

# Vascular diseases

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*capitulum, memorabile, grande theatrum, exstructum Sacra Verona tuum.*

*Verona vale, valeas per secula semper, Et celebrent gentes nomen in orbe tuum*



- No financial disclosures

# Topics

- 1) Pre-sinusoidal disorders (portal vein thrombosis, congenital intrahepatic portosystemic shunts, hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, etc.)
- 2) Post-sinusoidal disorders (Budd-Chiari syndrome, sinusoidal obstruction syndrome, effect of congestive heart failure on the liver, etc.)
- 3) Vascular lesions seen in the context of vascular diseases of the liver, including large regenerative nodules

# Liver vascular diseases

- Vascular diseases are common
- From asymptomatic to life-threatening
- Classification:
  - Diseases of outflow / inflow / sinusoids

# Hepatic Blood Supply

The liver has a dual blood supply

Hepatic artery:

25% of hepatic inflow

$\pm 10\text{cc}/100\text{g}/\text{min}$

120/70 mm Hg

55% Type I anatomy

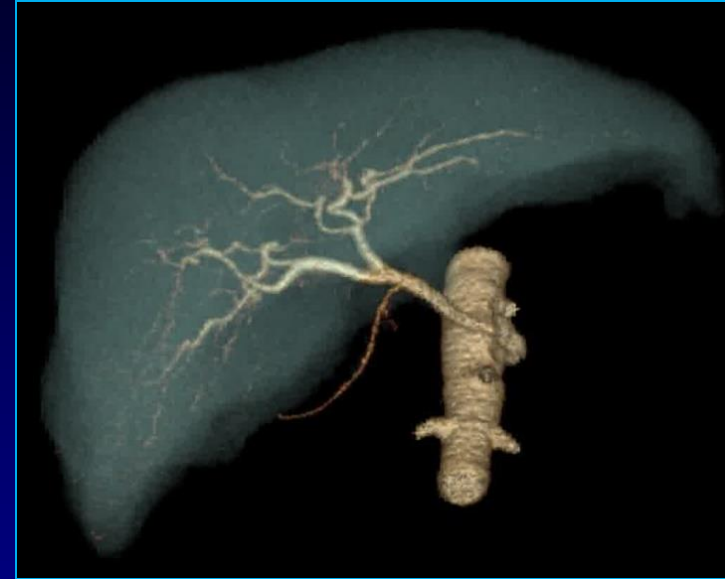
Portal vein:

75% of hepatic inflow

$\pm 60\text{cc}/100\text{g}/\text{min}$

10 mm Hg

80-94% Type I anatomy



# Hepatic venous drainage

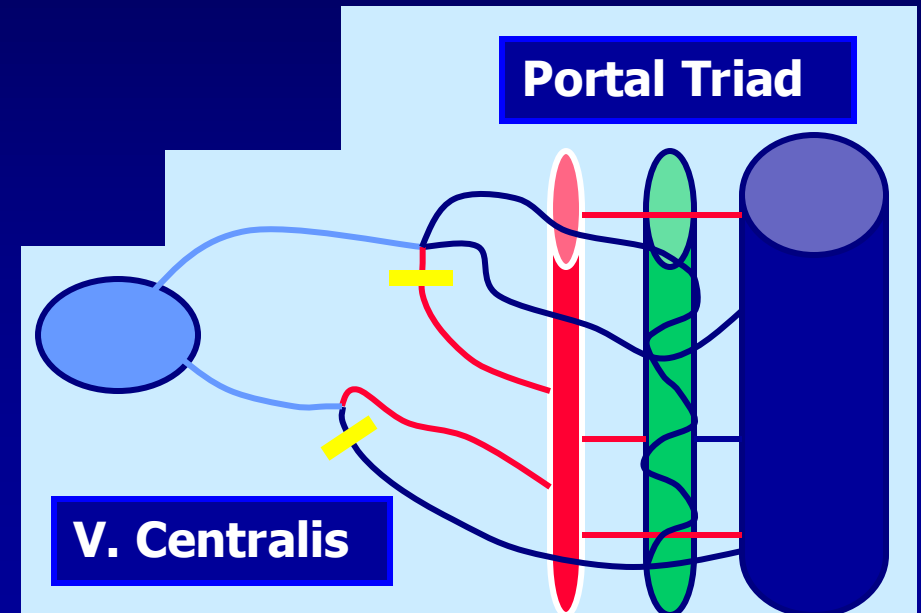
Single venous drainage:

- Hepatic veins
  - Right– middle - left
  - 5-20 dorsal hepatic veins
    - Drain paramedian tissue
  - 85%: common trunk



# Hepatic sinusoids

- Hepatic lobules
  - polygonal units (1,000,000)
  - contain 1 central vein
  - supplied by Glisson's triad
  - flow from periphery to center
- Sinusoids
  - arterioportal communications
  - dynamic microcirculation
  - arteriolar inlet sphincter
  - venular sphincter
  - angiogenic modulators

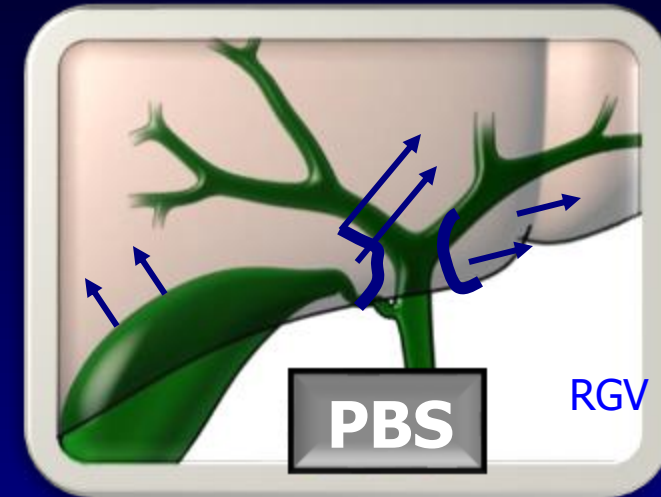


# Third inflow

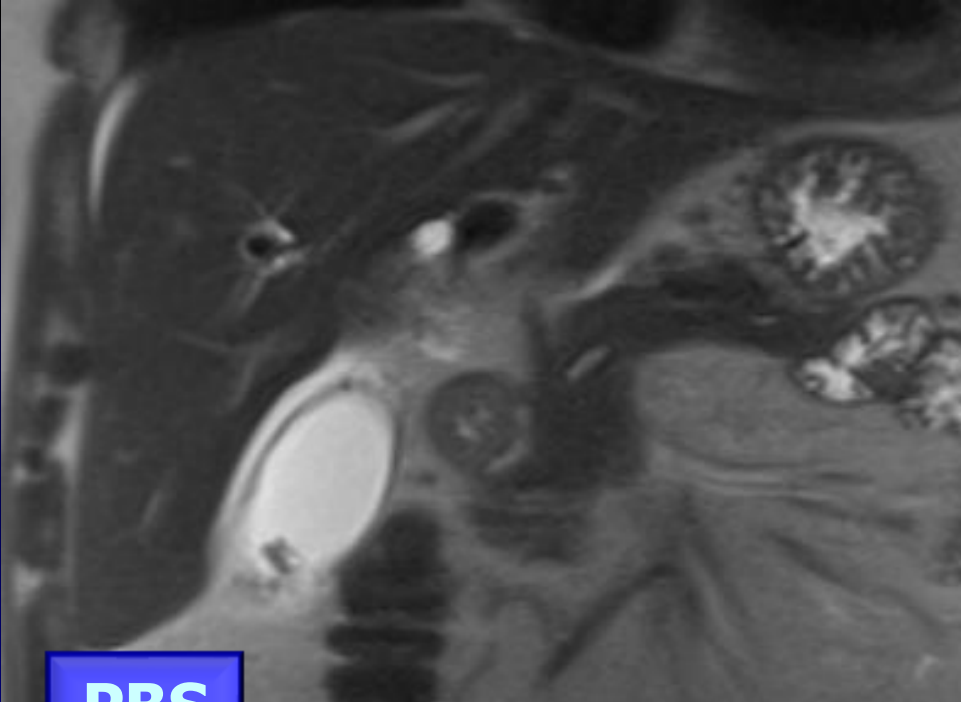
## Anomalous Venous Inflow

### Parabiliary Venous System

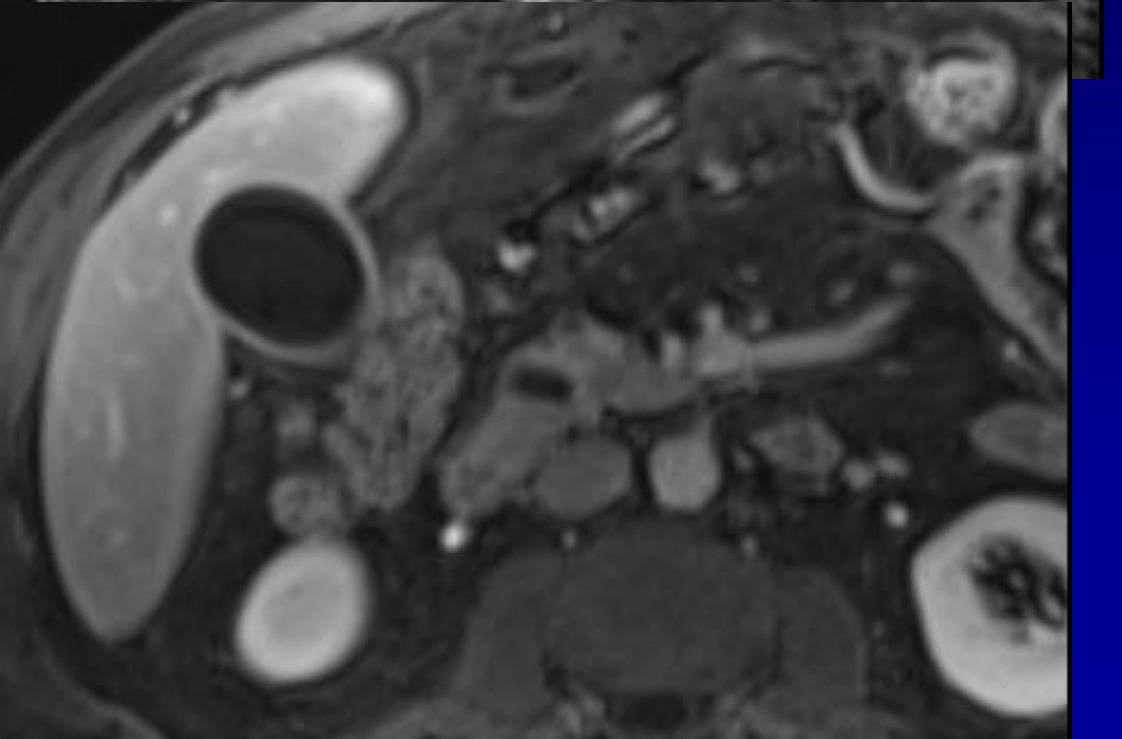
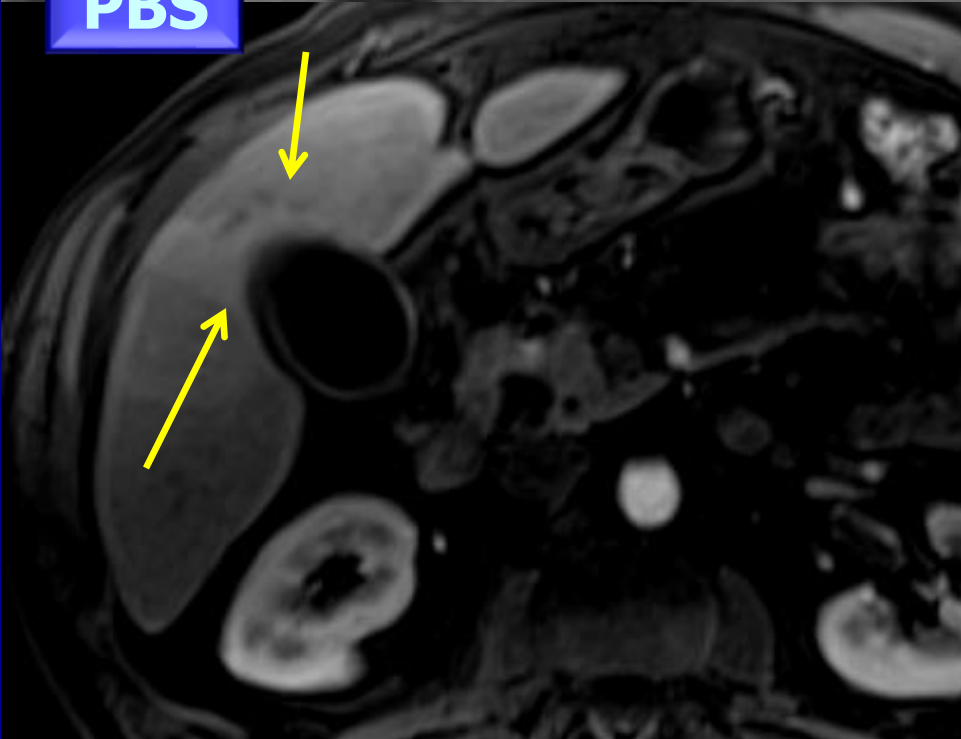
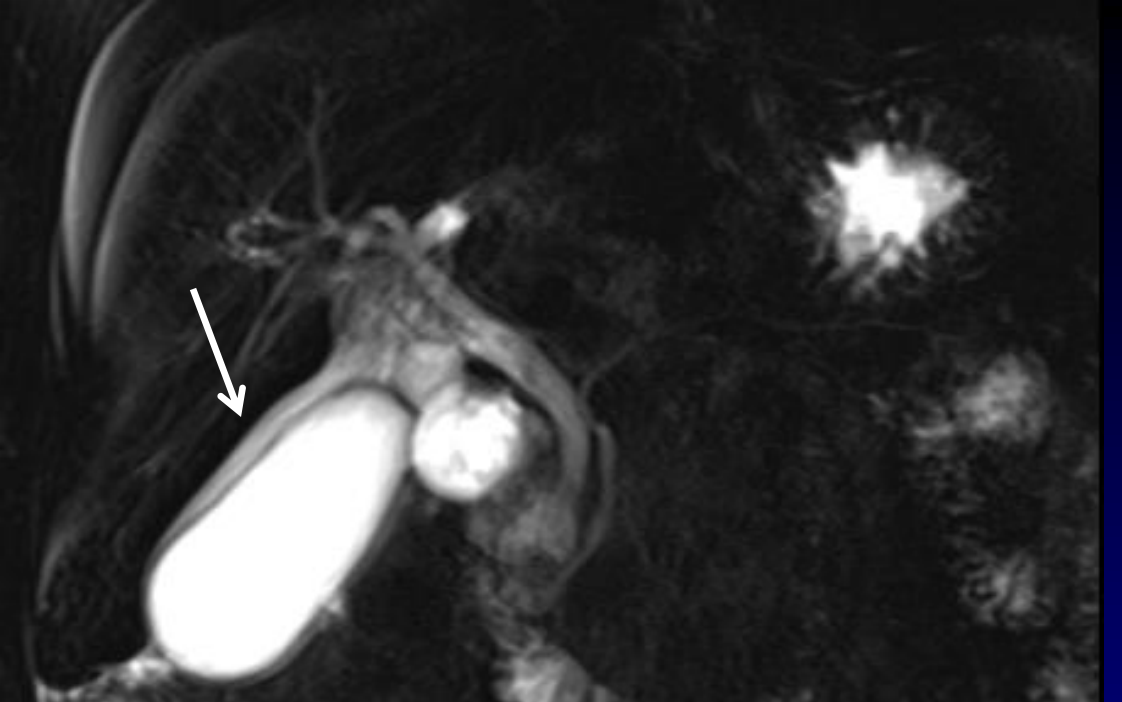
- R gastric vein (S 4)
- Pancreatico-duodenal veins (S 4)
- Cholecystic veins (S 5)







