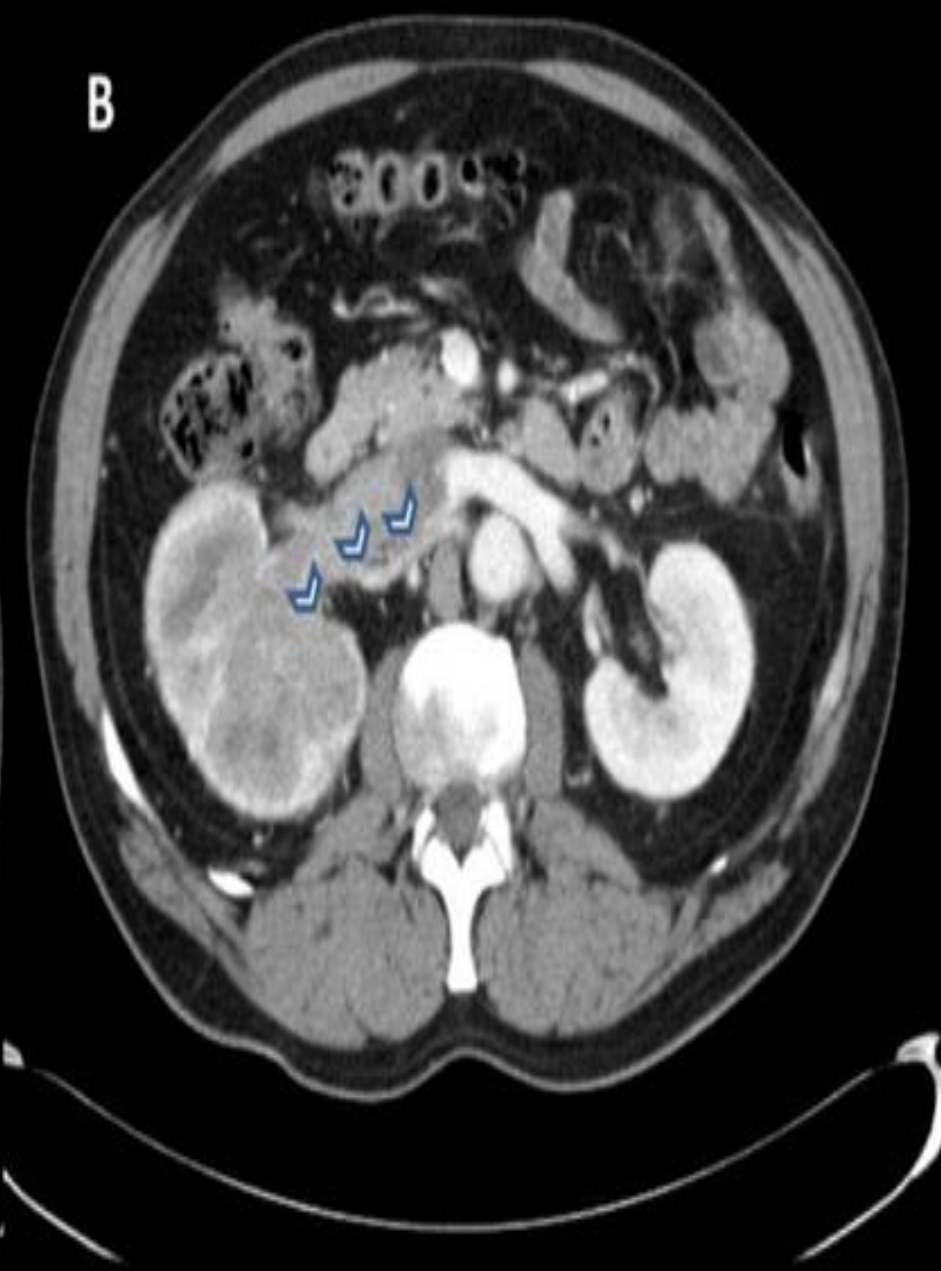


## arterial phase

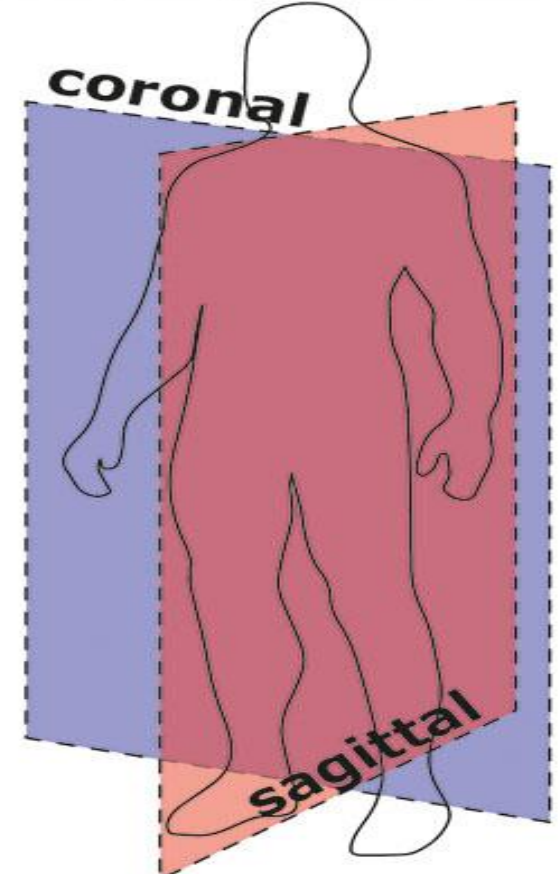
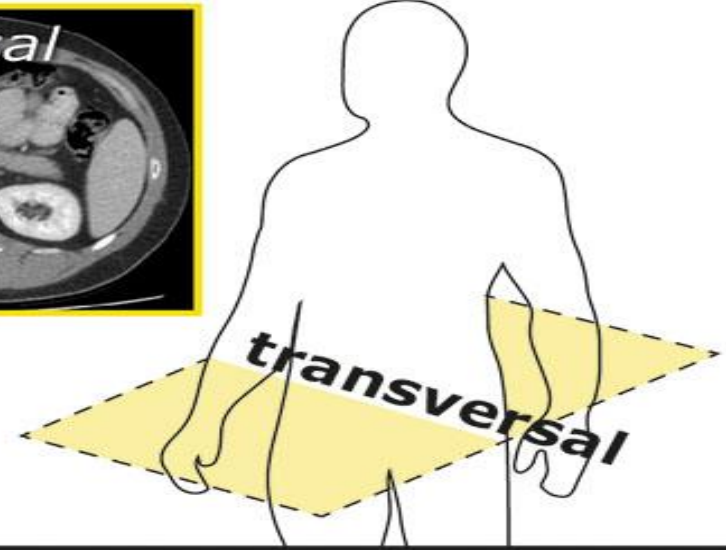


## portal venous phase



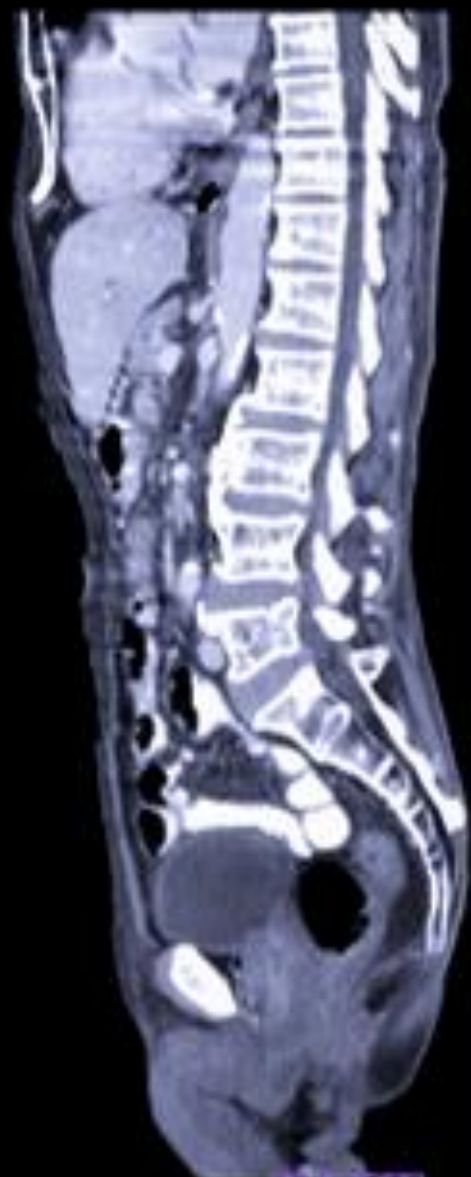
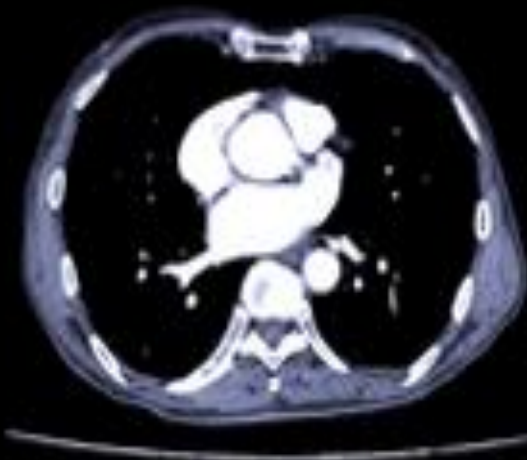
**A****B**





