

# BOWEL MANAGEMENT FOR FECAL INCONTINENCE

**Andrea Bischoff, MD**

The 66<sup>th</sup> Workshop for the Surgical Treatment of Colorectal Problems in Children



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# The problem we all live with



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# Patients

- Anorectal malformation
- Hirschsprung's
- Myelomeningocele
- Sacrococcygeal teratoma
- Trauma



# At what age do we recommend to start formal bowel management?

- A. 1 year of age
- B. 2 years of age
- C. 3 years of age
- D. 4 years of age
- E. 5 years of age



# Fecal incontinence is normal at birth



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# What are our recommendations until the age of formal bowel management (before 3 yo)?

- A. Give a suppository every night
- B. Give an enema every night
- C. Give baby lax every night
- D. Avoid and treat constipation
- E. Constipating diet



How do you decide if a patient with anorectal malformation needs laxatives or enemas?



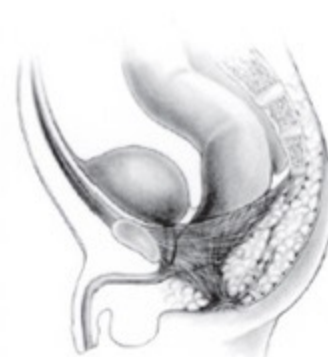




1. Recto-perineal fistula: 100% chances of bowel control\*~



2. Recto-vestibular fistula: 95% chances of bowel control\*~



3. Recto-urethral bulbar fistula: 85% chances of bowel control\*~



4. Imperforate anus without fistula: 80 – 90% chances of bowel control\*~^



5. Recto-urethral prostatic fistula: 65% chances of bowel control\*



6. Recto-bladderneck fistula: 15% chances of bowel control\*



7. Cloaca with common channel length less than 3cm: 70% chance of bowel control\*

\*Provided patients have a normal sacrum (Sacral Ratio > 0.7), no tethered cord, and that they receive a technically correct operation

~Patients with good bowel functional prognosis are the ones who suffer from the most severe type of constipation

^High incidence of Trisomy 21.



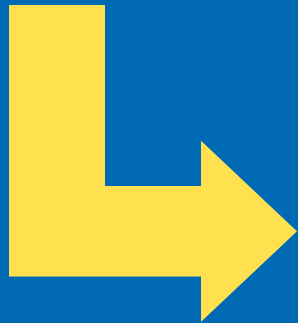


# Concept Number 1:

- Differentiate :
  - pseudo-incontinence
  - VS.
  - true fecal incontinence

# Fecal pseudo-incontinence

- Malformations with good prognosis (perineal, vestibular, bulbar, cloaca with common channel < 3cm),
- Normal sacrum,
- No tethered cord.



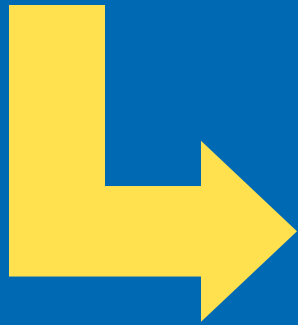
**CONSTIPATION AND OVERFLOW IS THE PROBLEM.**

**THE CLINICIAN MUST DETERMINE THE ADEQUATE LAXATIVE DOSAGE.**



# True Fecal Incontinence

- Malformations with bad prognosis (bladderneck fistula, cloaca with common channel > 3cm),
- Sacral ratio < 0.4,
- Tethered cord, myelomeningocele.



**PATIENT HAS NO POTENTIAL FOR BOWEL CONTROL.  
NEEDS BOWEL MANAGEMENT WITH ENEMAS.**



30 yo, male patient, born  
and operated due to  
recto-bladderneck  
fistula, complaining of  
fecal incontinence.



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# What does he suffer from?

1. True fecal incontinence
2. Fecal pseudo-incontinence





**What treatment does this patient need?**

- A. Laxatives
- B. Enemas



**What treatment  
does this patient  
need?**



- A. Laxatives
- B. Enemas



# What treatment does this patient need?

- A. Laxatives
- B. Enemas

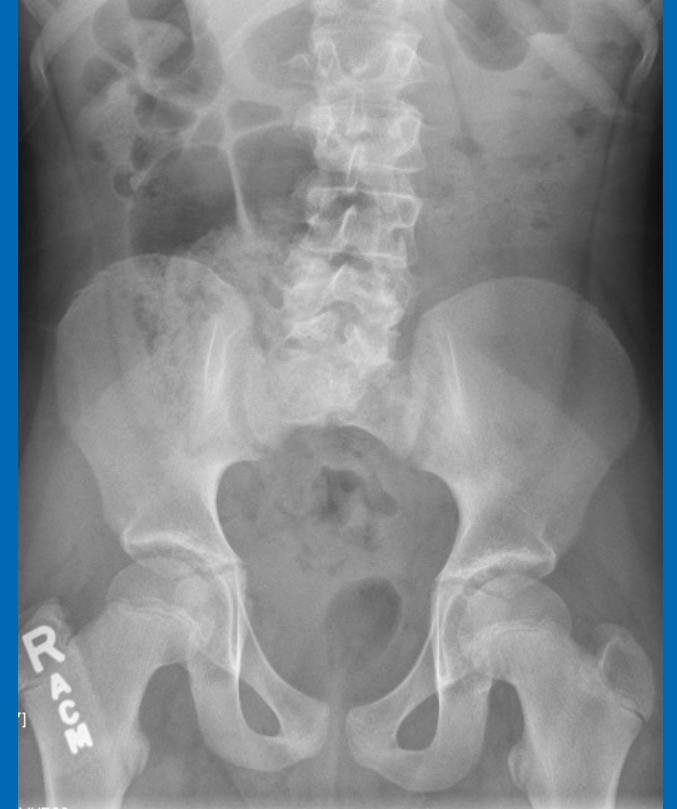


Before the operation



# What treatment does this patient need?

- A. Laxatives
- B. Enemas



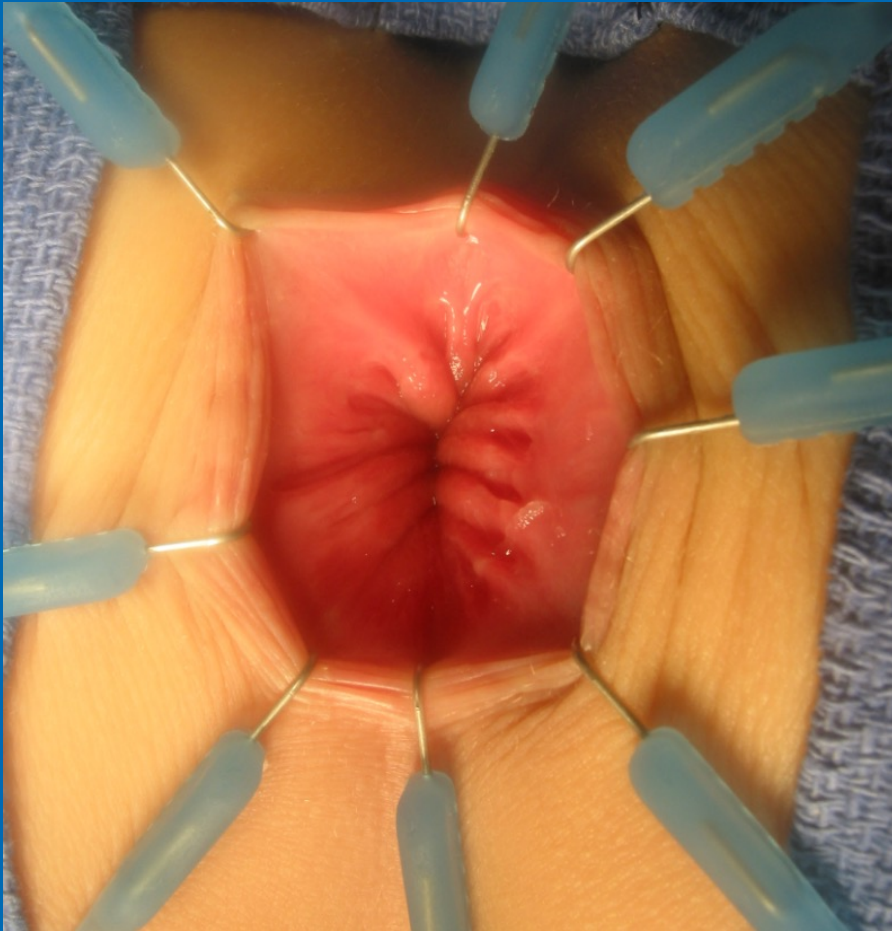
# How do you decide if a patient with Hirschsprung needs laxatives or enemas?

- A. Based on the integrity of the anal canal examined under anesthesia.
- B. Based on the amount and characteristics of the colon on the contrast enema.
- C. All of the above

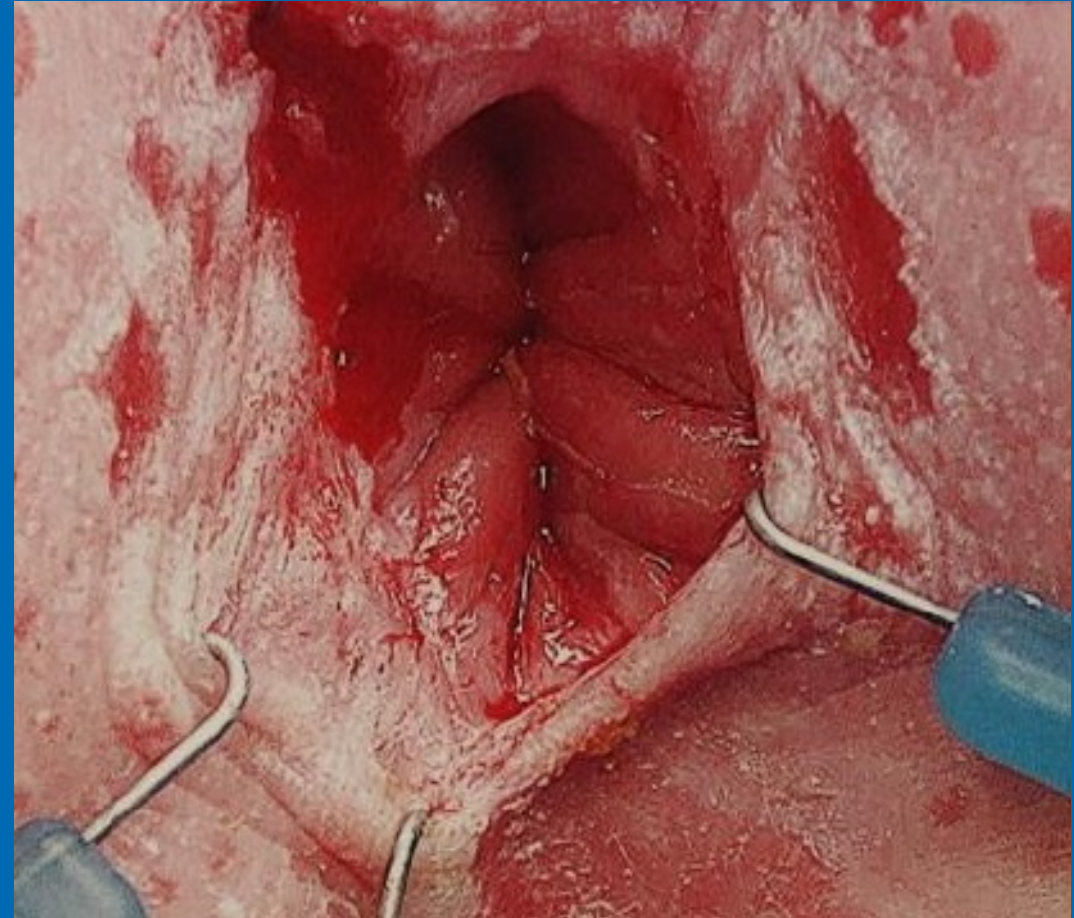




# Normal anal canal



# Damaged anal canal



# Concept Number 2:

- Determine the characteristics of the patient's colon by looking at the contrast enema and dividing the patients into two groups:

**FECALLY INCONTINENT WITH A DILATED COLON (tendency to constipation)**

**FECALLY INCONTINENT WITH A NON DILATED COLON (tendency to diarrhea)**





# Fecally Incontinent with a Dilated Colon



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# Dilated Colon (hypomotility)



Large volume and  
concentrated  
enemas



# Bowel Management



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# Fecally Incontinent with a NON Dilated Colon



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# NON Dilated Colon

(hypermotility)



Small Enema  
Constipating Diet  
Loperamide  
Fiber (pectin)



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# Bowel Management Hyperactive Colon



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# Enema components

- Saline Solution (200 - 1000ml),
- Glycerin (10 - 40ml),
- Castile soap (9 - 36ml),
- Phosphate (Fleet®)
  - < 4 years - 33 ml
  - > 4 < 10 years - 66 ml
  - > 10 years - 133 ml



# Concept Number 3

- Regularly monitor the result of the enema with abdominal radiographs to check the amount of stool in the left colon.



**TRIAL AND ERROR!**



# Concept Number 4

- Modify the type of enema daily, during a one week period, depending on the clinical results and the abdominal radiograph.

# Concept Number 5

- Do not administer laxatives and enemas in the same patient.

# Enema Administration Technique

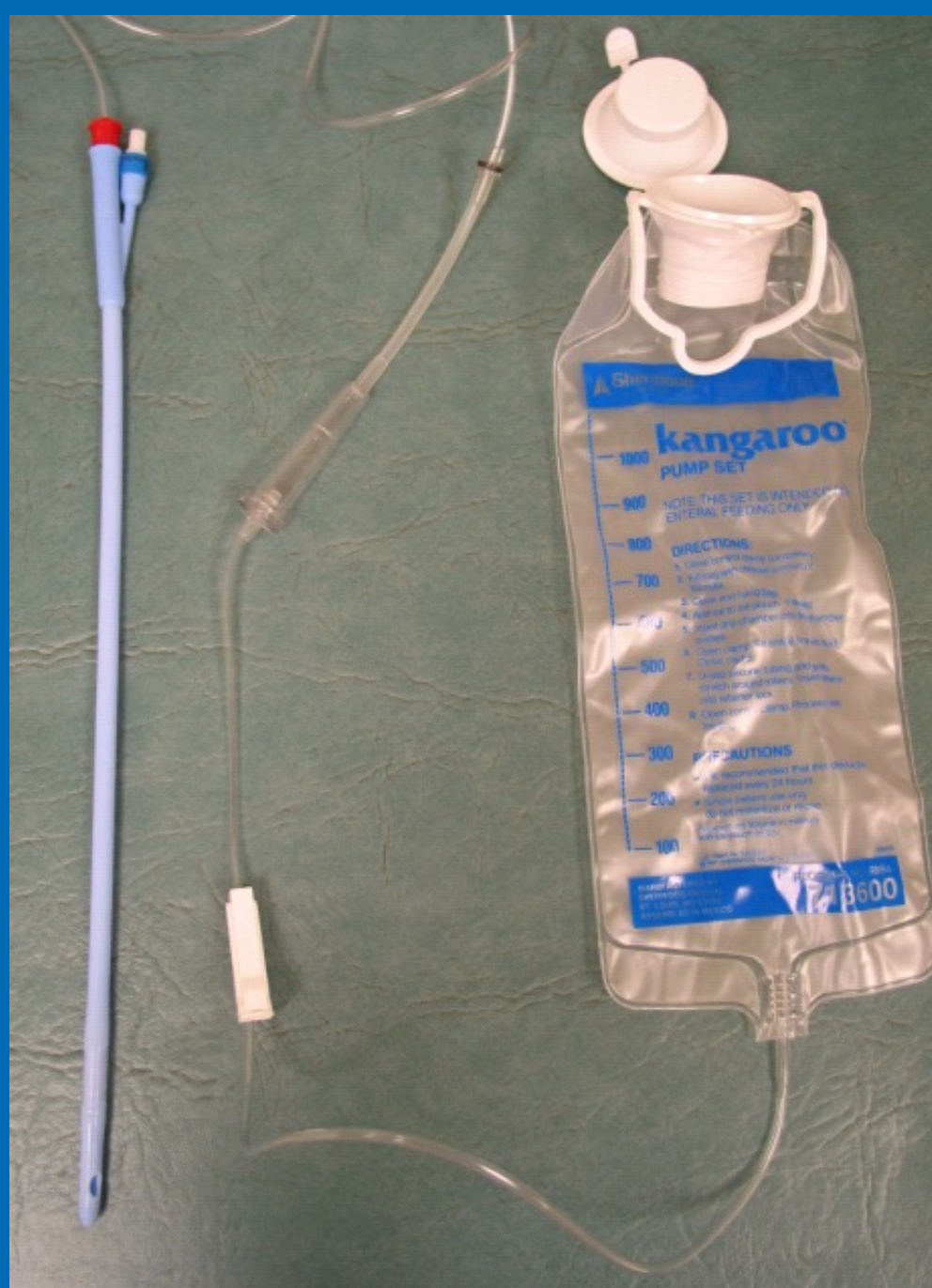


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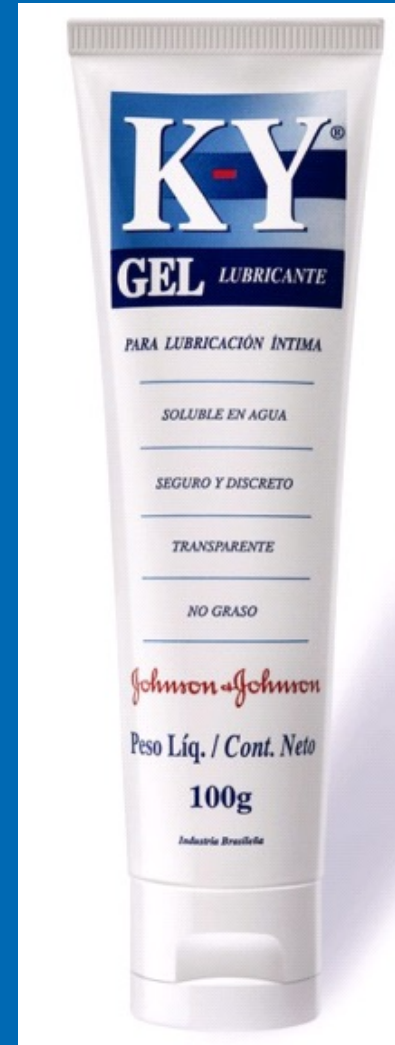


