

Managing urologic disease in the horseshoe kidney

Richard Link, MD, PhD

SCOTT DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY
Division of Endourology and Minimally Invasive Surgery
Baylor College of Medicine



Targets for today

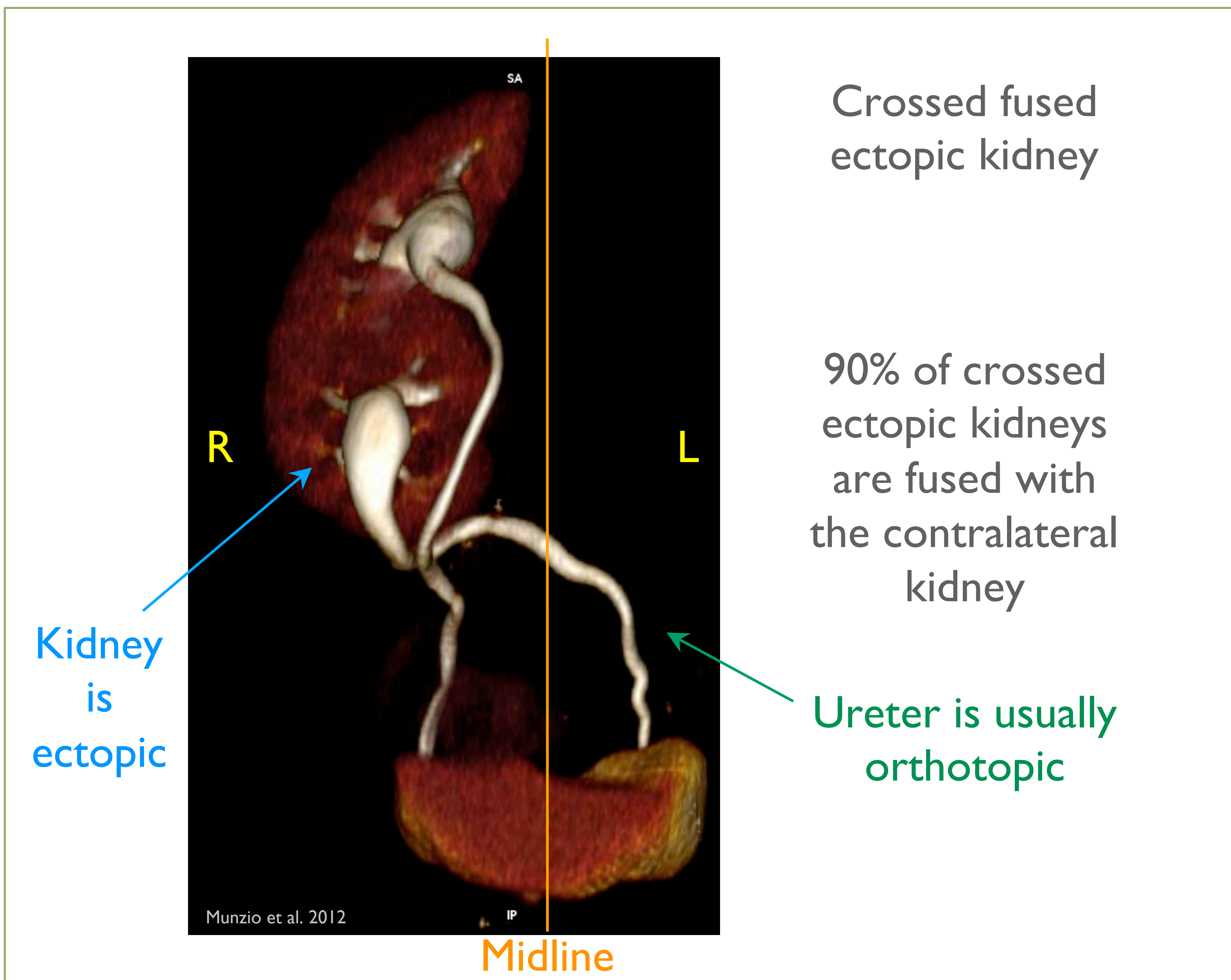


- ▶ General overview of horseshoe kidneys in adults.
 - ▶ Critical anatomic features.
 - ▶ The special case of the horseshoe kidney in:
 - ▶ Ureteral obstruction
 - ▶ Nephrolithiasis
 - ▶ Surgical management (heminephrectomy, isthmus division, partial nephrectomy, donor nephrectomy)
- Diagram showing Ureteral obstruction and Nephrolithiasis leading to Infection:
- ```
graph LR; A[Ureteral obstruction] --> C[Infection]; B[Nephrolithiasis] --> C;
```