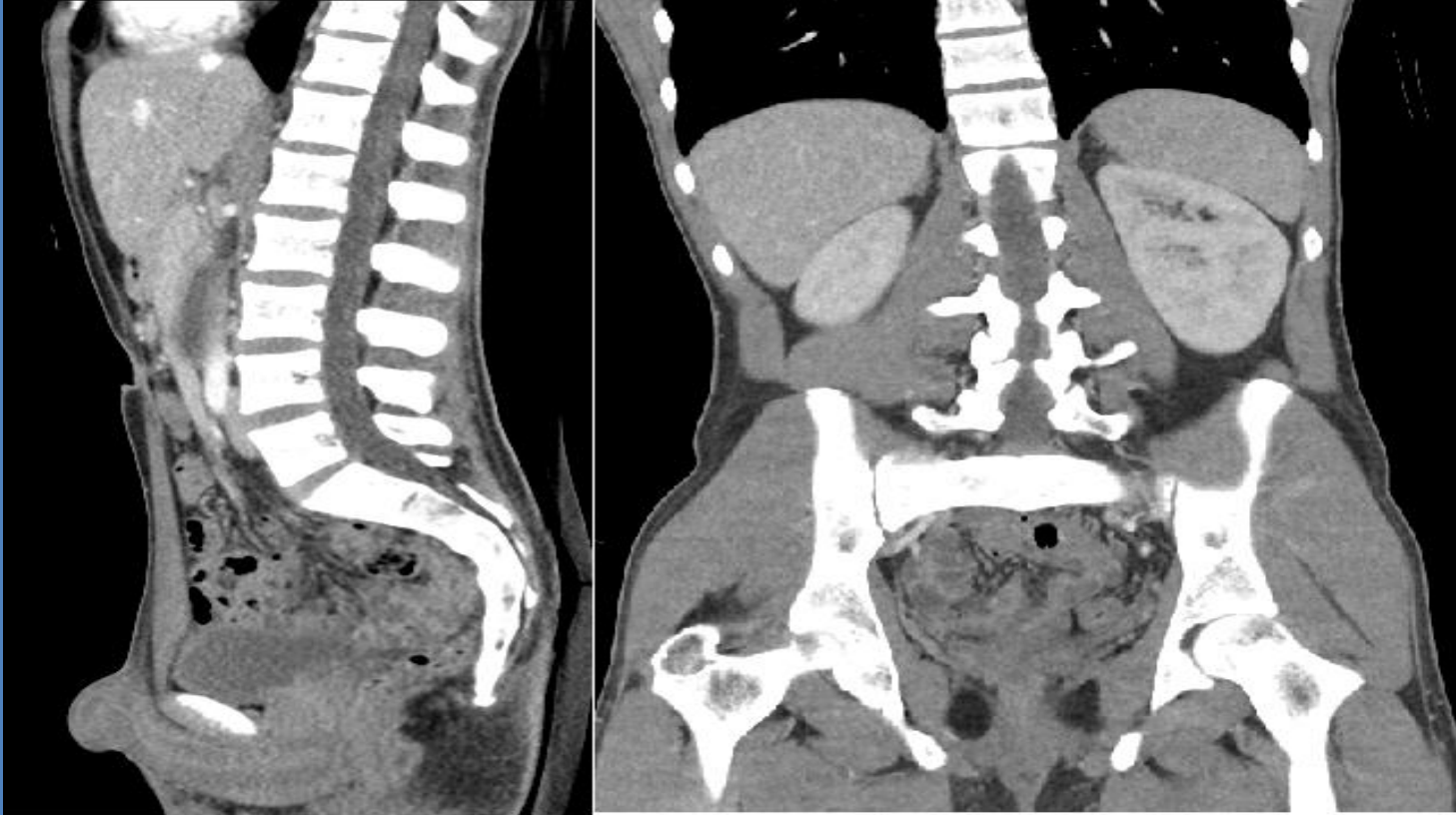
- Axial.
- Coronal.
- Sagittal.

# CT whole abdomen

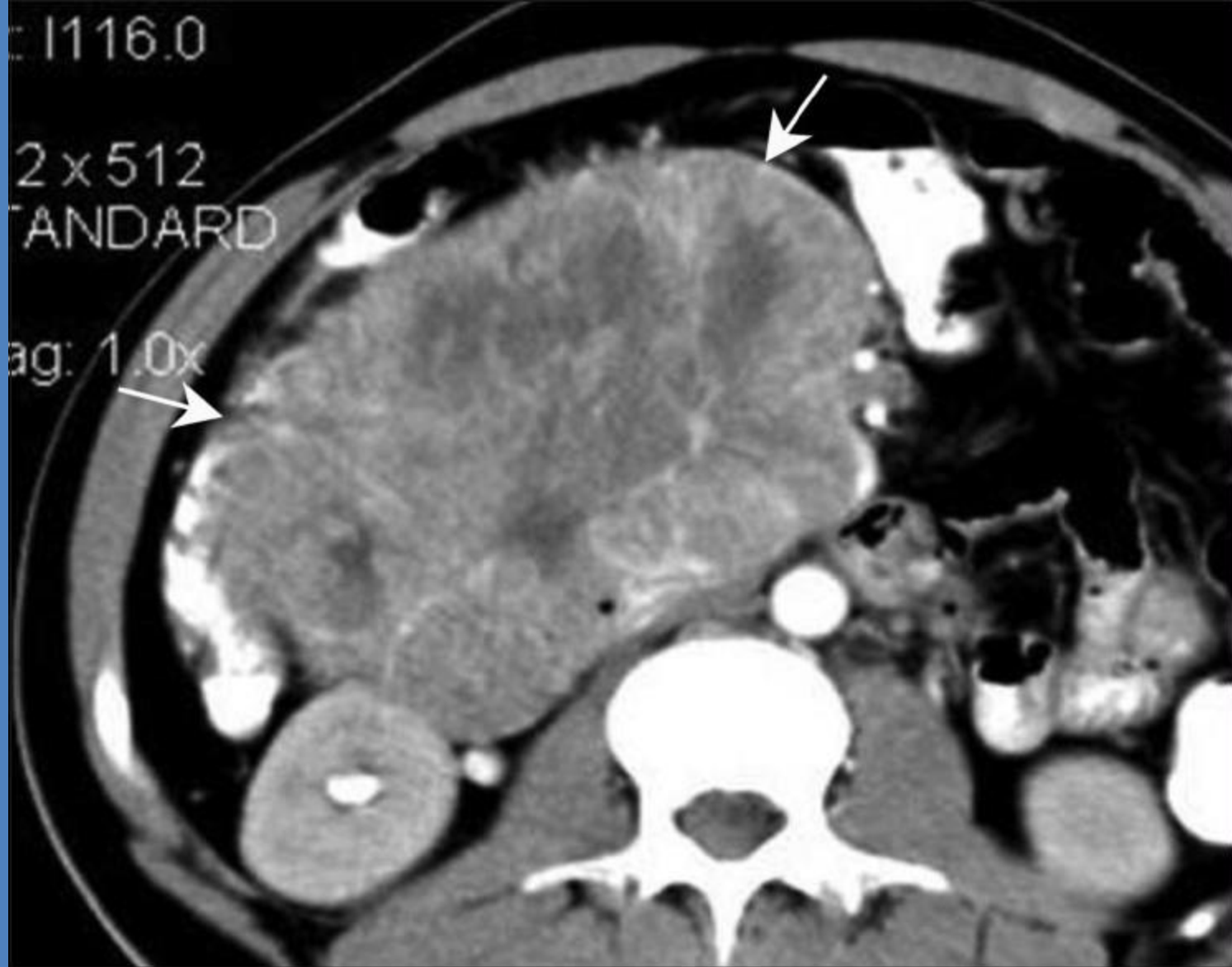


# Density —

- Isodense.
- Hypodense.
- Hyperdense.
- Mixed density.







**Duodenal GIST- Axial contrast-enhanced CT scan in a 35-year-old female show a well-defined heterogeneously enhancing mass (arrow) along the second part of the duodenum**



Figure 1. Axial (A), Coronal (B), and Sagittal (C) CT scans of the pelvis showing a large, dark, oval-shaped mass in the central pelvic region, marked with an asterisk (\*).

Images are viewed from the feet. So organization is-

**Right**

**Left**

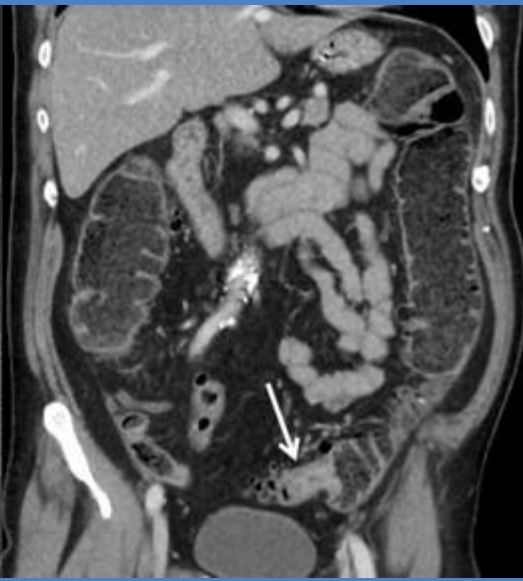


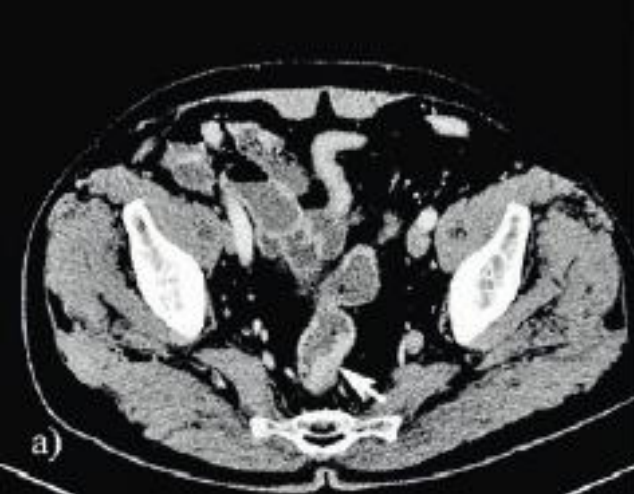
# Planes of the abdomen

- Transpyloric plane- L1.
- Subcostal plane-L3.
- Transumbilical- L3-4.
- Transtubercular-L4.
- Midline plane.
- Midclavicular.

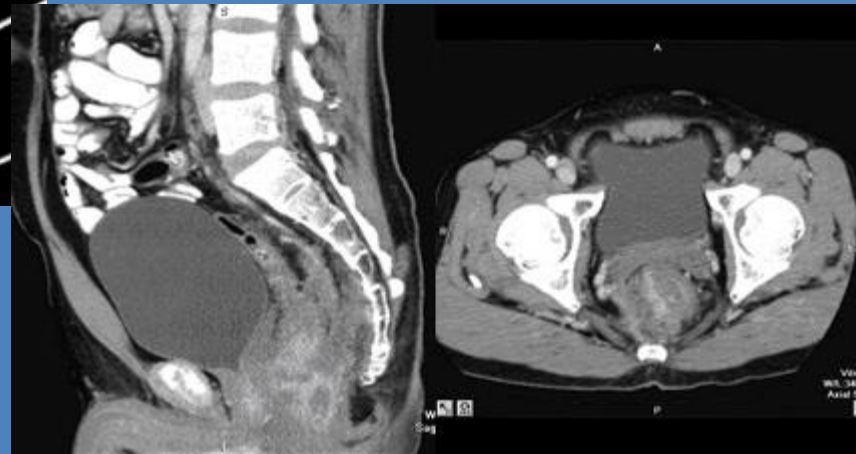
# Role of CT scan

- Diagnosis of primary disease.
- Assess the involvement of surrounding structures.
- Locoregional spread.
- Distant spread.
- Resectability of primary tumor.
- Response to treatment.
- Recurrence of tumor.
- Extra hepatic metastasis.





