

# Role of radiology in colo-rectal bleedings

Alban DENYS MD FCIRSE EBIR  
CHUV LAUSANNE

# Epidemiology

- Lower GI bleeding accounts for 20-25% of all GI bleeding
  - Annual incidence in USA :21-27/100000
    - Longstreth GF Am J gastroenterol 2005 21 (11): 1281-1298
  - Risk factors
    - Bour B endoscopy 2008
    - 1333pts
      - Mean age of 72+/-16
      - ASA score 2.5+/-0.9
      - Predisposing factors medications in 75% of pats

# Lower GI bleeding: Etiology

- Small bowel (2-9% of lower GI bleeding):
  - Arteriovenous Malformations
  - Small Bowel Neoplasms
  - Duodenal, jejunal diverticula, Meckel 's diverticulum
  - Crohn 's disease, radiation enteritis
  - Venous bowel infarction, segmental ischemia
  - Amyloidosis, celiac disease
  - Secondary aortoenteric fistula (SAEF)

Antes, Eur Radiol 1996

Gourtsoyiannis, Eur Radiol 1997

Lewis, Gastroenterology, 1988

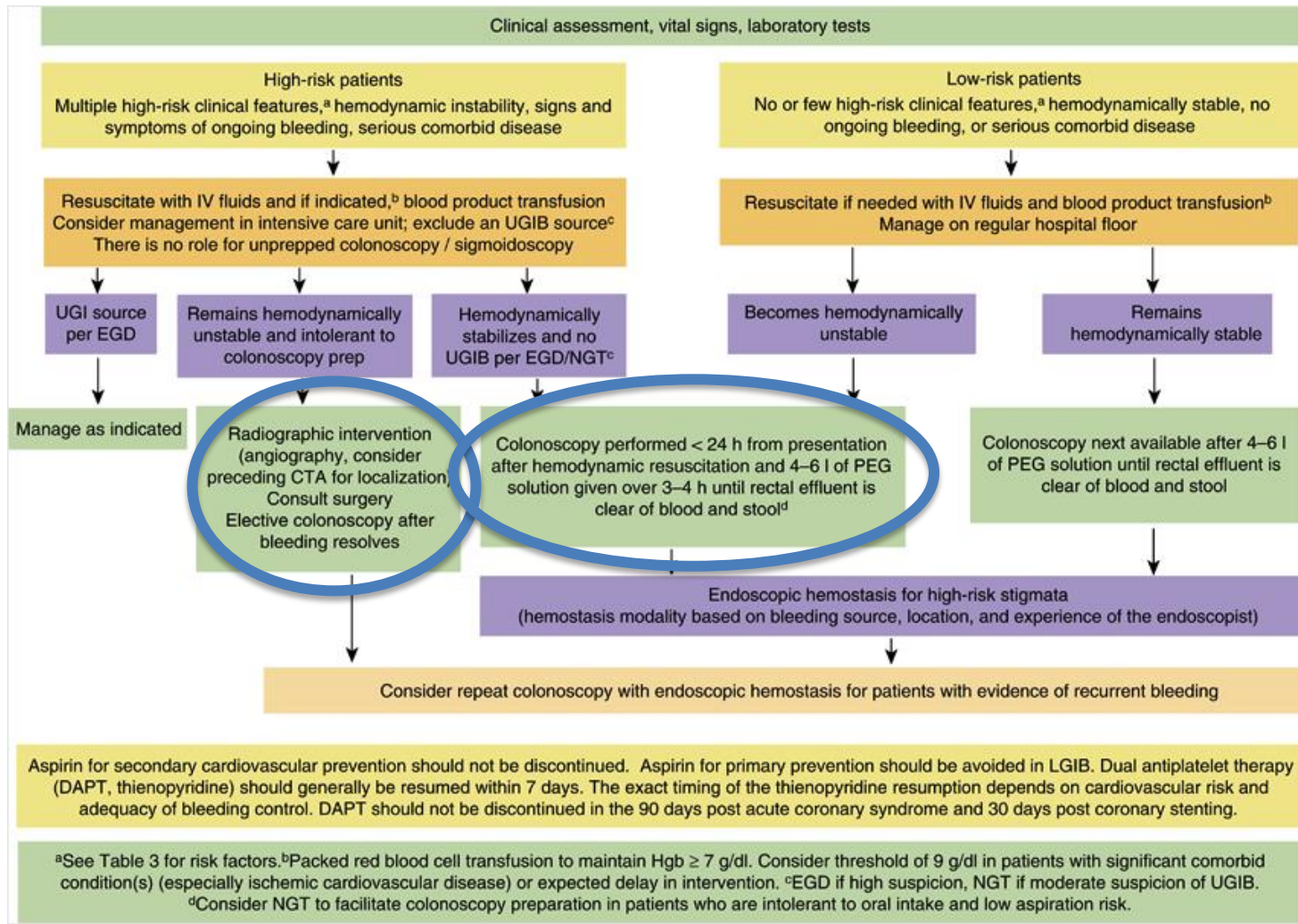
# Lower GI bleeding: Etiology

- Large bowel (81-98% of lower GI bleeding):
  - Diverticular bleeding (17-40%)
  - Angiodysplasia (2-30%)
  - Colitis (infectious, inflammatory, radiation) (9-21%)
  - Colorectal neoplasms (4-10%)
  - Other (anorectal lesions, hemorrhoids) (4-10%)

Vernava AM, Moore BA, Longo WE, et al. Lower gastrointestinal bleeding. *Dis Colon Rectum* 1997;40:846–58.

Jensen DM, Machicado GA. Colonoscopy for diagnosis and treatment of severe lower gastrointestinal bleeding. *Gastrointest Endosc Clin North Am* 1997;7:477–98.

# What are the official recommendations?



## Practice Guidelines

CME  
Am J Gastroenterol 2016; 111:459–474; doi:10.1038/ajg.2016.41; published online 1 March 2016

There is an [Erratum \(6 May 2016\)](#) associated with this article.

ACG Clinical Guideline: Management of Patients With Acute Lower Gastrointestinal Bleeding

Lisa L. Strate MD, MPH, FACG<sup>1</sup> and Ian M. Gralnek MD, MSHS<sup>2</sup>

# What is the level of evidence behind urgent colonoscopy

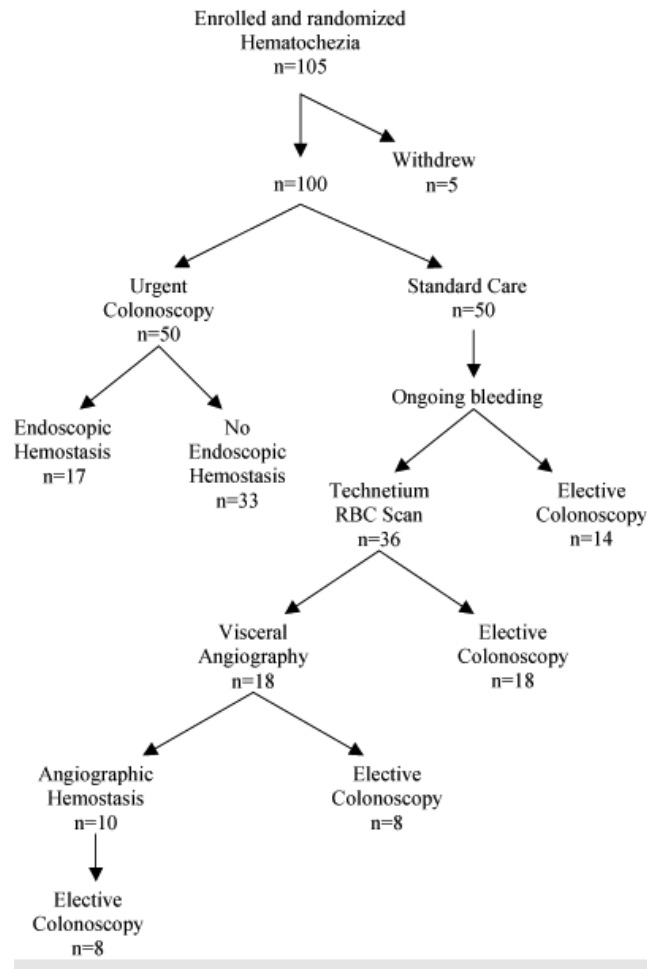
**Table 4. Prospective studies of urgent colonoscopy for acute LGIB**