# Horseshoe kidney demographics



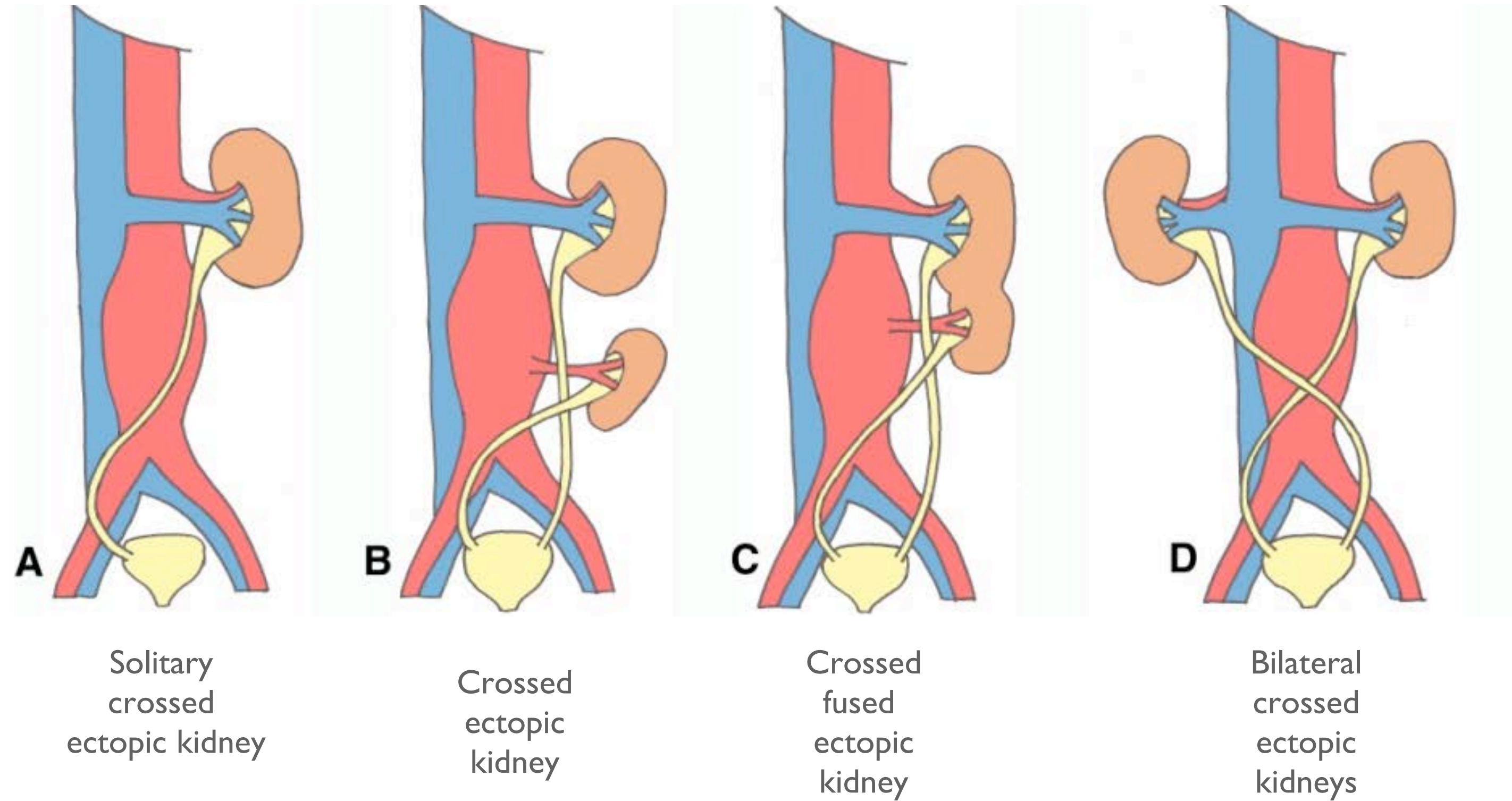
- ▶ The most common of all renal fusion anomalies.
- ▶ Occurs in 0.25% of the population (1 in 400).
- ▶ Abnormality occurs between the 4th and 6th week of gestation.
- ▶ Higher frequency in children with vertebral and neural tube defects.
- ▶ Kidneys are not ectopic.