Attenuation of fat plane

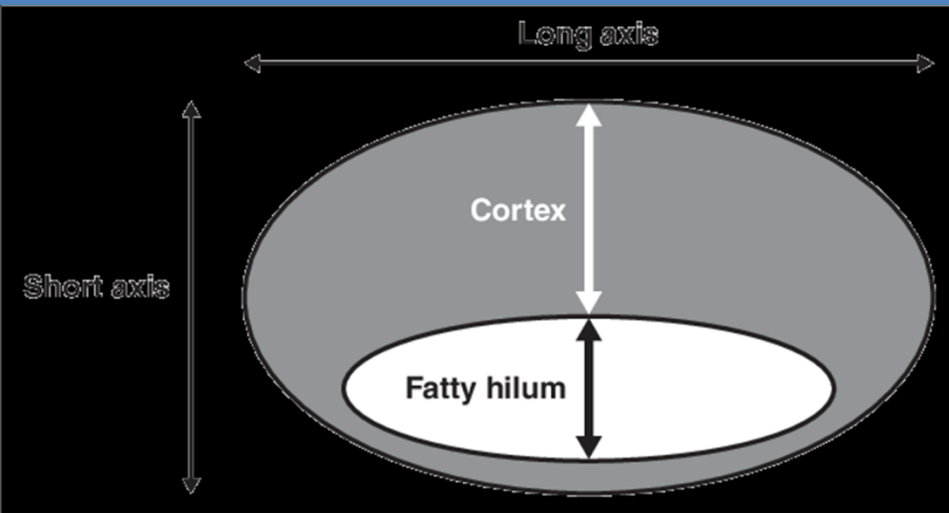








# Metastatic LN



- >1 cm in short axis.
- +/- round shape.
- Abnormal number.
- Central fluid density.

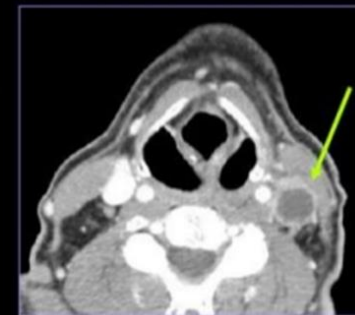
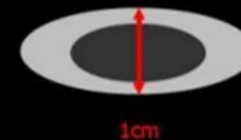
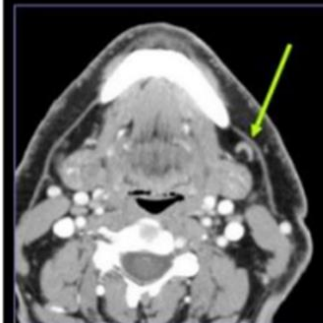
## Normal vs abnormal nodes

### Normal nodes

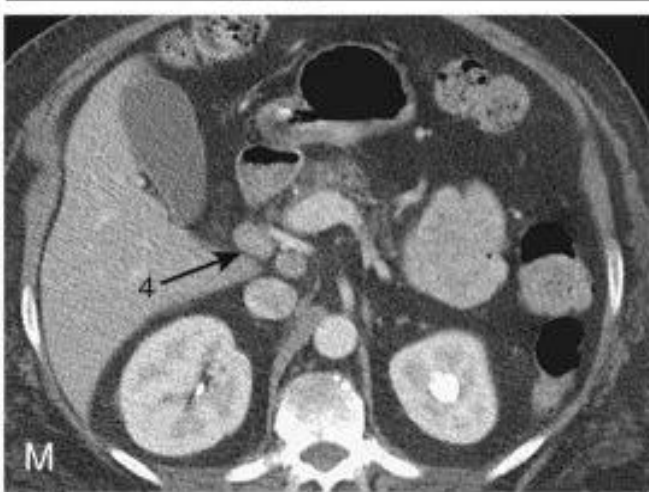
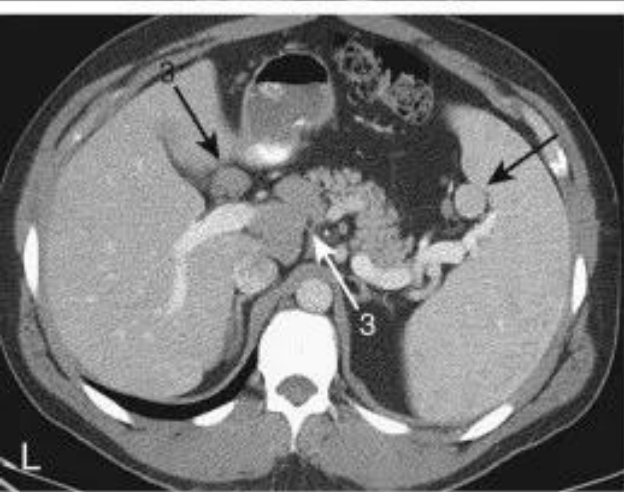
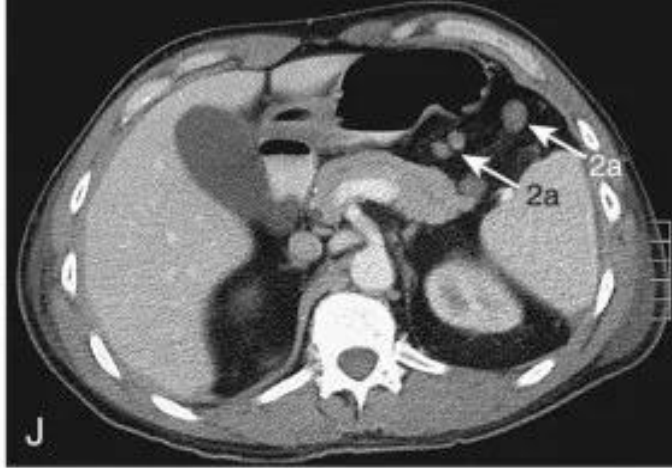
- ovoid shape
- less than 1cm in short axis
- often contain fatty hilum (arrow)

### Abnormal nodes

- more than 1cm in short axis + / - round shape
- abnormal number
- central fluid density (necrosis)

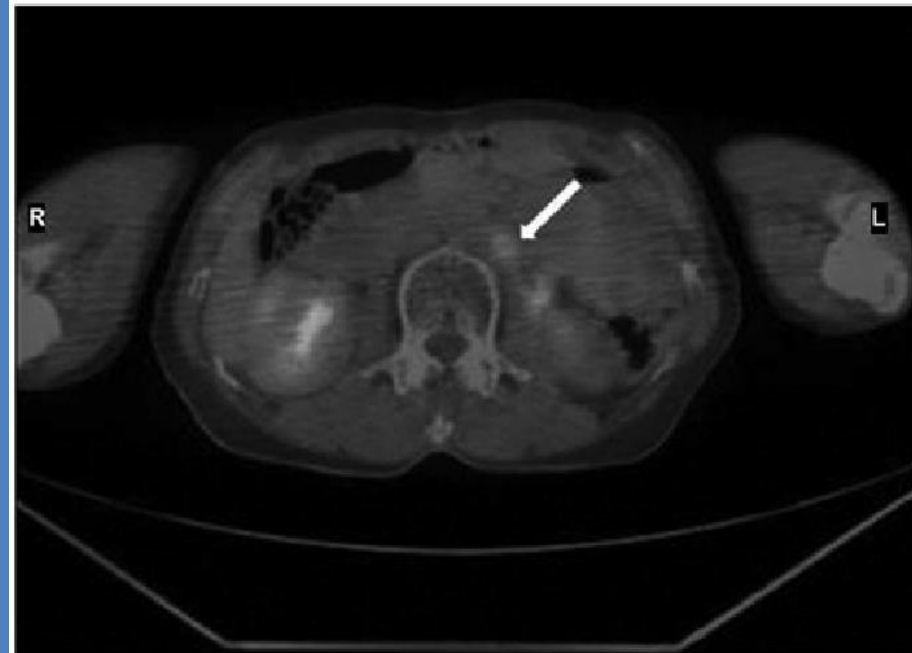


Nodes may be abnormal in **SIZE**, **NUMBER** or **MORPHOLOGY**



## CT scan revealed-

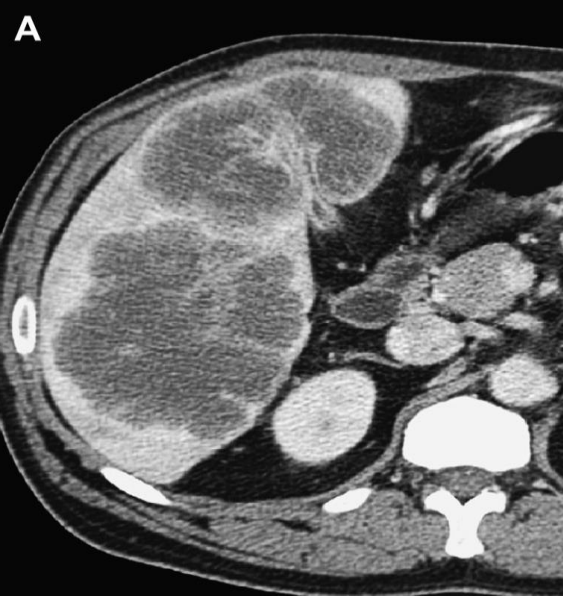
- Swollen lateral paraaortic LN (white arrow).
- FDG-PET / CT- hypermetabolism in the lateral paraaortic LN (white arrow).



# Colorectal Liver metastasis

- In 30% of curative resection there is occult liver metastasis.
- Only 15-25 % present at the time of diagnosis-  
**Synchronous.**
- Additional 20-25 % develop  
**Metachronous liver tumor.**
- In 30% liver is the only site of metastatic disease.





## Majority of liver metastasis are

- Hypodense as hypovascular.
- More hypodense in CECT.
- Best depicted during portal venous phase.
- Hypoattenuating compared with surrounding parenchyma.