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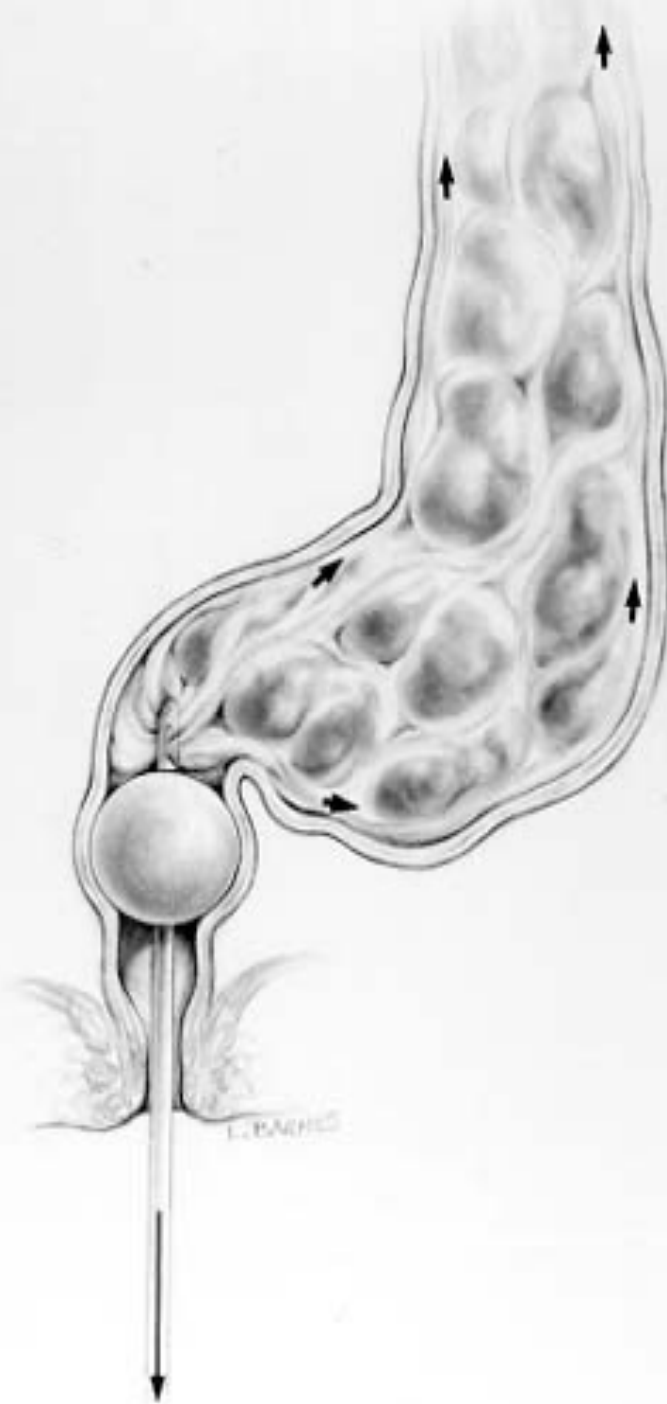
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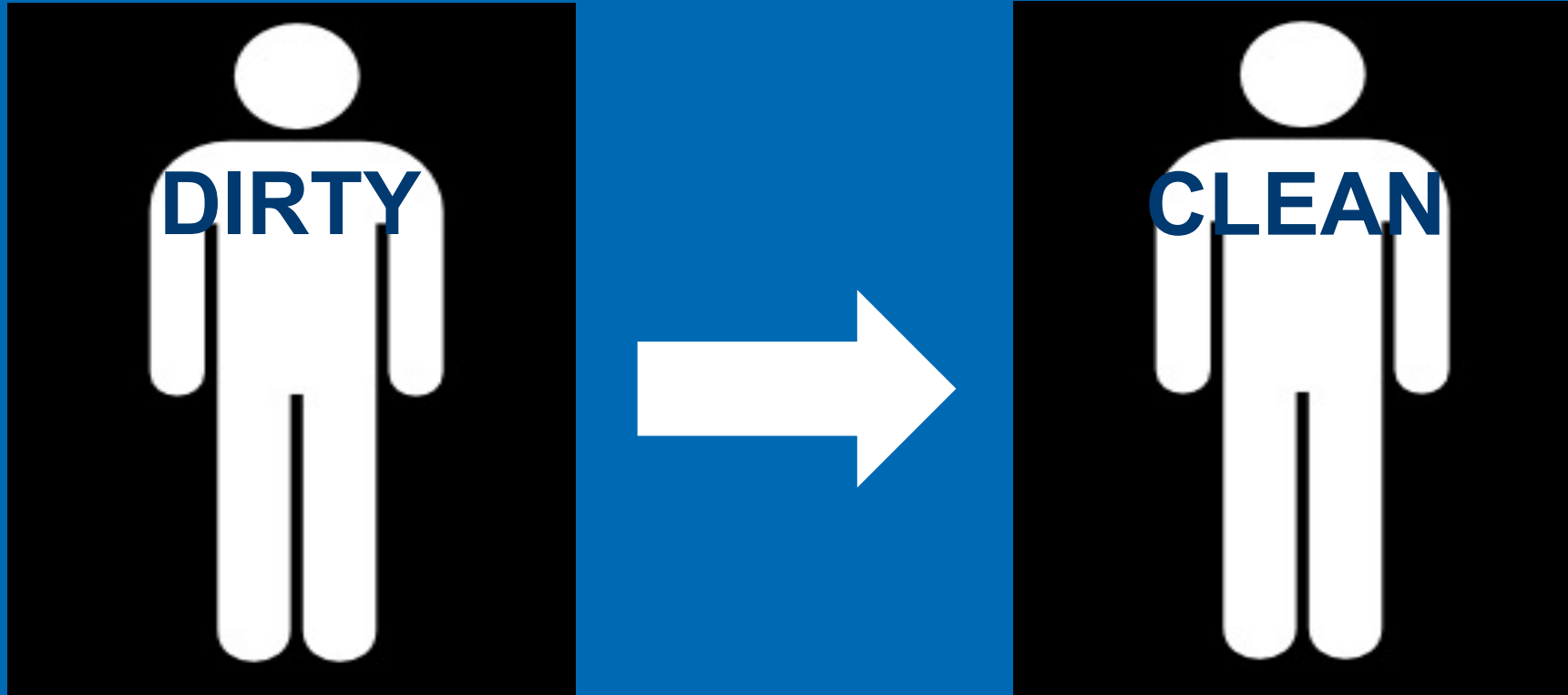


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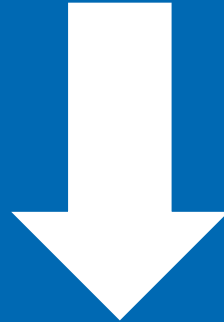
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# Bowel Management Troubleshooting



# How to adjust the enema

- Patient's underwear is not clean and abdominal film shows significant amount of stool in the left colon

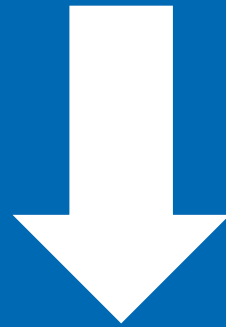


- Increase volume and/or concentration of the enema



# How to adjust the enema

- Parents report that it took more than one hour, after receiving the enema, to have a bowel movement



- Increase the concentration of the enema



# How to adjust the enema

- Pain, nausea or vomiting during the enema with abdominal film that is:

clean



Decrease  
enema's  
concentration

stool in the left colon



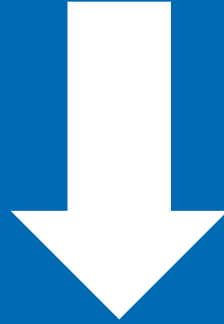
Slow administration  
and warm the solution





# How to adjust the enema

- Clear liquid accident just after the enema

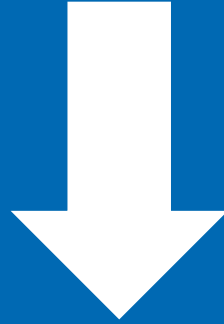


- Decrease the volume or pass a Foley catheter after the bowel movement or decrease the concentration.



# How to adjust the enema

- Child cannot handle the amount of volume prescribed.

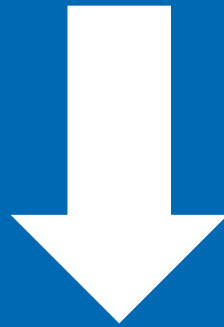


- Decrease the volume and increase the concentration.



# How to adjust the enema

- Clean colon in abdominal x-ray and the child is still passing stool (having accidents) between enemas



- Add Loperamide and constipating diet



# Our Results

overall 95% success



Hypomotility  
(dilated colon)

**97%** success



Hypermotility  
(non dilated colon)

**81%** success



# “New” Concept:

- Bowel Management through the stoma.
  - Cloacal exstrophy patients
  - Patients with anorectal malformation that received a “colostomy for life”





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# New Concept

- Bowel management for diaper rash (after colostomy closure).

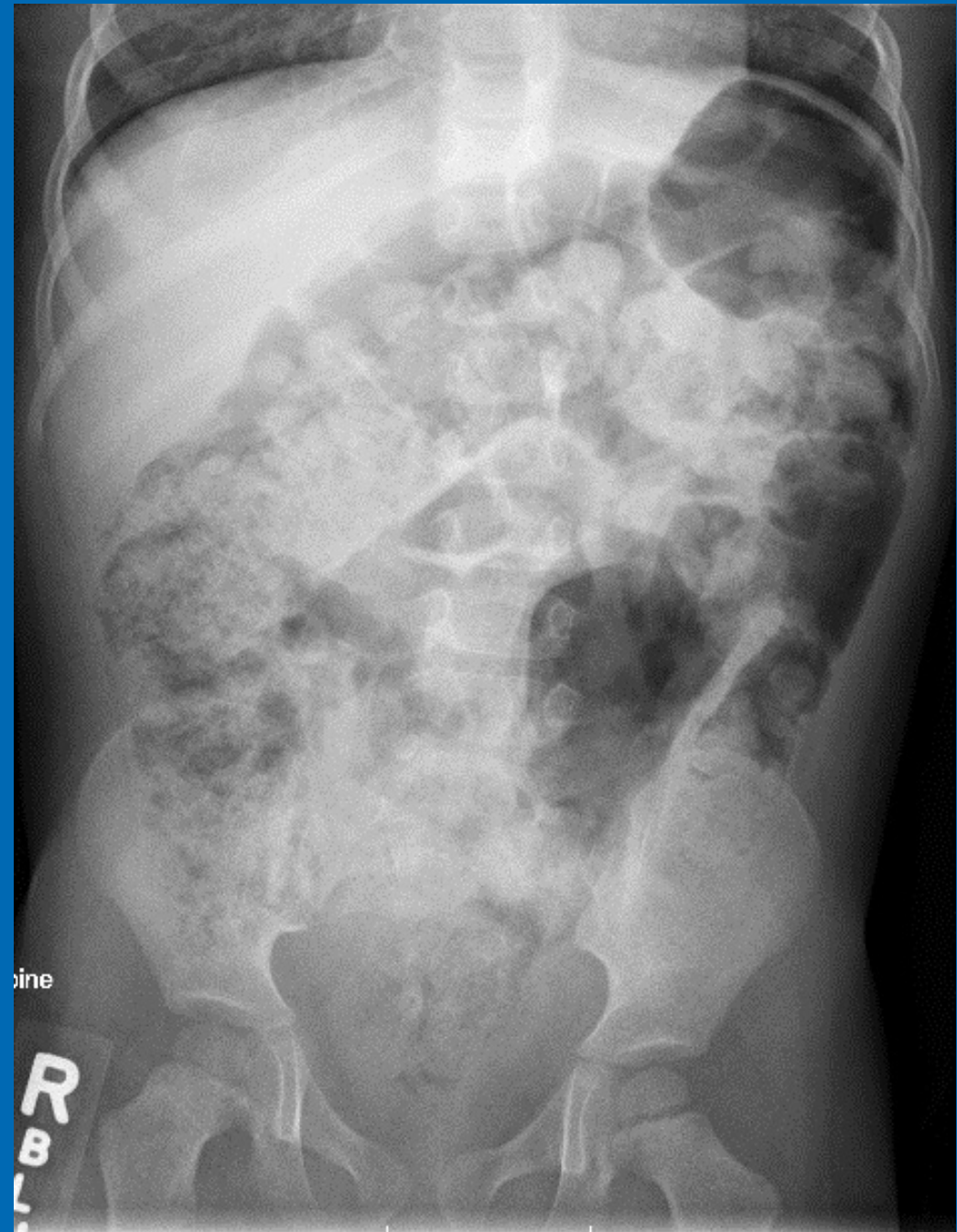




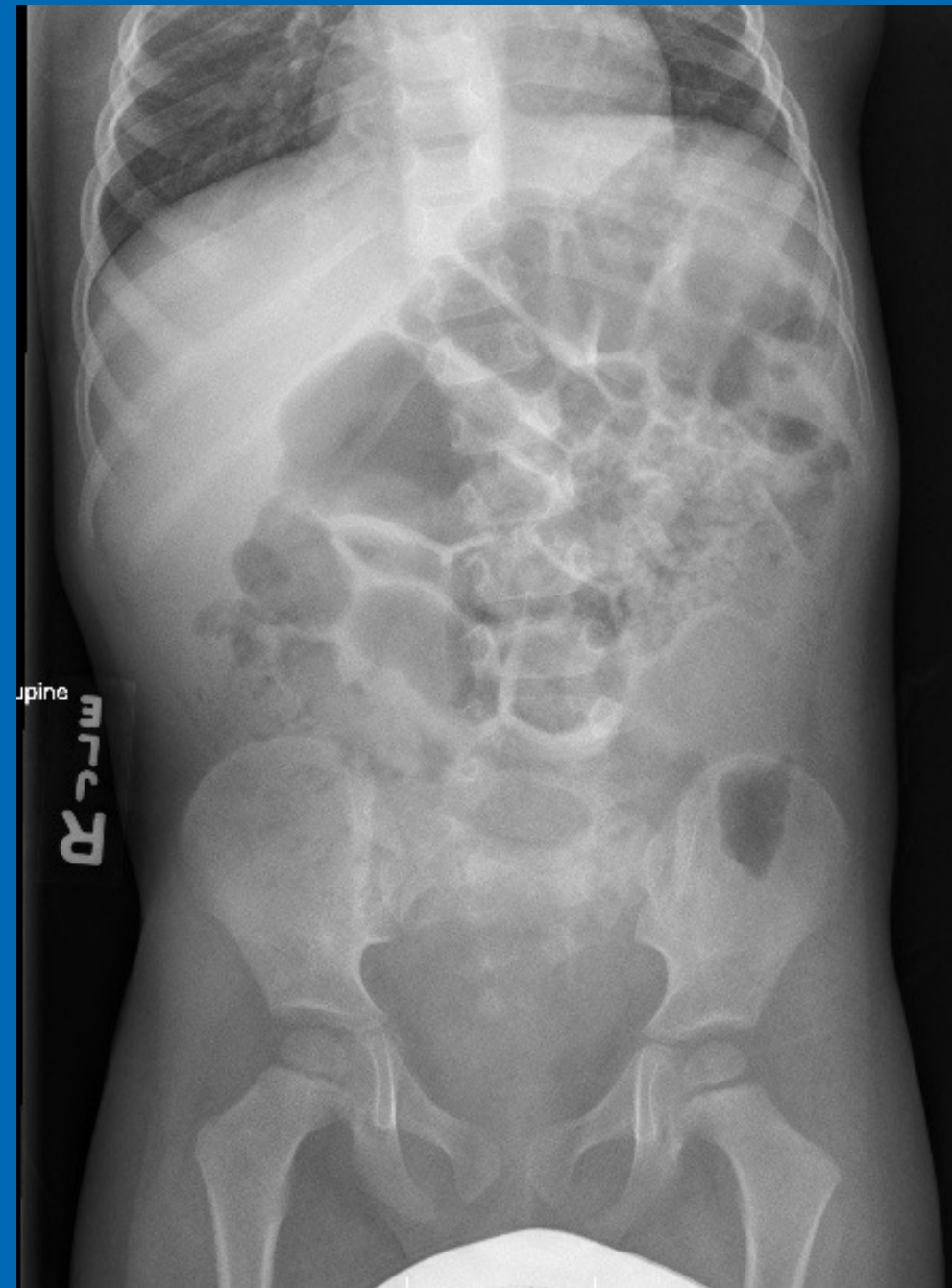
Residual contrast from the  
previous day's exam. Enema:  
500ml normal saline + 10 ml of  
glycerin.



No more contrast but still a significant amount of stool.  
Parent's report: still passing stool between enemas.  
Decision: 500 ml of saline + 20 ml of glycerin.



Colon almost clean, reported  
less accidents. Decision: 500 ml  
of saline + 30 ml of glycerin.