**PBS**

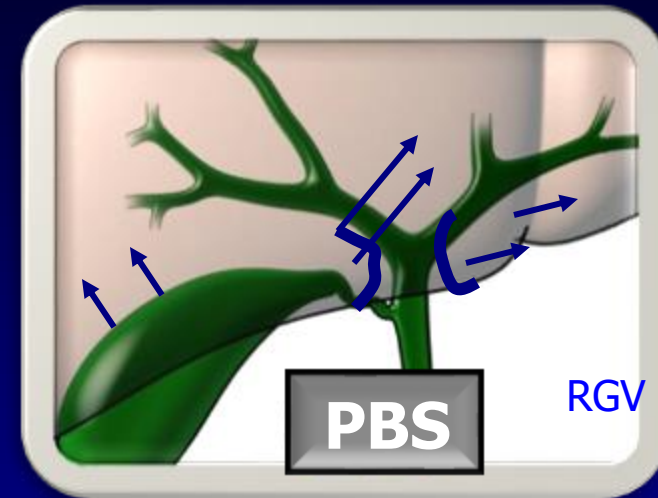


# Third inflow

## Anomalous Venous Inflow

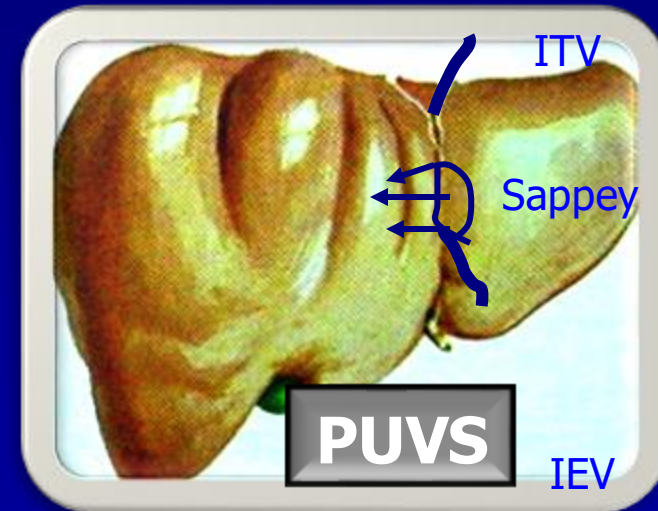
### Parabiliary Venous System

- R gastric vein (S 4)
- Pancreatico-duodenal veins (S 4)
- Cholecystic veins (S 5)



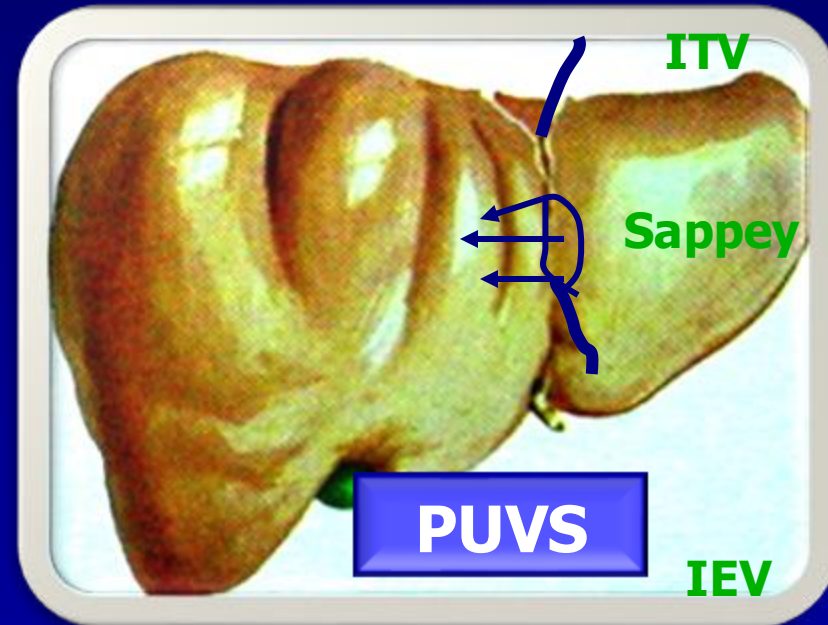
### Paraumbilical Venous System

- Internal thoracic vein
- Inferior epigastric vein
- Veins of Sappey
- S 4b (pons hepatis)



## Paraumbilical Venous System

- Internal thoracic vein
- Inferior epigastric vein
- Veins of Sappey
- S 4b (pons hepatis)



# Topics

- 1) Pre-sinusoidal disorders (portal vein thrombosis, congenital intrahepatic portosystemic shunts, hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, etc.)
- 2) Post-sinusoidal disorders (Budd-Chiari syndrome, sinusoidal obstruction syndrome, effect of congestive heart failure on the liver, etc.)
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# Portal vein thrombosis

- **Etiology**

- Systemic or local causes
  - Hereditary thrombogenic factors (protein S deficiency)
  - Acquired thrombogenic factors (myeloproliferative Dx)
  - Portal vein injury
  - Portal venous stasis (cirrhosis, venous outflow)
  - Inflammatory conditions (appendicitis, diverticulitis, pancreatitis)
  - Neoplastic conditions (HCC, mets, pancreas ca)

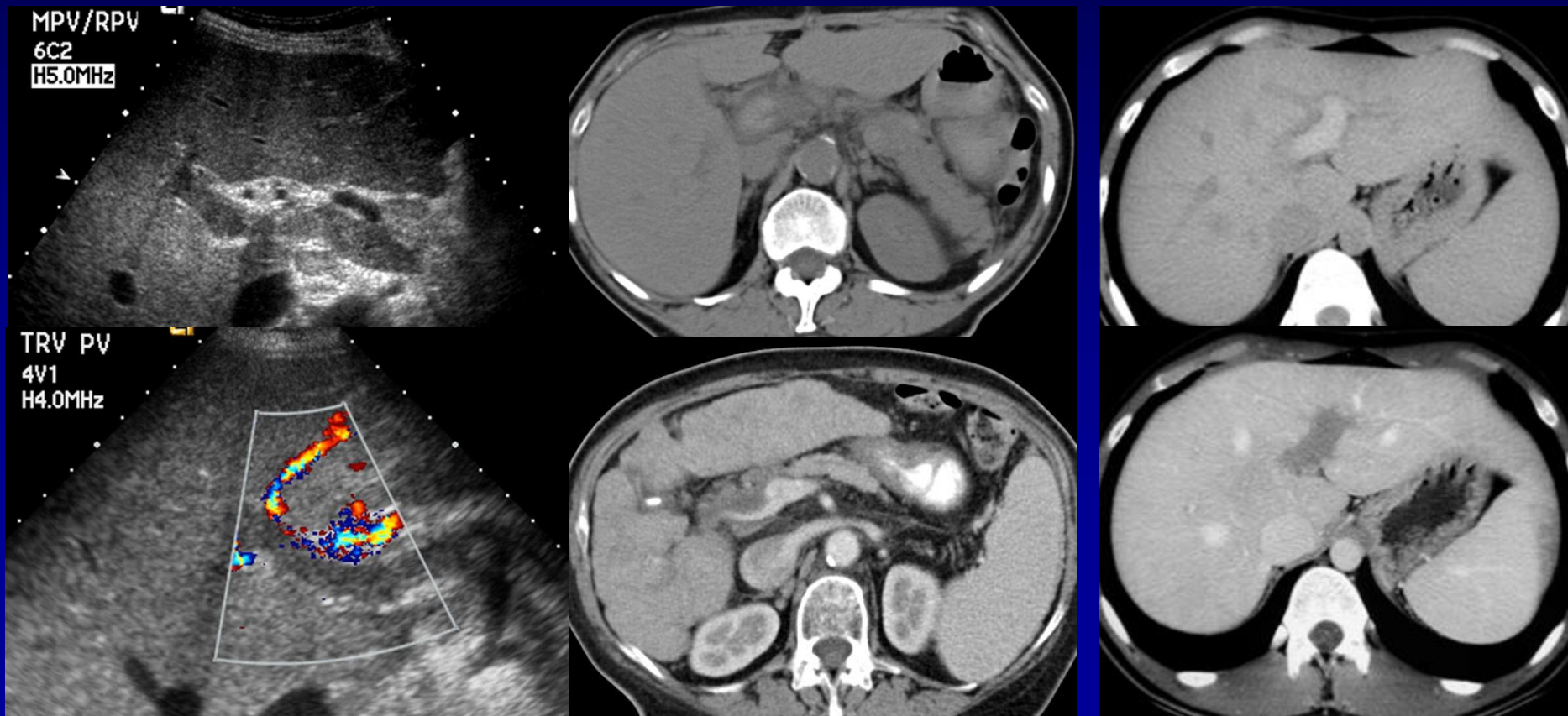
- **Impairment**

- Upstream: mesenteric venous arches prevent gut ischemia
- Downstream: protection due to « buffer response »  
« cavernoma formation »

# Acute Portal Vein Thrombosis

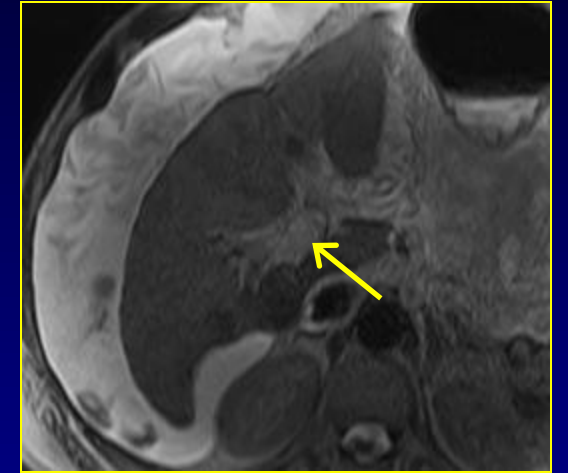
- Echogenic or high attenuation material in PV
- PV dilated
- Bland thrombus\* or tumor thrombus

\* no enhancement versus arterial waveform

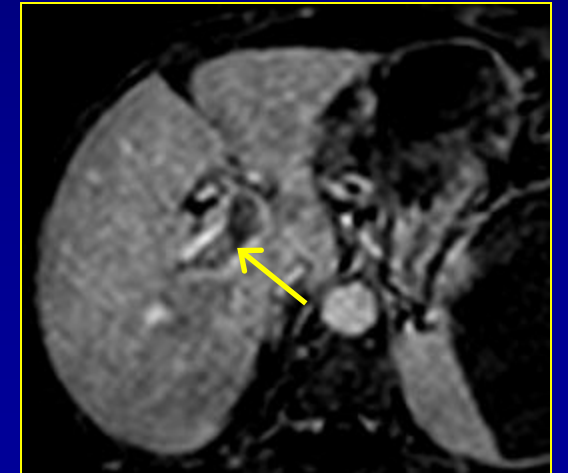


# Portal vein thrombosis: direct signs

Isointense/hyperintense in  
“dark blood” sequences



Hypointense in  
“brightblood”