Study	Study design	No. of patients	Intervention	Control	Study conclusion
Jensen <i>et al.</i> (22)	Case-control, diverticular bleeding only	121	Colonoscopy <12h after rapid PEG preparation; endoscopic hemostasis for stigmata of hemorrhage	Colonoscopy <12h after rapid PEG preparation; no endoscopic hemostasis for stigmata of hemorrhage	Urgent colonoscopy with endoscopic therapy reduced rebleeding and need for surgery
Green <i>et al.</i> (11)	RCT	100	Colonoscopy <8h after rapid PEG preparation	Elective colonoscopy within 96h; if ongoing bleeding technetium scan followed by angiography, if positive	More definite diagnoses in urgent colonoscopy arm; no difference in other outcomes
Laine <i>et al.</i> (6)	RCT	72	Colonoscopy <12h after rapid PEG preparation	Elective colonoscopy 36–60h after admission	No difference in clinical outcomes or costs

LGIB, lower gastrointestinal bleeding; PEG, polyethylene glycol; RCT, randomized controlled trial.

Evidence was considered as very low from the ASG expert group  
There is room for discussion and reflexion

# Urgent colonoscopy or RBCS+ Angio?



	Urgent Colonoscopy (n = 50)	Standard Care (n = 50)
Early rebleed	11 (22%)	15 (30%)
Late rebleed	8 (16%)	7 (14%)
Mortality		
LGIB	1 (2%)	2 (4%)
Other	0	2
Hospital stay (days)		
Total	5.8	6.6
ICU	1.8	2.4
Total PRBC (u)	4.2 + 0.4	5.0 + 0.5
Surgery	7 (14%)	6 (12%)
Subtotal colectomy	0	3
Hemicolectomy	5	2
Segmental	2	1
Complications	1	0

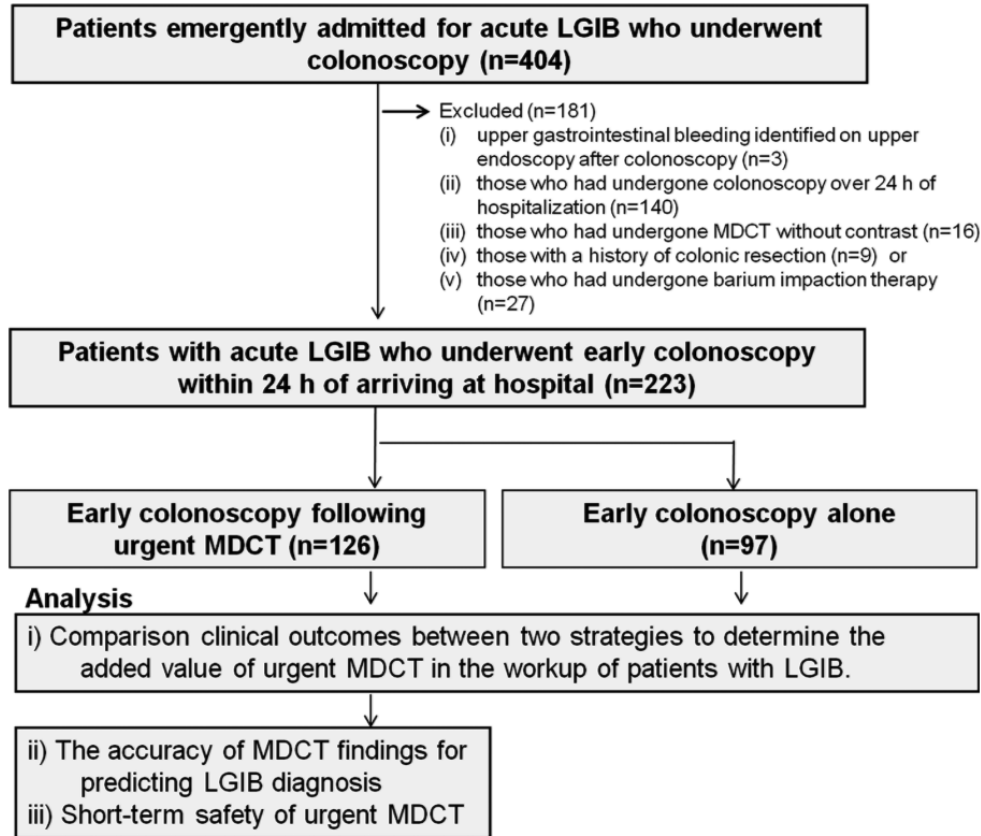
Only one randomized study in 2005 compared urgent colonoscopy vs standard treatment including RBC scintigraphy and angiography if needed: No difference of outcome

Am J Gastroenterol. 2005 Nov;100(11):2395-402.

## Urgent colonoscopy for evaluation and management of acute lower gastrointestinal hemorrhage: a randomized controlled trial.

Green BT<sup>1</sup>, Rockey DC, Portwood G, Tarnasky PR, Guarisco S, Branch MS, Leung J, Jowell P.

# Should we incorporate CT earlier in the patient management?



J Gastroenterol  
DOI 10.1007/s00535-015-1069-9



ORIGINAL ARTICLE—ALIMENTARY TRACT

## Role of urgent contrast-enhanced multidetector computed tomography for acute lower gastrointestinal bleeding in patients undergoing early colonoscopy

Naoyoshi Nagata<sup>1</sup> · Ryota Niikura<sup>1</sup> · Tomonori Aoki<sup>1</sup> · Shiori Moriyasu<sup>1</sup> · Toshiyuki Sakurai<sup>1</sup> · Takuro Shimbo<sup>2</sup> · Masafumi Shinozaki<sup>3</sup> · Katsunori Sekine<sup>1</sup> · Hidetaka Okubo<sup>1</sup> · Kazuhiro Watanabe<sup>1</sup> · Chizu Yokoi<sup>1</sup> · Mikio Yanase<sup>1</sup> · Junichi Akiyama<sup>1</sup> · Naomi Uemura<sup>4</sup>