Clean colon,  
clean child.



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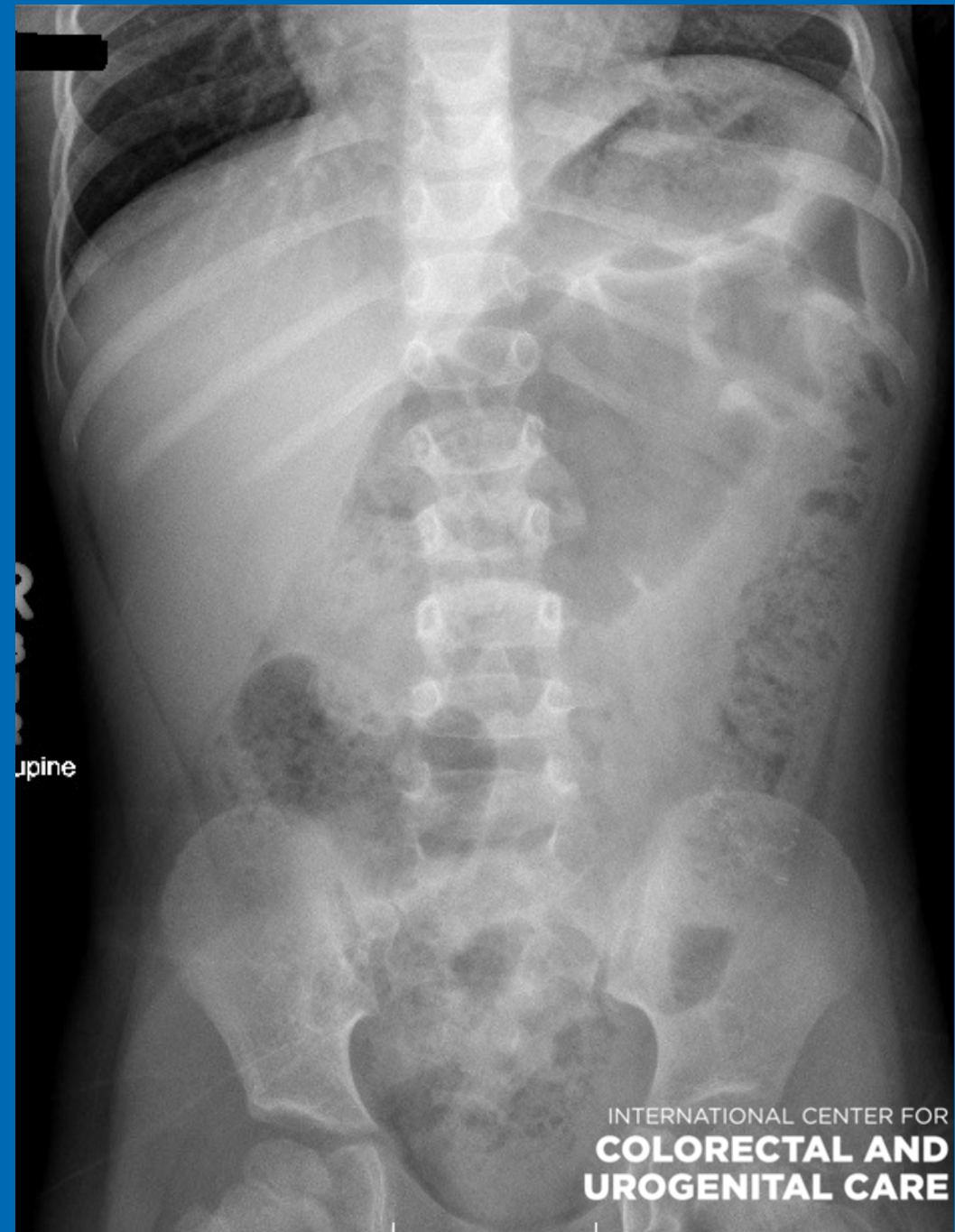


**10 yo, female  
patient with fecal  
incontinence.**

**What enema do you  
want to start her on?**



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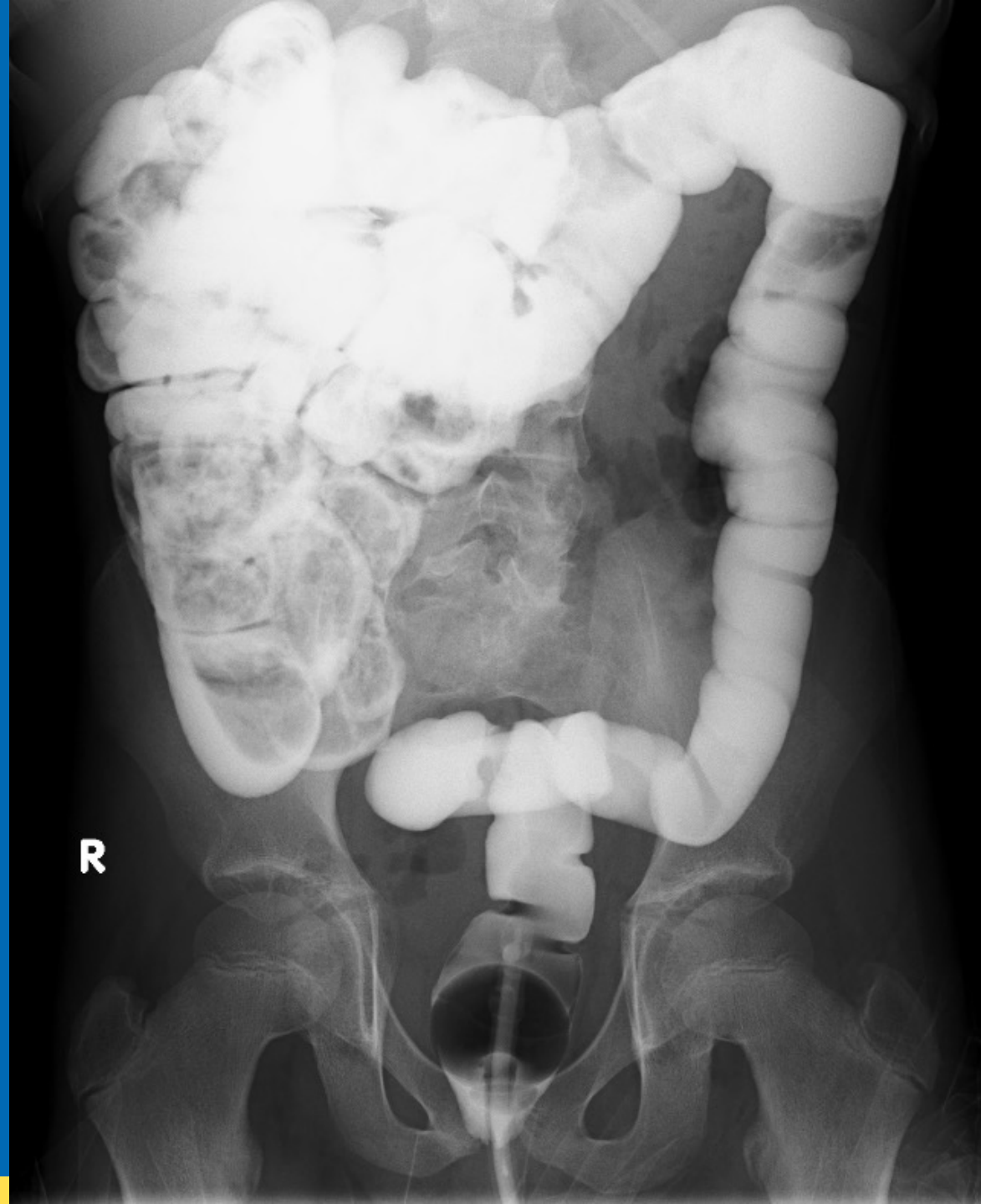




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# 11 yo, ARM

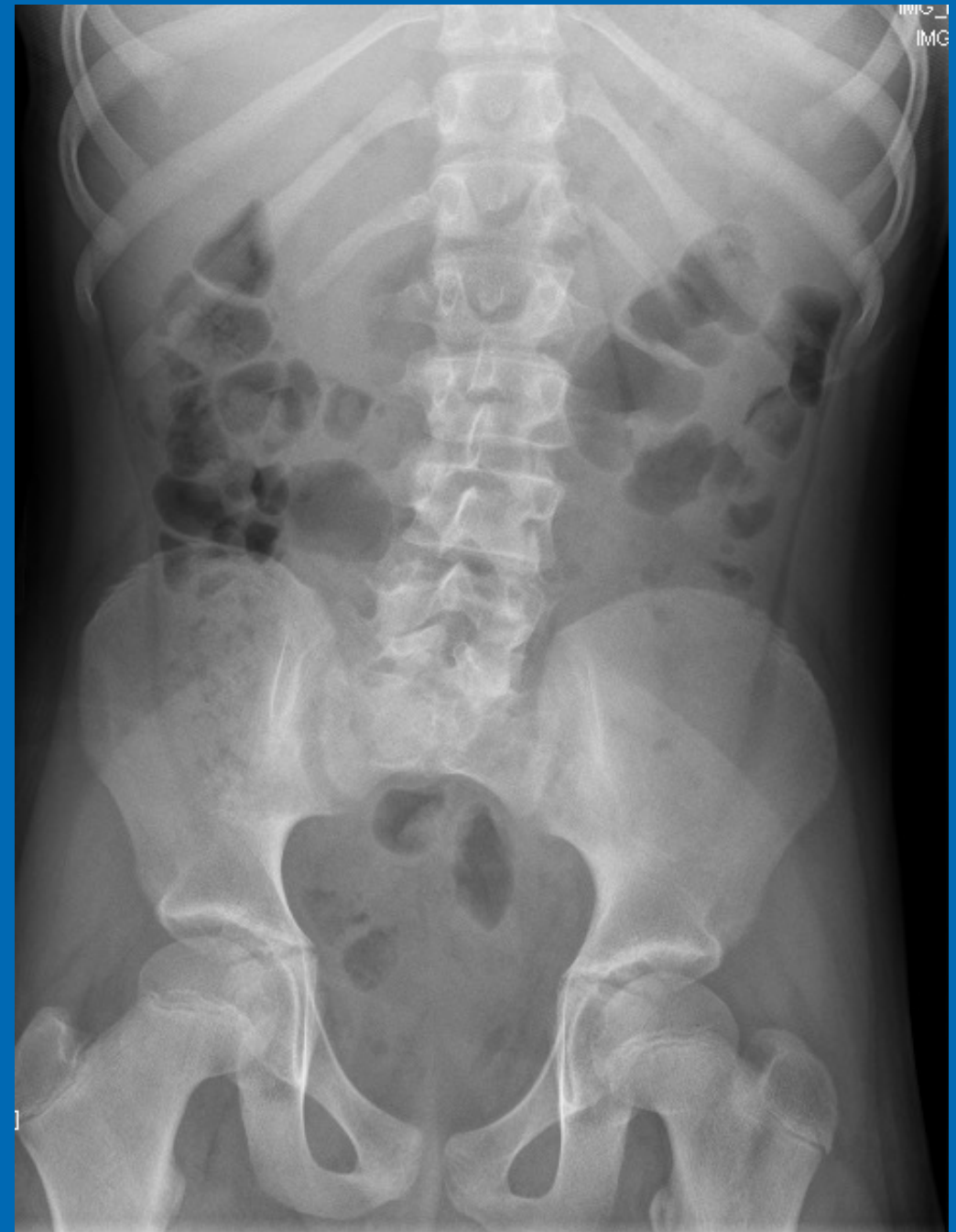


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# Abdominal radiograph one day after the contrast enema



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# Based on the contrast enema:

- A. Hypermotile (non-dilated)
- B. Hypomotile (dilated)

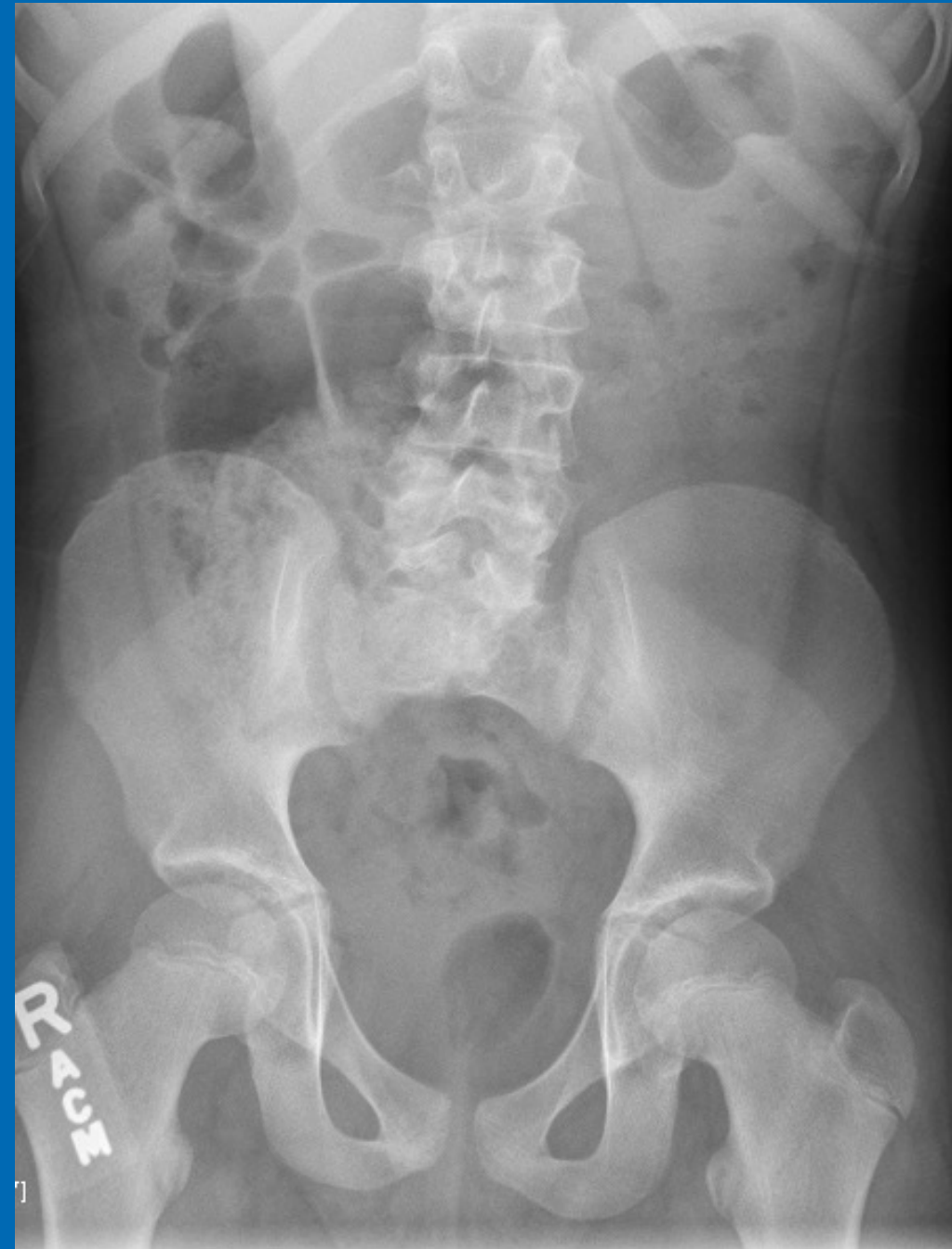


# What enema do you want to start him on?

- A. 300 ml of saline only
- B. 300 ml of saline + 1 pediatric fleet
- C. 1000 ml of tap water
- D. 300 ml of saline + 30 of glycerin + 27 ml of soap



# 6 accidents



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# What changes do you want to make on his enema?