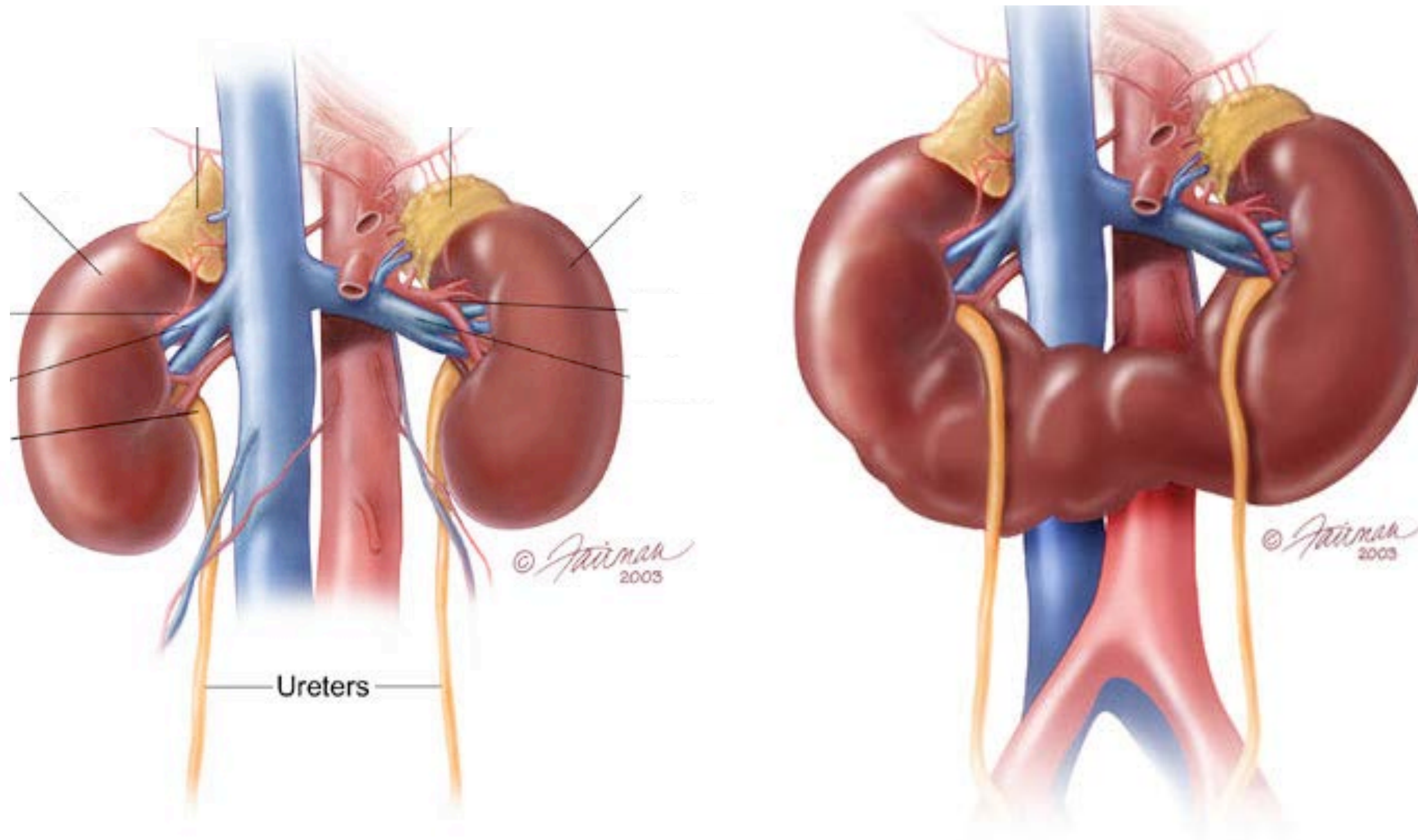




# Ectopic kidneys

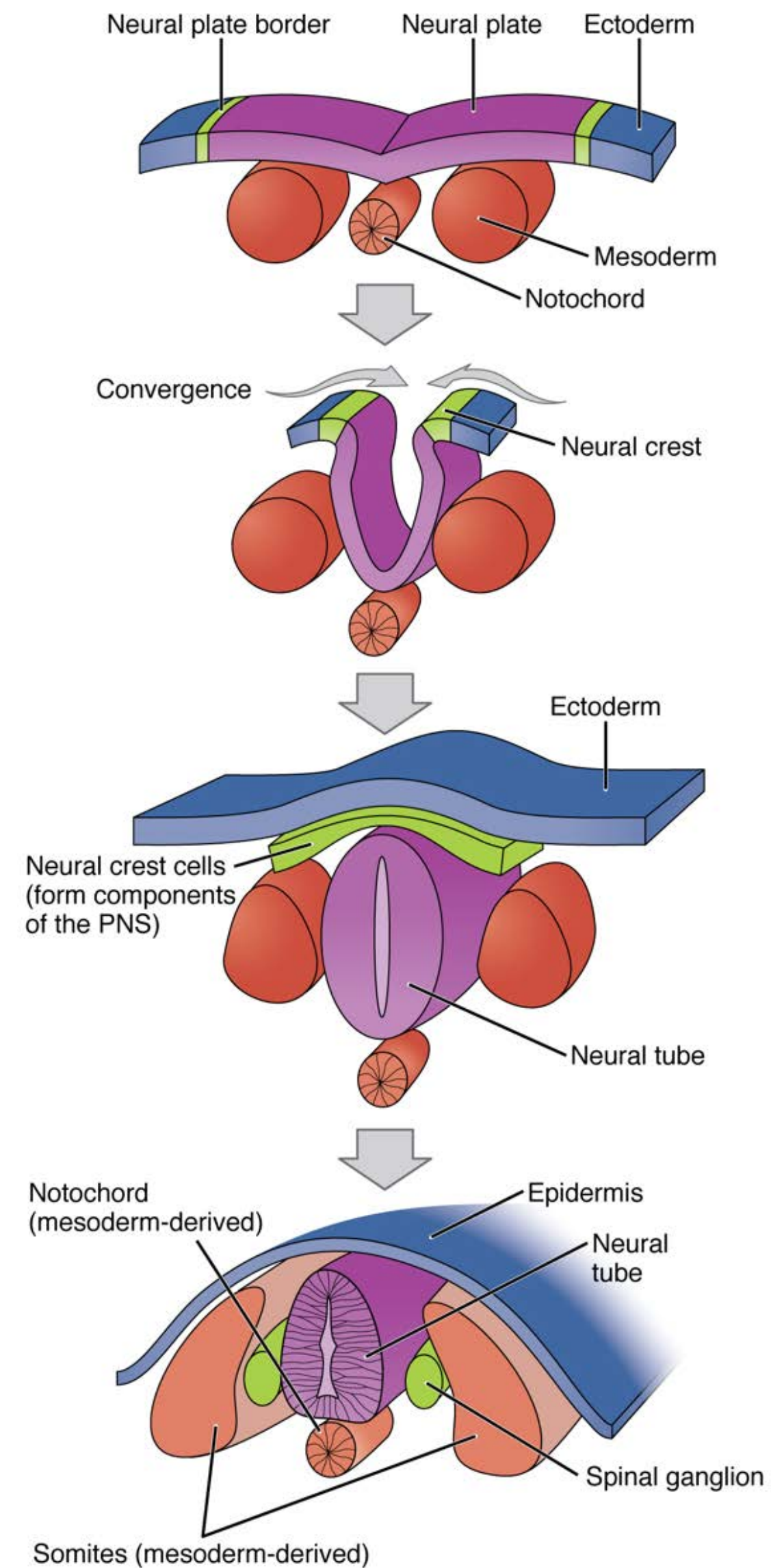
Jimenez and Morant, 2011





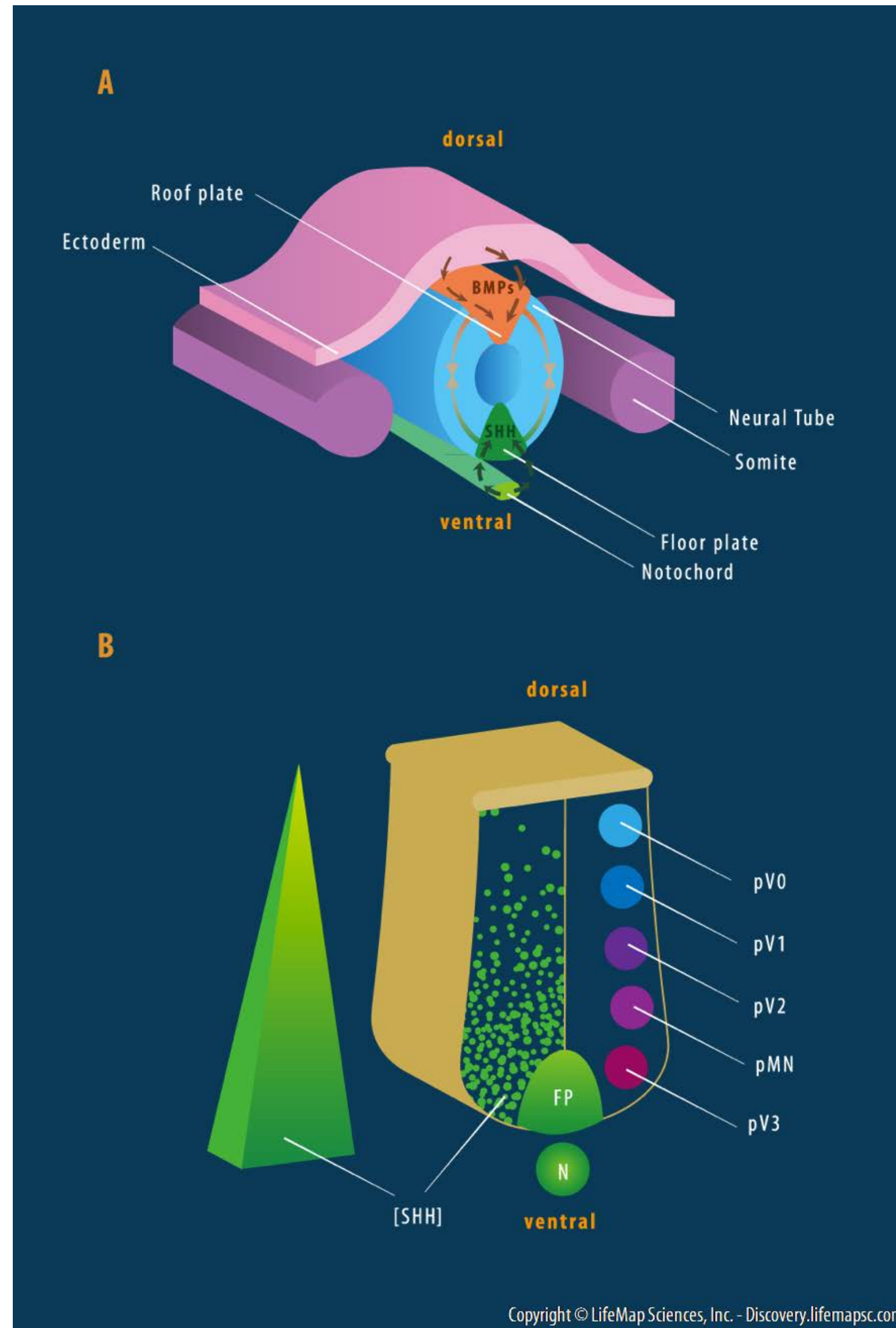
98% of horseshoe kidneys are fused at the lower pole





Notocord and floor plate of the neural tube play an important role in kidney development.