# Acute Lower GI-bleeding: Diagnostic

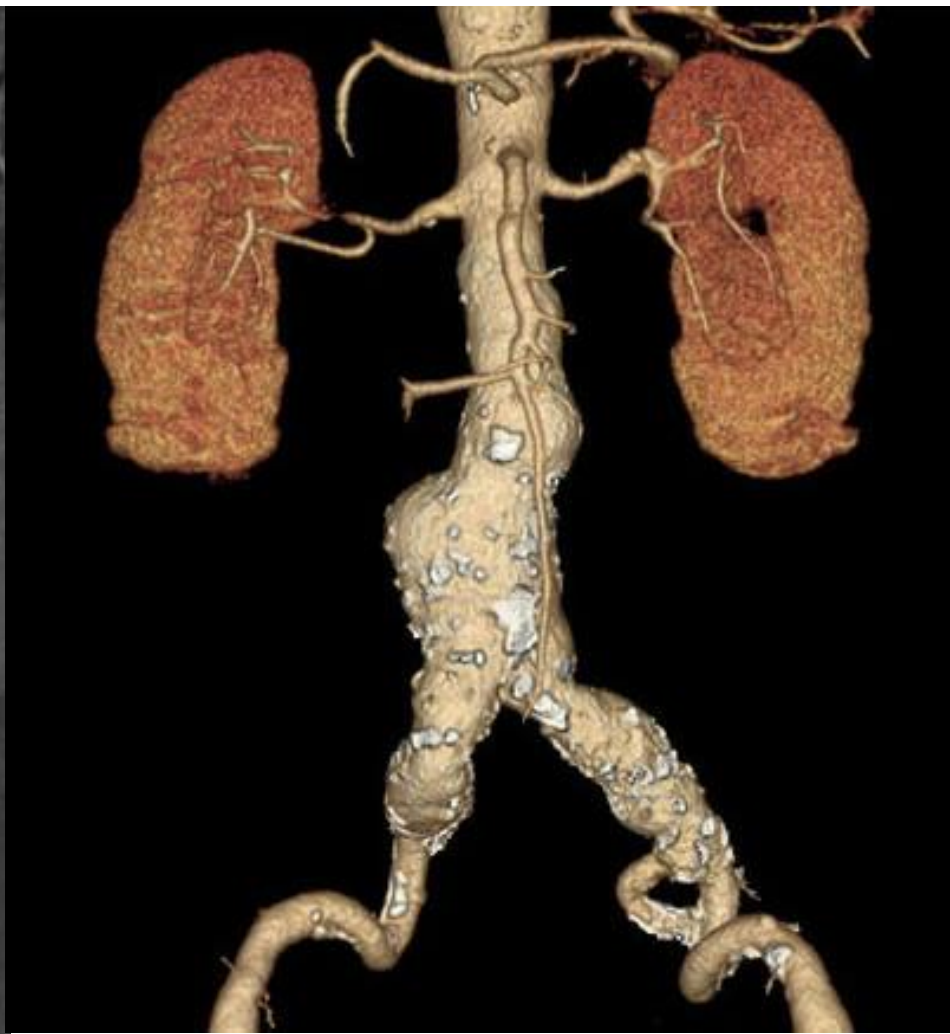
## 2) Angio-CT

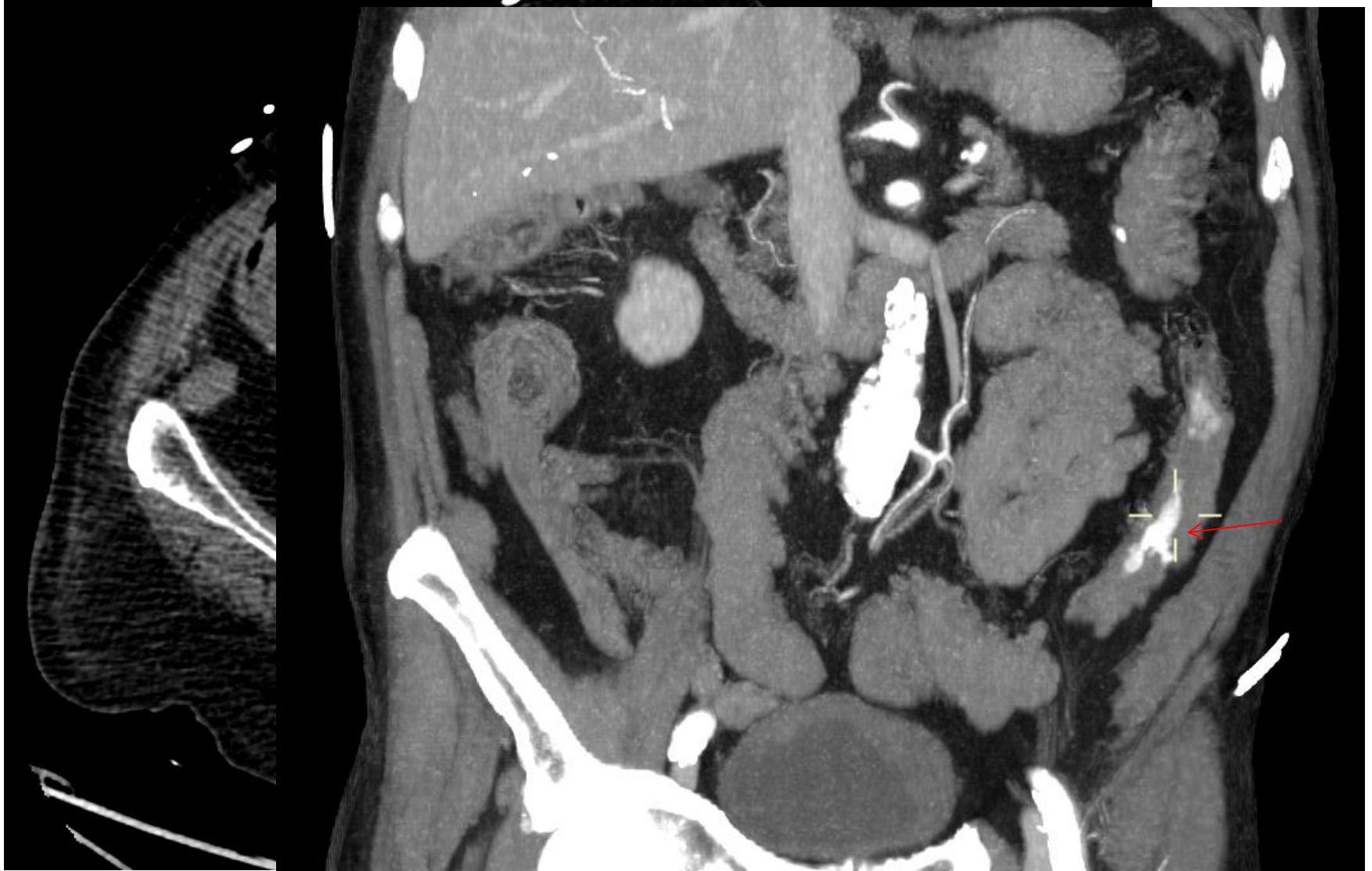
- Sensitivity 0.3-1 ml/min
- Oral positive contrast FORBIDDEN !!!
- Late acquisition may show blood pooling
- Angio CT images serve as a road map for embolization



Angio CT should be performed while patient is bleeding!!!