- A. Increase the concentration to 300 ml of saline + 30 ml of glycerin
- B. Decrease the volume to 100 ml of saline
- C. Add Imodium



# Clean patient



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**You are on call and a mother calls at 2 am saying that she put the enema in her daughter today and nothing came out. Patient is a little uncomfortable but stable. What do you recommend?**

- A. Give another enema
- B. Keep the child seated in the toilet
- C. Give laxatives
- D. Pass a Foley catheter and get as much fluid out, x-ray tomorrow
- E. Come to the emergency room





**For the same girl in the previous slide, the x ray sent the following morning showed accumulation of stool. What is your recommendation?**

- A. She needs a Malone to improve the enema administration
- B. She needs colonic resection
- C. She needs a more concentrated enema
- D. She needs a less concentrated enema
- E. She needs laxatives



## **Dosage (Usual)** Oral:

Acute diarrhea:

Children: Initial doses (in first 24 hours):

2-5 years (13-20 kg): 1 mg 3 times/day

6-8 years (21-30): 2 mg twice daily

9-12 years (>30 kg): 2 mg 3 times/day

After initial dosing, 0.1 mg/kg doses after each loose stool but not exceeding initial dosage

Children >12 years and Adults: 4 mg initially, followed by 2 mg after each loose stool, up to 16 mg/day

Chronic diarrhea:

Children: 0.08-0.24 mg/kg/day divided 2-3 times/day, maximum: 2 mg/dose

Adults: 4 mg initially followed by 2 mg after each unformed stool until diarrhea is controlled; reduce dosage to meet individual requirements. When optimal dosage is determined, may administer total dosage once daily or in divided doses. Average daily maintenance dosage: 4-8 mg; if improvement is not seen with 16 mg/day for at least 10 days, symptoms are unlikely to be controlled by further therapy

## DIETS

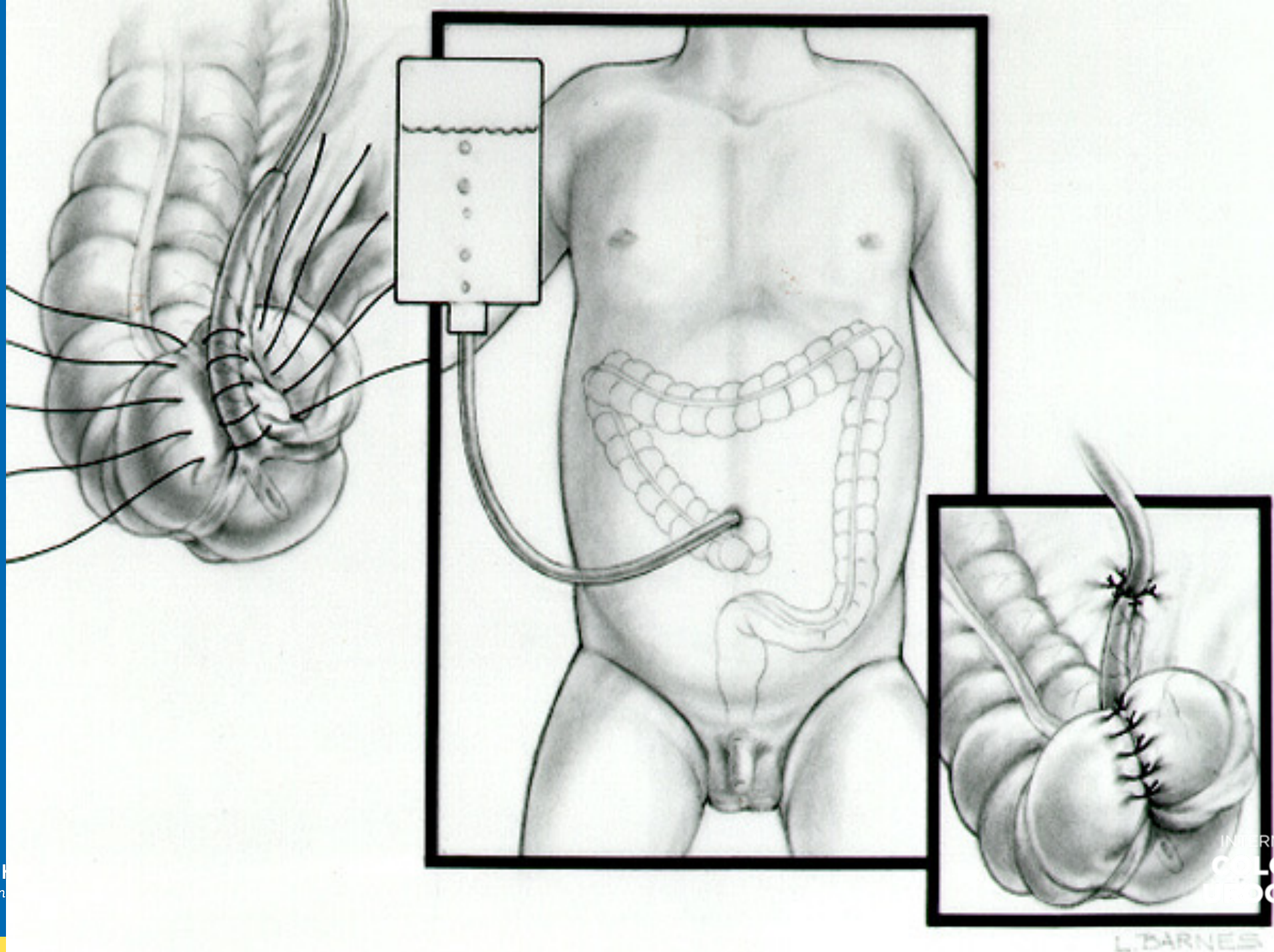
### Laxative Foods

Milk or Milk Products  
Fats  
Fried Foods  
Fruits  
Vegetables  
Spices  
Fruit Juices  
French Fries  
Chocolate

### Constipating Foods

Apple Sauce  
Apple Without Skin  
Rice  
White Bread  
Bagels  
Boiled, Broiled, Baked Meat, Chicken or Fish  
Soft Drinks  
Banana  
Pasta  
Pretzels  
Tea  
Potato  
Jelly (No Jam)





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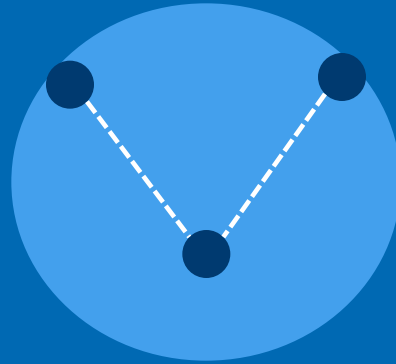
# Malone Procedure



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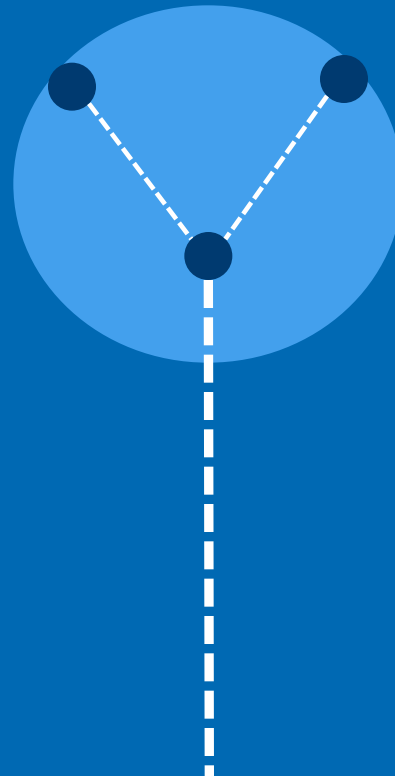
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# Malone Procedure



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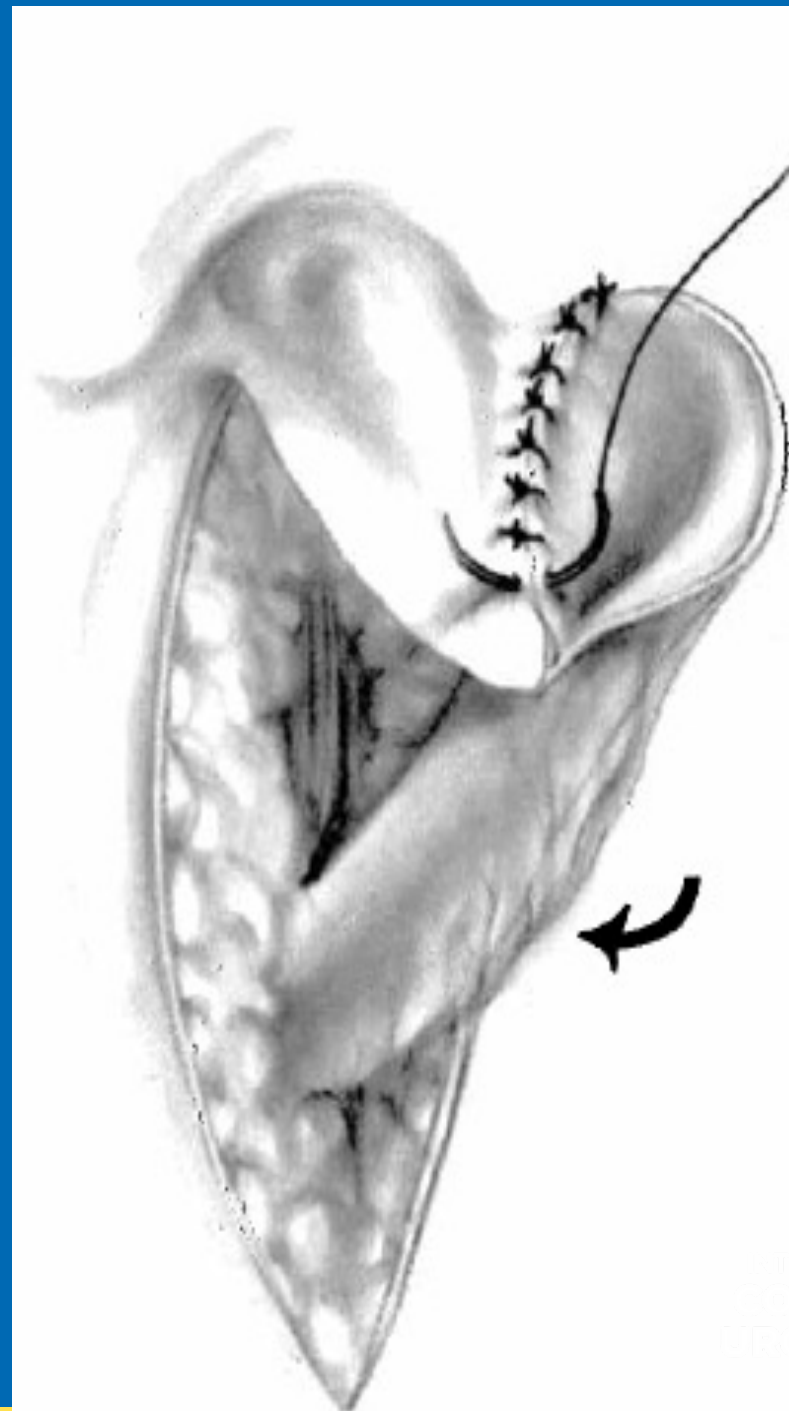
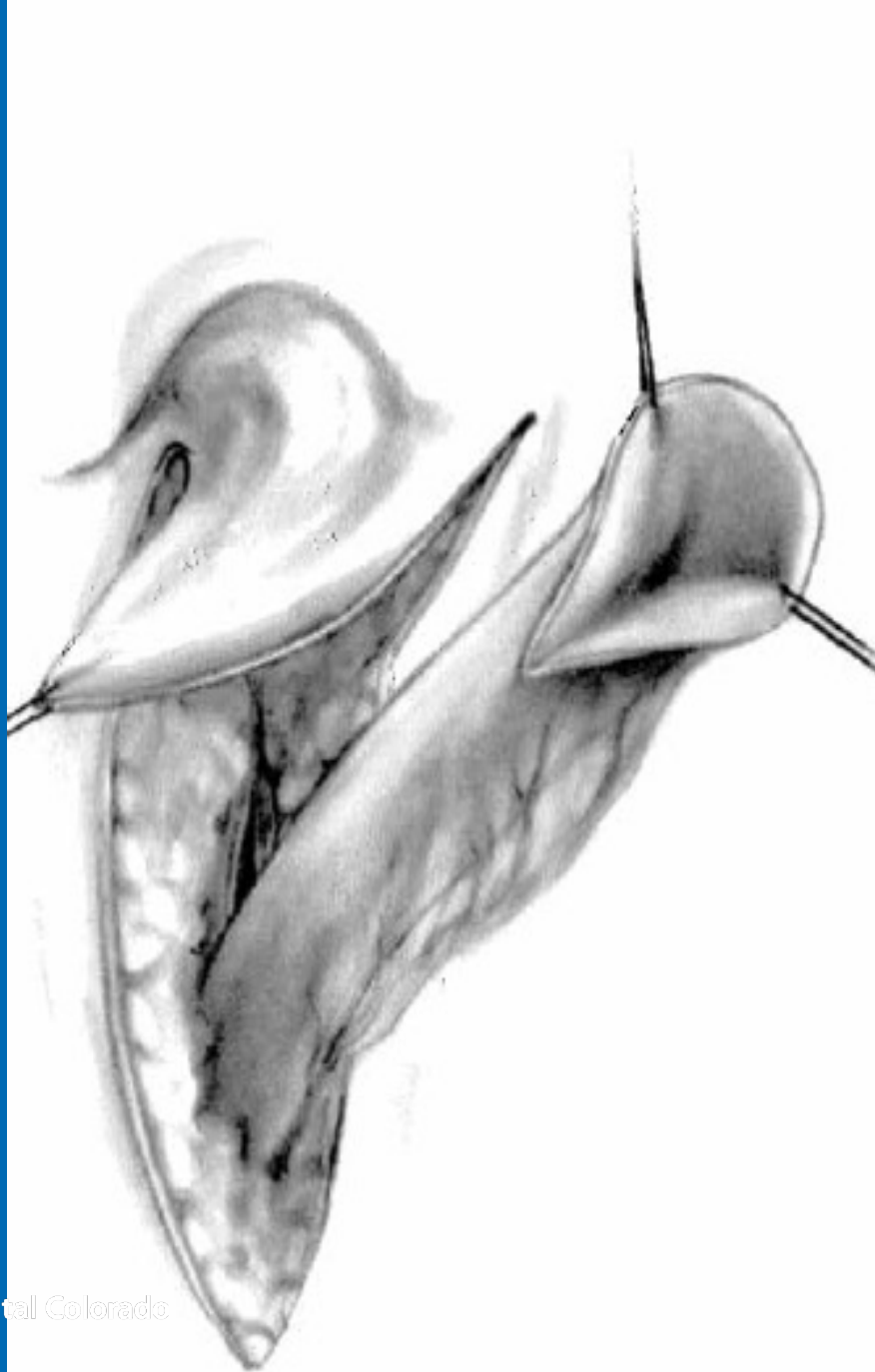
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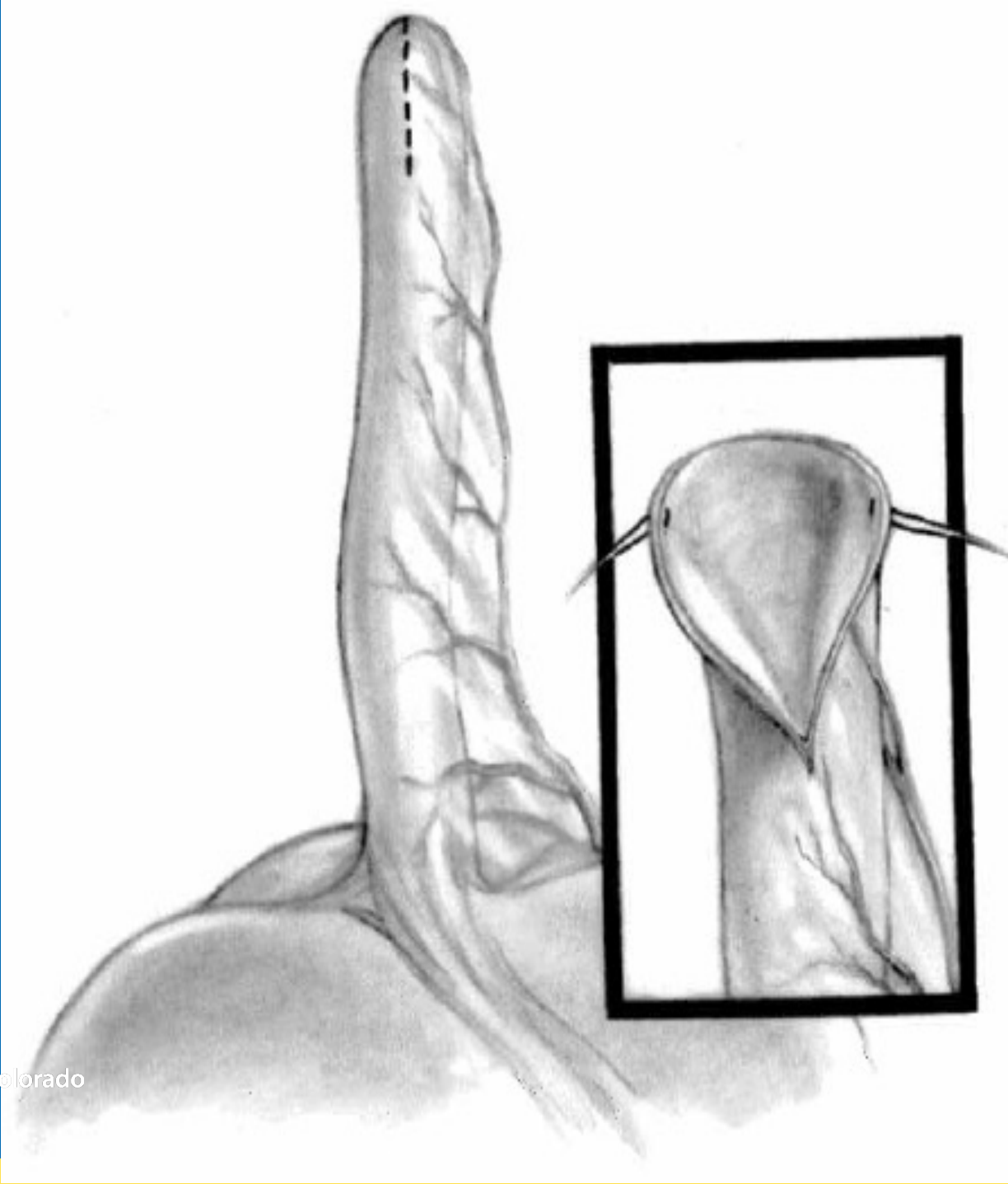