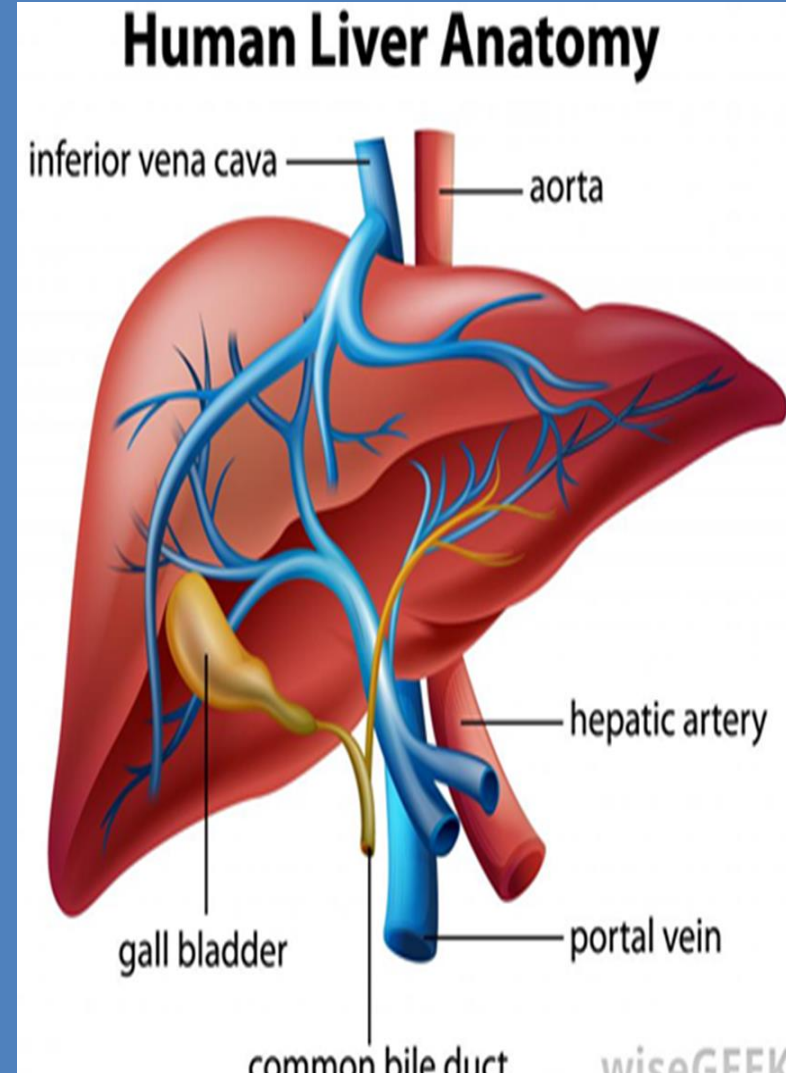


Innumerable liver metastases with colorectal cancer & the primary mass in the ascending colon.



# Blood supply

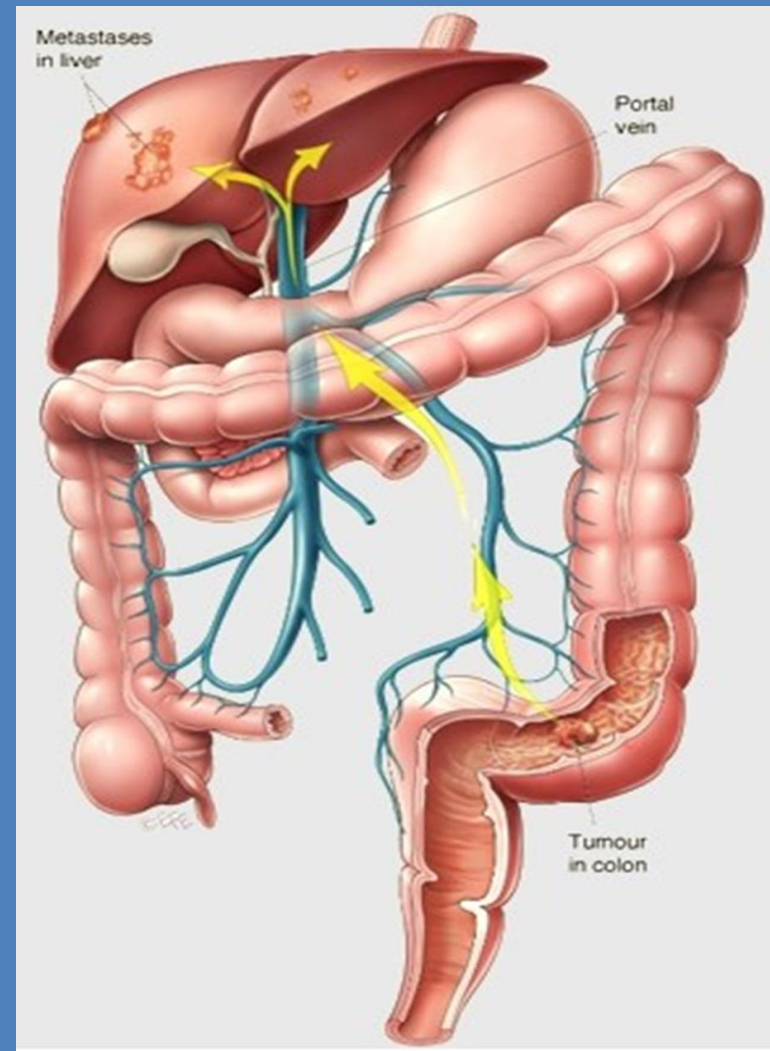
- Dual blood supply.
- Normal parenchyma-
  - 80% portal vein.
  - 20% hepatic artery.
- All liver tumors-
  - Hepatic artery.





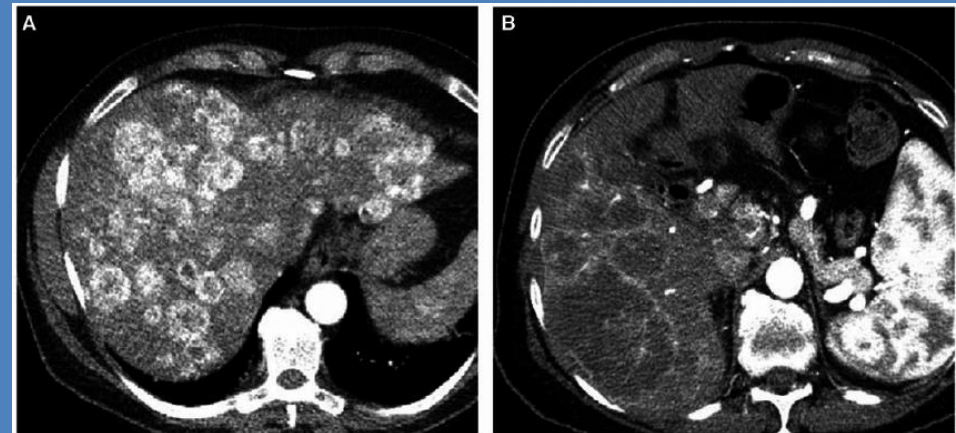
# Which lobe is more involved?

- Right colon to rt lobe 10 times than the left.
- Left colon & rectum distribute homogenously.



# Hypervascular metastasis

- Hypervascular metastasis-
  - Breast.
  - Sarcomas.
  - Neuroendocrine tumors.
  - RCC.
  - Melanoma.
- 20-40 secs.
- Normal liver parenchyma not yet enhanced.
- Hypervascular liver tumor enhance via hepatic artery.
- Hypervascular tumors enhance optimally at 35 secs.



# Hypovascular metastasis

- Hypo vascular metastasis-
  - Colorectal cancer.
- 60-80 secs.
- Portal venous phase.
- Detect hypovascular tumor.



# Calcified liver metastasis

- Mucinous GI tumor.
- Ovarian cancer.



Calcified liver metastasis from colon cancer

# Colorectal Cancer

## CT Findings

### Non contrast-

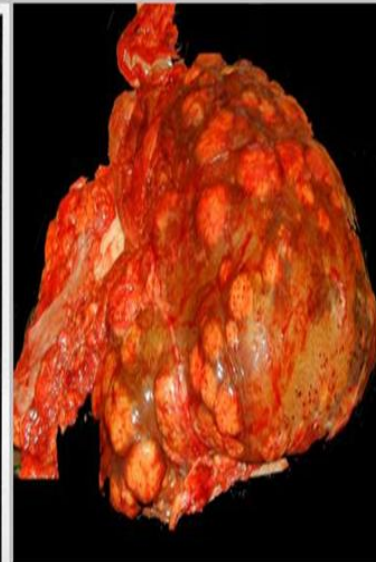
- Isodense / hypodense.

### CECT-

- Best on portal venous phase.
- Less enhanced than surroundings.
- Slight peripheral enhancement with a hypoattenuating center.



Contrast-enhanced CT showing liver metastases. Several low-density metastases involve both lobes of the liver.

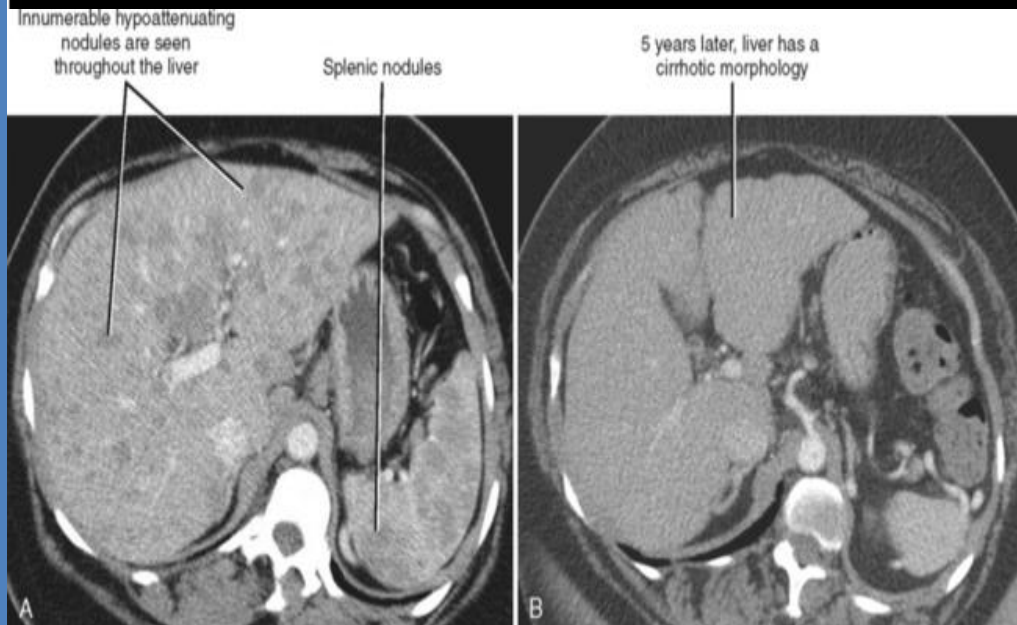
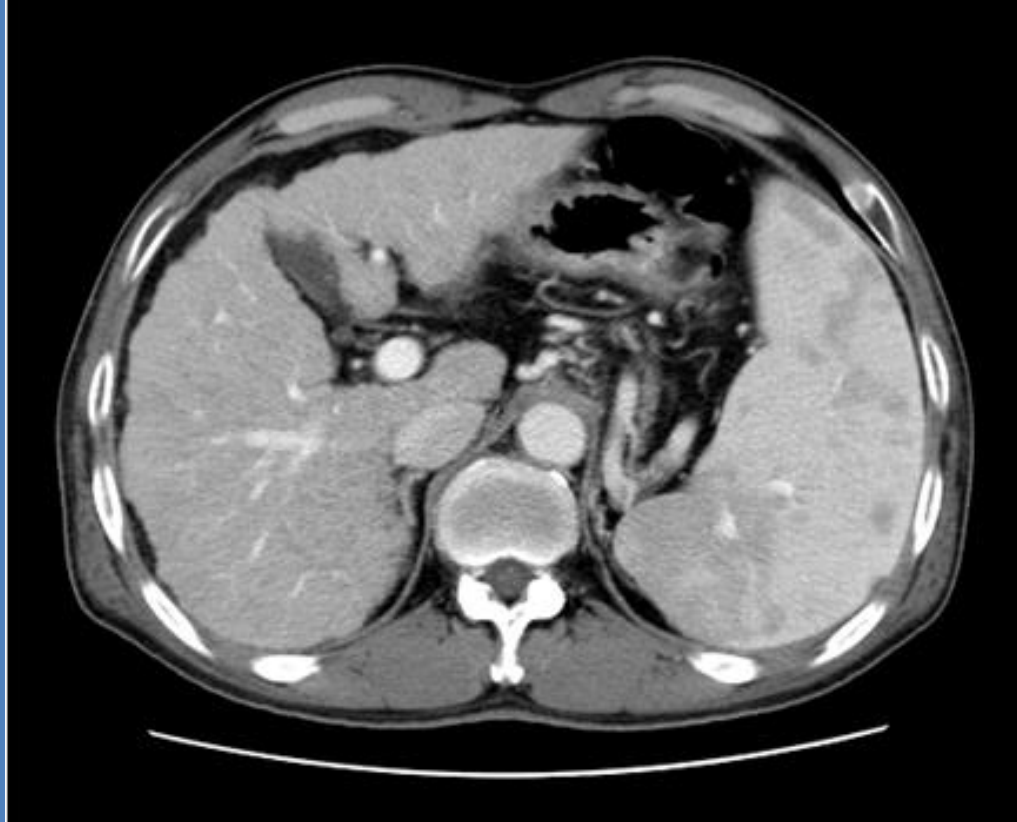