**If Angio CT is negative in a bleeding patient: Do it once again!**





Diverticular hemorrhage



Duodenal varices in portal vein hypertension

**Table 3** Clinical outcomes between the two strategies (*n* = 223)

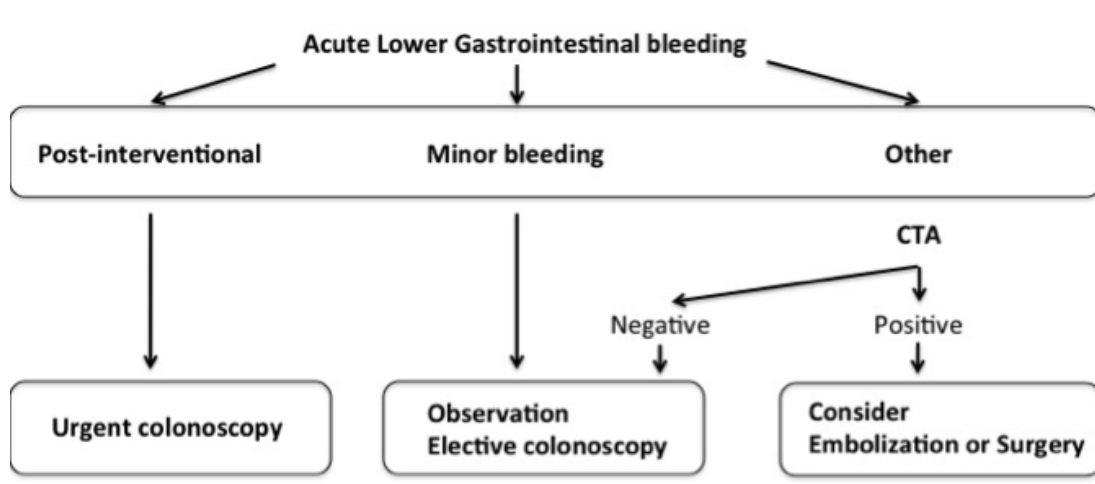
	Early colonoscopy following urgent MDCT ( <i>n</i> = 126)	Early colonoscopy alone ( <i>n</i> = 97)	<i>p</i>
Detection rate of bleeding source			
CT findings			
Extravasation (vascular findings)	26 (20.6)		
Location (C/A/T/D/S/R)	1/13/3/3/5/1		
Nonvascular findings	34 (27.0)		
Colonoscopy findings			
Vascular lesion	45 (35.7)	20 (20.6)	<b>0.01</b>
Location (I/C/A*/T/D/S/R)	1/2/21*/4/4/10/3	0/1/7*/2/1/3/6	0.09
Nonvascular lesion (inflammation or tumor)	16 (12.7)	11 (11.3)	0.76
Other outcomes			
Need for endoscopic therapies	44 (34.9)	13 (13.4)	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
Need for angiographic procedures	0	0	NA
Need for surgery	0	2 (2.0)	0.47
Rebleeding after colonoscopy	16 (12.7)	15 (15.5)	0.554
Need for endoscopic therapies for rebleeding	3 (20.0)**	2 (14.3)**	1.00
Need for angiographic procedures for rebleeding	0	0	NA
Need for surgery for rebleeding	0	0	NA
Transfusion after colonoscopy	30 (23.8)	15 (15.5)	0.124
Units of transfused blood per patient after colonoscopy	1.5 ± 3.3	0.7 ± 1.9	0.102

\*11 patients had a second colonoscopy. \*\*10 patients had a second colonoscopy. NA, Not applicable.

# CT is more widely available than colonoscopy in emergency setting

Exam findings	CTA (n=32)	LE (n=122)	P-value
Active bleeding	10 (31.3)	18 (14.8)	0.031
Non-active bleeding source	7 (21.9)	38 (31.1)	0.305
Inconclusive	15 (46.9)	66 (54.1)	0.396

Delay between emergency admission and colonoscopy (22hours) or CTA (3hours)  $p < 0.001$



# Delay between CT and angiography

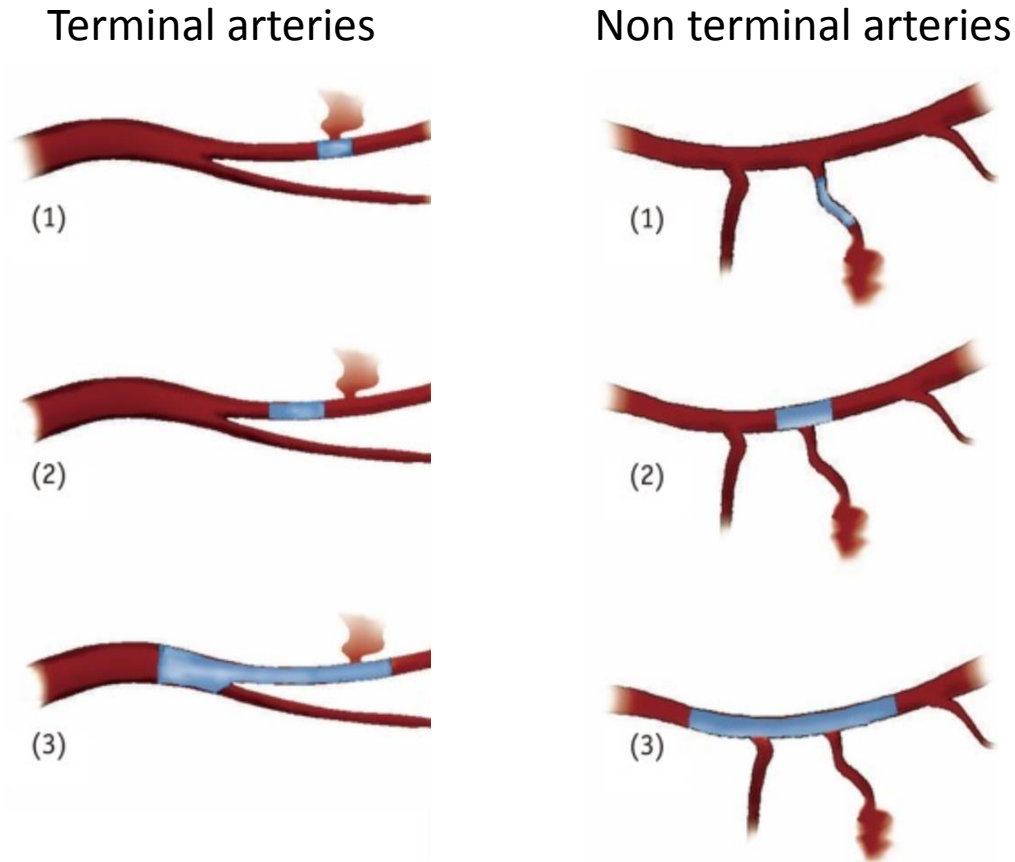
**Table 1** Patient demographics and characteristics

	Positive MA (%)	Negative MA (%)	<i>p</i> value	OR (95 % CI)
<i>n</i>	25	23	–	–
Median age (range)	65 (18–88)	73 (26–86)	0.51	–
Male	16 (64)	10 (43)	0.25	–
Median Charlson's comorbidity index score (range)	3 (0–15)	2 (0–8)	0.77	–
Use of anti-platelets/anti-coagulants	10 (40)	10 (43.5)	1.00	0.87 (0.28–2.73)
Blood investigation prior to invasive MA (range)				–
Haemoglobin (g/dl)	8.2 (4.9–16.9)	8.7 (6.8–10.9)	0.22	
Platelet ( $\times 10^9/l$ )	154 (49–344)	151 (61–932)	0.67	
International normalized ratio (INR)	1.27 (0.96–1.9)	1.16 (0.95–3.22)	0.33	
Transfused blood products 24 h preceding invasive MA				–
Packed cell transfusion (units)	3 (0–16)	2.5 (0–5)	0.36	
Platelets (units)	0 (0–16)	0 (0–10)	0.38	
Fresh frozen plasma (ml)	0 (0–4500)	0 (0–1000)	0.16	

