

## McKittrick-Wheelock Syndrome (Electrolyte Depletion Syndrome)

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**Key words:** McKittrick-Wheelock syndrome, electrolyte depletion syndrome, villous adenoma

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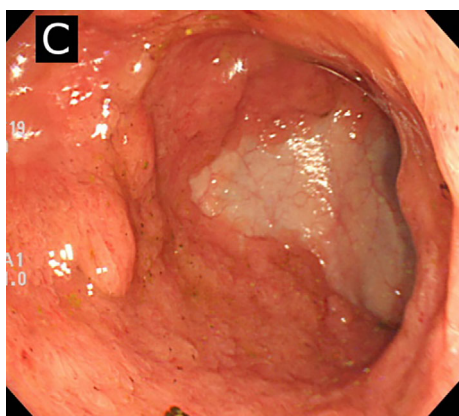
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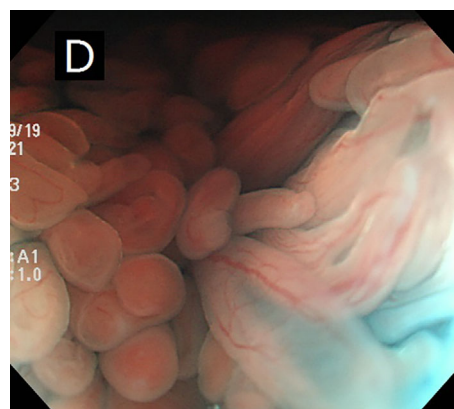
**Picture A.**



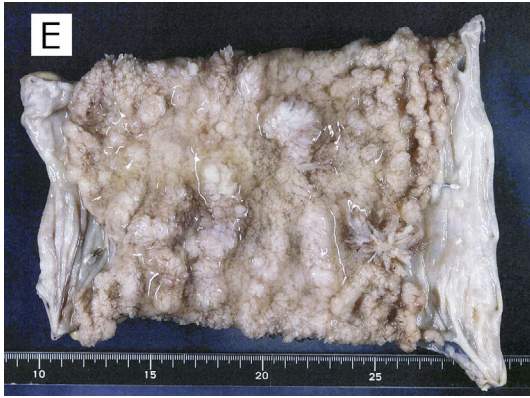
**Picture B.**



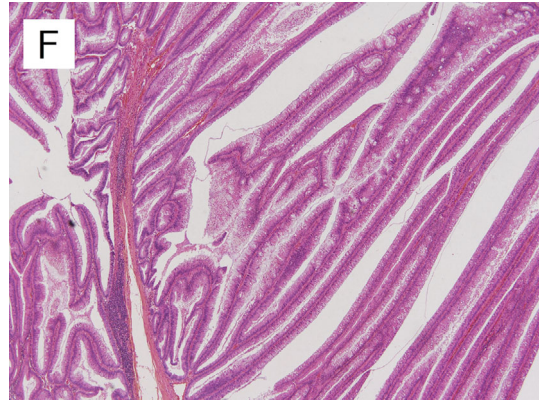
**Picture C.**



**Picture D.**



**Picture E.**



**Picture F.**

A 67-year-old woman presented to the hospital with a 2-month history of malaise and an episode of syncope the previous day. The initial workup revealed leukocytosis, renal dysfunction, and significantly decreased serum electrolyte levels, with sodium 106 mmol/L, potassium 1.5 mmol/L, and chloride 61 mmol/L. She reported chronic diarrhea persisting for six years, and her stool was watery and slightly mucous (Picture A). Computed tomography of the abdomen showed a long segment of circumferential recto-sigmoid wall thickening (Picture B, arrows), and colonoscopy revealed a large recto-sigmoid villous tumor (Picture C and D). After intensive therapy of fluids and electrolyte replacement, low anterior resection of the recto-sigmoid colon was performed. A histopathological examination of the specimen revealed a 20-cm high- to low-grade tubulovillous adenoma (Picture E and F), with no signs of malignancy. She showed clinical improvement and was discharged 12 days after the surgery. She was asymptomatic and doing well at the three-month follow-up visit. McKittrick-

Wheelock syndrome is a rare cause of severe fluid and electrolyte hypersecretion mainly associated with rectal villous adenoma (1, 2).

**The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).**

#### References

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