Disruption of these structures during development results in renal fusion anomalies.



Sonic Hedgehog (Shh) protein forms a gradient in the neural tube and has particularly high expression in notocord and floor plate



# Midline signaling regulates kidney positioning but not nephrogenesis through Shh

Piyush Tripathi<sup>a</sup>, Qjusha Guo<sup>a</sup>, Yinqiu Wang<sup>a</sup>, Matthew Coussens<sup>a</sup>, Helen Liapis<sup>b</sup>, Sanjay Jain<sup>a,b</sup>, Michael R. Kuehn<sup>c</sup>, Mario R. Capecchi<sup>d</sup>, Feng Chen<sup>a,e,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Internal Medicine, Renal Division, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

<sup>b</sup> Department of Pathology and Immunology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

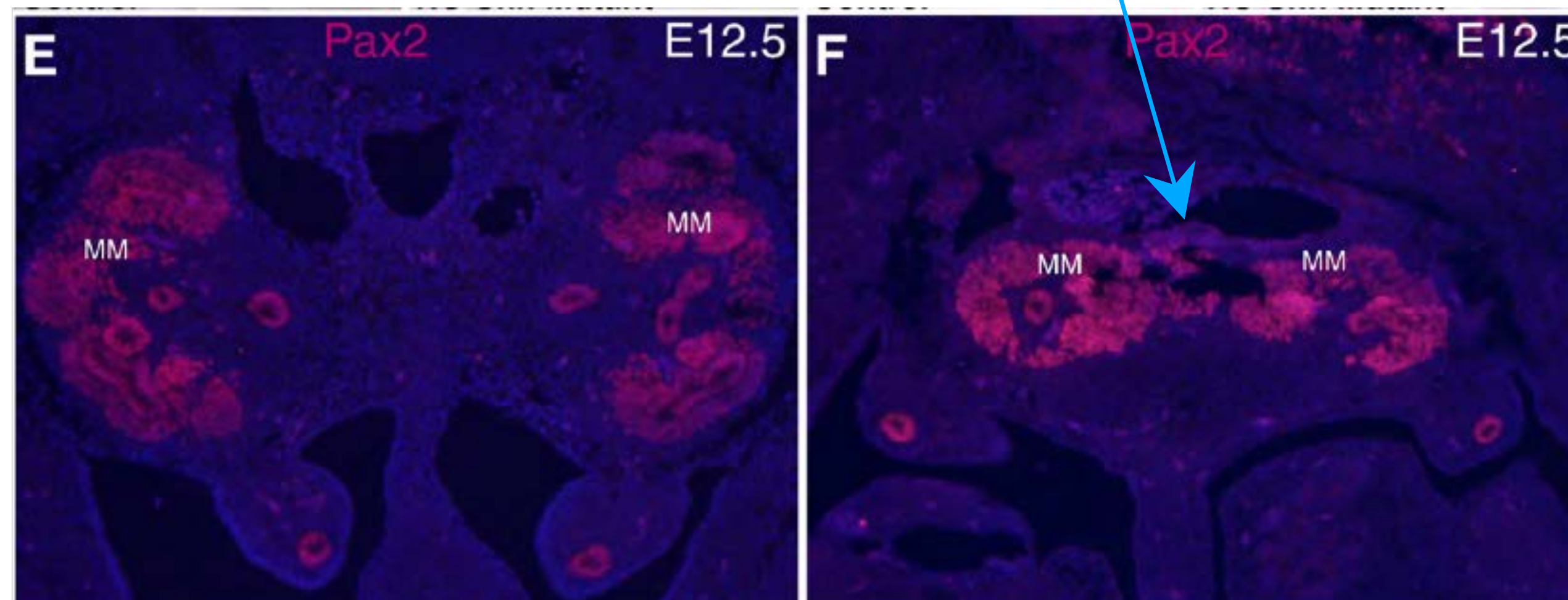
<sup>c</sup> Laboratory of Protein Dynamics and Signaling, NCI, NIH, Frederick, MD, USA

<sup>d</sup> Human Genetics, University of Utah, HHMI, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

<sup>e</sup> Department of Cell Biology and Physiology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA

Selective inactivation of Shh (sonic hedgehog) in notocord and floor plate resulted in renal fusion but not agenesis.