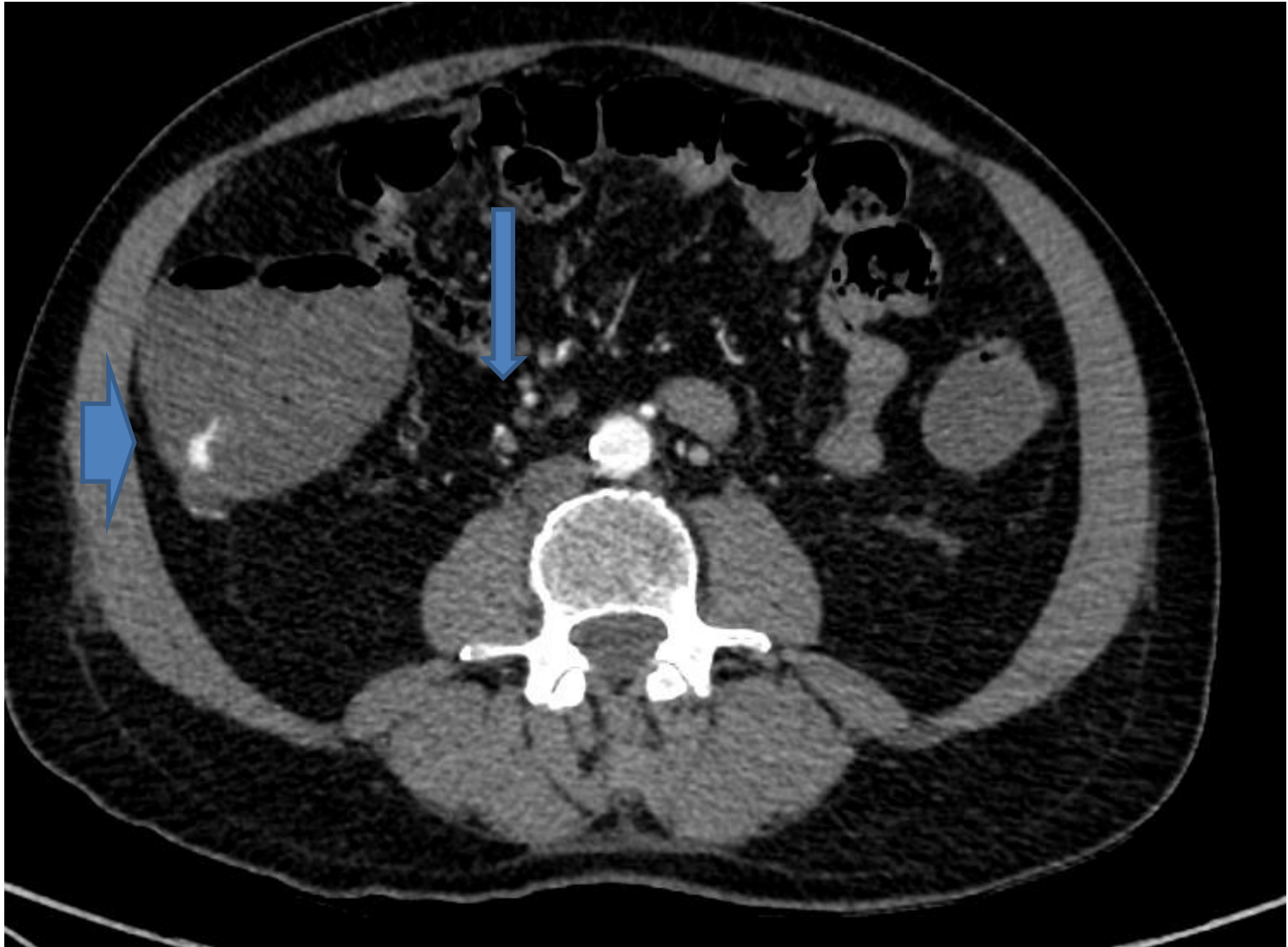
	Positive MA (%)	Negative MA (%)	<i>p</i> value	OR (95 % CI)
<i>n</i>	25	23	–	–
Etiology				
Non-diverticular	12 (48)	13 (56.5)	0.58	0.71 (0.23–2.22)
Diverticular	13 (52)	10 (43.5)		
Site of LGIB				
Small bowel	10 (40)	10 (43.5)	1.00	0.87 (0.28–2.73)
Large bowel	15 (60)	13 (56.5)		
Median time lapsed between CTMA and invasive MA (range)	131 (48–214)	156 (32–587)	0.06	–
Time lapsed between CTMA and invasive MA				
$\leq 90$ min	7 (28)	1 (4.3)	0.05	8.56 (0.96–76.1)
$> 90$ min	18 (72)	22 (95.7)		