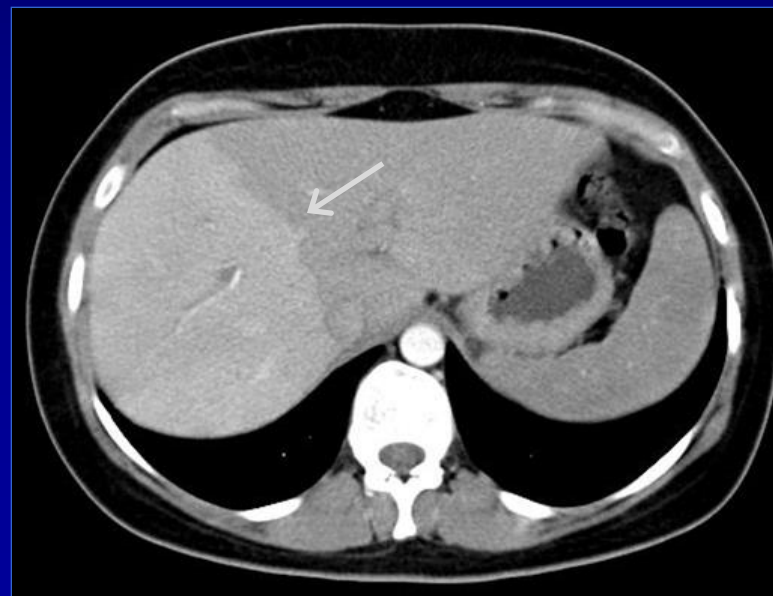
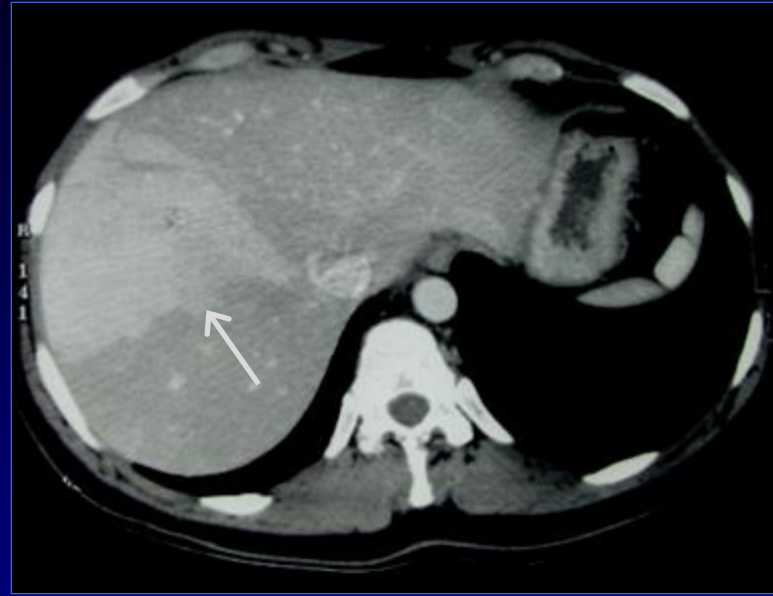
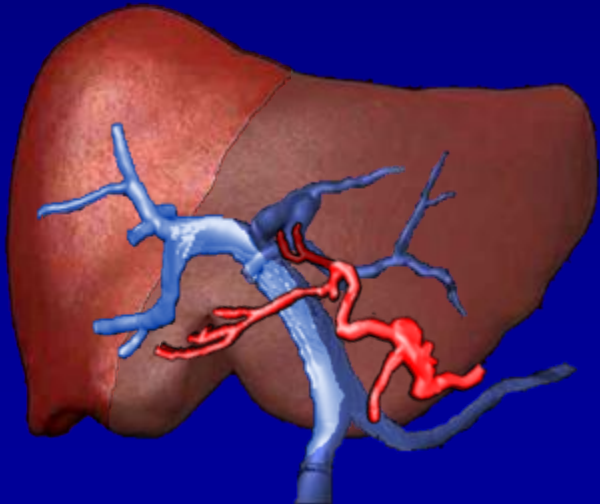
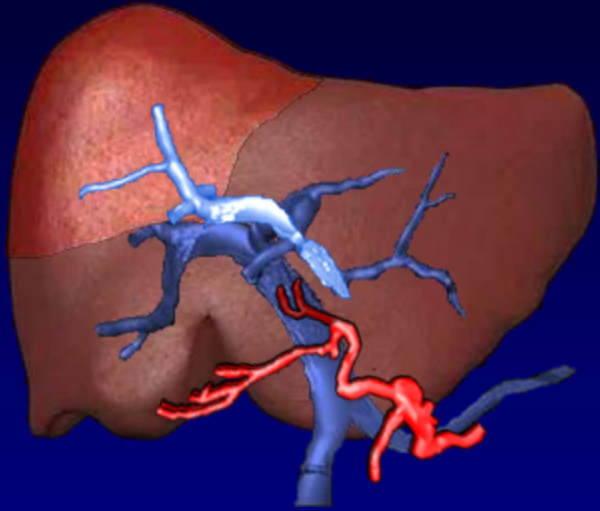


No enhancement



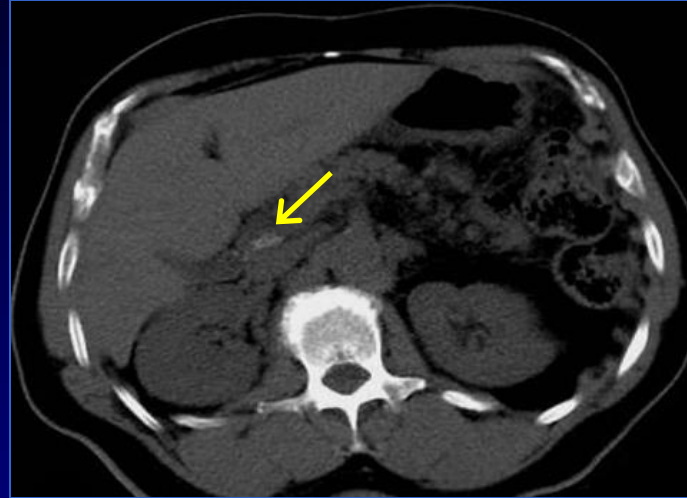


# Acute PV thrombosis: perfusion abnormalities

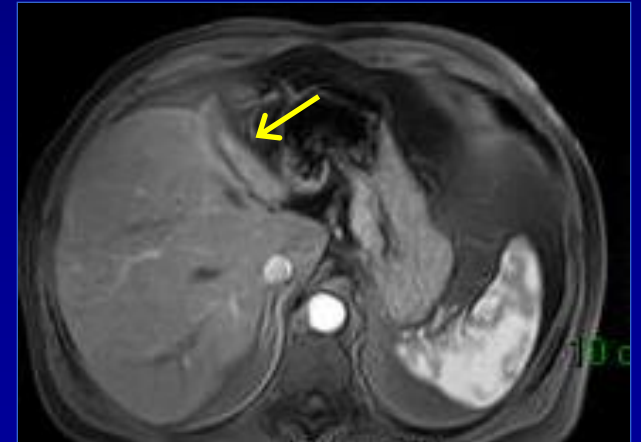
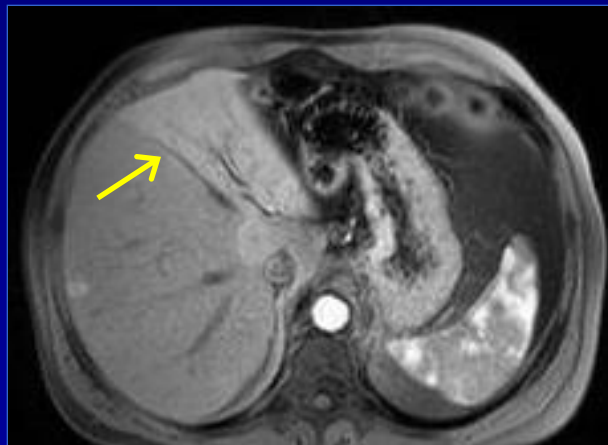


# Chronic PV thrombosis

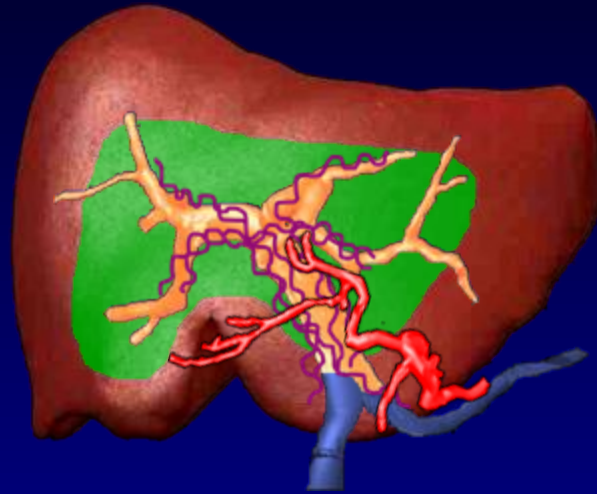
Fibrosis and  
calcifications of the  
obstructed branch



Parenchymal atrophy

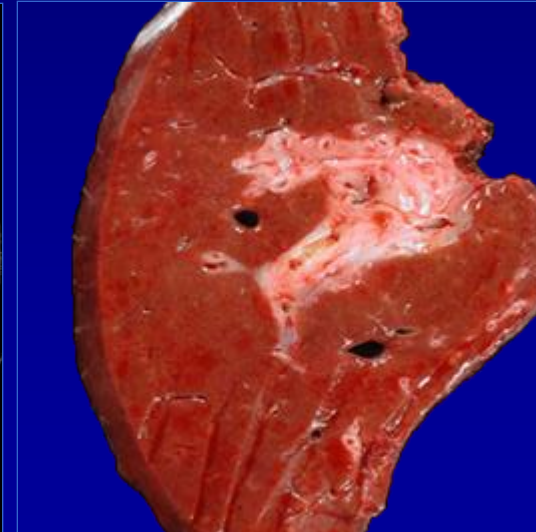
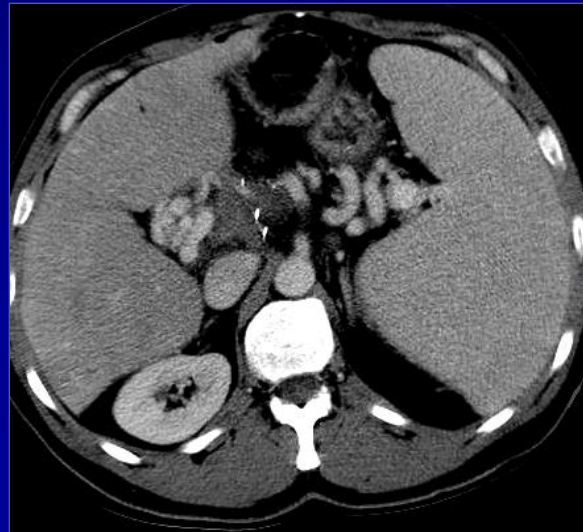
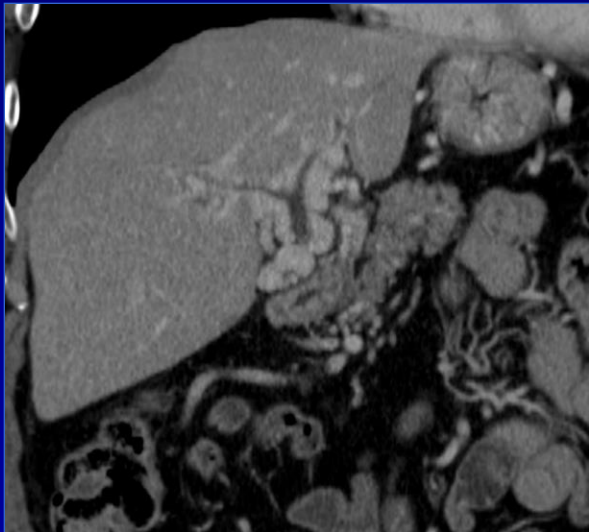


# Chronic PV thrombosis: portal cavernoma



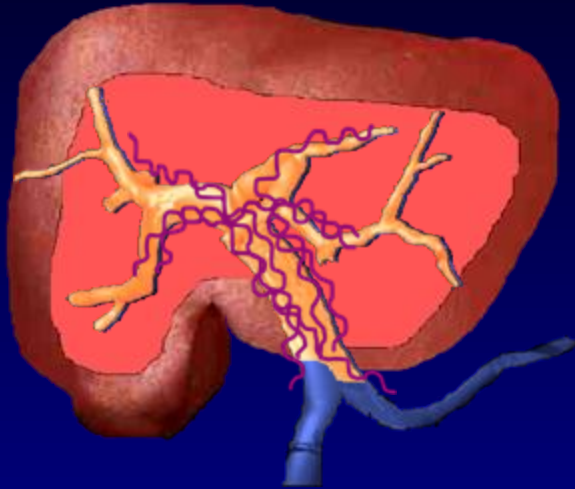
Cavernoma: network of capillaries around the hepatic pedicle

pericoledocic  
pericolecystic  
peripancreatic





# Chronic PV thrombosis: changes in morphology



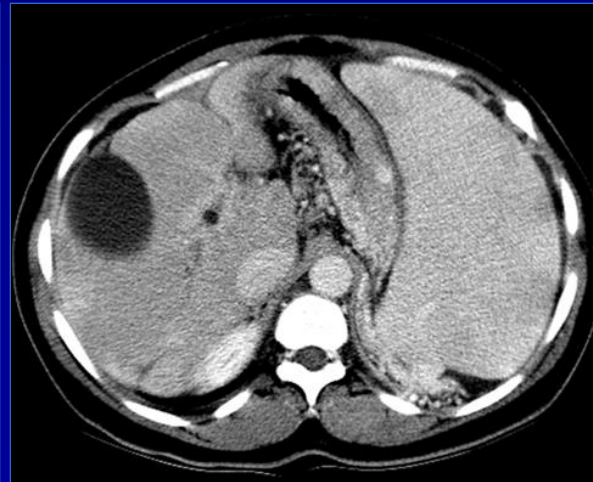
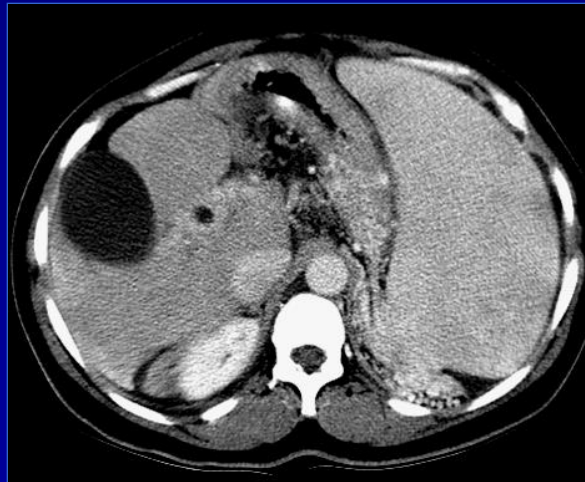
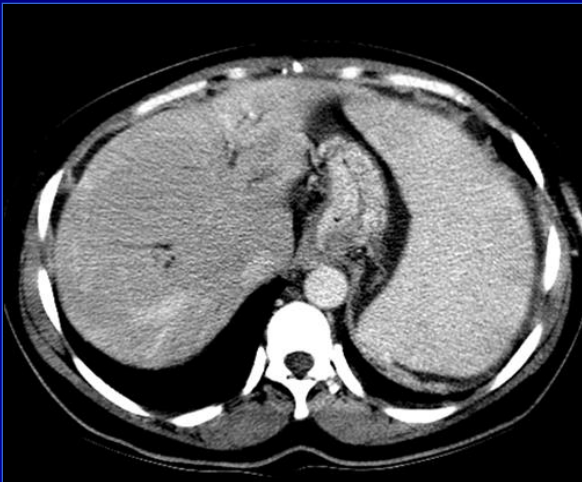
No fibrosis at biopsy!

