

## Severe pneumatosis intestinalis with portal venous gas

Sir,

An 81-year-old man who had habitual constipation visited our hospital complaining of vomiting. His abdomen showed distension without tenderness. Abdominal X-ray showed dilatation of stomach, with gas in the small and large intestines [Figure 1]. Computed tomography revealed numerous gas cysts in the wall of stomach, small and large intestines [Figure 2, arrows], and portal venous system [Figure 2]. He was diagnosed with severe pneumatosis intestinalis with portal venous gas. Despite intensive care including antibiotic agents and infusions, he died several hours after visiting the hospital. This is a rare case of pneumatosis intestinalis because not only part of the intestine was involved, as previously reported,<sup>[1]</sup> but also the whole intestine and the stomach. The pathogenesis of pneumatosis intestinalis is considered to be complex and multifactorial.<sup>[2]</sup> In this case, increased pressure on

the intestinal lumen by habitual constipation may have contributed to the development of pneumatosis intestinalis.

### Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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Nil.

### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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Figure 1: Abdominal X-ray

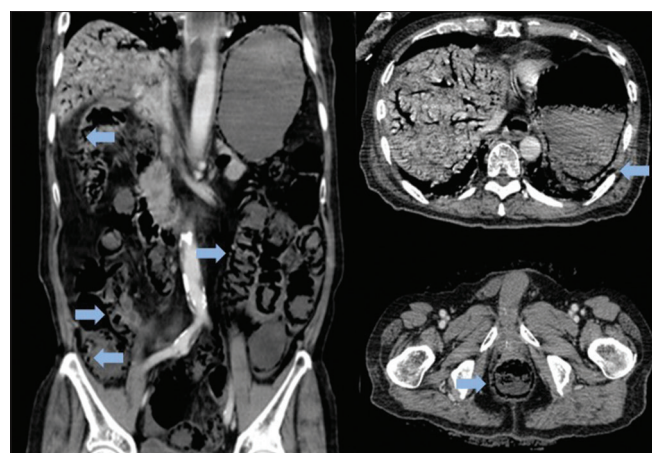


Figure 2: Abdominal computed tomography

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