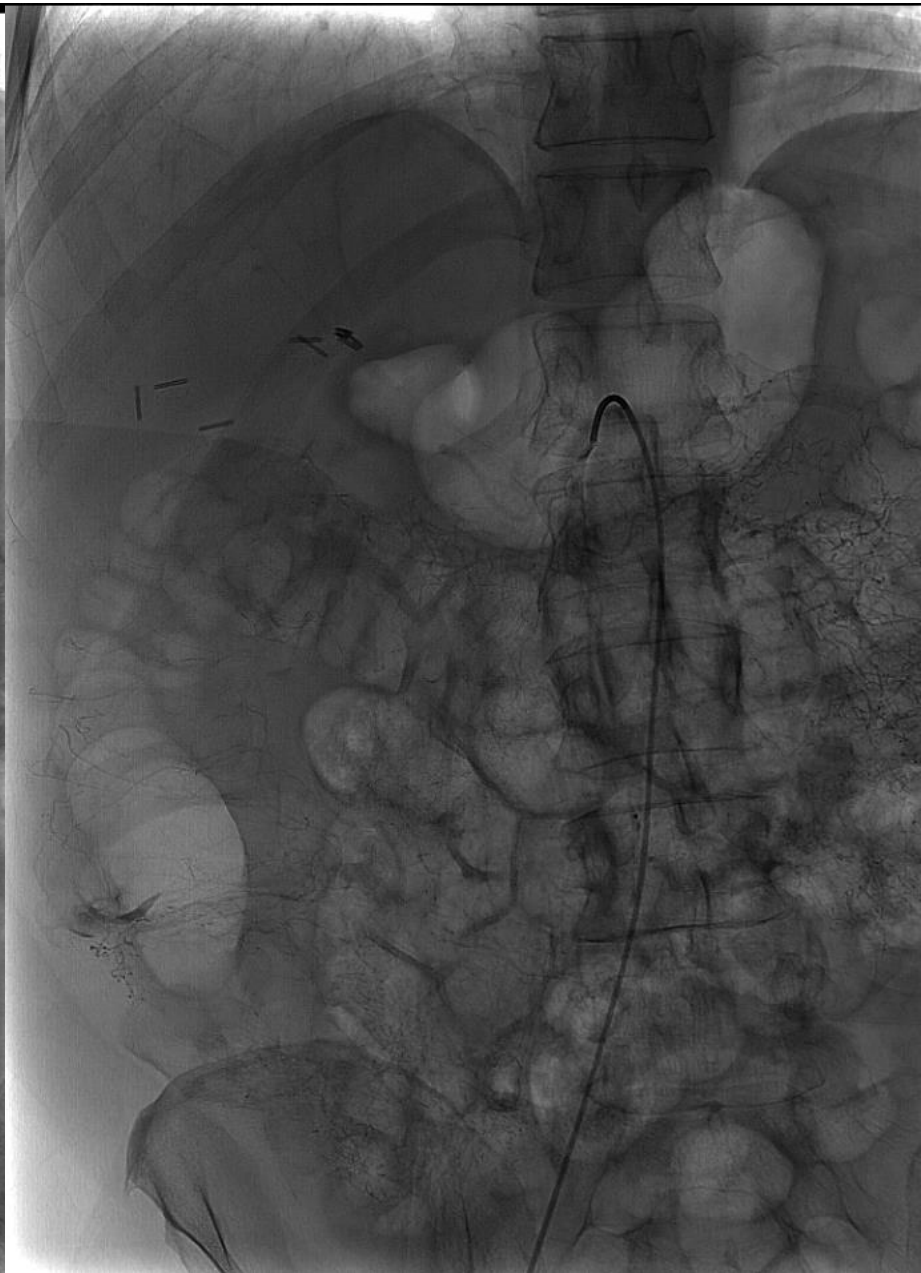
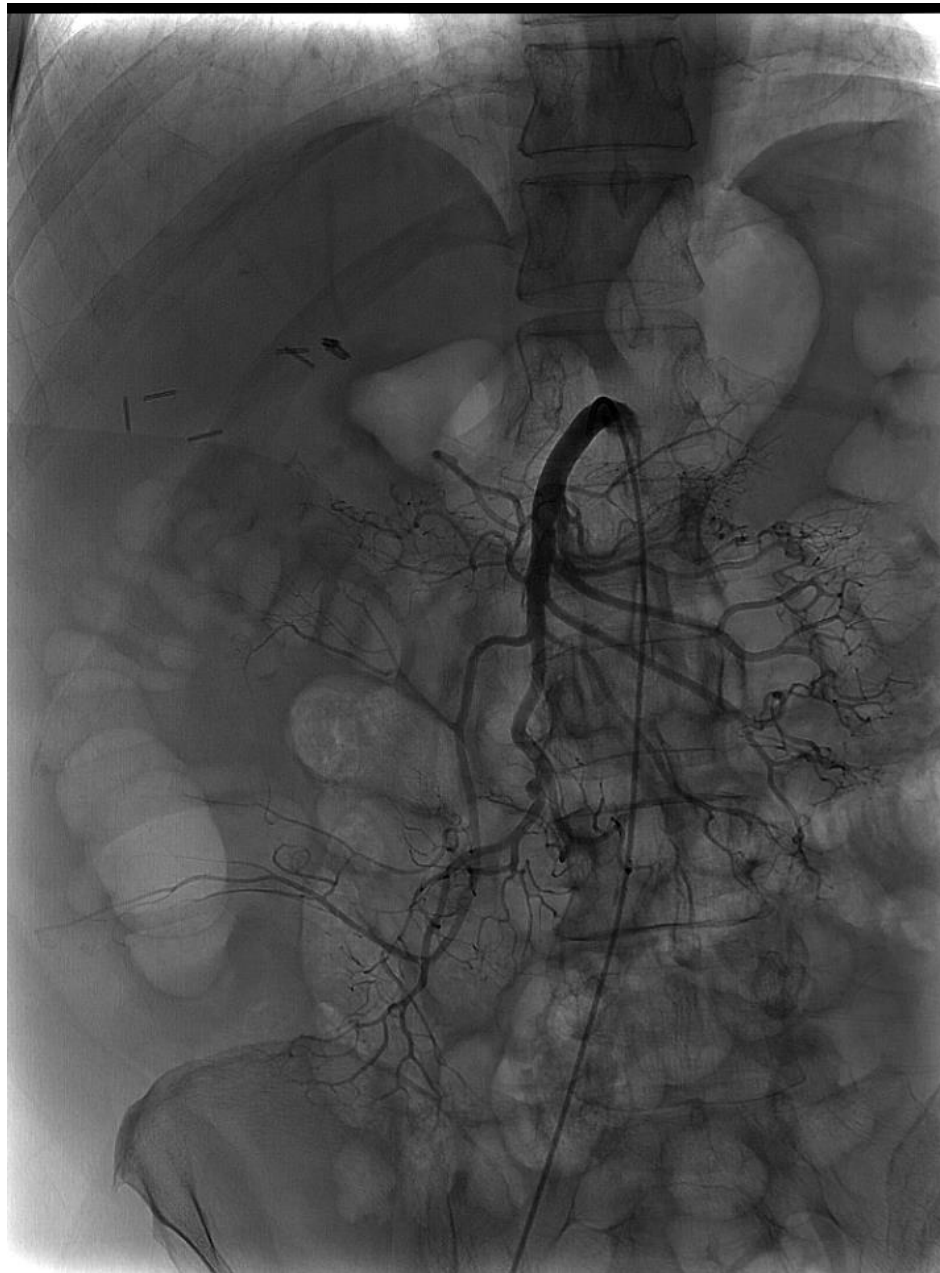
# Trans arterial embolization

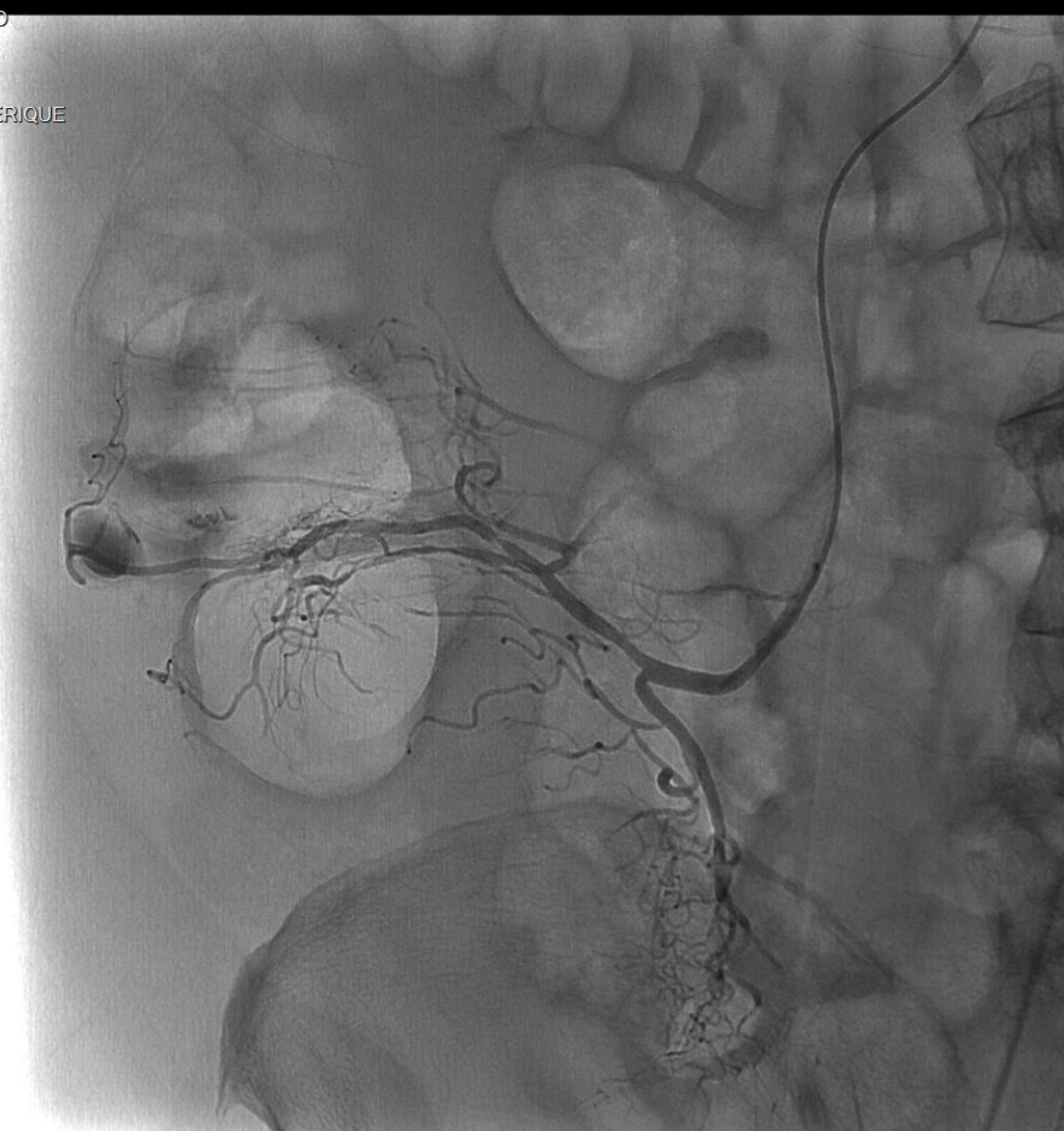
Technique of embolization:











# Embolization results

- Sensitivity is increased when
  - Acute bleeding with >5BU, 50% drop in Hb, hemodynamic instability
  - Sensitivity varies from 40-86%
  - Treatment / embolization
    - Should be done in arcuate arcades or at the bleeding site
    - Avoid particles, coils and/or glue are recommended
    - 14% rebleeding
    - 9% ischemia most of them asymptomatic

# Embolization results

- Sensitivity is increased when
  - Acute bleeding with >5BU, 50% drop in Hb, hemodynamic instability
  - Sensitivity varies from 40-86%
  - Treatment / embolization
    - Should be done in arcuate arcades or at the bleeding site
    - Avoid particles, coils and/or glue are recommended
    - 14% rebleeding
    - 9% ischemia most of them asymptomatic

# Selected results from the literature

## Selected series of transcatheter embolotherapy for lower GI bleeding

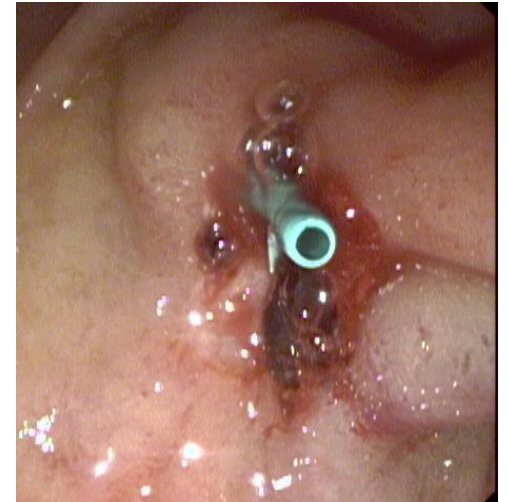
Author	Year	No. of patients	No. successfully embolized (n/%)	Ischemic complications (n/%)	Rehemorrhage (n/%)
Peck [37]	1998	21	17 (81)	0 (0)	11 (52)
Evangelista [38]	2000	17	17 (100)	2 (12)	2 (13)
Luchtefeld [44]	2000	17	17 (100)	4 (24)	3 (18)
Bandi [40]	2001	48	35 (73)	6 (13)	14 (40)
Krämer [45]	2000	19	18 (95)	4 (11)	5 (22)
Funaki [39]	2001	27	25 (93)	4 (15)	5 (20)
DeBarros [46]	2002	27	23 (100)	2 (7)	5 (22)
Kuo [43]	2003	22	22 (100)	1 (7)	3 (14)
Burgess [47]	2004	15	14 (93)	6 (43)	8 (53)
Silver [48]	2005	11	10 (91)	7 (70)	1 (10)
Nicholson [49]	2005	14	14 (100)	3 (21)	2 (14)

# Trans arterial embolization

## *Special cases*

### Hemobilia

- Always iatrogenic or traumatic
  - Embolization is the best treatment since it spares normal parenchyma
  - Attention when bile ducts are dilated or when bilioenteric anastomosis