May mimic cirrhosis because

- Caudate lobe hypertrophy
- Right lobe atrophy

but

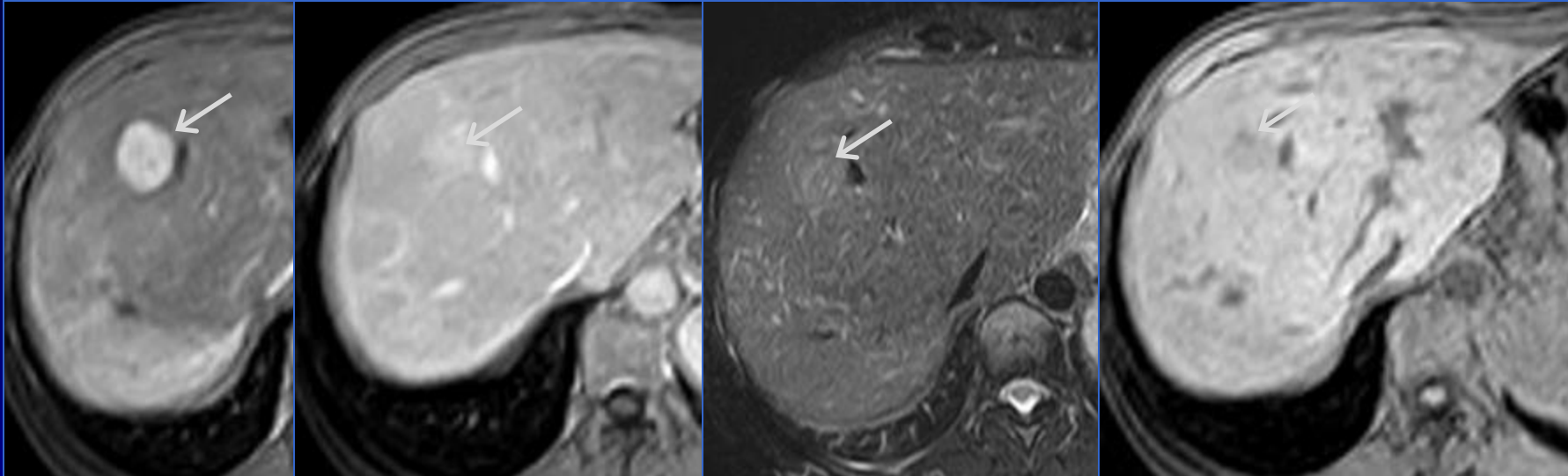
- Sharp margins
- Left lobe atrophy
- S4 normal or hypertrophic





# Chronic PV thrombosis

## Regenerative nodules



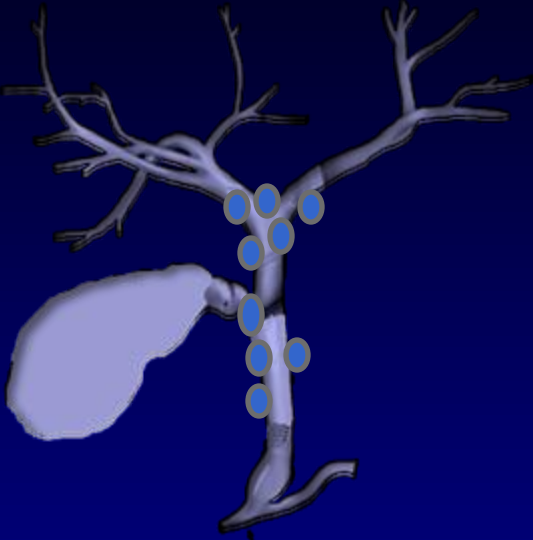
single/multiple nodules

hypervascular

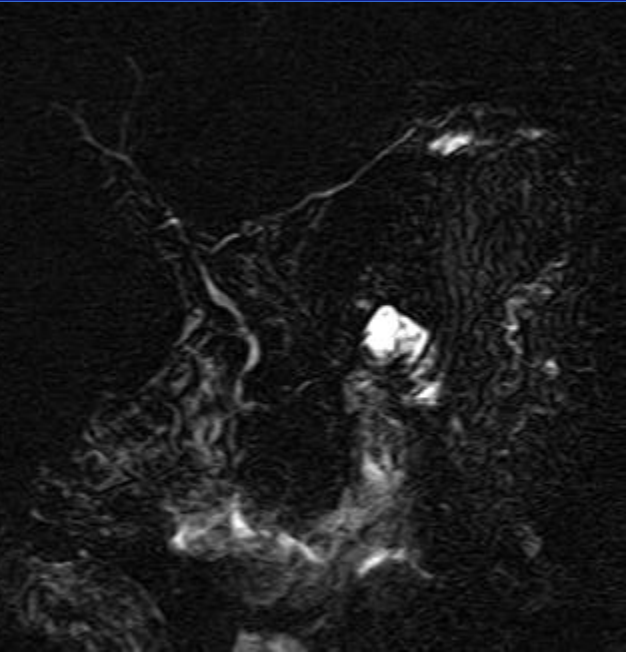
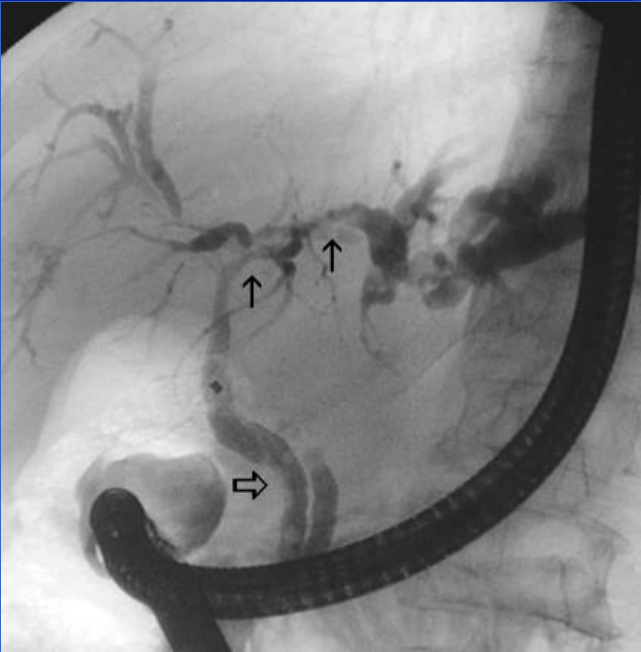
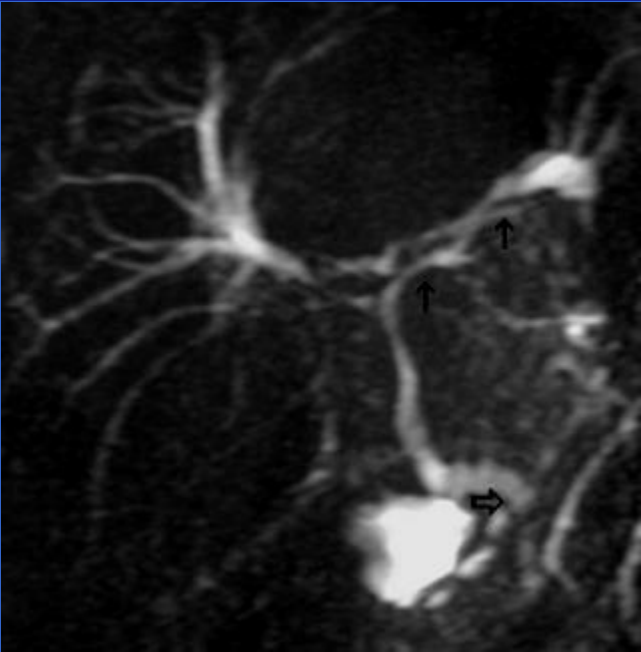
mean diameter ~ 16 mm (5-40 mm)

benign, FNH-like, confirmed at biopsy

# Chronic PV thrombosis: portal cholangiopathy



Stenotic, irregular, angulated bile ducts, compressed by cavernoma

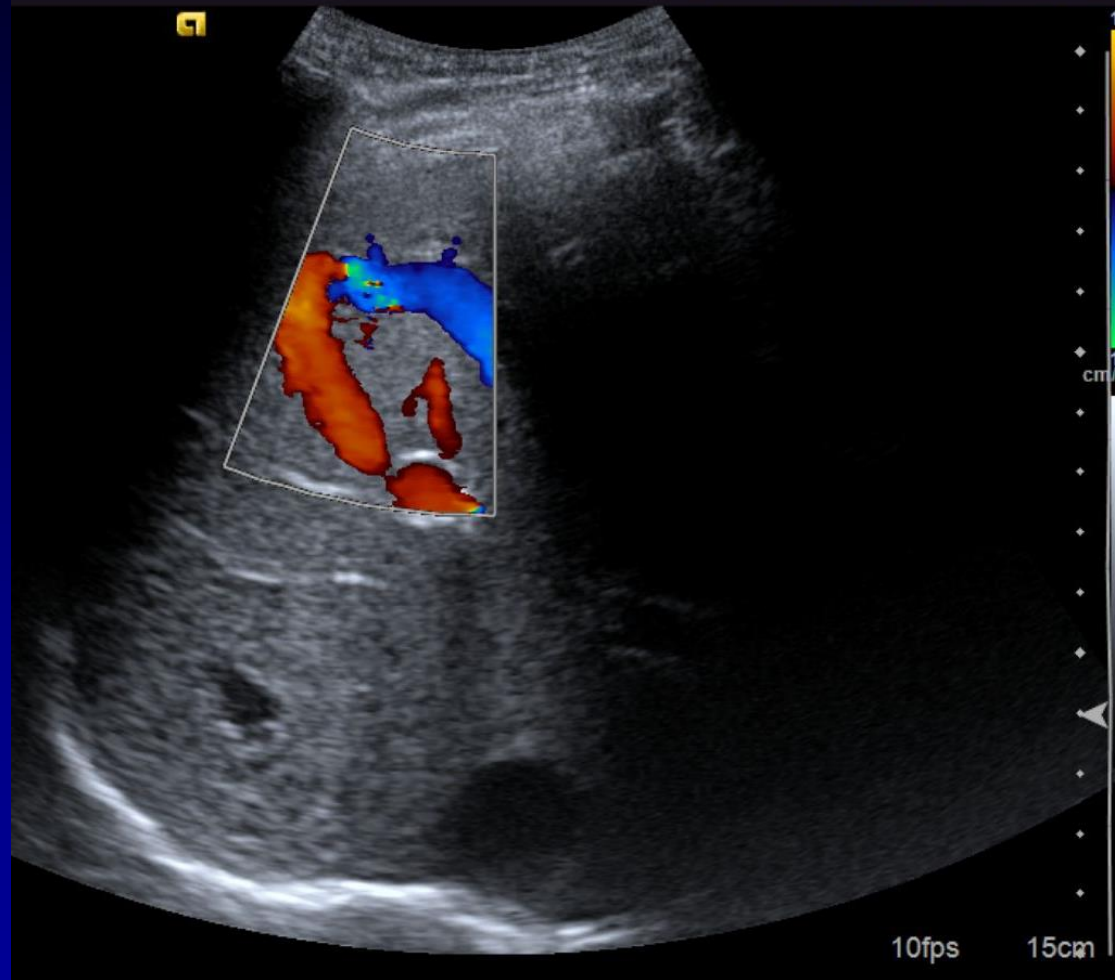


# Intrahepatic portosystemic shunts

Prevalence up to 7%

4 types:

1. Single vessel connecting right portal vein and IVC
2. Segmental shunt, with one or more connections between peripheral portal branch and peripheral venous branch
3. Like 2, but with focal varix
4. Multiple connections between peripheral portal and venous branches in both lobes

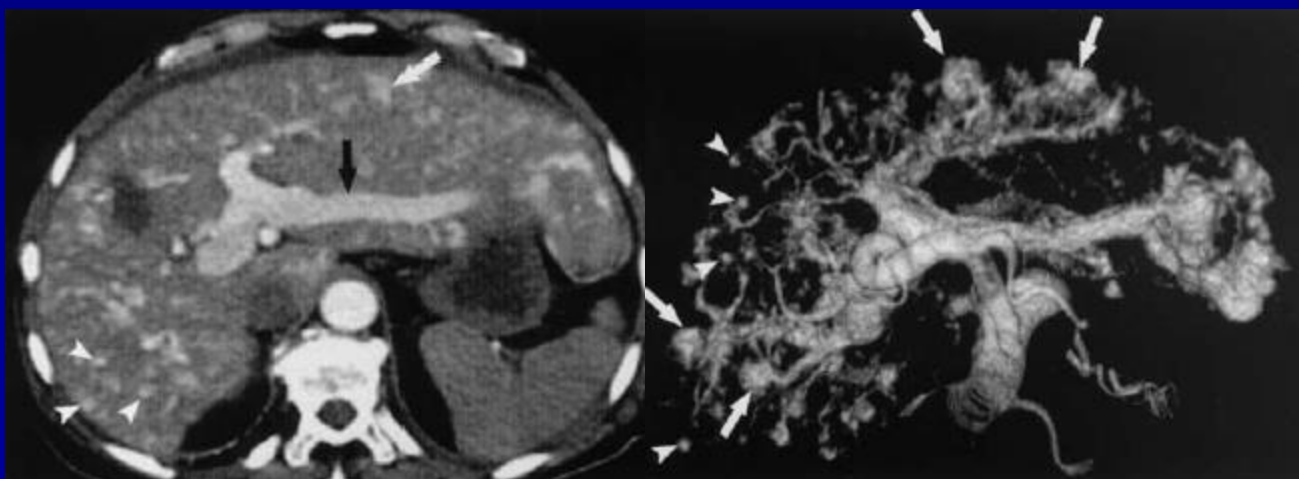




# Hemorrhagic telangiectasia

## Rendu-Osler-Weber disease

- autosomal dominant (1-2/10,000)
- mucocutaneous and visceral angiodysplastic lesions
- hepatic involvement = 8-31%
- types of lesions
  - \* intrahepatic shunts (A-P, A-S, P-S)
  - \* telangiectases, NRH, portal hypertension



*Memeo M, et al. Hepatic involvement in hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia: CT findings. Abdom Imaging 2004;24:211-220.*

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# Hepatic vein disorders

## Passive hepatic congestion

- **Pathophysiology**

- Due to increased CVP
- Causes centrilobular congestion (jaundice) and hepatic cell death due to hypoxia associated with stasis
- Among most common diffuse liver diseases