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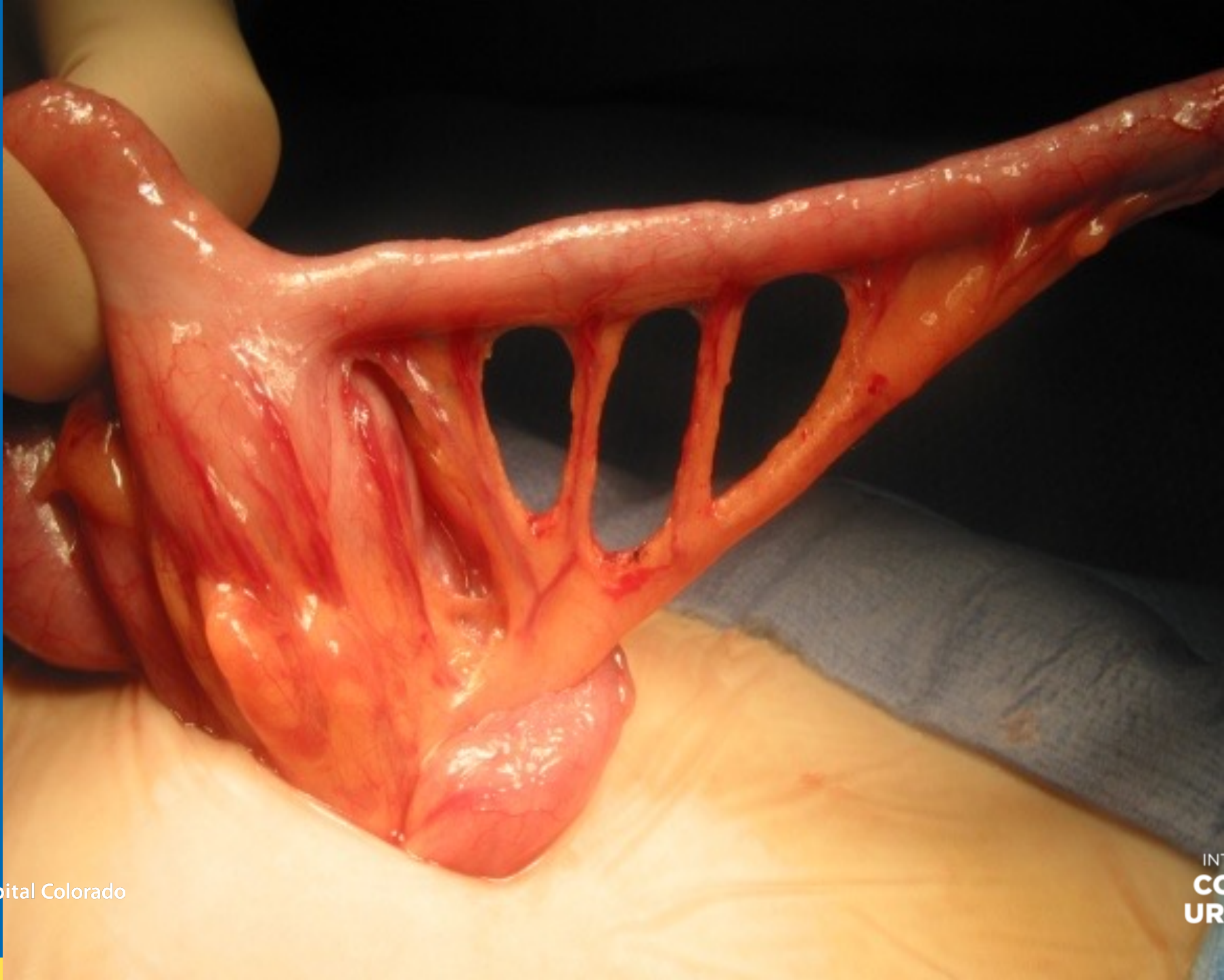
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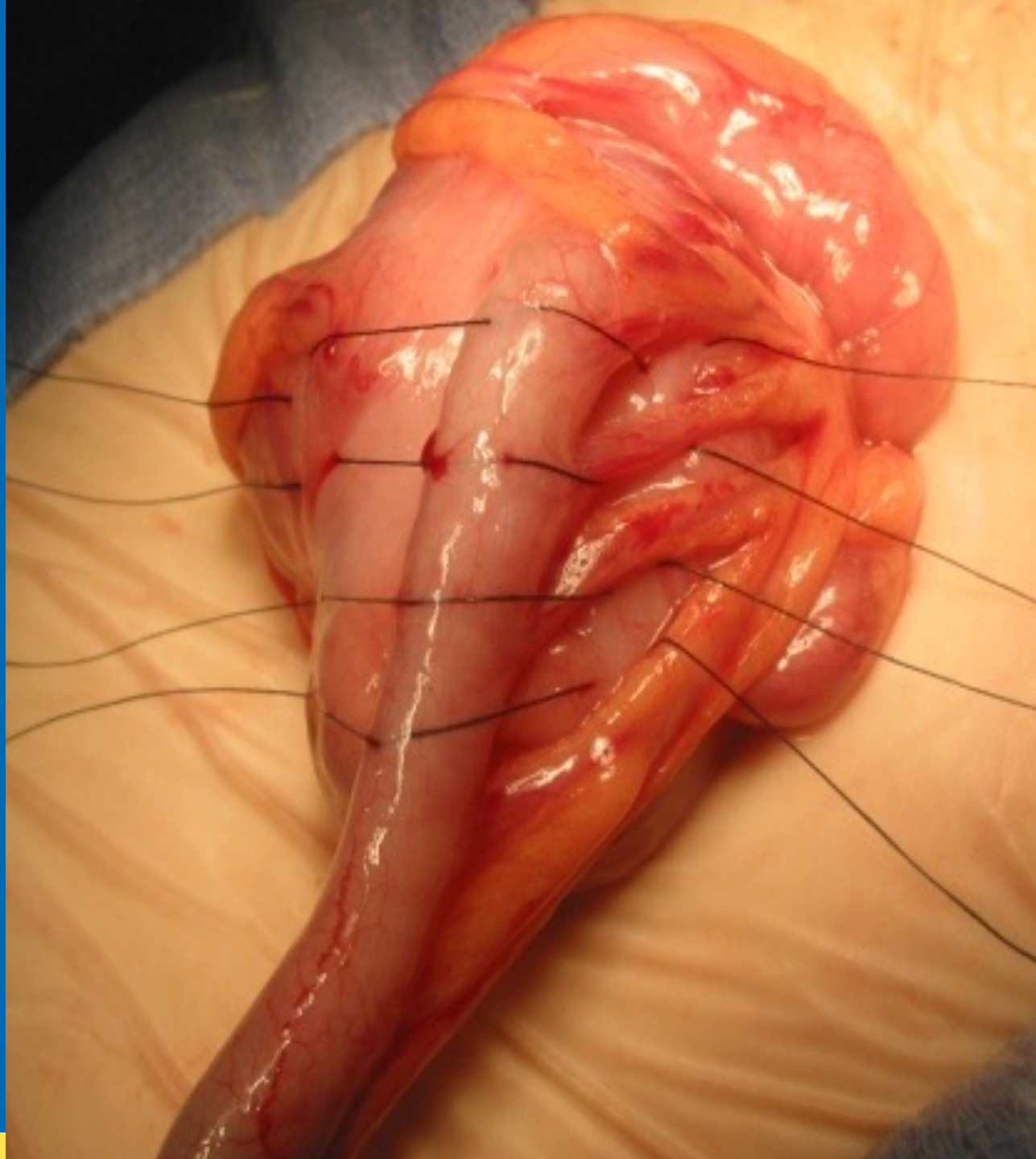


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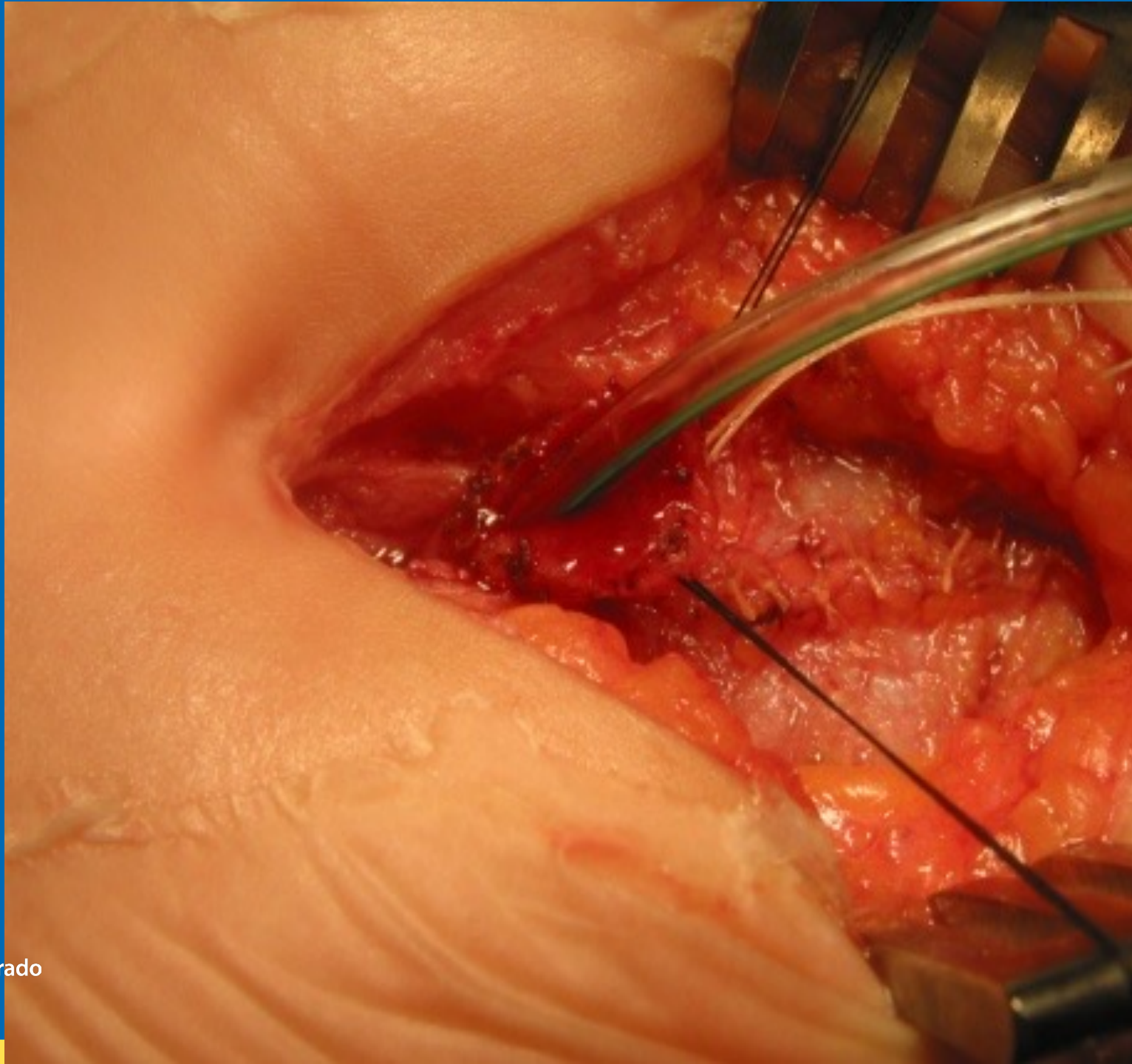
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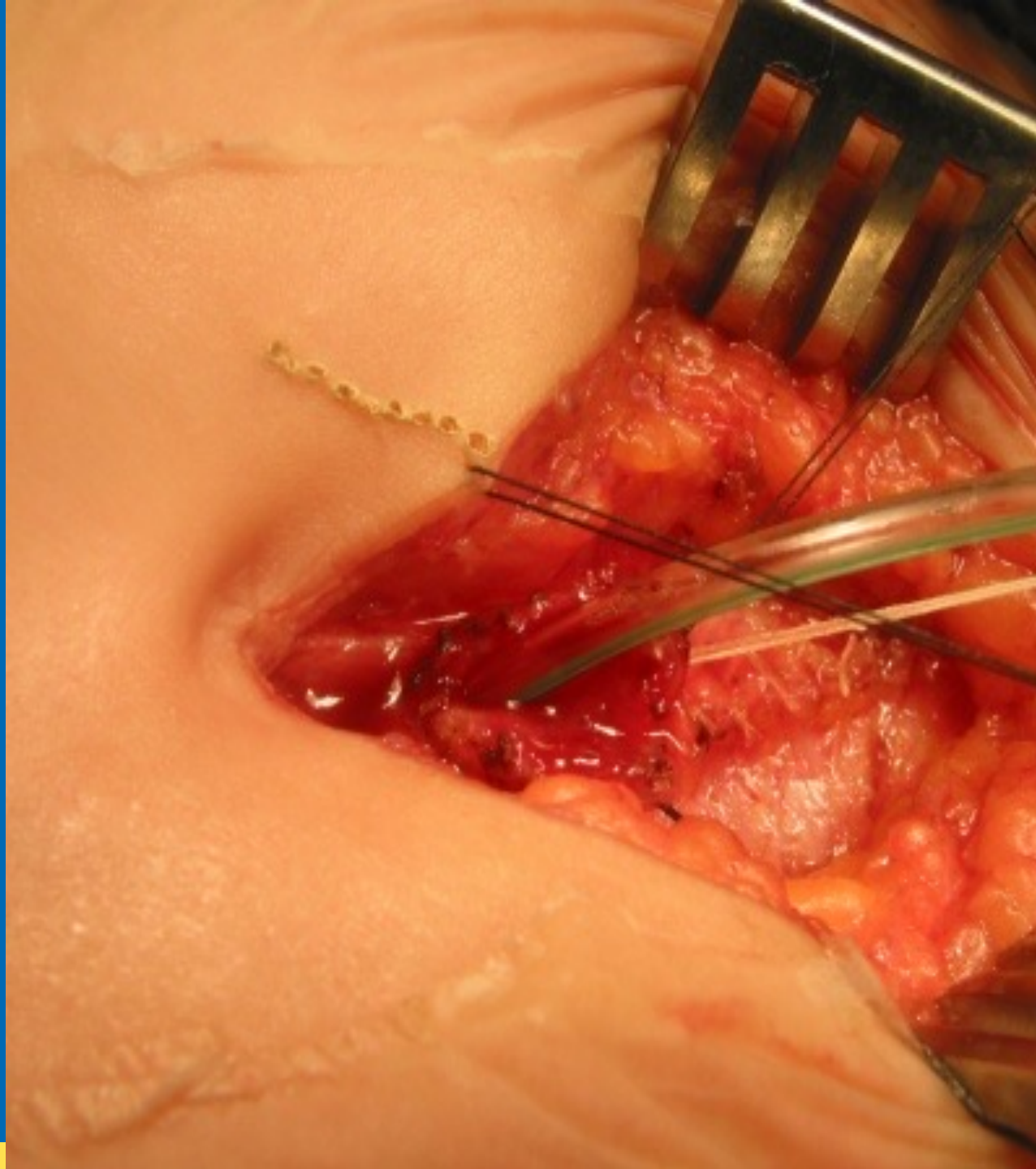
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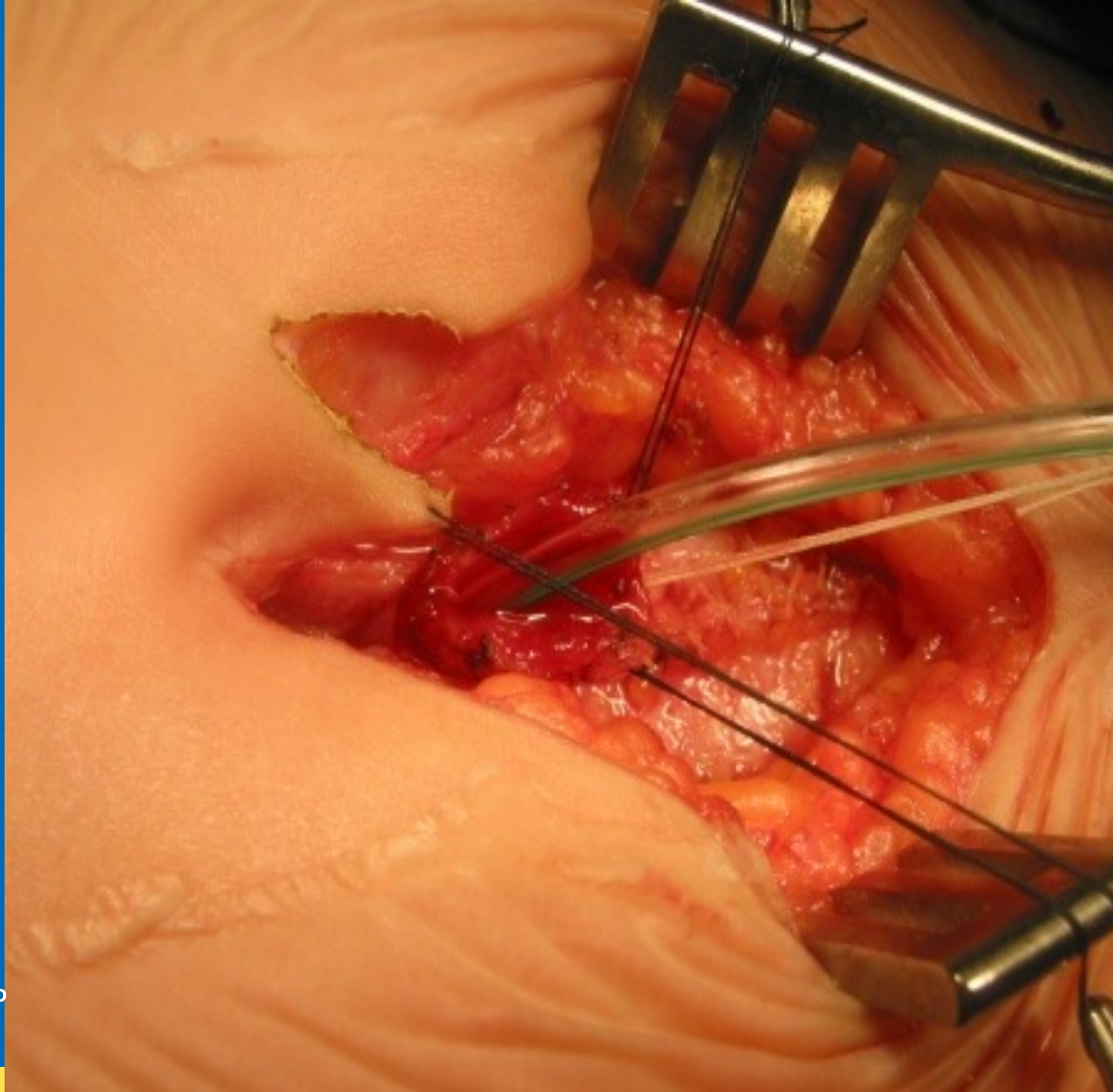
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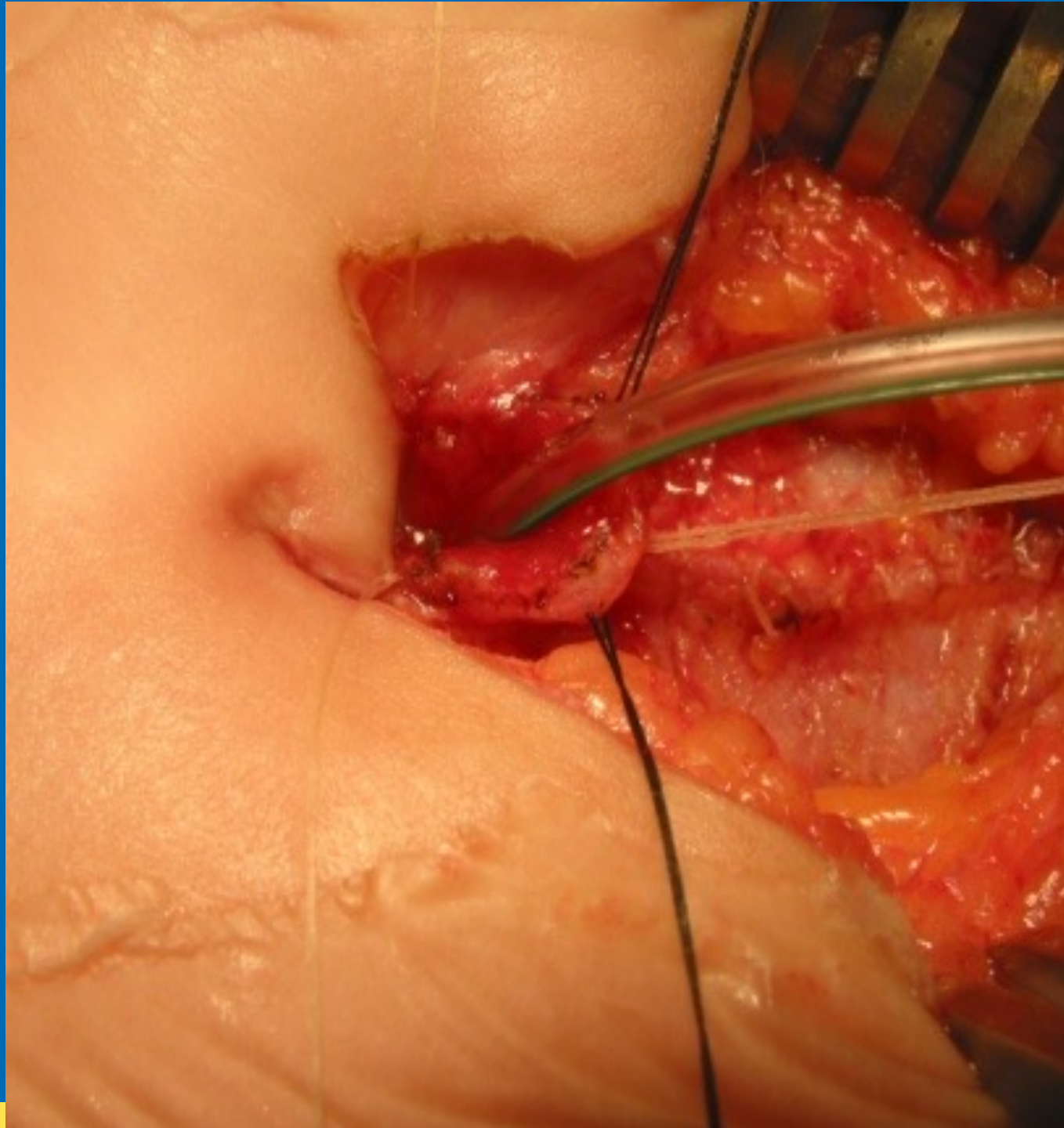