5-34 >



SC :500.00

155%

DFOV 36.3 x 34

SW 3.00

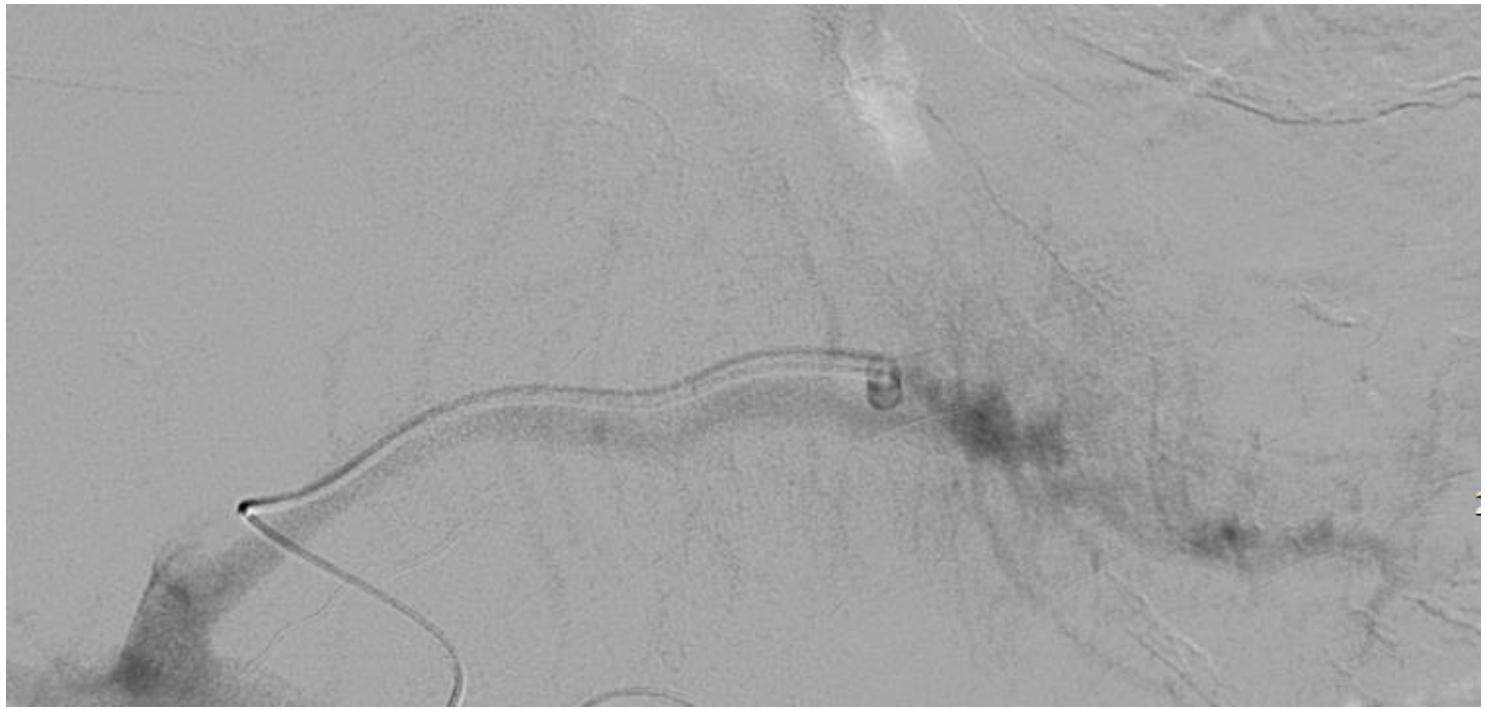
Vision

1

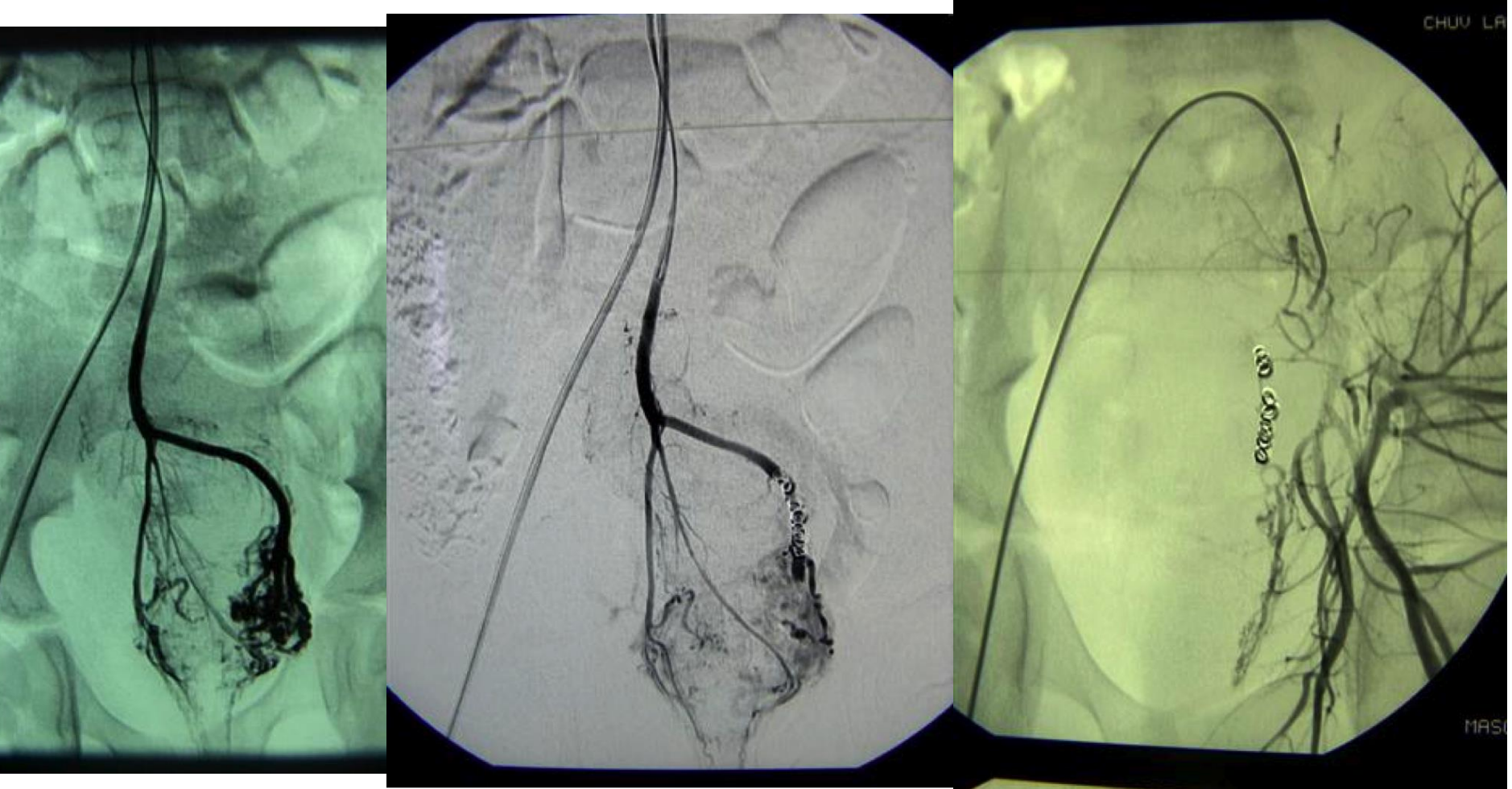




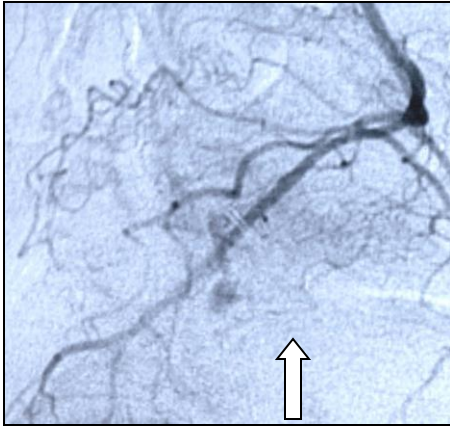
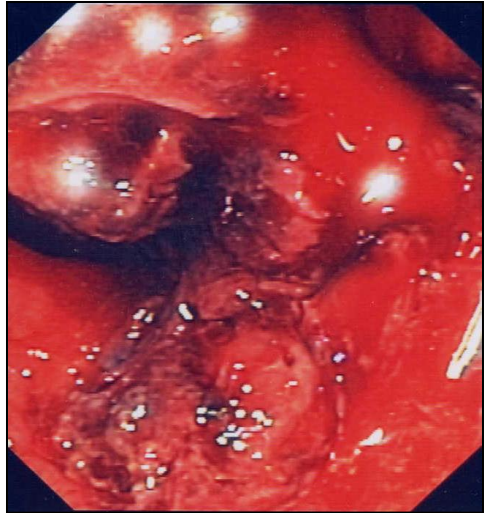
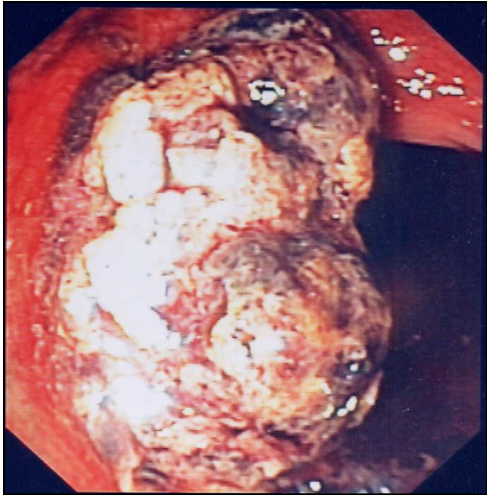
0:00  
4:00  
10:31:06



8yo reccurent rectal bleeding in Kippel Trellaunay syndrome uncontrolled by endoscopy



Recurrent bleeding after endoscopic mucosectomy



# Conclusion

- Embolization is recommended in 2 situations
  - In active severe bleeding
    - After CTA
    - Pending short delays between CTA and MA
  - After a positive CTA in a stabilized patient
    - Rate of success is similar to endoscopy
    - Wait and see strategy
  - In the post-operative setting



Thanks to GE and surgeons to be galant wit with IR



We will help you next time.....