**Numerous metastases.**  
The tumor cells were arranged in nodules and occupied approximately 90% of the hepatic parenchyma.

# CLD

## Portal venous phase-

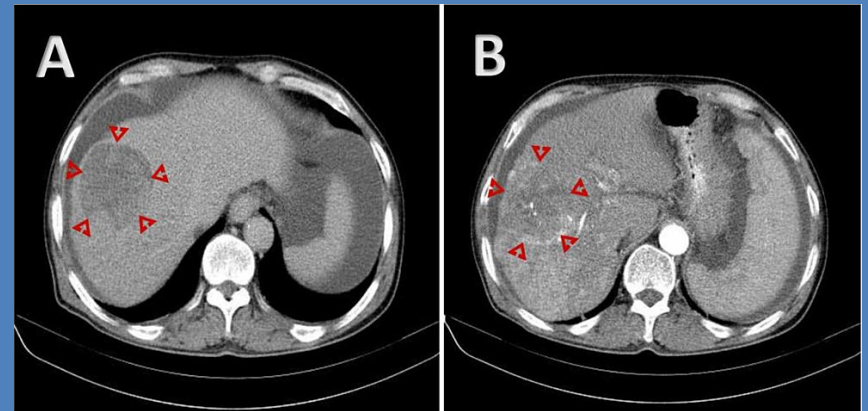
- Atrophic liver.
- Irregular in external contour.
- Others-
  - Thickened gallbladder wall.
  - Splenomegally.
  - Numerous collaterals within omentum.
  - Ascites.





# Hepatocellular carcinoma.

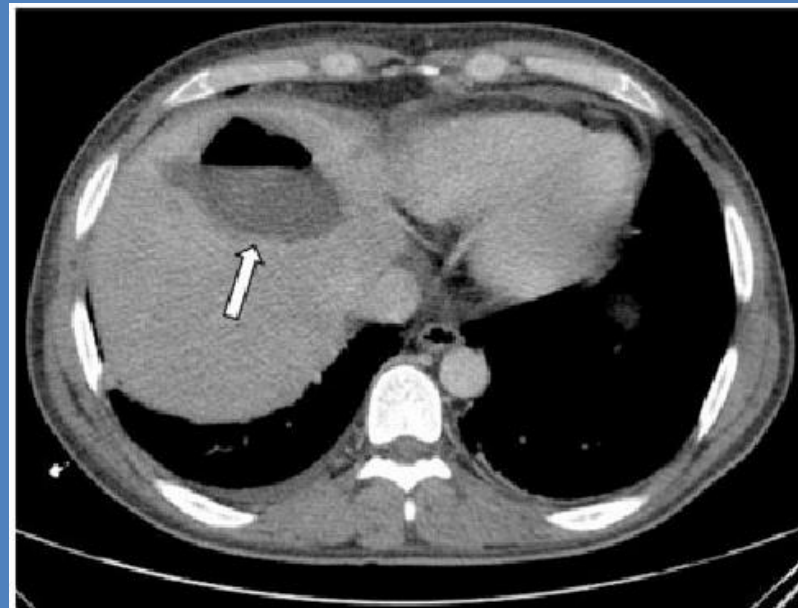
- Single or multiple masses.
- Hypodense to normal liver.
- Calcification may be seen.
- Arterial phase- Very early arterial perfusion.
- Portal phase- contrast washout.

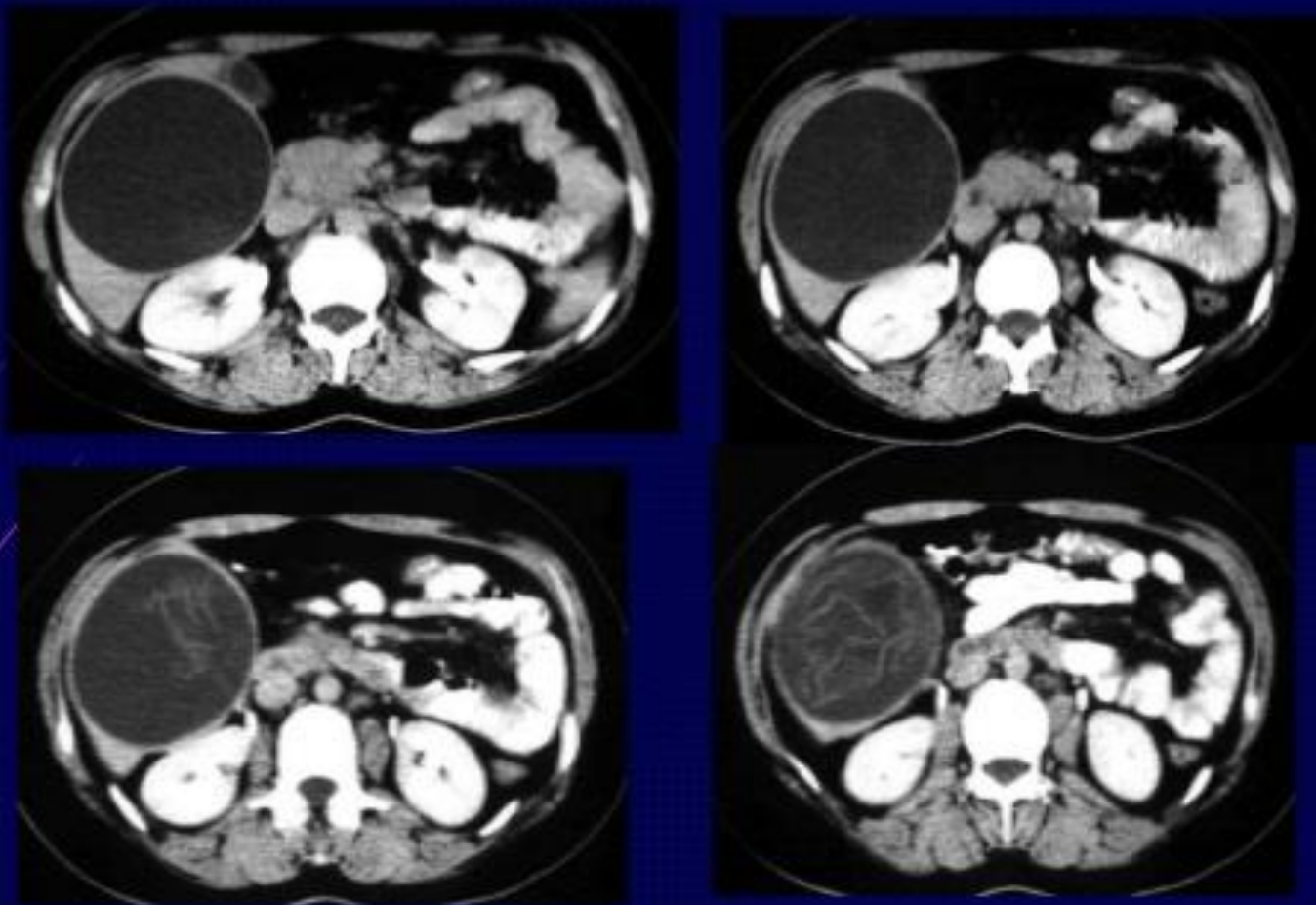


**CT imaging showing a mass in a cirrhotic liver with mosaic enhancement on early phases and rapid washout on delayed phase, compatible with hepatocellular carcinoma**

# Hepatic abscess

- Variable.
- In general-
  - Peripheral rim enhancement.
  - Centrally hypoattenuating.
- Occasionally-
  - Solid or
  - Contain gas (~20% of cases).
  - The gas may be in the form of bubbles or air-fluid levels





Hydatid cyst

## Active hydatid disease-

- Usually non calcified liver cyst.
- Floating layers of germinal membrane within the cyst.