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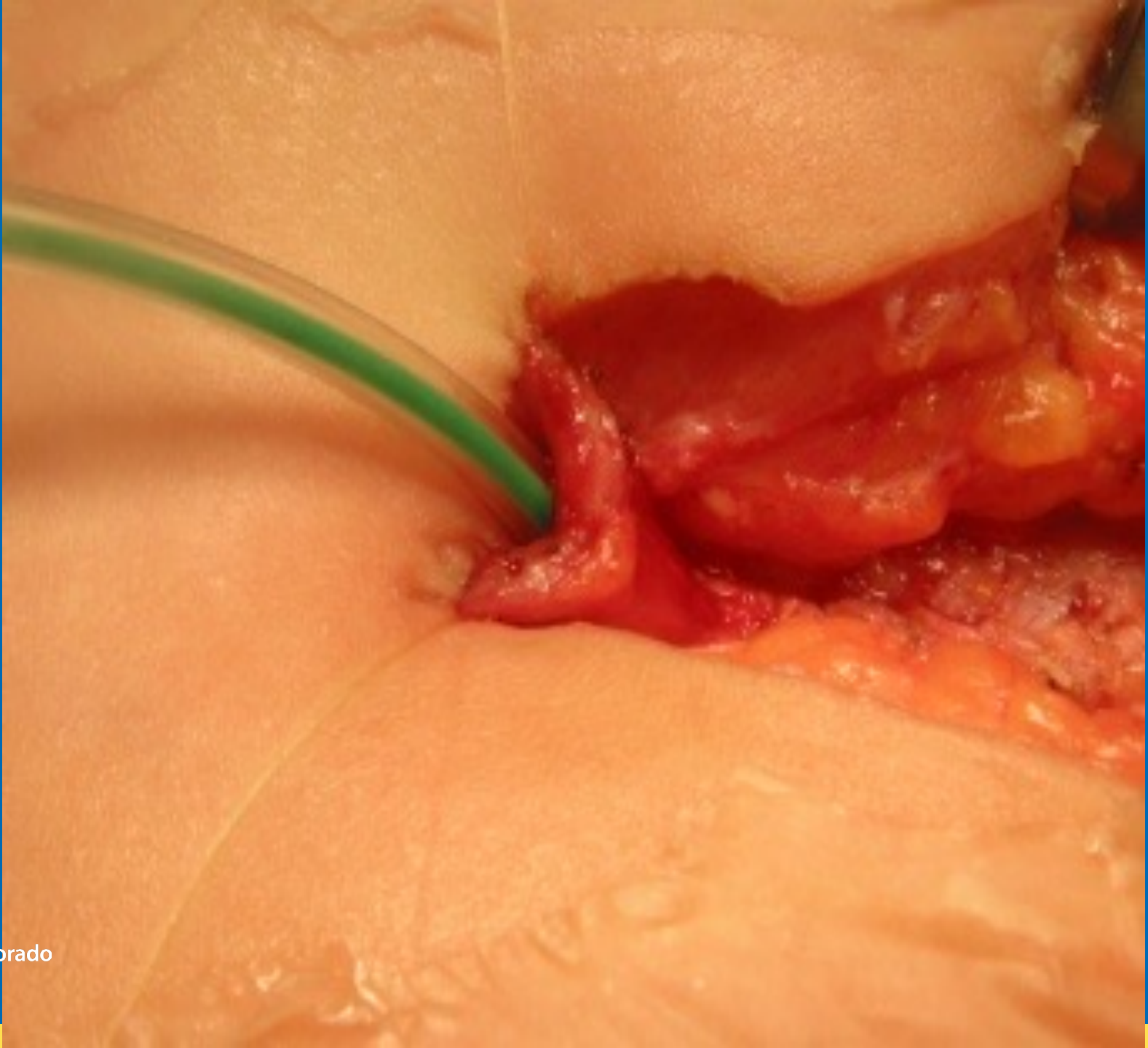
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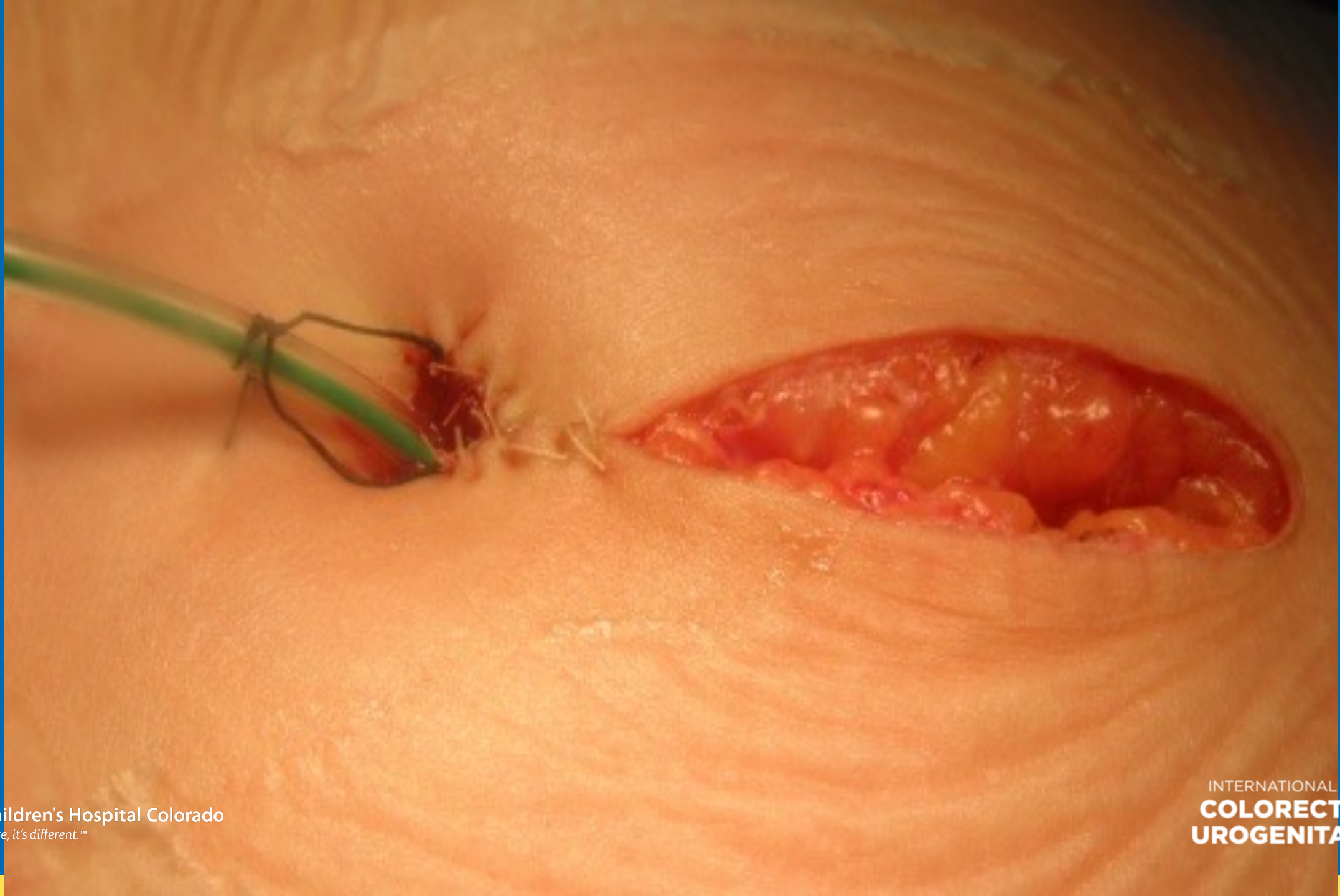
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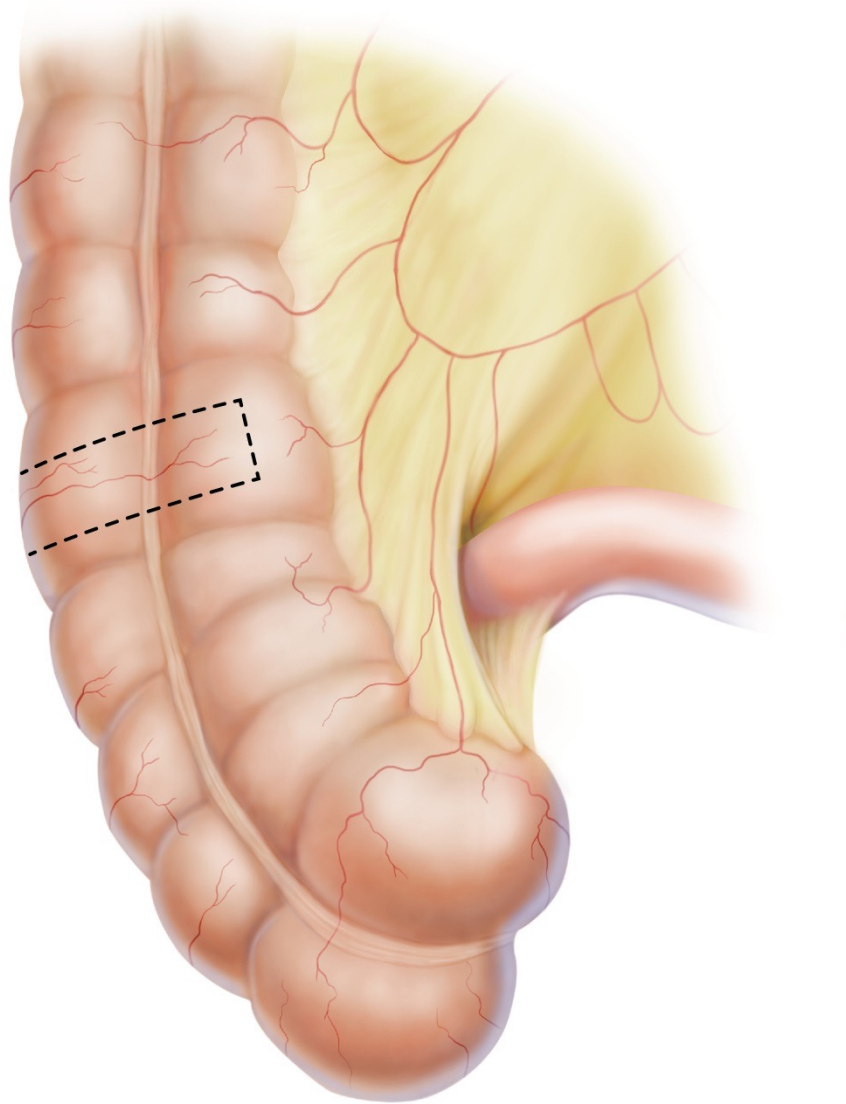
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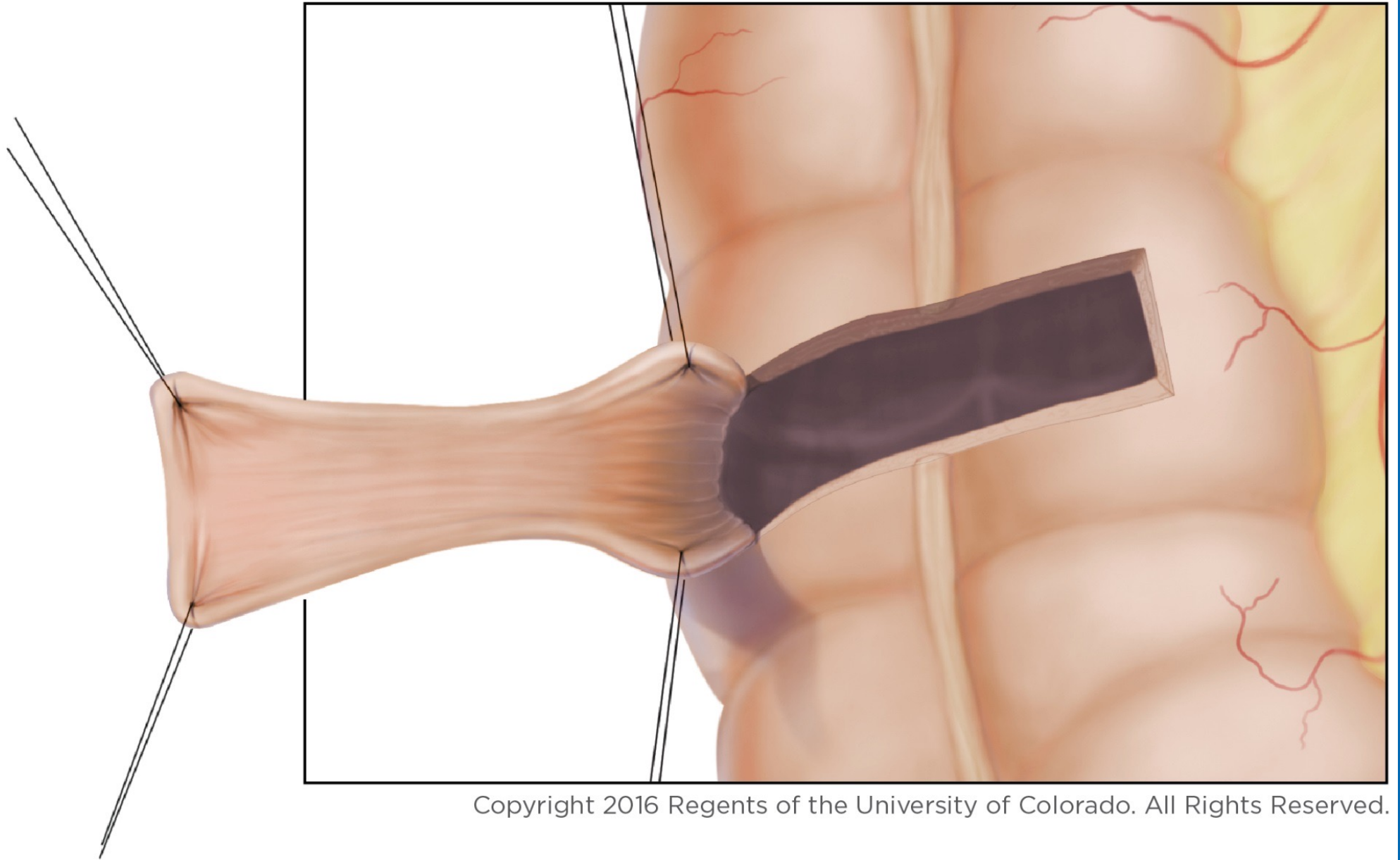
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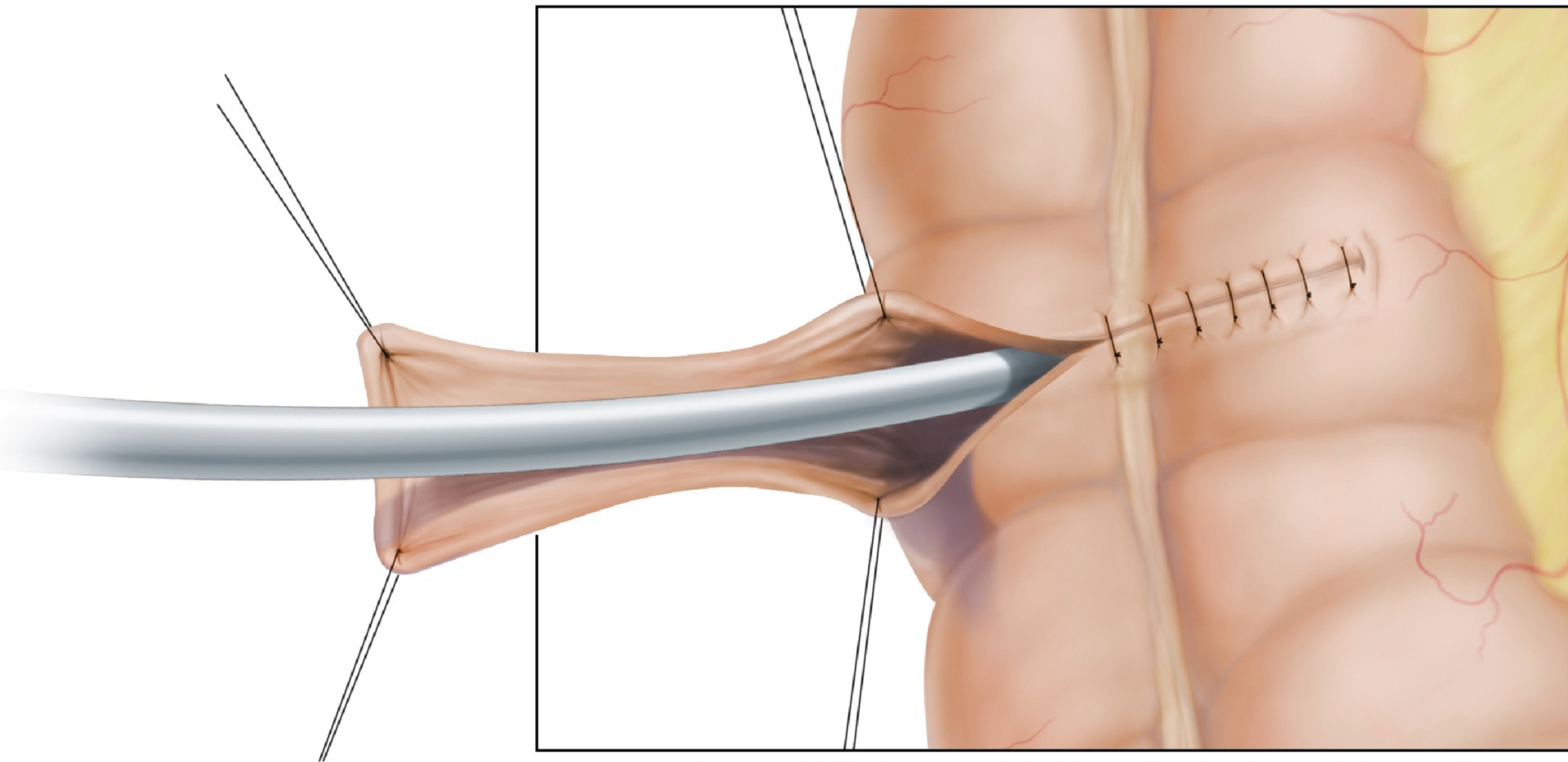
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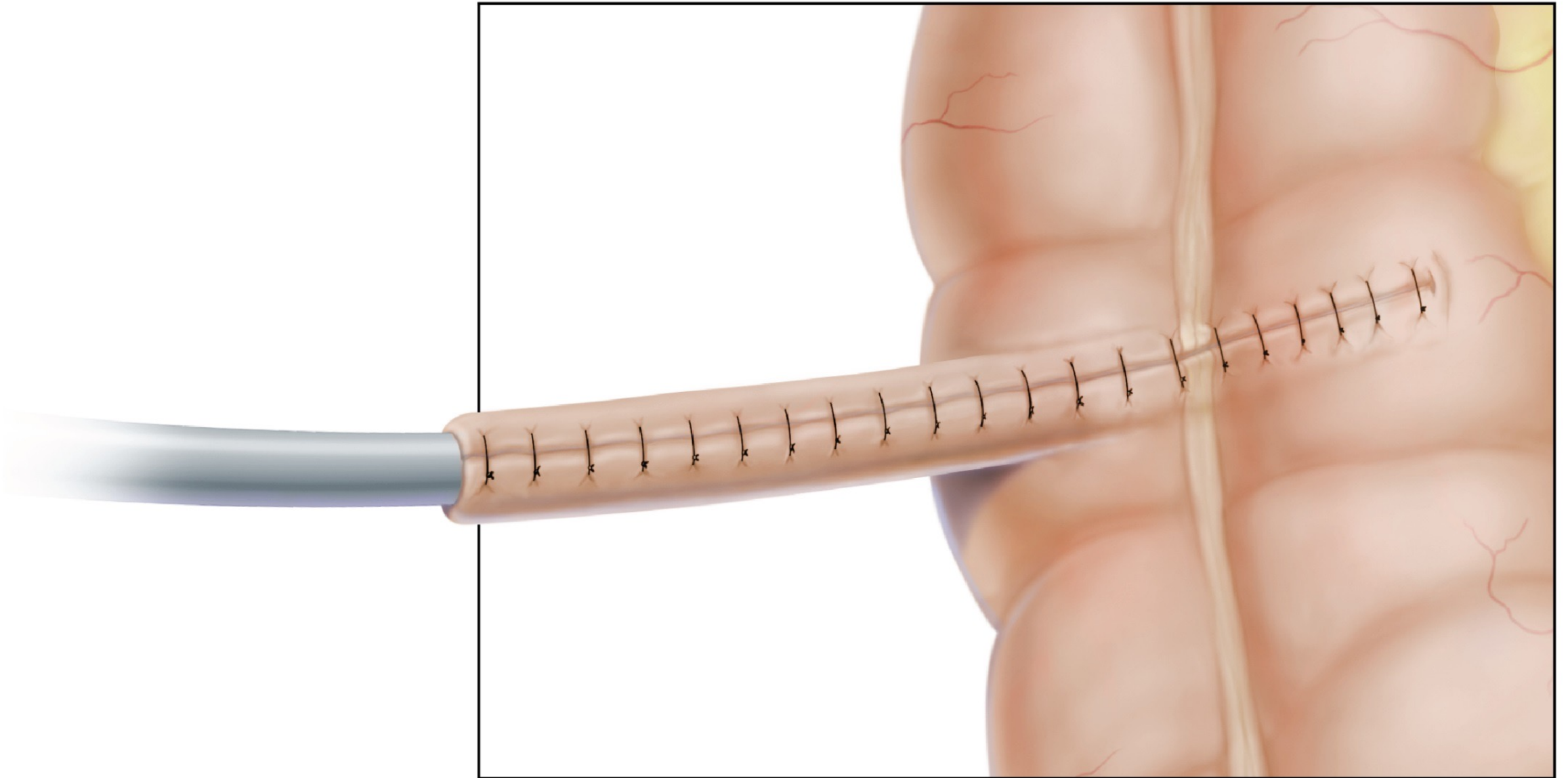