Fusion



Shh<sup>+</sup>/Shh<sup>+</sup> control

Shh<sup>-</sup>/Shh<sup>-</sup>





Not today...



# Horseshoe kidney



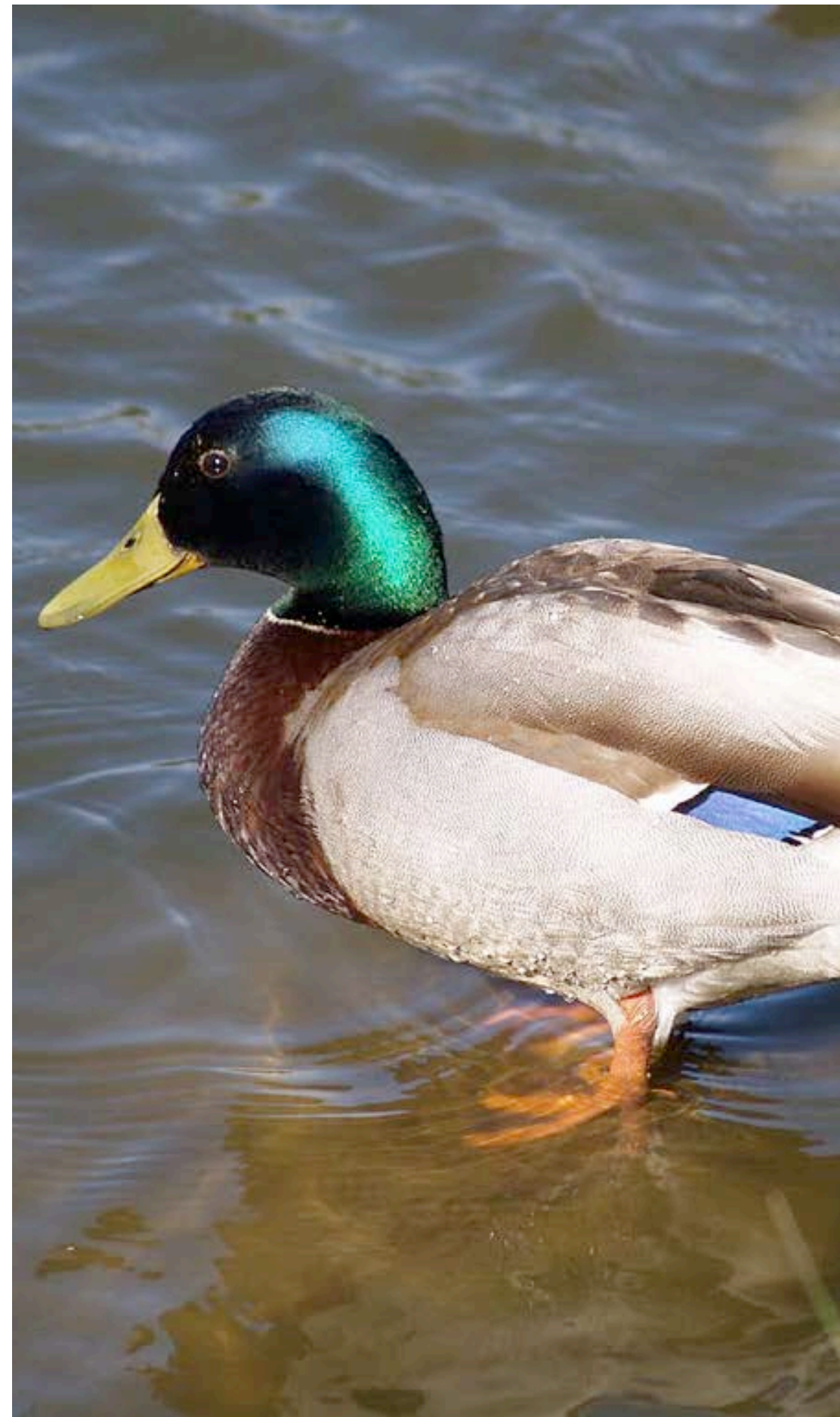
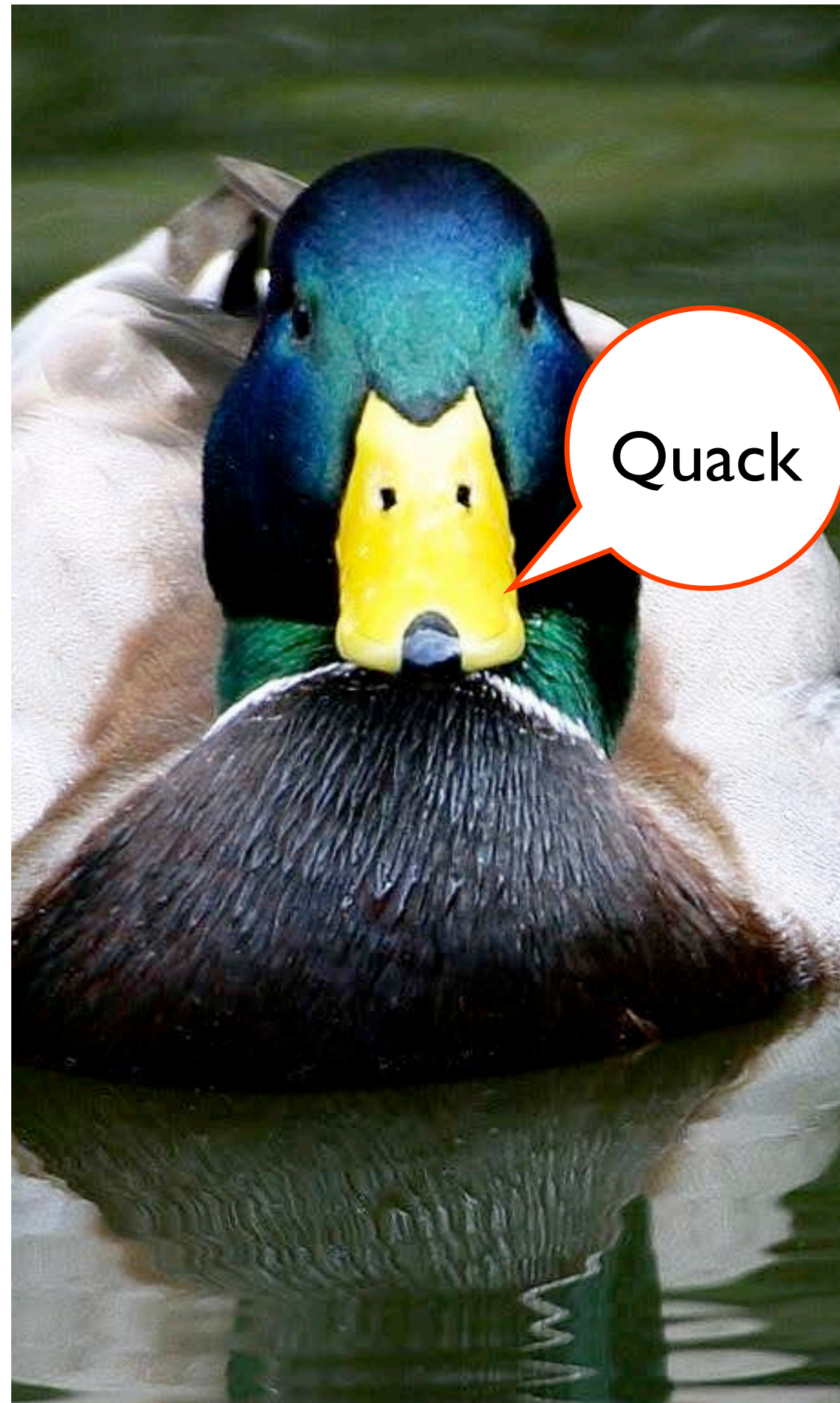
- ▶ > 50% of patients with horseshoe kidneys are asymptomatic.
- ▶ Even during an era (the 1950s) prior to routine abdominal ultrasound and CT imaging, 58% of patients with horseshoe kidneys observed for > 10 years remained asymptomatic.