A



B

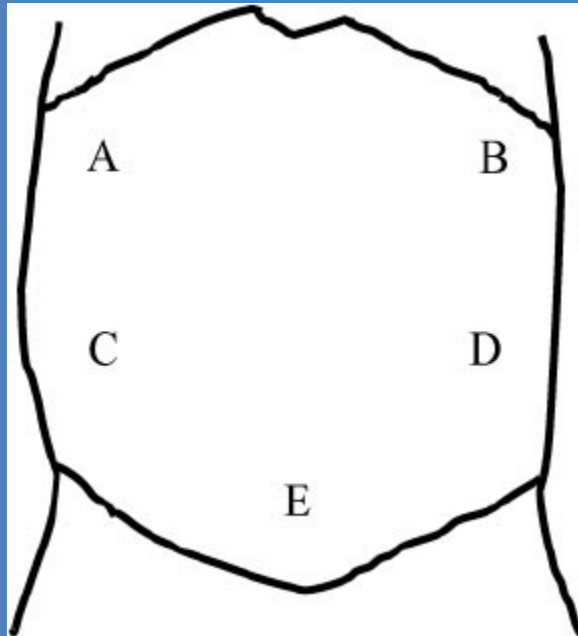


Ascites





# Quantification of ascites by using 5 point study

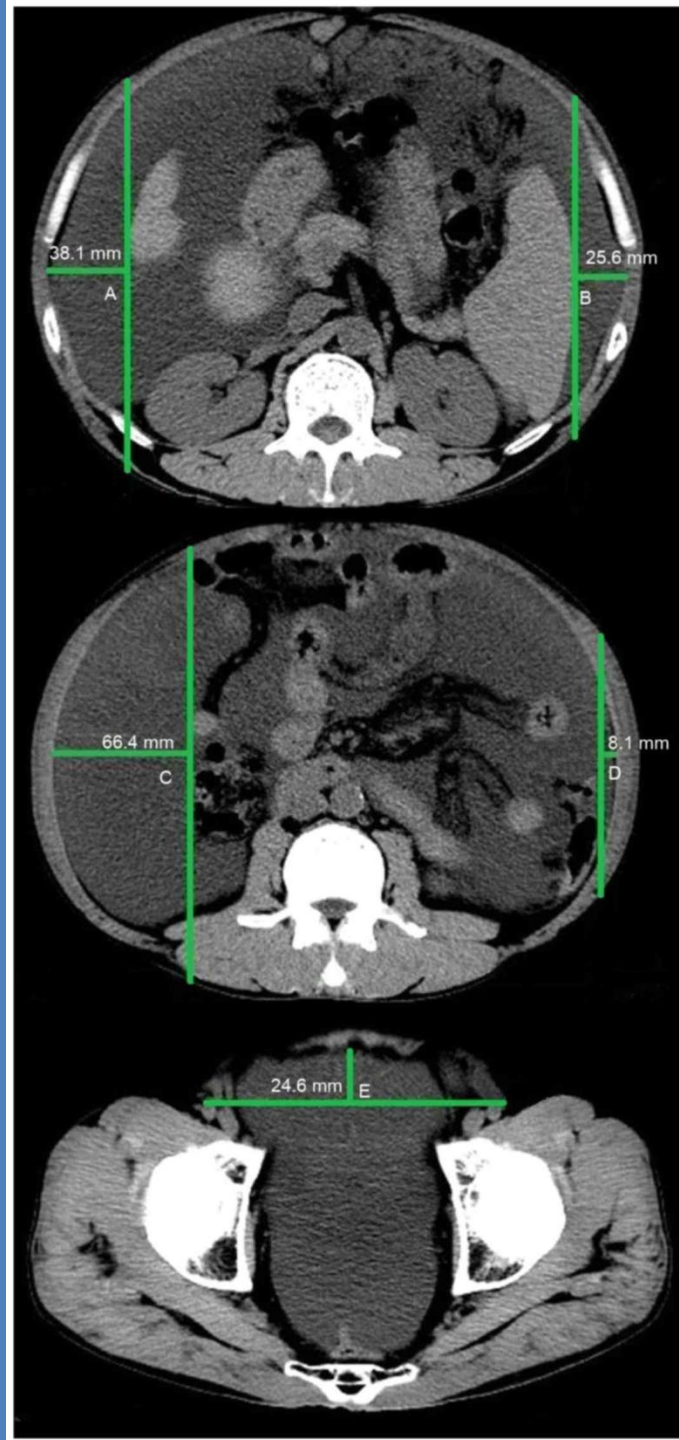


Root of SMA

Lower pole of left kidney

- The following equation was used to calculate the volume of ascites:  
 $(A+B+C+D+E) \times 200 \text{ ml.}$
- ascites volume >300 ml.
- Minimal- 25-50 ml.
- Mild- 50-300ml.
- Moderate-upto 1 litre.

Root of femoral artery





# Traditional principle of resection for CRC liver metastasis.

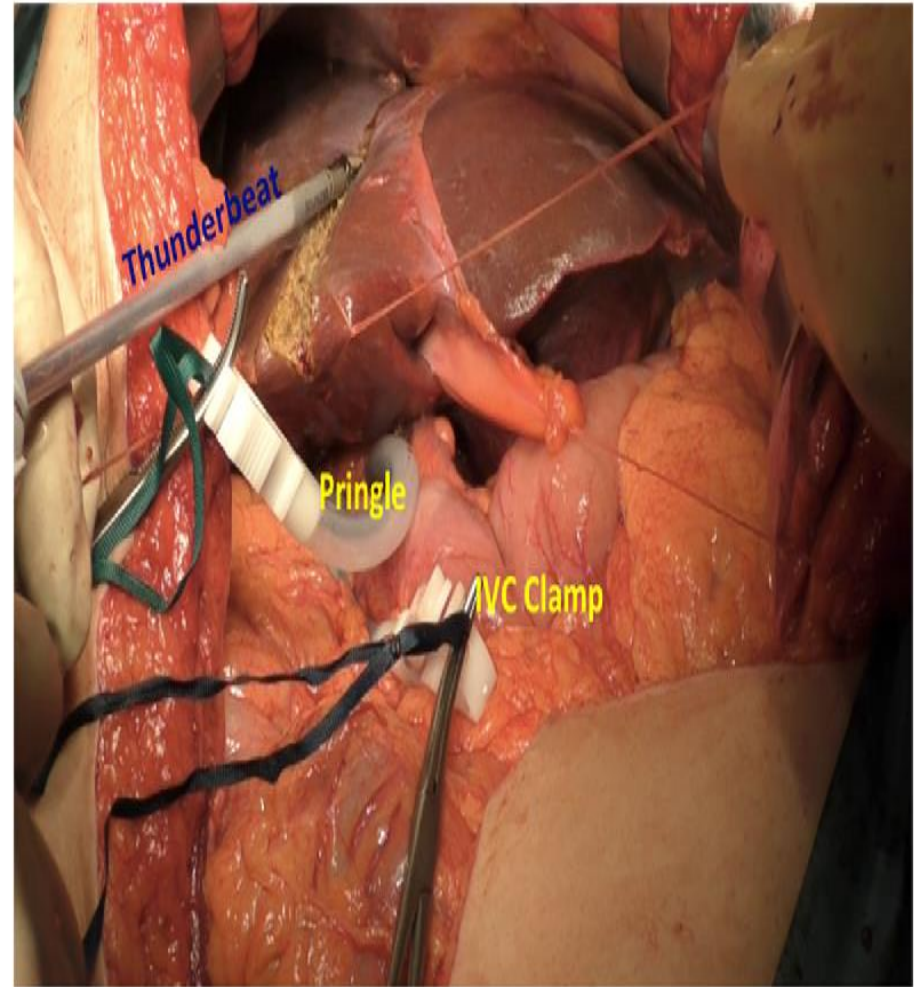
- Unilobar.
- <4 lesions.
- <5 cm in greatest dimension.
- Without extrahepatic disease.
- Well confined primary lesion.

Nowadays more resection is possible due to-

- > effective systemic therapy.
- Ablative therapies.
- > modalities for downstaging.

# Traditional principle of liver transection

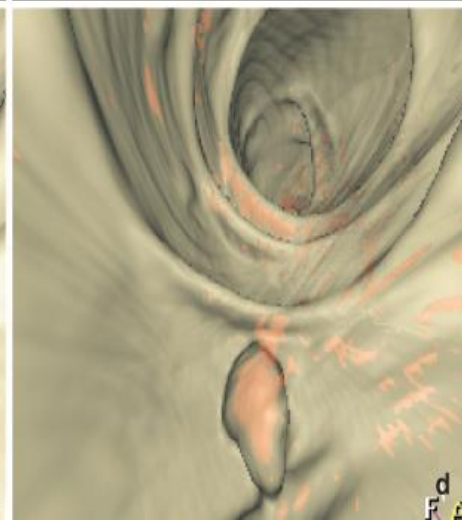
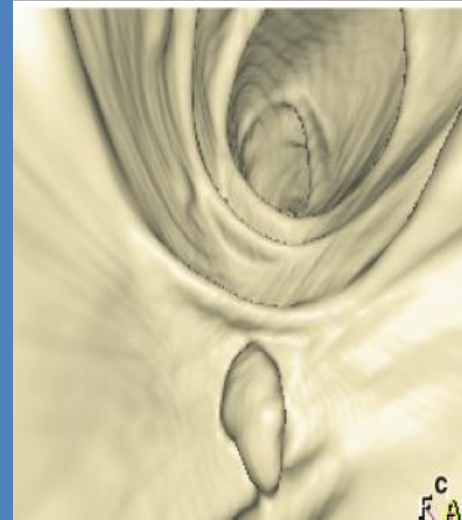
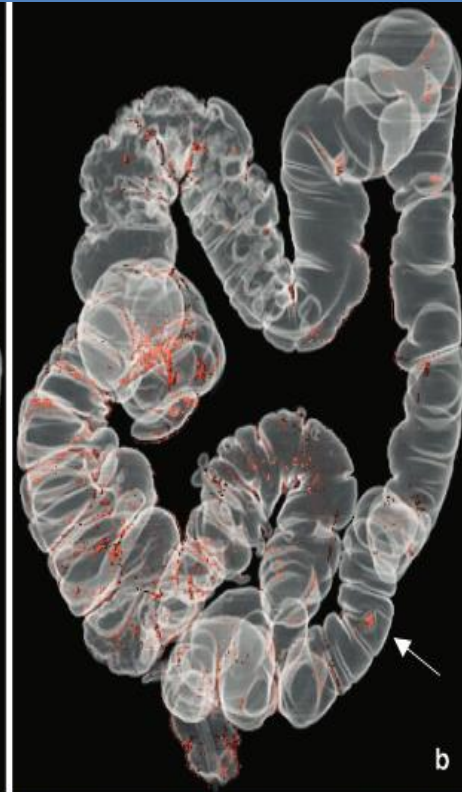
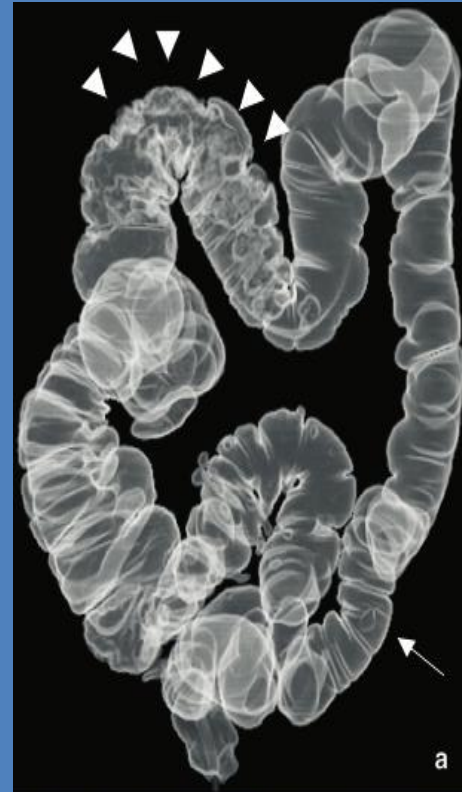
- Unilobar disease.
- <4 lesions.
- <5 cm in greatest dimension.
- Without extra hepatic disease.
- Unilobar / bilobar whatever might be the no. of lesion or size if there is resectable extrahepatic metastasis & good control of primary site.....



technique of parenchymal transection with TB Liver parenchyma being divided using TB in a p

# Virtual colonoscopy-

- CT colonography / CT pneumocolon.
- Non invasive procedure.
- Uses x-rays & computer.
- 2D & 3D images of colorectum.
- May provide 3D endoluminal views of the bowel.