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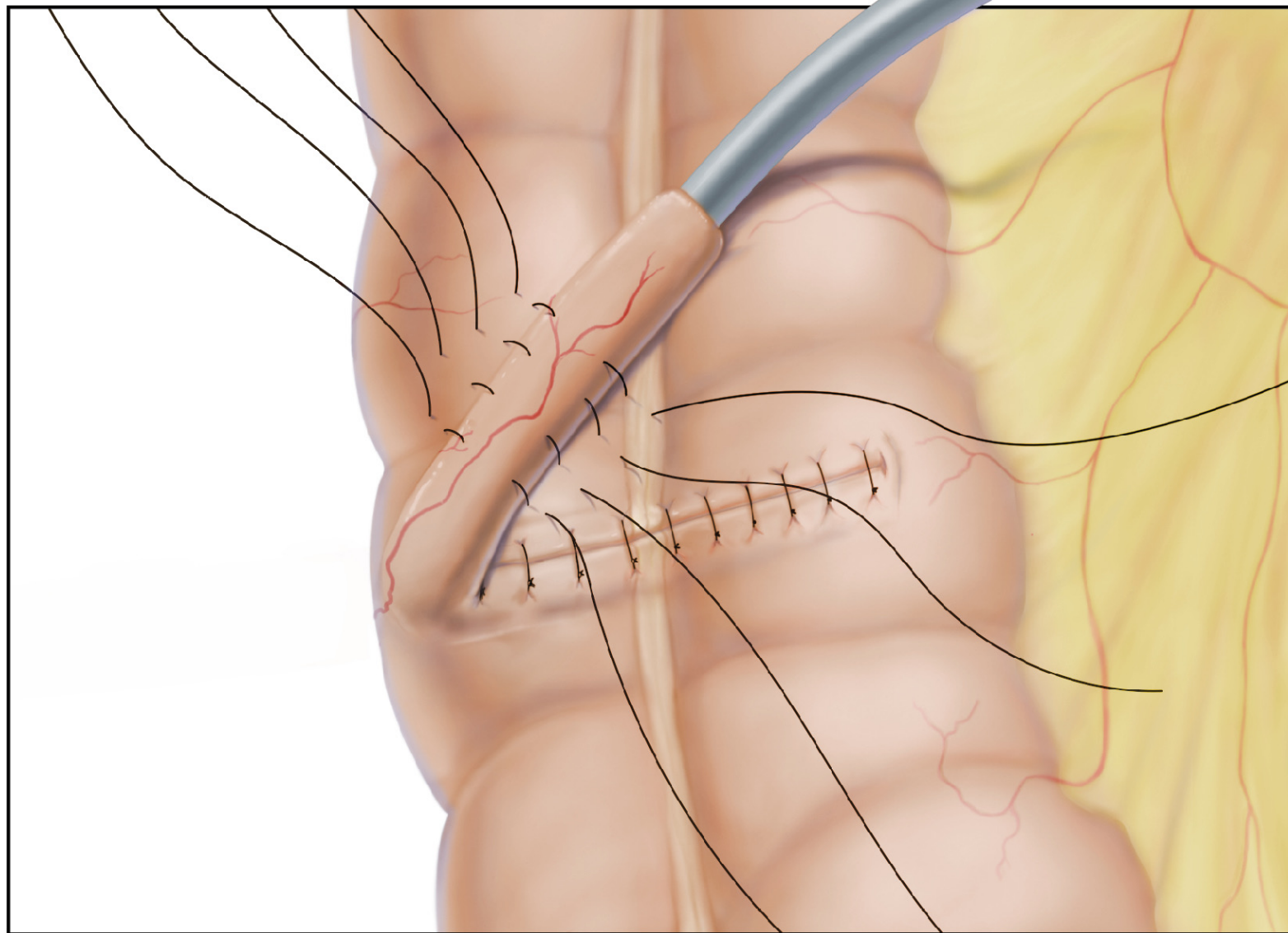
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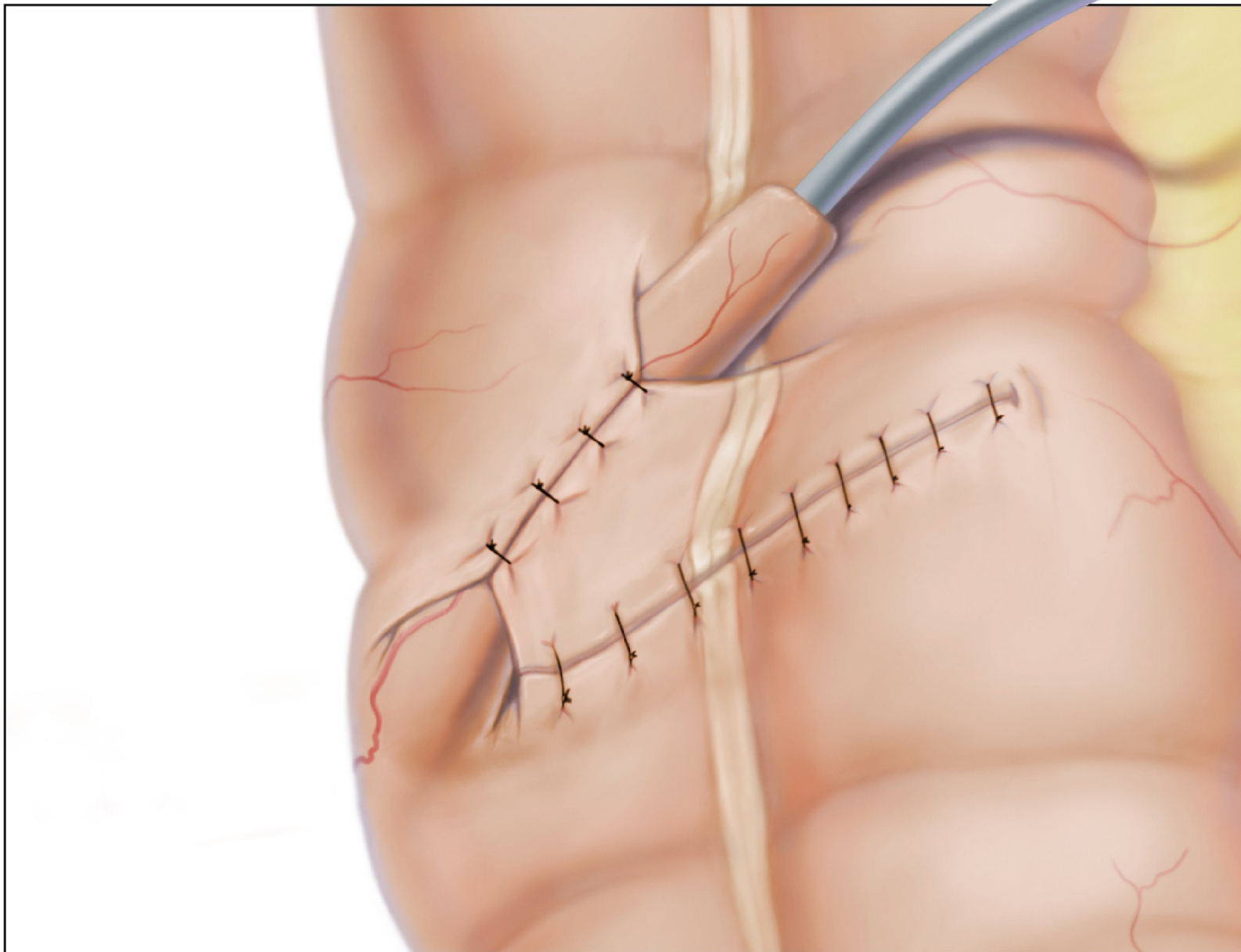