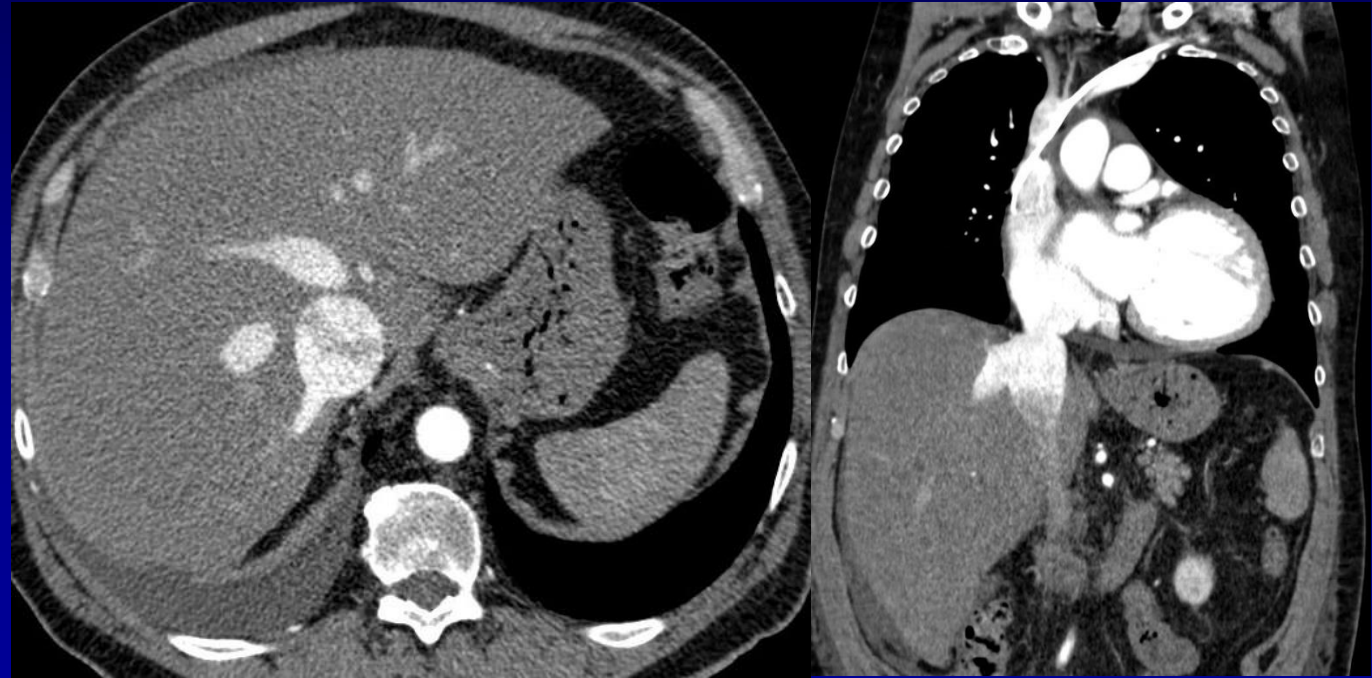
- **Etiology**

- Congestive heart failure
- Constrictive pericarditis
- Tricuspid insufficiency
- Cardiomyopathies
- Mitral and aortic valve disease

# Hepatic vein disorders

## Passive hepatic congestion

- Dilated IVC and hepatic veins
  - RHV=9-13 mm (normal=5-6 mm)
- Early reflux of contrast into IVC

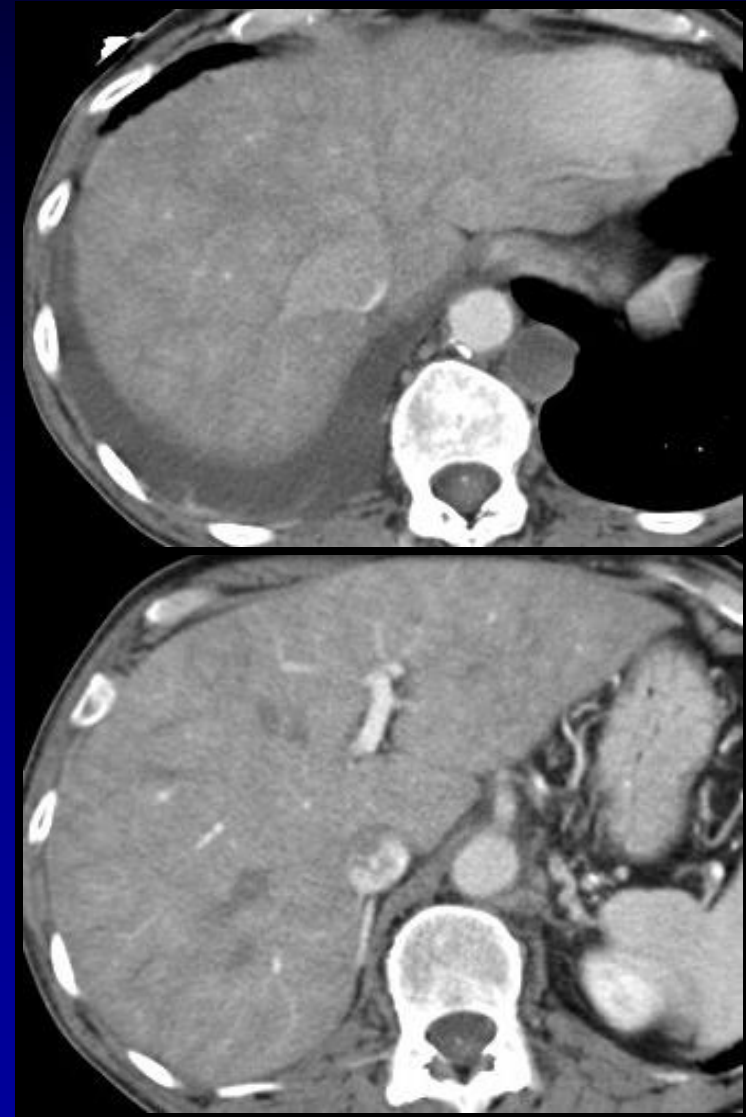




# Hepatic vein disorders

## Passive hepatic congestion

- Dilated IVC and hepatic veins
  - RHV=9-13 mm (normal=5-6 mm)
- Early reflux of contrast into IVC
- 'Mosaic' enhancement
- Hepatomegaly
- Periportal & GB edema
- Ascites and effusions
- Increased pulsatility of PV
- Unidirectional, low-velocity, flow in IVC and hepatic veins



# Hepatic vein disorders

## Budd-Chiari syndrome

- **Pathophysiology**

- Obstruction of the hepatic venous outflow tract
- Small or large hepatic veins or IVC (suprahepatic)
- Causes centrilobular congestion and ischemic necrosis

- **Primary**

- Coagulation disorders
- Myeloproliferative disorders
- Membranous obstruction (Asia)

- **Secondary**

- Tumoral invasion
- Vascular compression by infectious process (hydatid, amoeba)

# Hepatic vein disorders

## Budd-Chiari syndrome

### Clinical manifestations

- Acute forms (7%): abdominal pain, hepatomegaly, ascites, LFT
- Chronic (45%) or subacute forms (48%): impaired liver function
- Asymptomatic forms: discovered fortuitously

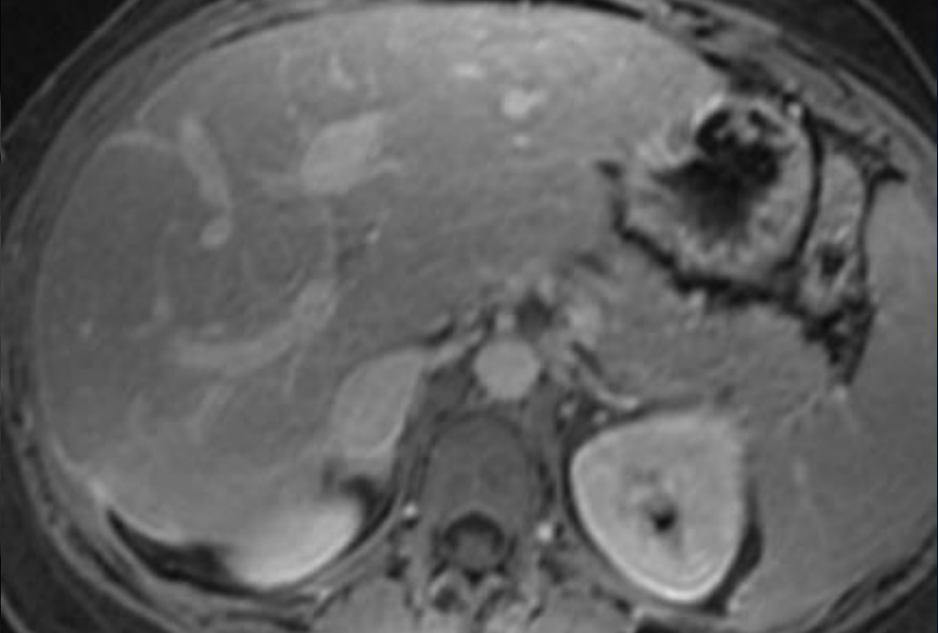
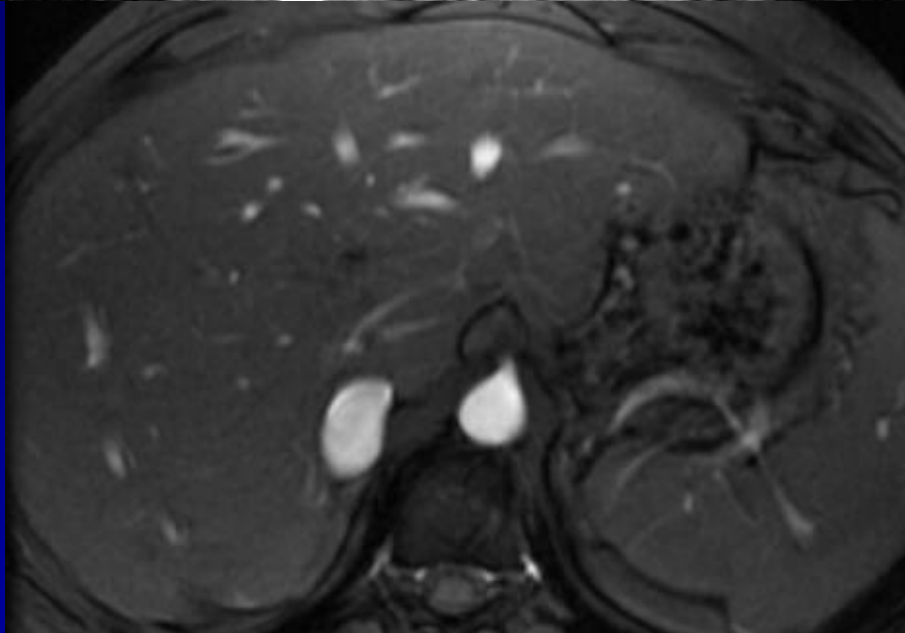
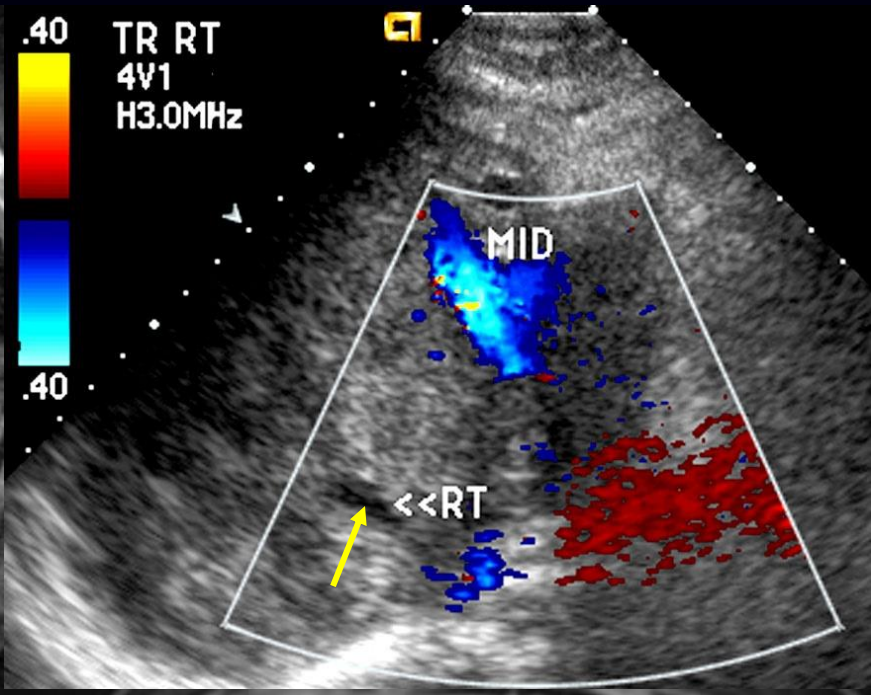
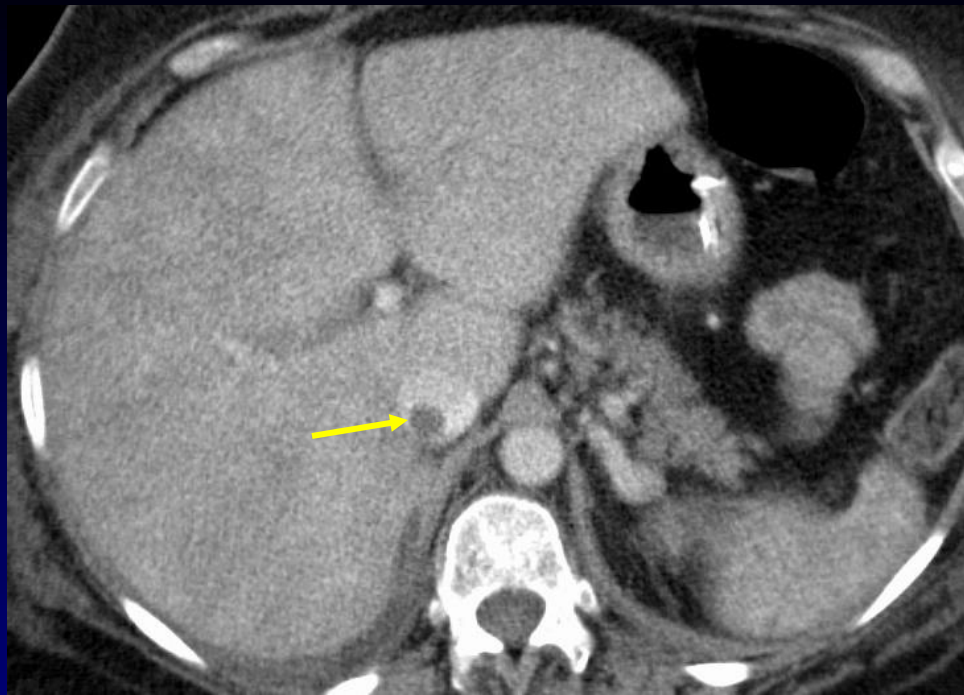
# Hepatic vein disorders

## Budd-Chiari syndrome

### Imaging Features

- direct diagnostic findings
  - intraluminal material in hepatic veins or IVC (web, thrombus, tumor)
  - absence of hepatic vein flow or localized flow disturbances (Doppler-US, MRA)
  - presence of intraparenchymal collaterals ('comma sign')
  - narrowing or nonvisualization of the H veins or IVC
- indirect diagnostic findings > morphologic changes