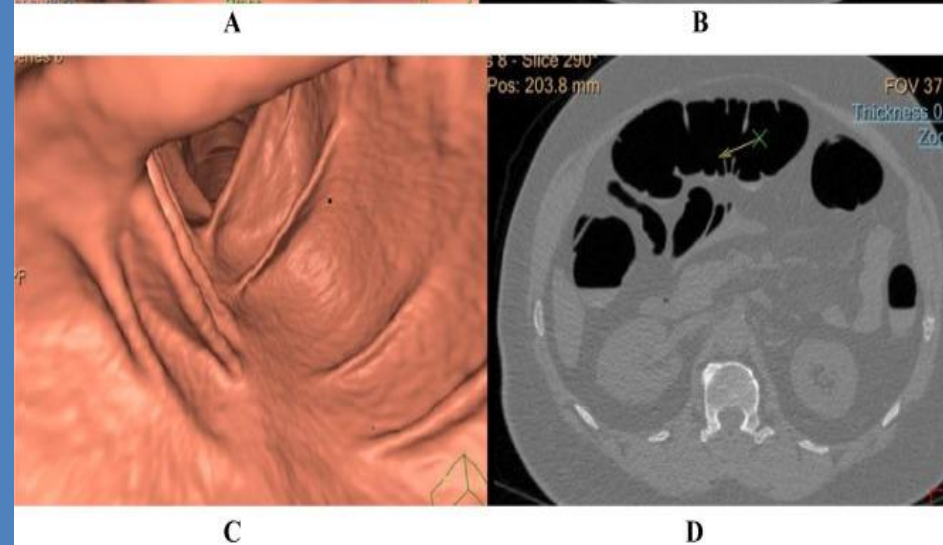
# CTC

## Preparation-

- Low residual diet- 24-48 hrs.
- Only fluid for 24 hours.
- Oral contrast-48 hrs.
- No sedation.
- Rectal gas- air or Co2.
- Supine/ prone.
- 6-7 secs acquisition time.

## Advantages-

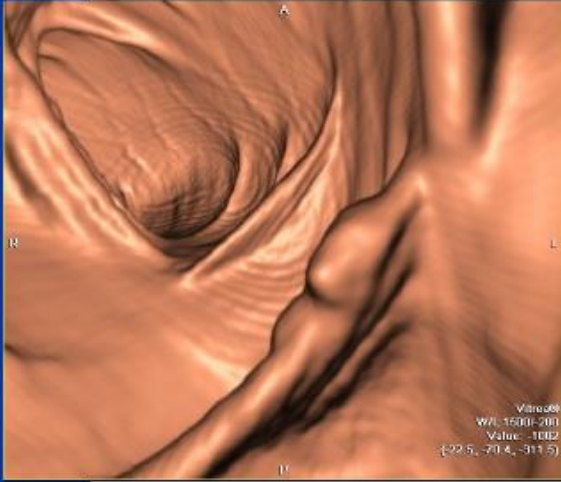
- Superior to DCBE.
- Non invasive.
- Sensitivity >90% for polyps >10mm.
- Well tolerated.
- Both intra & extraluminal information.
- Shorter exam. Time.



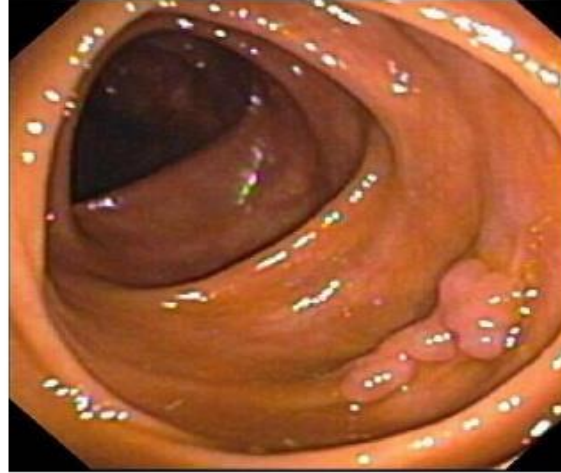


# CT Colonography (CTC)

CTC Image



Optical Colonoscopy



Courtesy of Beth McFarland, MD

26

## Disadvantages-

- No therapeutic benefit.
- Radiation exposure.
- Costly.
- Less available.
- Requires bowel preparation.



# Faecal tagging

## Positive contrast material-

- Various densities of barium.
- Iodinated contrast agent.
- Combination.

## Procedures-

- Low residual diet- 2 days.
- Day before CTC-
  - 3 doses of barium suspension 200ml 4 hrly.
- Distension by air/ co2.

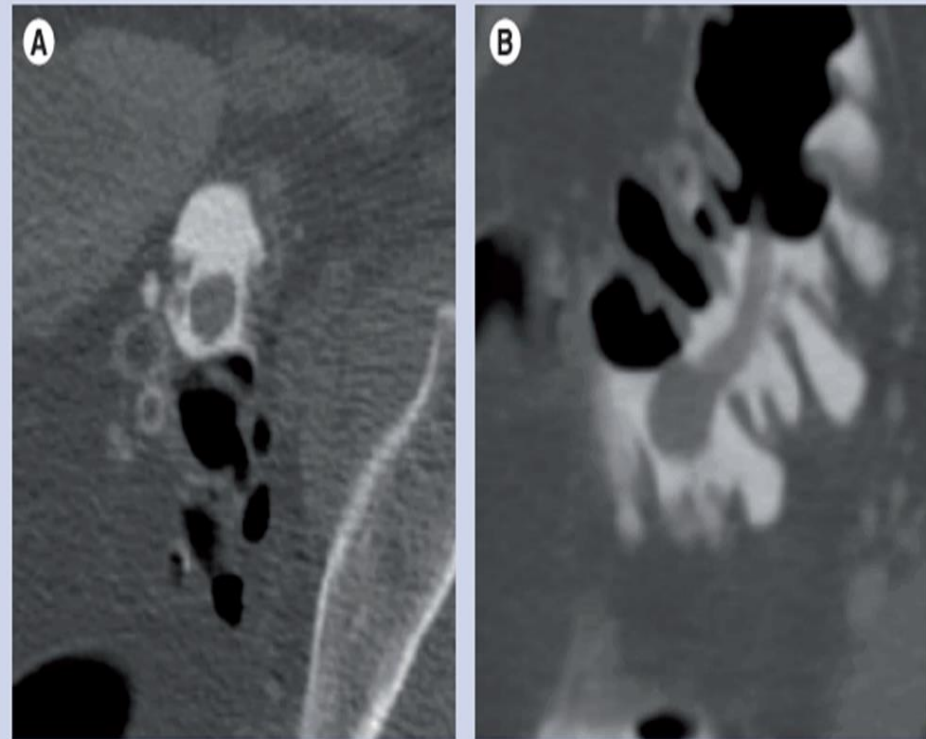


Figure 3. CT colonograph of the colon of a 55-year-old female. Shows a peduncolated polyp in the sigmoid colon. 2D axial CT colonography prone view (A) and 2D axial supine view (B). The polyp appears submerged in the tagged iodinated residual fluid.

# Faecal tagging

## Advantages-

- Patient compliance good.
- No bowel preparation.
- Improves differentiation of polyp from residual faeces.

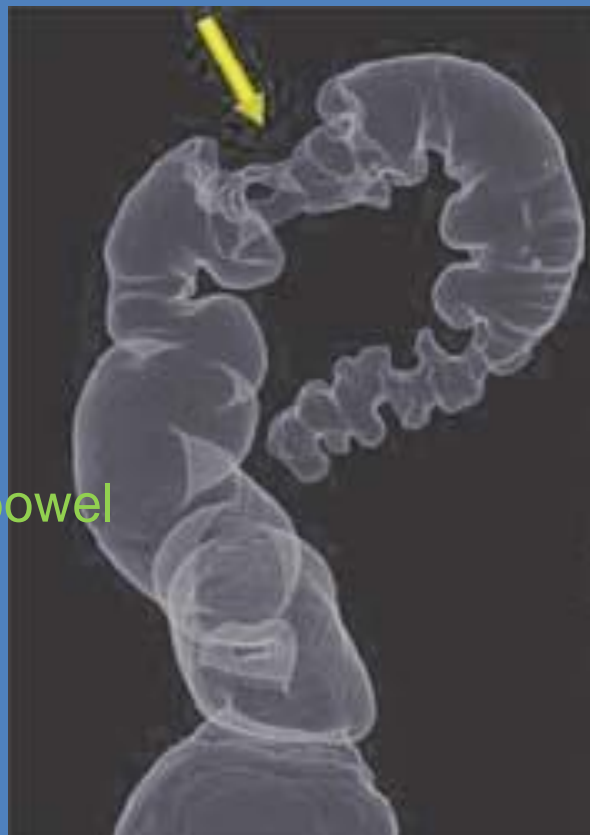
## Limitations-

- Efficacy of fluid tagging is less.
- Less than 5 mm / flat adenoma- false -ve – 66%.
- Hypersensitivity.