Glenn, 1959. Glenn JF: [Analysis of 51 patients with horseshoe kidney](#). *N Engl J Med* 1959; 261:684.

- ▶ Even when anatomic features appear dramatic, they may not be functionally relevant (e.g. hydronephrosis with normal drainage on mag3 renal scan).







Watch out for anatomic/functional correlation



ANALYSIS OF 51 PATIENTS WITH HORSESHOE KIDNEY\*

JAMES F. GLENN, M.D.†

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

51 consecutive horseshoe kidney patients monitored over a 10 year period.

58% remained asymptomatic.

13% had recurrent infections.

13% had episodic pain.

16% % had symptomatic stones.

TABLE 1. *Data in 51 Patients with Horseshoe Kidney.*

| DATUM                                             | NO. OF PATIENTS | PERCENTAGE |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Sex:                                              |                 |            |
| Males                                             | 28              | 54.9       |
| Females                                           | 23              | 45.1       |
| Major presenting signs & symptoms:                |                 |            |
| Pain                                              | 17              | 33.3       |
| Infection                                         | 12              | 23.5       |
| Incidental finding (asymptomatic)                 | 12              | 23.5       |
| Passage of calculi                                | 7               | 13.8       |
| Diagnosis elsewhere                               | 3               | 5.9        |
| Method of initial diagnosis:                      |                 |            |
| Radiologic (intravenous or retrograde pyelograms) | 42              | 82.3       |
| Anatomic (autopsy)                                | 6               | 11.8       |
| Clinical (palpation)                              | 3               | 5.9        |
| Accessory features:                               |                 |            |
| Infection                                         | 21              | 41.2       |
| Obstruction                                       | 18              | 35.3       |
| Calculi                                           | 16              | 31.4       |
| Uremia                                            | 3               | 5.9        |
| Rovsing syndrome                                  | 3               | 5.9        |
| No complications                                  | 14              | 27.5       |

# Horseshoe kidney: symptomatic

- ▶ Most symptoms are related to hydronephrosis, infections or nephrolithiasis.
- ▶ 30% of patients have recurrent UTIs, “20% - 80%” have nephrolithiasis (as compared to 9-10% of the general population).
- ▶ Classic constellation of symptoms: vague abdominal pain radiating to the lower lumbar region, nausea and vomiting. Exacerbated by hyperextension of the spine.
  - ▶ Does not appear to be resolved by division of the isthmus.