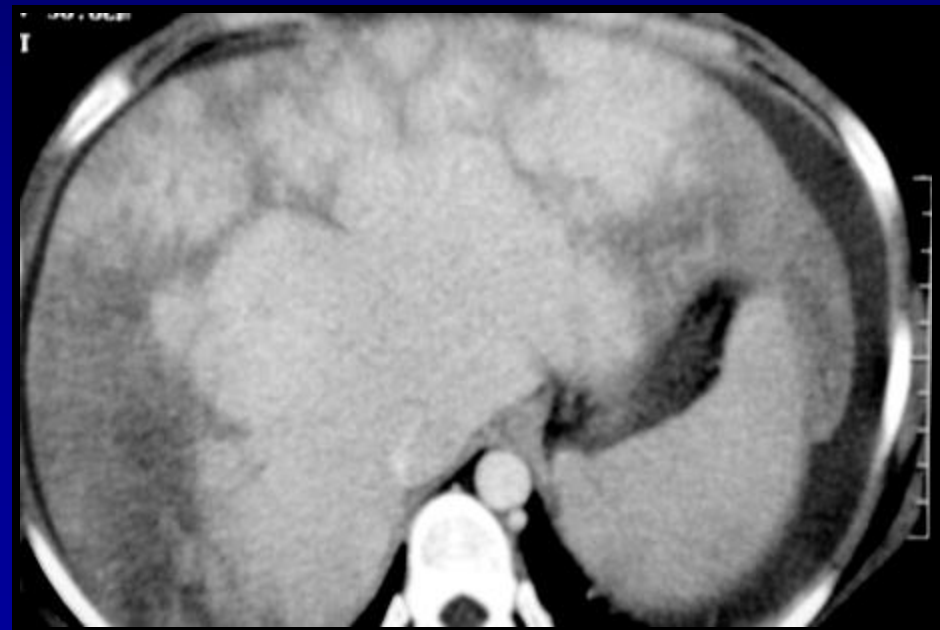
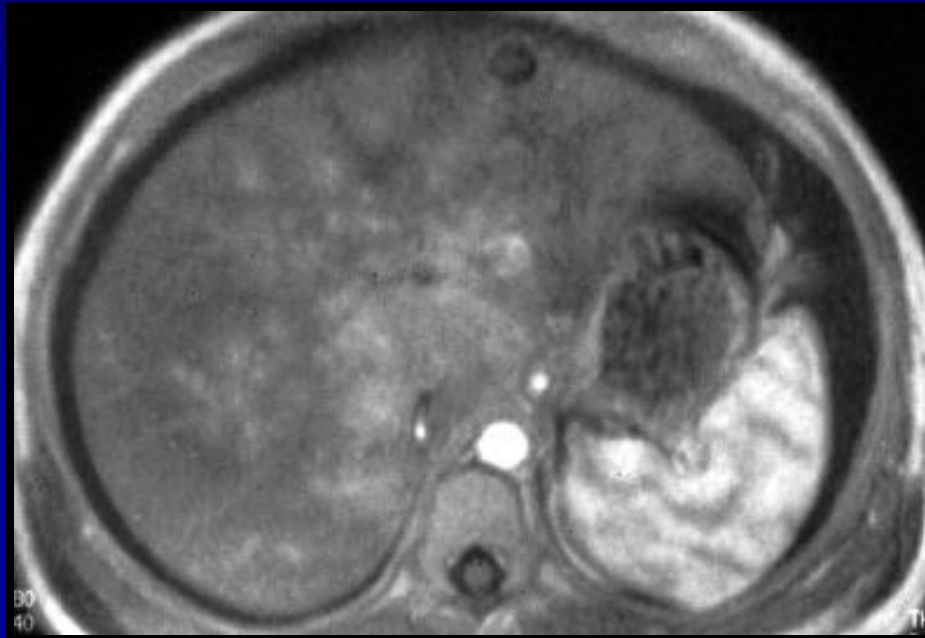




# Budd-Chiari syndrome

## morphologic changes: ACUTE

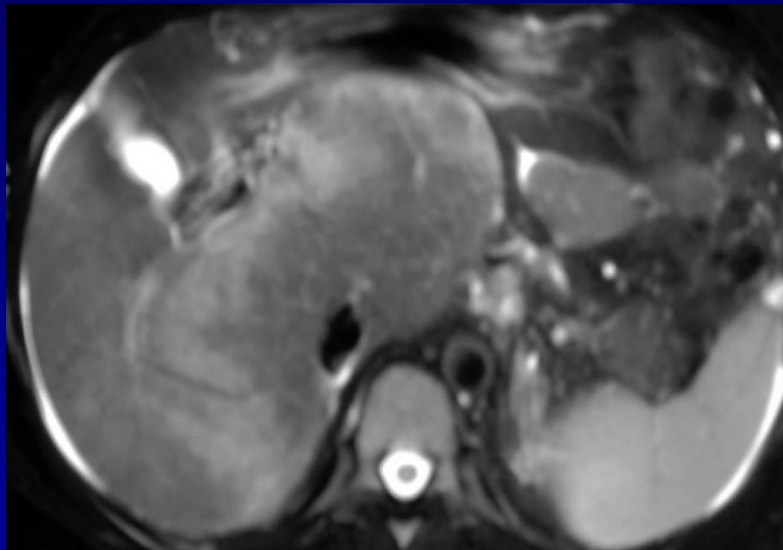
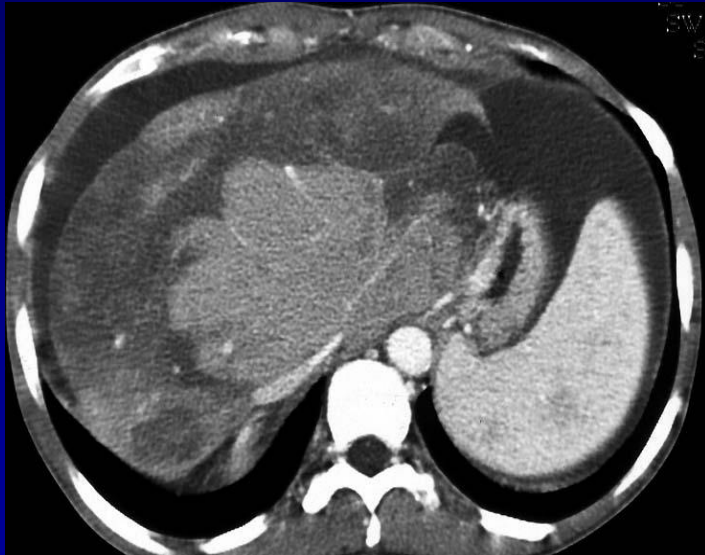
- delayed enhancement pattern of areas drained by the obstructed veins
- hypodense CT & edematous high SI on T2WI
- « fan-shaped » pattern of enhancement CL
- hepatomegaly without CL hypertrophy



# Budd-Chiari syndrome

## morphologic changes: **CHRONIC**

- affected peripheral areas become fibrosed & atrophic
- caudate lobe hypertrophy
- HCC (6%) & benign regenerative nodules (25%)

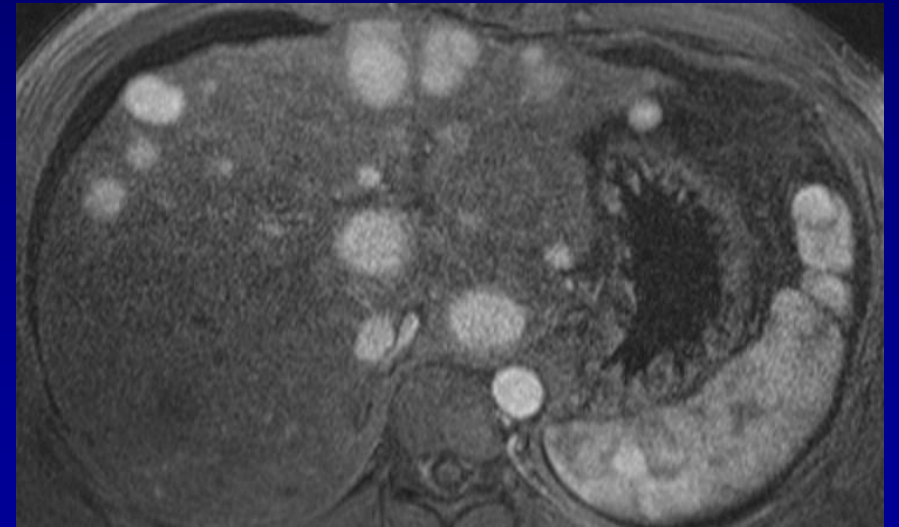
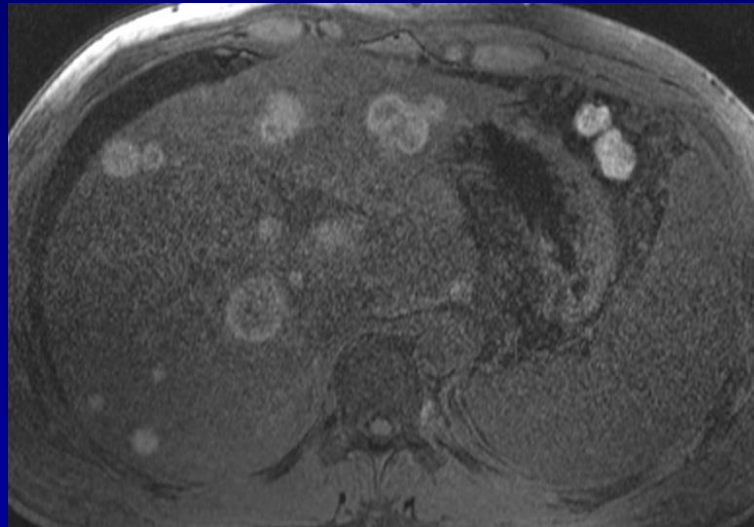


Courtesy of K Morteale

# Budd-Chiari syndrome

## benign regenerative nodules (FNH-like):

- homogeneous
- hypervascular
- hyperintense T1WI
- variable on T2WI
- Usually >10 lesions and <3 cm
- DDX: HCC, HCA





# Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome

- Non-thrombotic obstruction of sinusoids w/wo centrilobular vein involvement
- Acute toxic damage to sinusoid endothelial cells
- Causes stop of the post-sinusoidal efflux (VOD)
- causes
  - \* After myeloablative therapy (10-30 days)
  - \* Post-radiation
  - \* Toxic substances (alkaloids, azathioprine, platinum chx)
  - \* herbal supplements (“bush tea”)
- symptoms: like Budd-Chiari
- DD post-BMT: GVHD, sepsis

*Mortele KJ, Abdom Imaging 2002*

*Rubbia-Brandt, Ann Oncol 2004*

*Lassau, Radiology 2000*

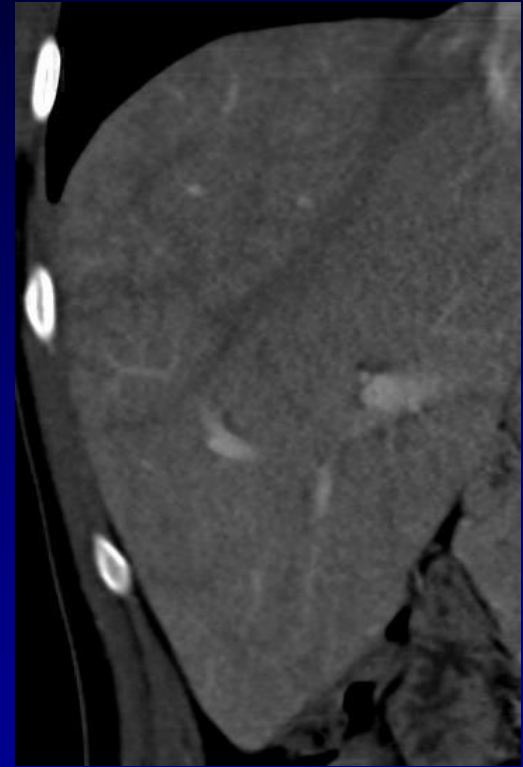
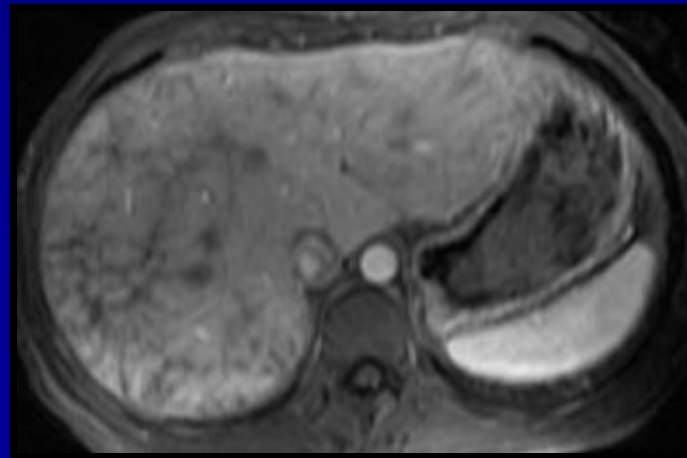
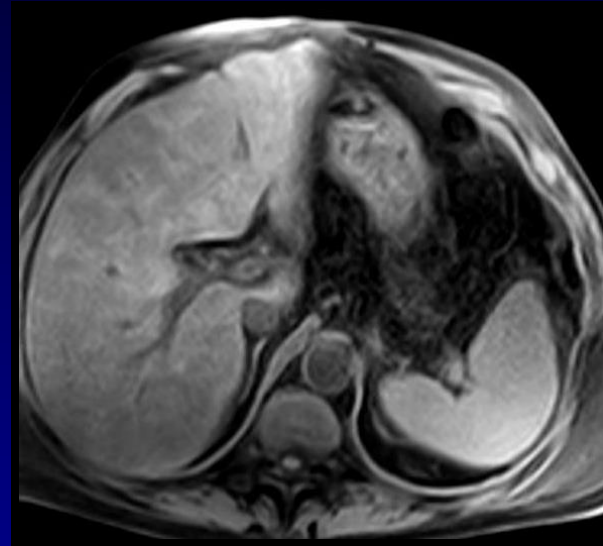
*Lassau, Transplantation 2002*