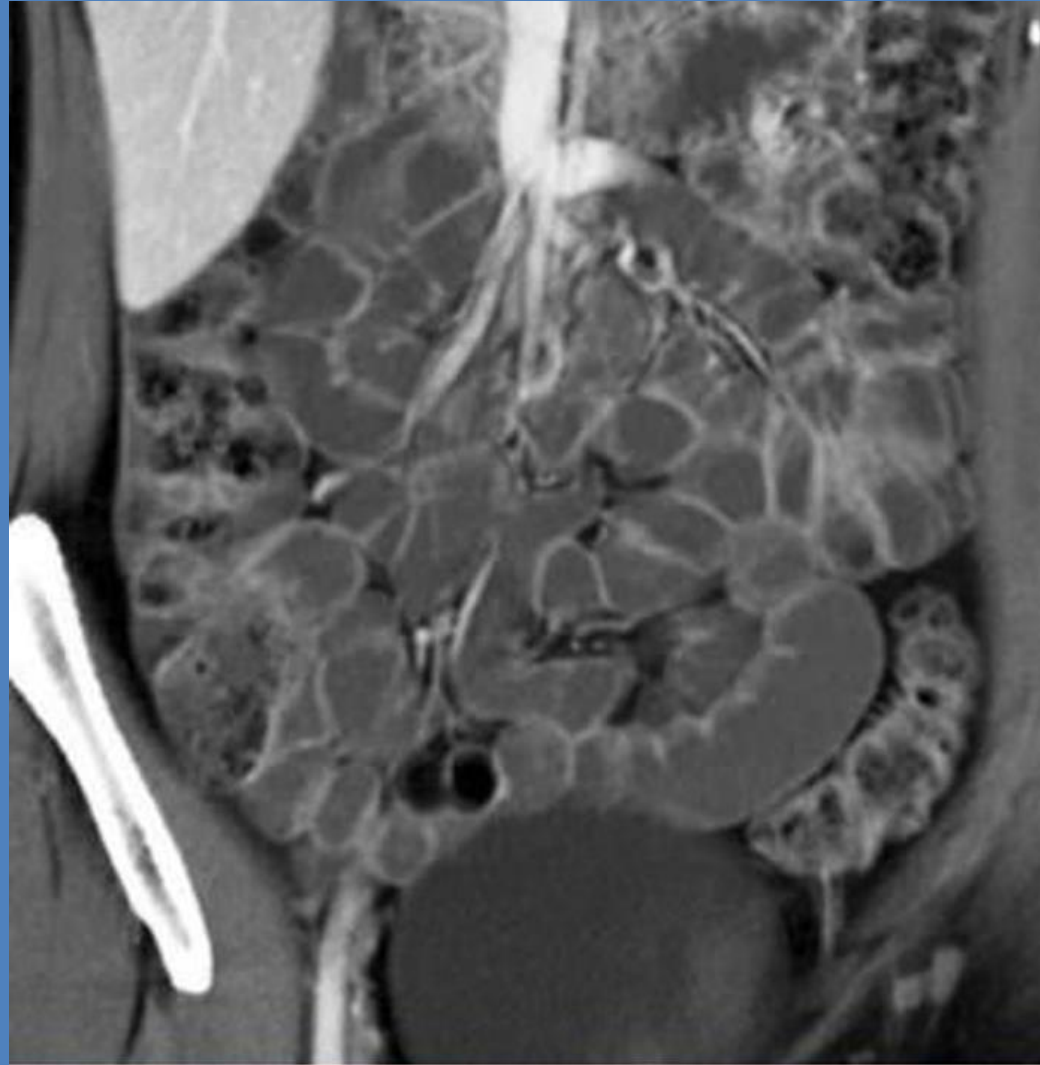


- Irregular circumferential bowel wall narrowing.
- Apple core appearance.
- Shouldering effect.



# CT Enterography

- MD- CT.
- >1L oral contrast <1 HR & IV contrast.
- 10- 15 min.
- Less radiation.
- Stricture, fistula, abscess.

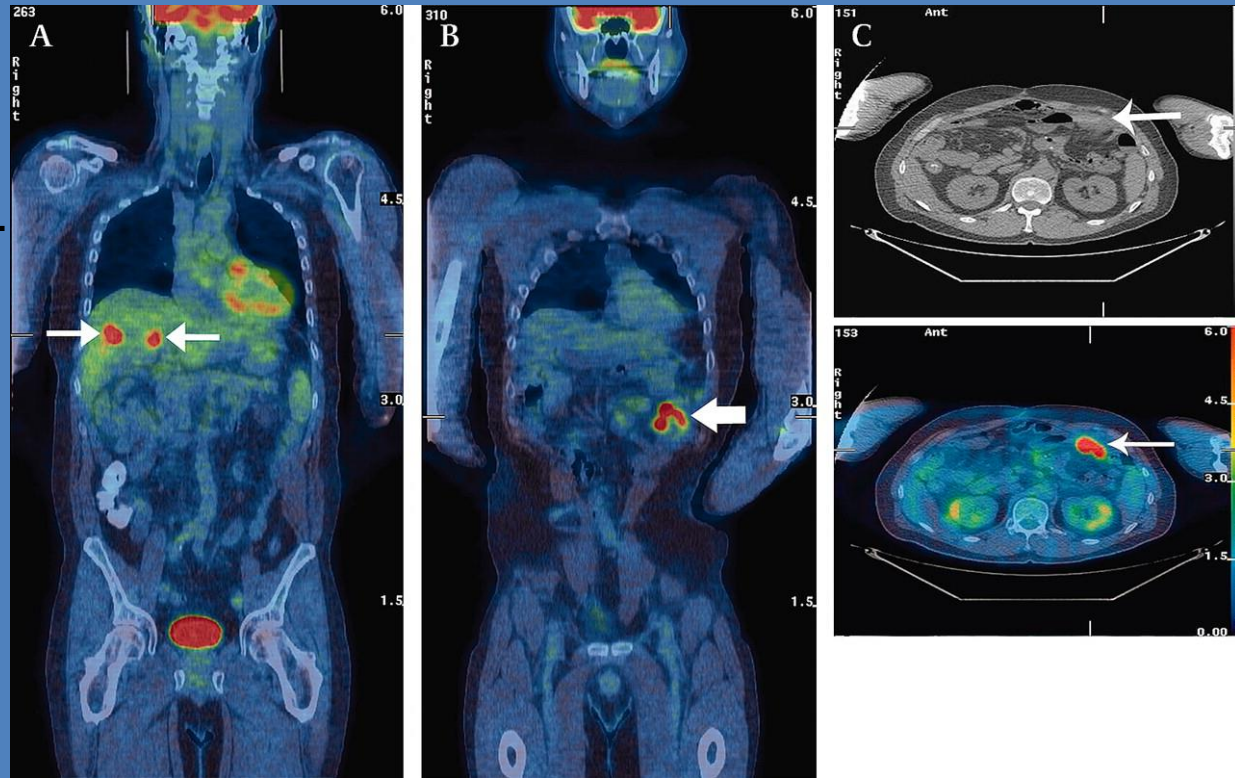


CT Enterography (CTE)

# FDG-PET

## Indications-

- Initial diagnosis.
- Detection of recurrence.
- Staging & restaging.
- Response to therapy.



## Principle-

**P**hysiologic differences in glucose metabolism by different tissue types.



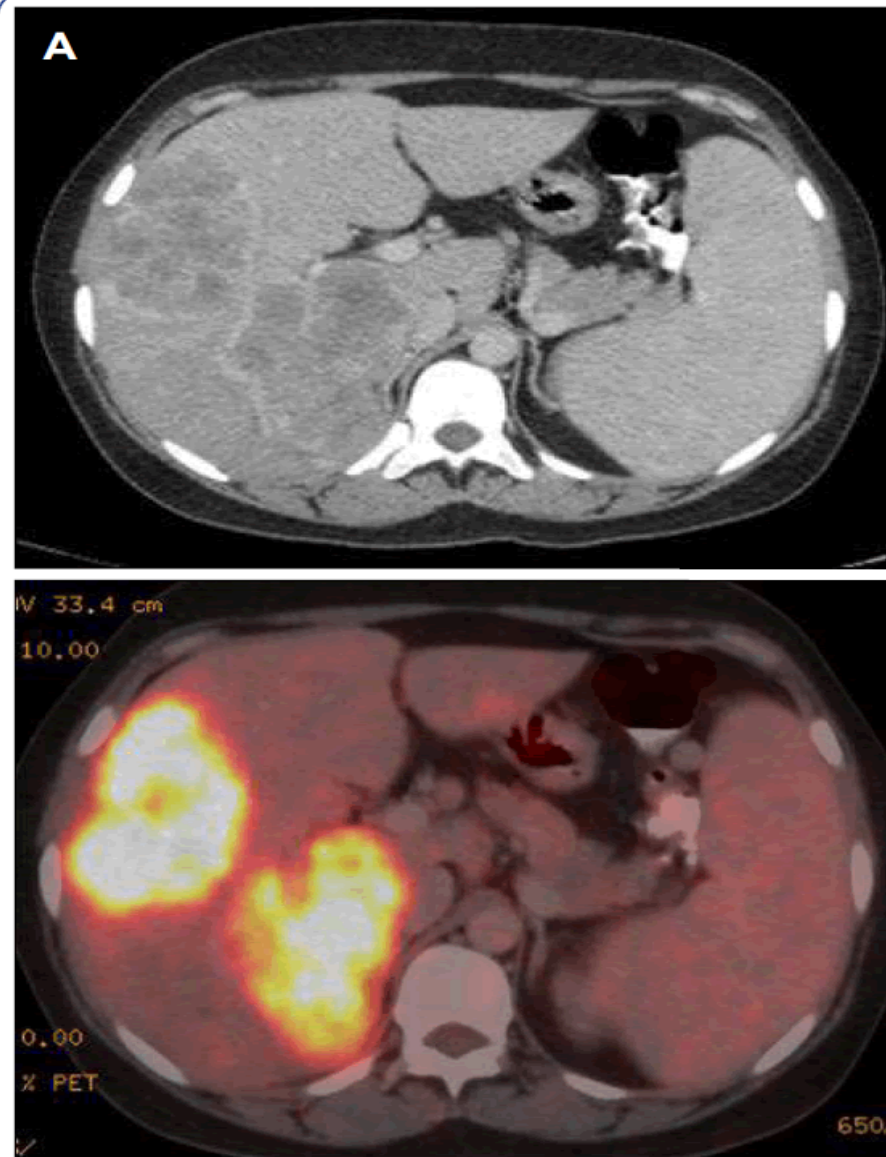
## Disadvantages-

False –ve in cancer with low cellular / metabolic density-

- Mucinous adenocarcinoma.
- Carcinoid tumor.

False +ve –

- Inflammation.



**Figure 5** 36-year-old female with rectal malignancy. Axial CT (A) shows multiple heterogeneous hypodense lesions in right lobe of liver suggestive of metastasis: M1 stage. Intense FDG uptake (SUV max: 21.5) is seen in axial fused PET/CT image in the liver lesions suggestive of metastasis: M1 stage. These findings were confirmed on surgery and histopathology.

A red pushpin is pinned to the top center of the yellow sticky note.

THANK  
You! 😊