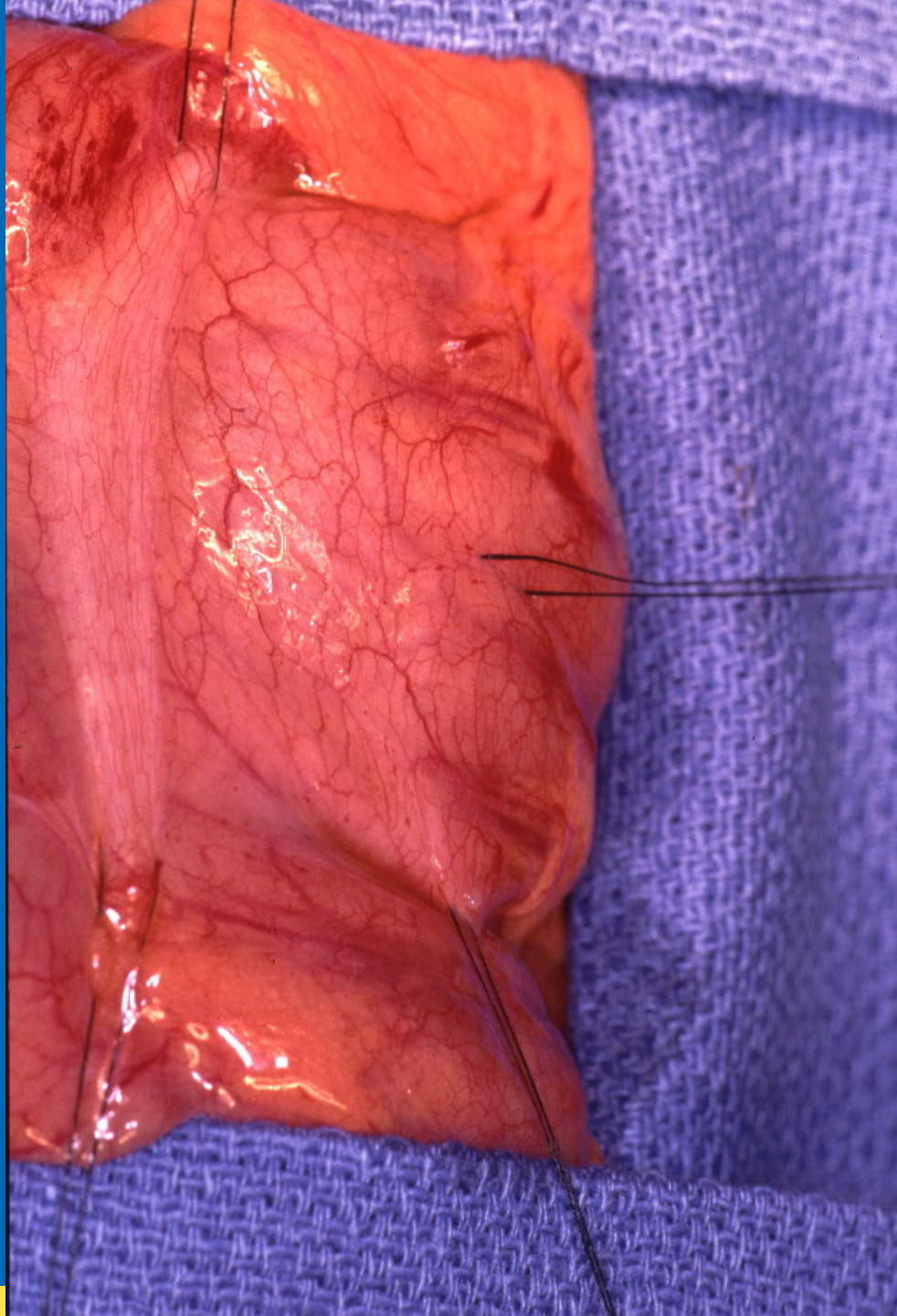


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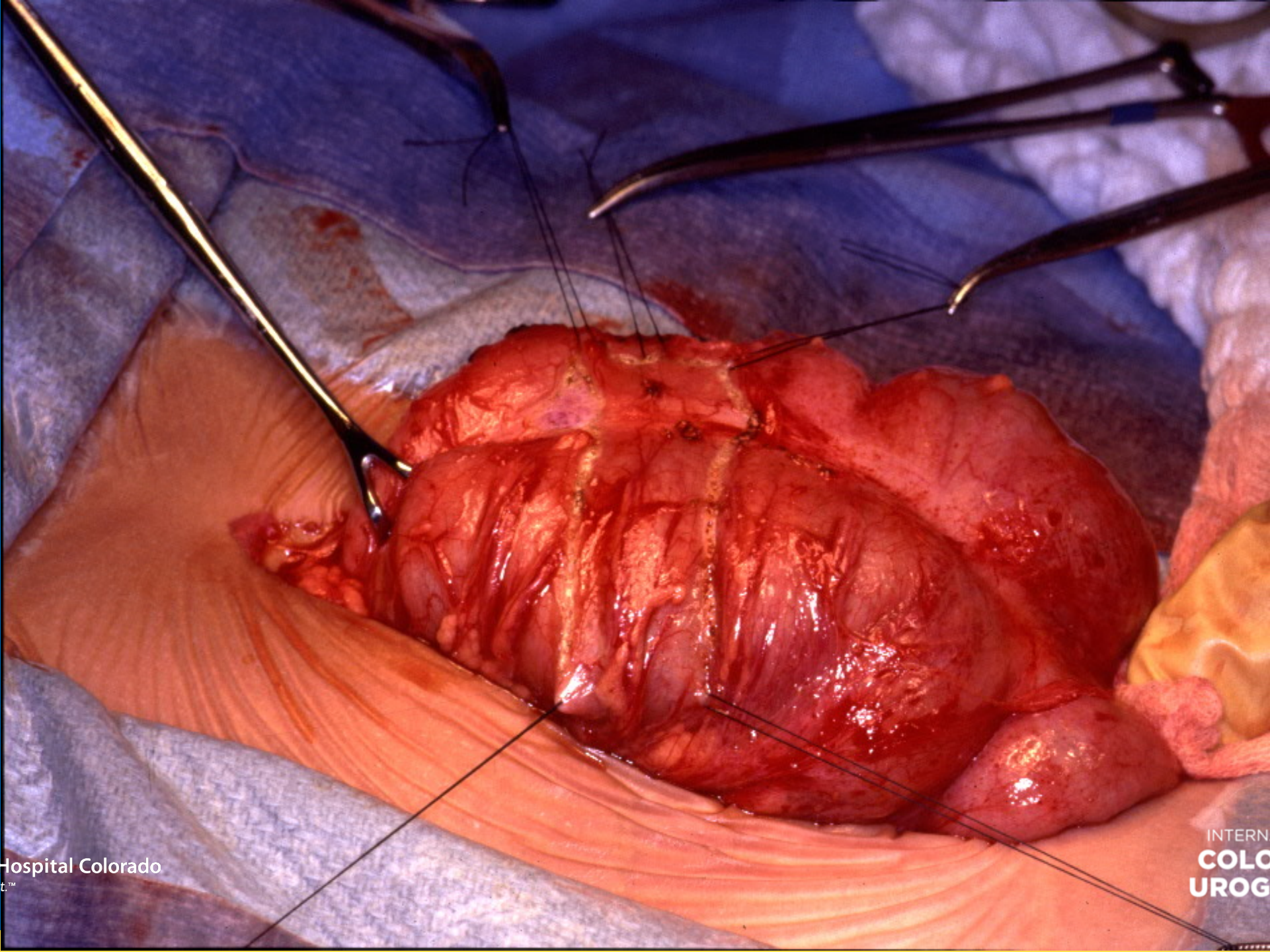




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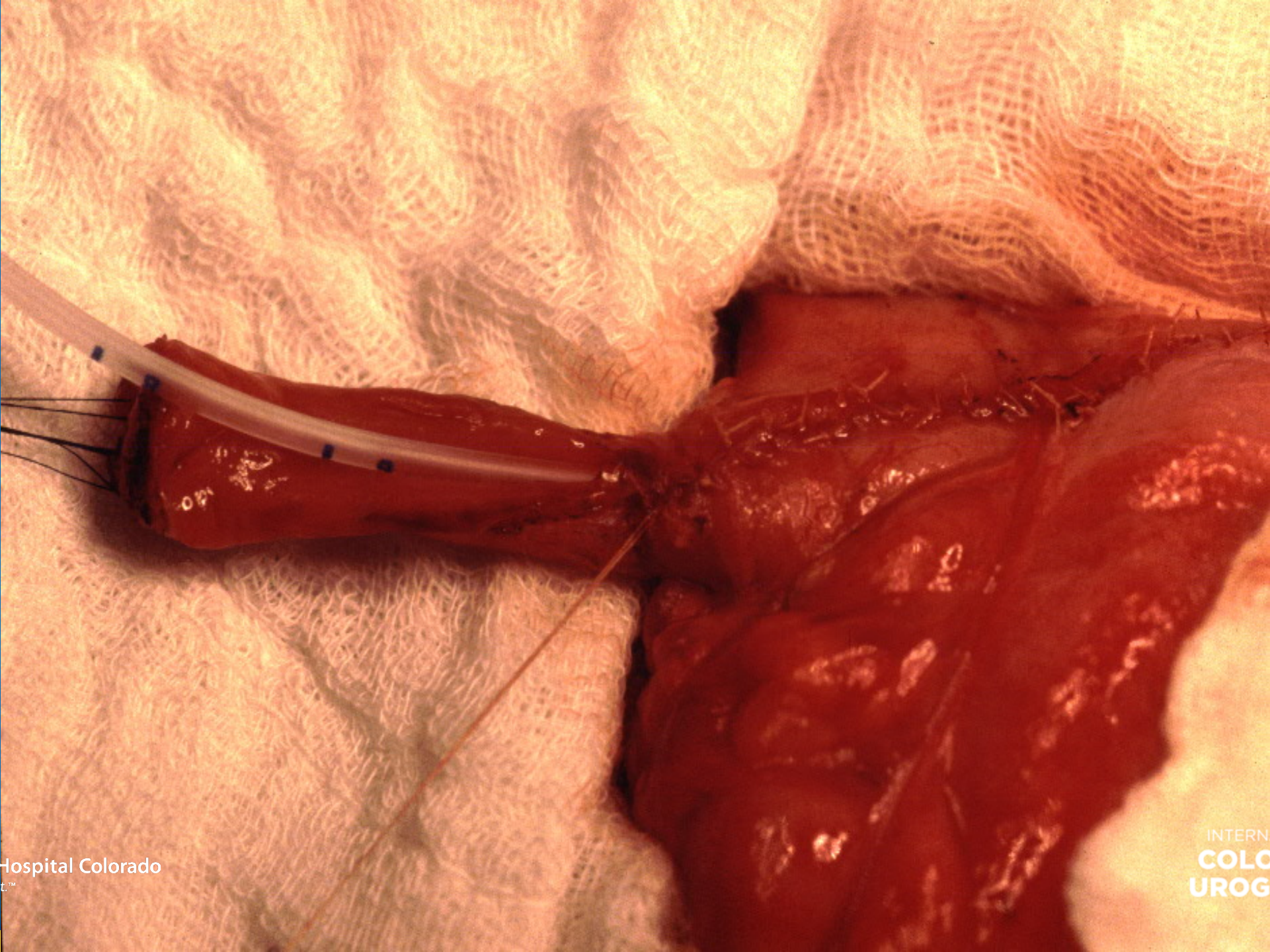




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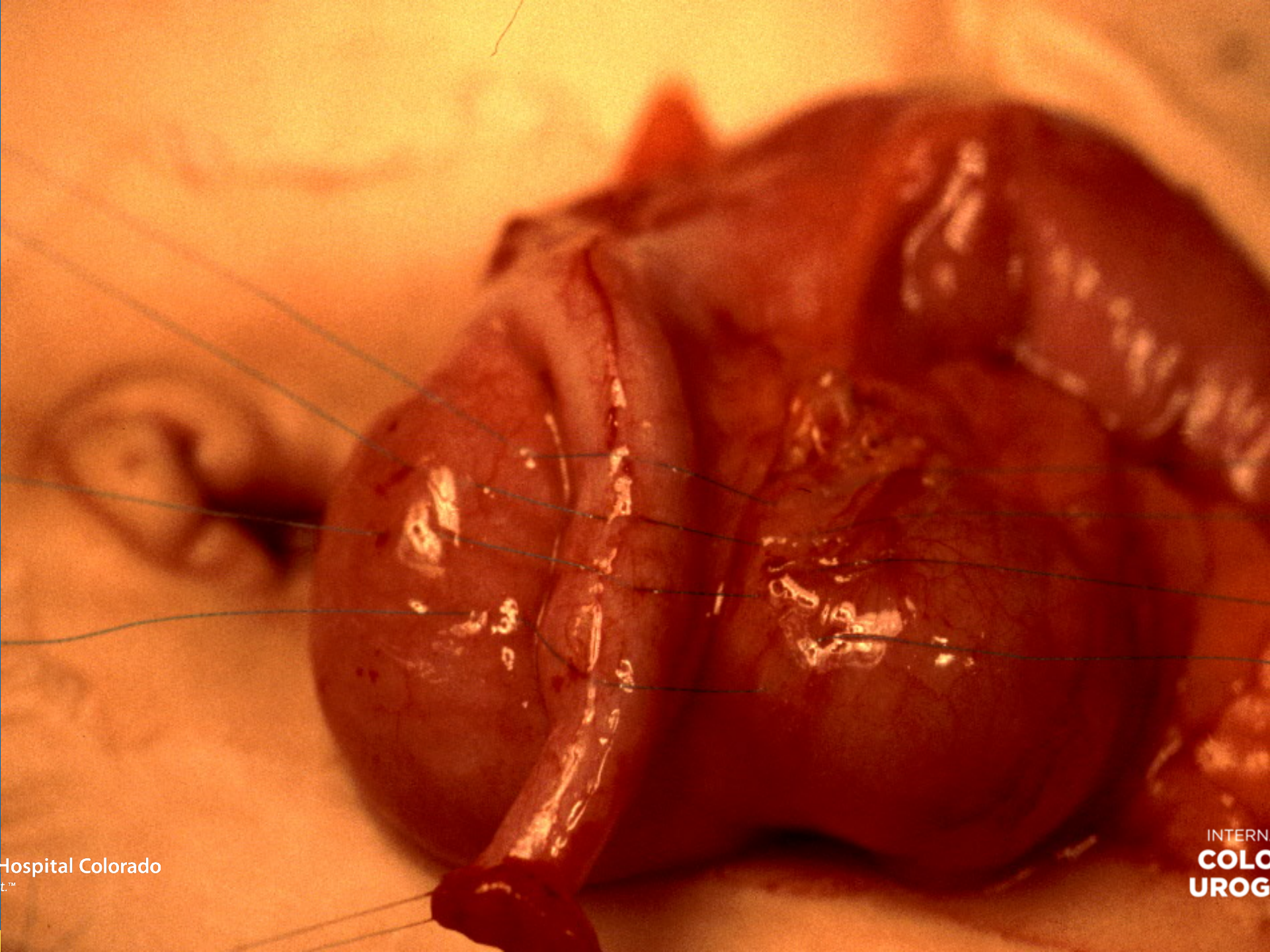




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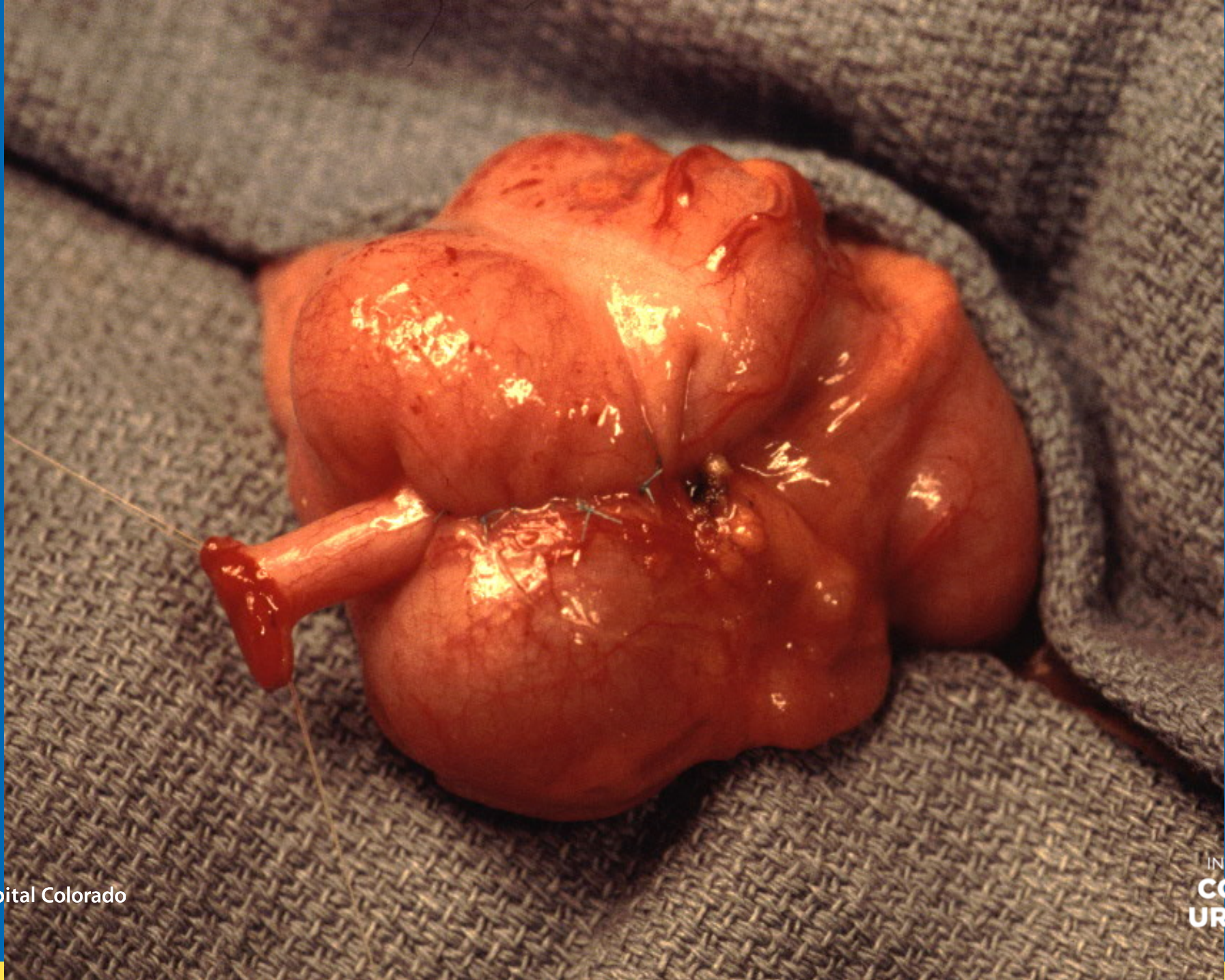




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