*Erturk SM, AJR 2006*

# Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome

## Imaging Features

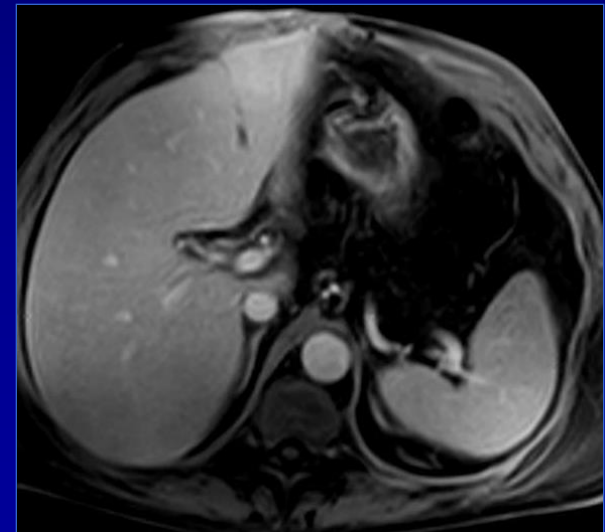
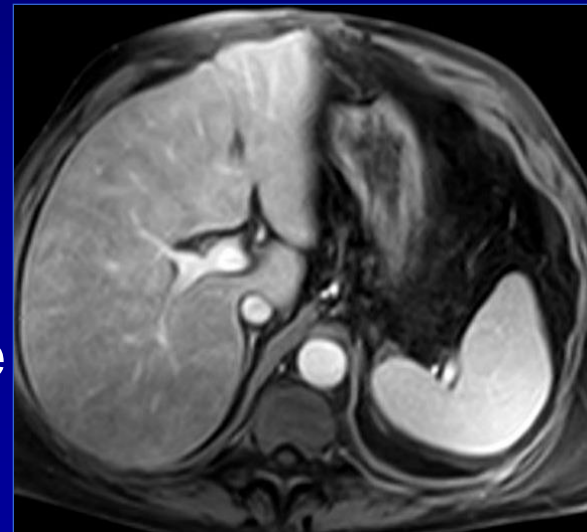
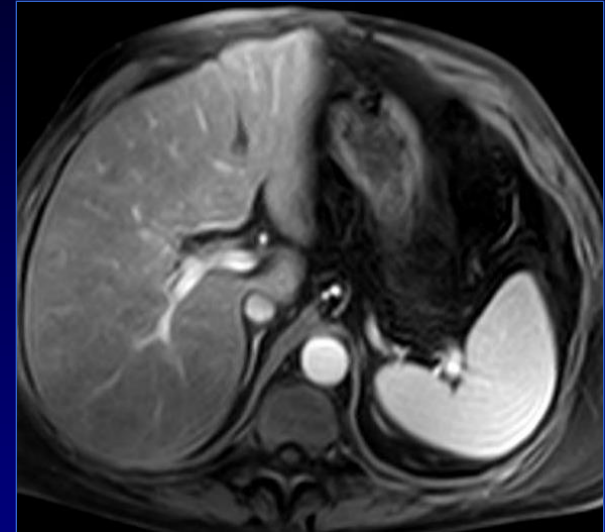
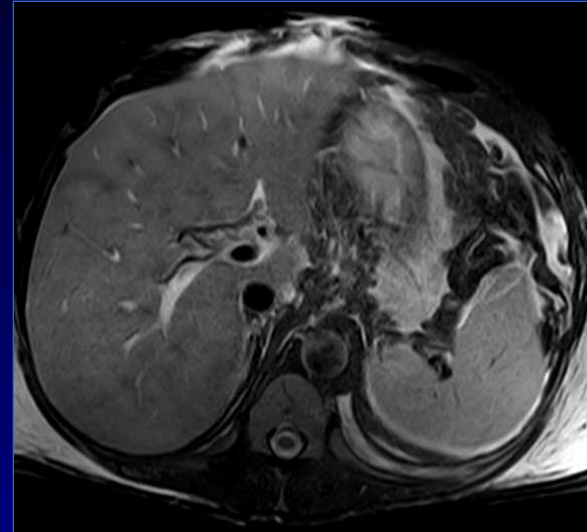
- Narrowed IVC & hepatic veins
  - RHV=2-3 mm
- delayed enhancement HV & IVC
- 'Mosaic' enhancement
- Ascites and effusions
- Hepatomegaly
- Periportal & GB edema
- no preferential enhancement or hypertrophic changes caudate lobe



# Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome

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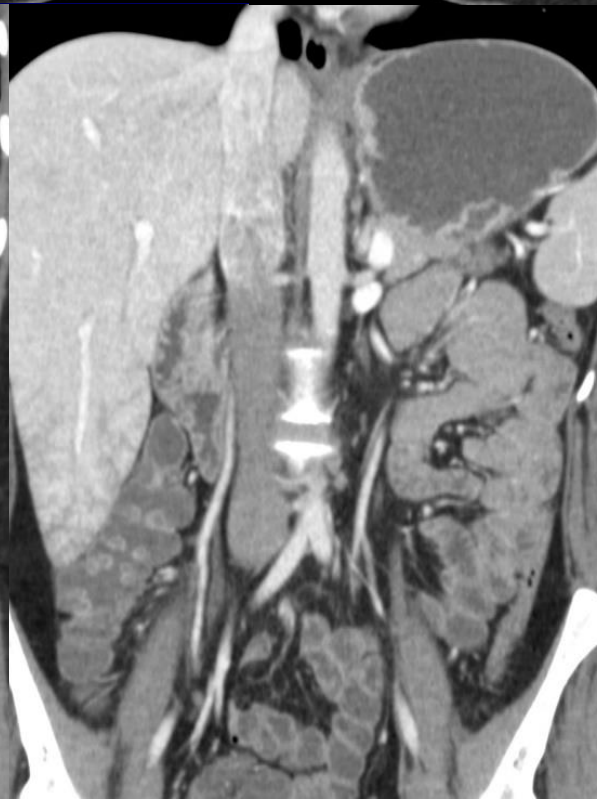
# Sinusoidal dilatation

## Causes

- 1) Venous outflow obstruction (heart failure, pericardial dx, BCS, SOS)
- 2) Non-obstructive (acute inflammatory/infectious conditions, OCP, chronic conditions)



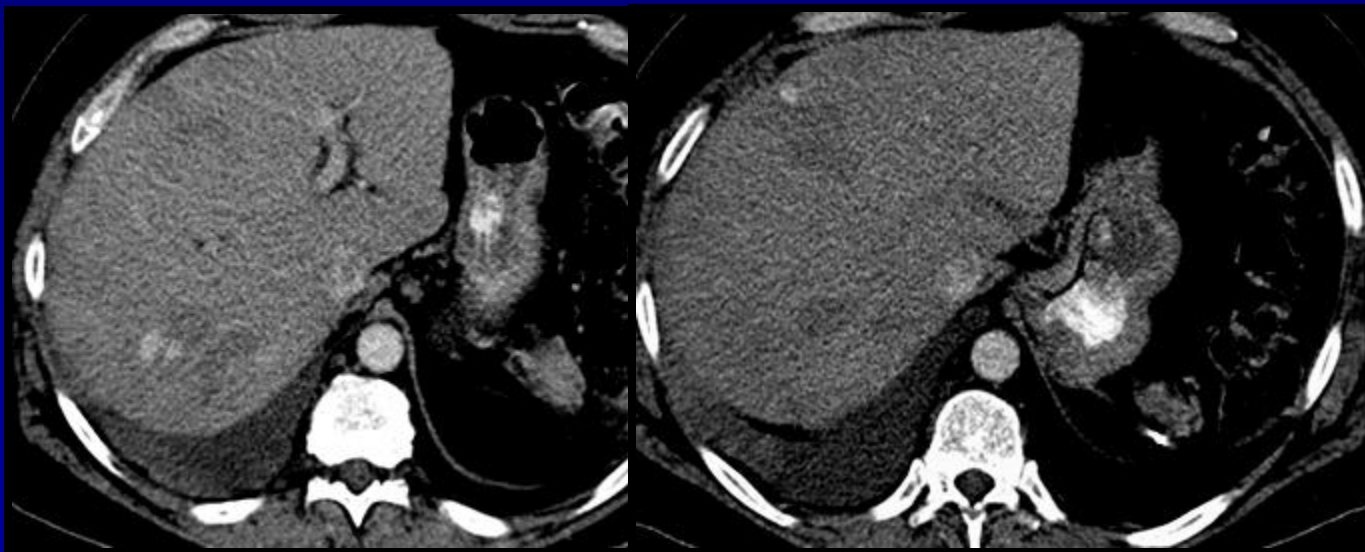
23 year-old female; **History: IBD**



# Peliosis hepatis

Blood lakes with lack of endothelium

- Predisposing factors:
  - chronic debilitating conditions (anabolic steroids)
  - *Bartonella henselae* infection (immunodeficiency)
  - SOS
  - Hematologic disorders



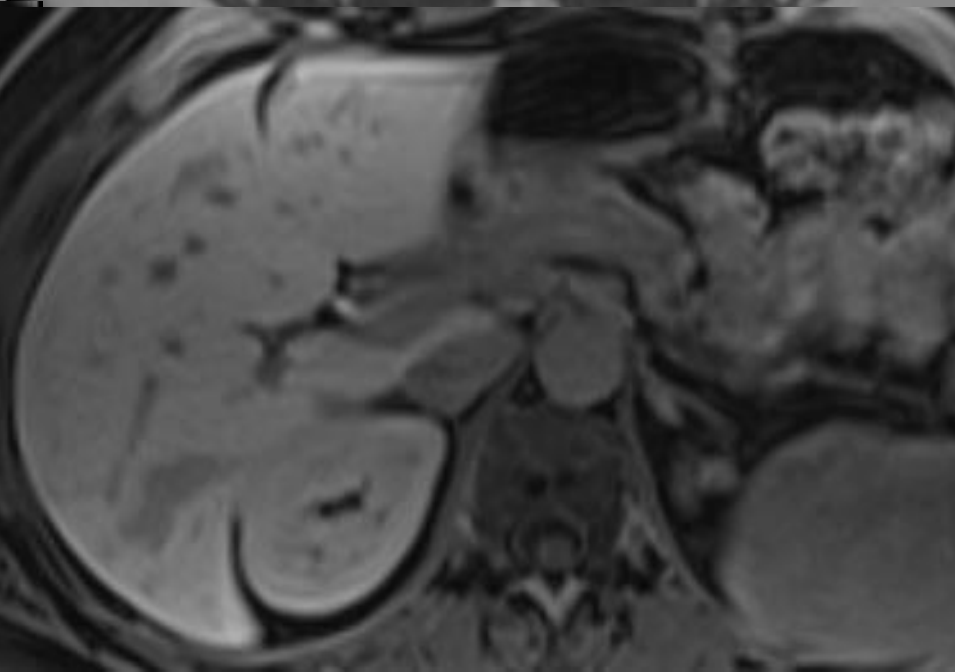
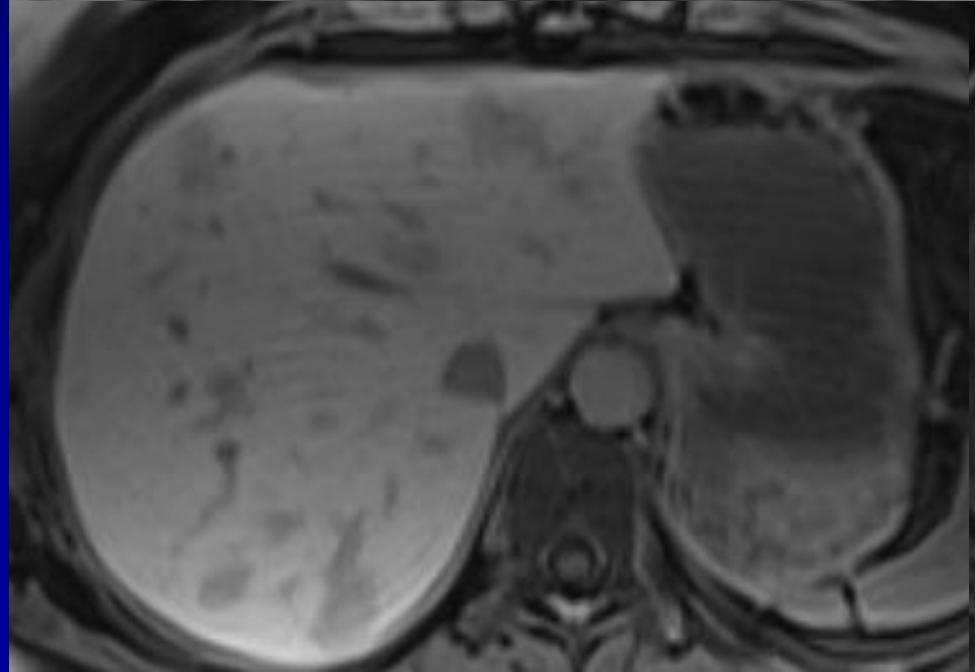
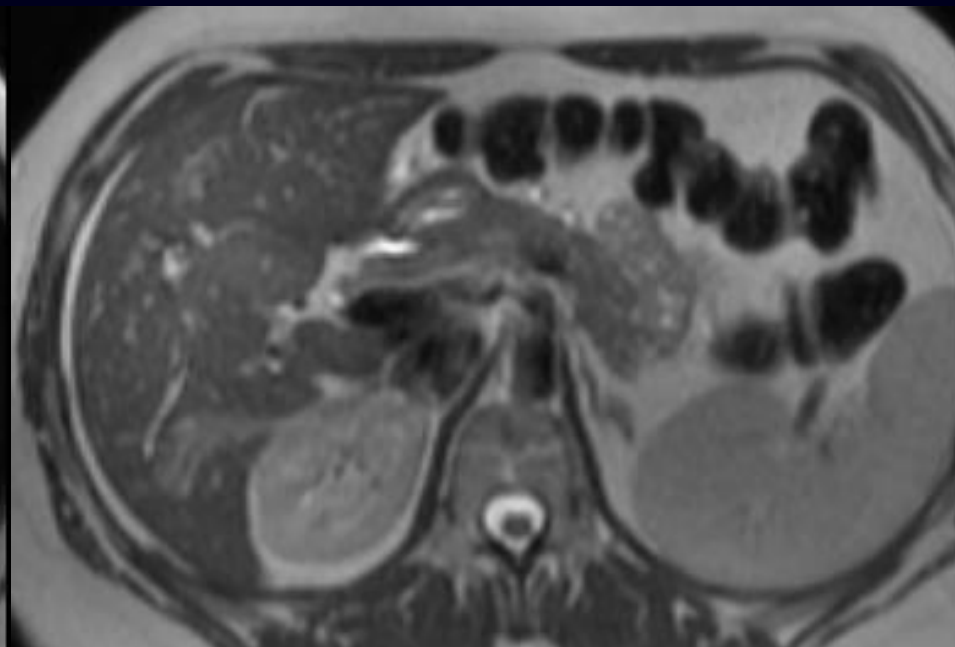
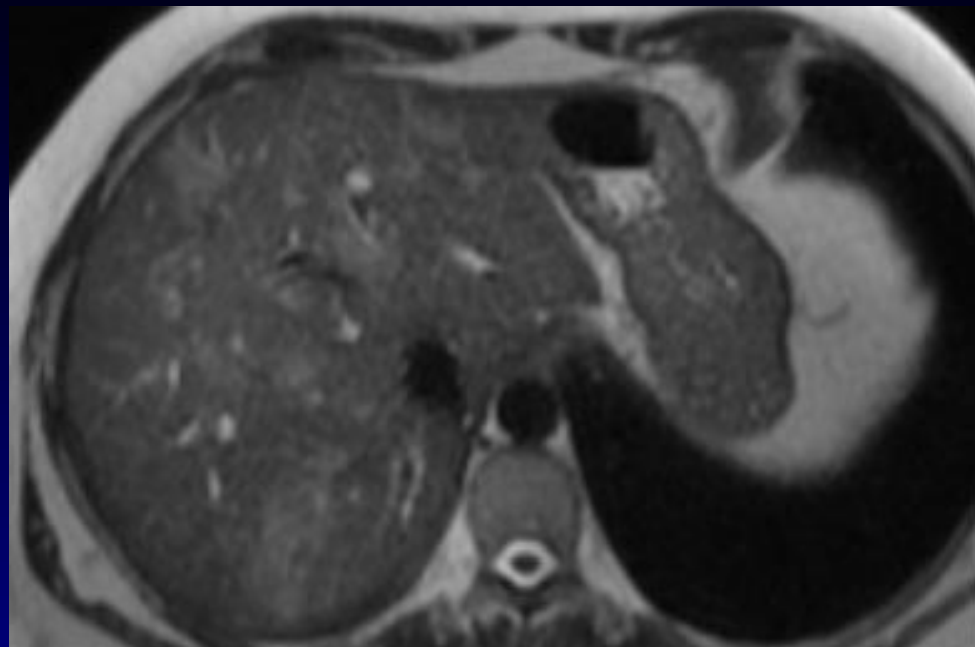
**< 3 cm**

**hypodense**

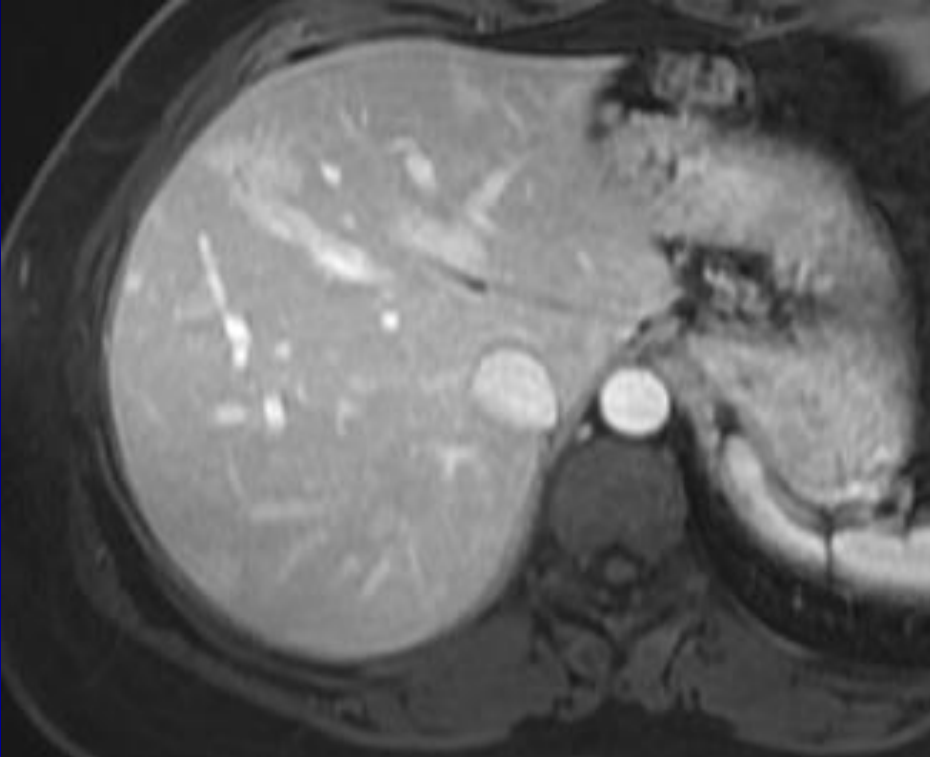
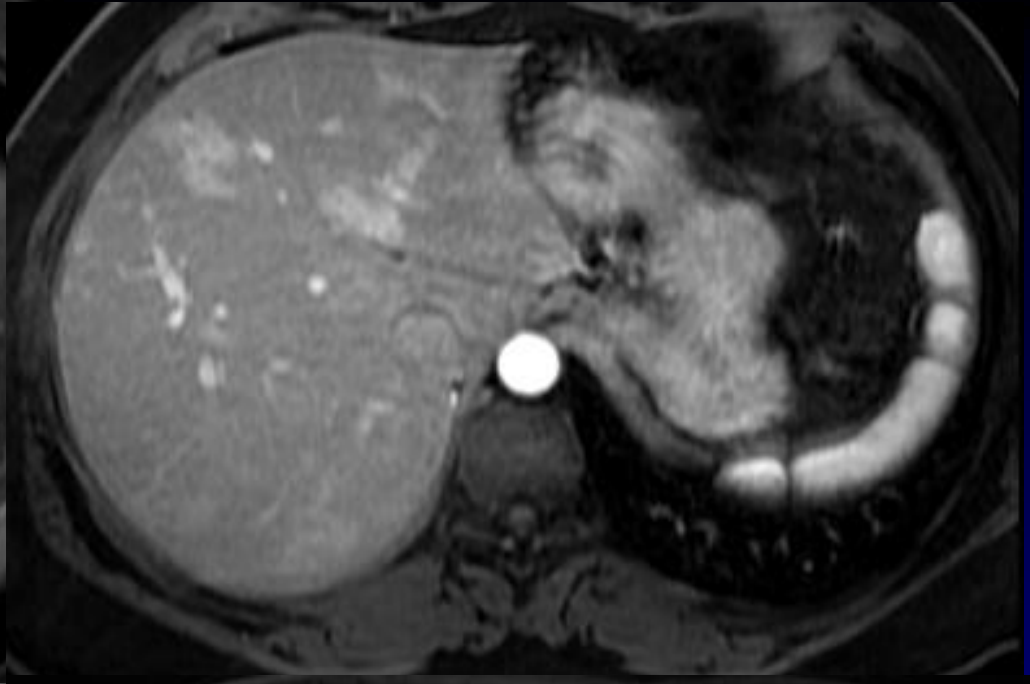
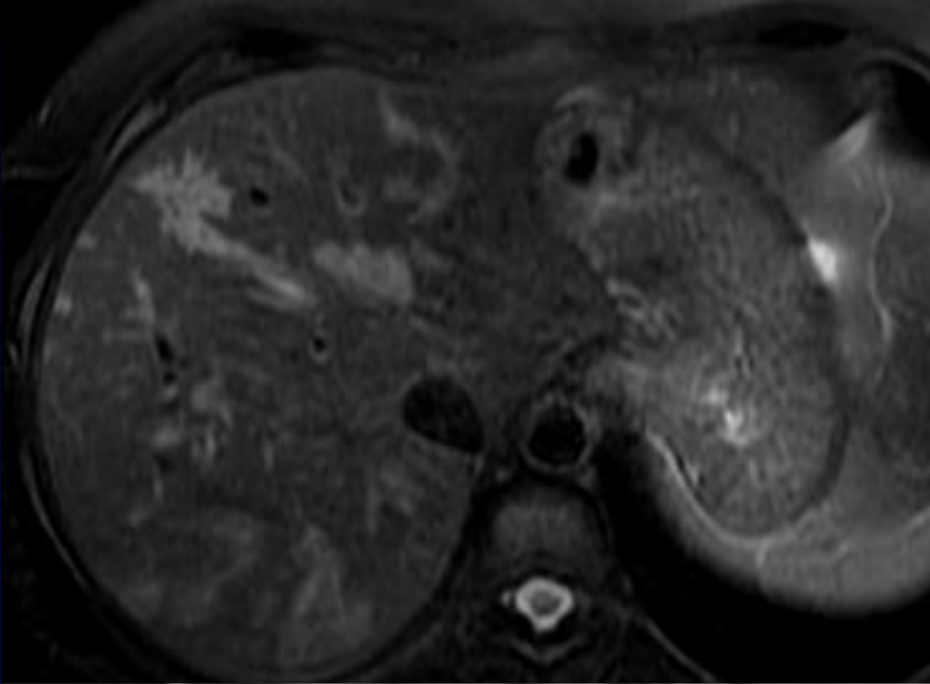
**hypervascular foci**

**no mass effect**

47 year old male with lung carcinoid







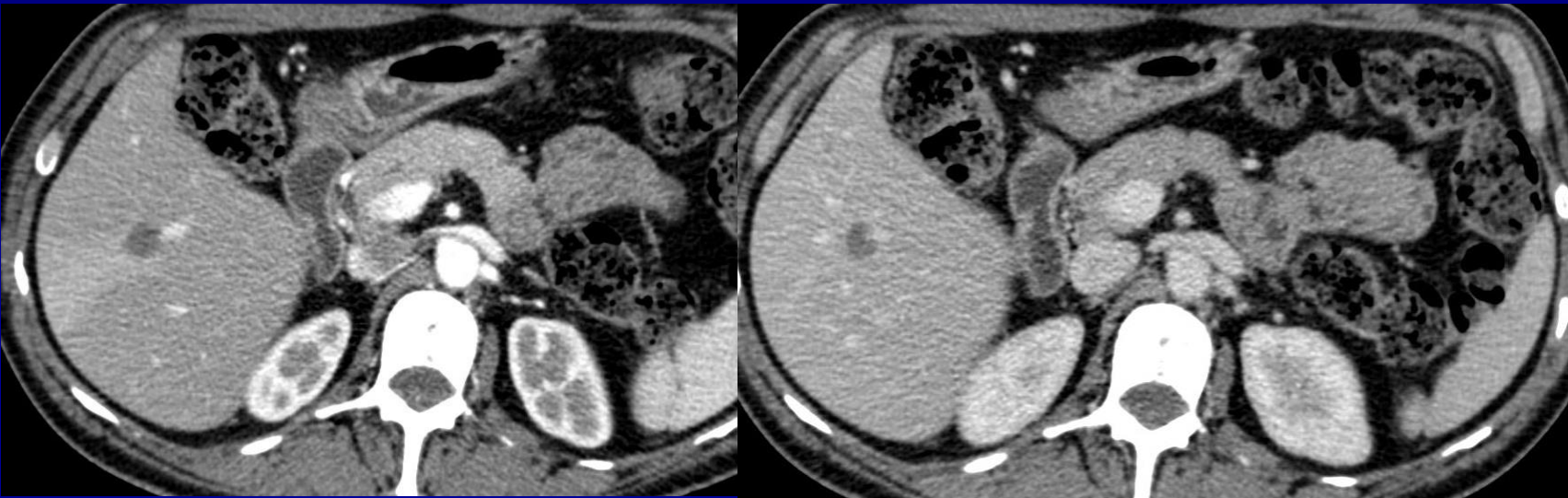
Courtesy of K Morteale

# THAD & THID

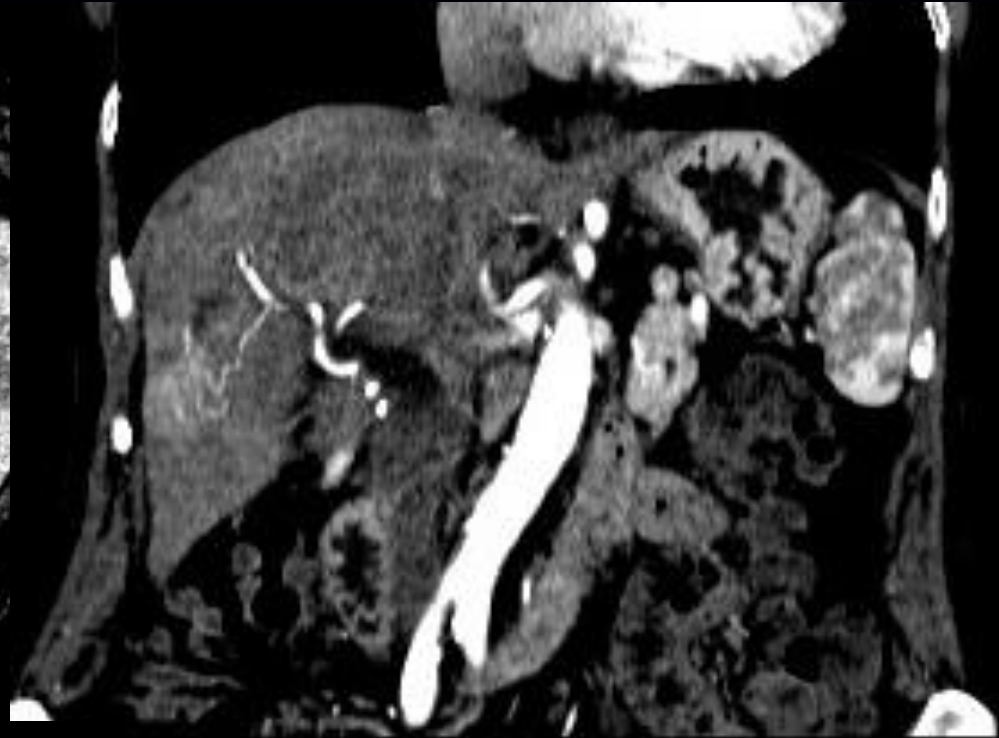
- **THAD**: transient hepatic attenuation difference
- **THID**: transient hepatic intensity difference

- **Imaging Features**

- wedge-shaped (90%), portal venous territory
- late arterial phase: hyperenhancing
- portal venous phase: isodense or isointense







- Vascular diseases are common
- From asymptomatic to life-threatening
- Classification:
  - Diseases of outflow/inflow/sinusoids
- Ddx with hypervascular tumors
- Imaging useful for more accurate diagnosis >>  
less need for further imaging