Horseshoe kidneys lie outside the pelvic inlet and do not confer an increased risk during pregnancy or delivery.

Horseshoe kidneys do not appear to have a higher progression rate to renal insufficiency.

Review of the UNOS database for transplant recipients in 2000 showed no horseshoe kidney patients who underwent renal transplantation.



# Targets for today



- ▶ General overview of horseshoe kidneys in adults.

- ▶ Critical anatomic features.

- ▶ The special case of the horseshoe kidney in:

- ▶ Ureteral obstruction
  - ▶ Nephrolithiasis
- Infection

- ▶ Surgical management (heminephrectomy, isthmus division, partial nephrectomy, donor nephrectomy)

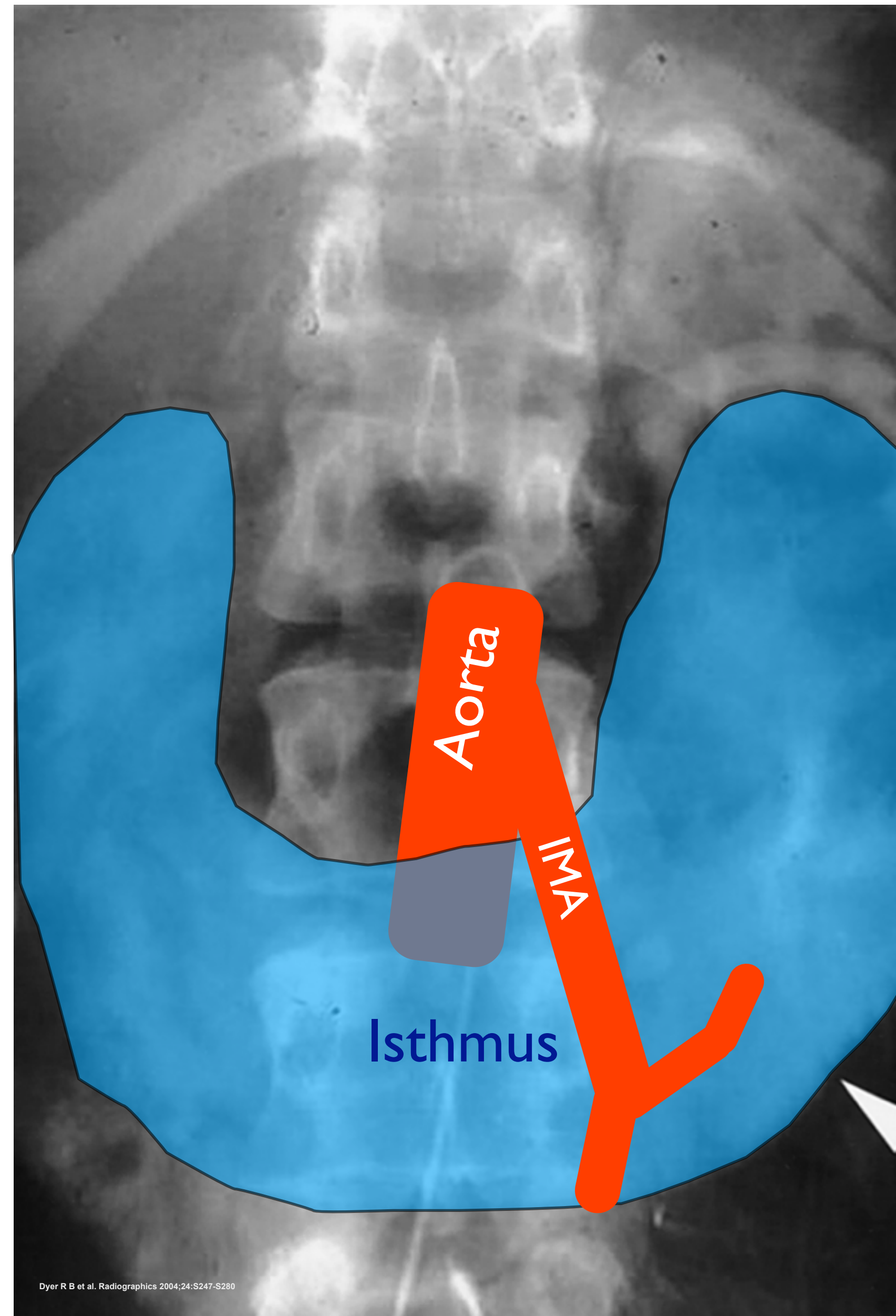


# Critical Features #1

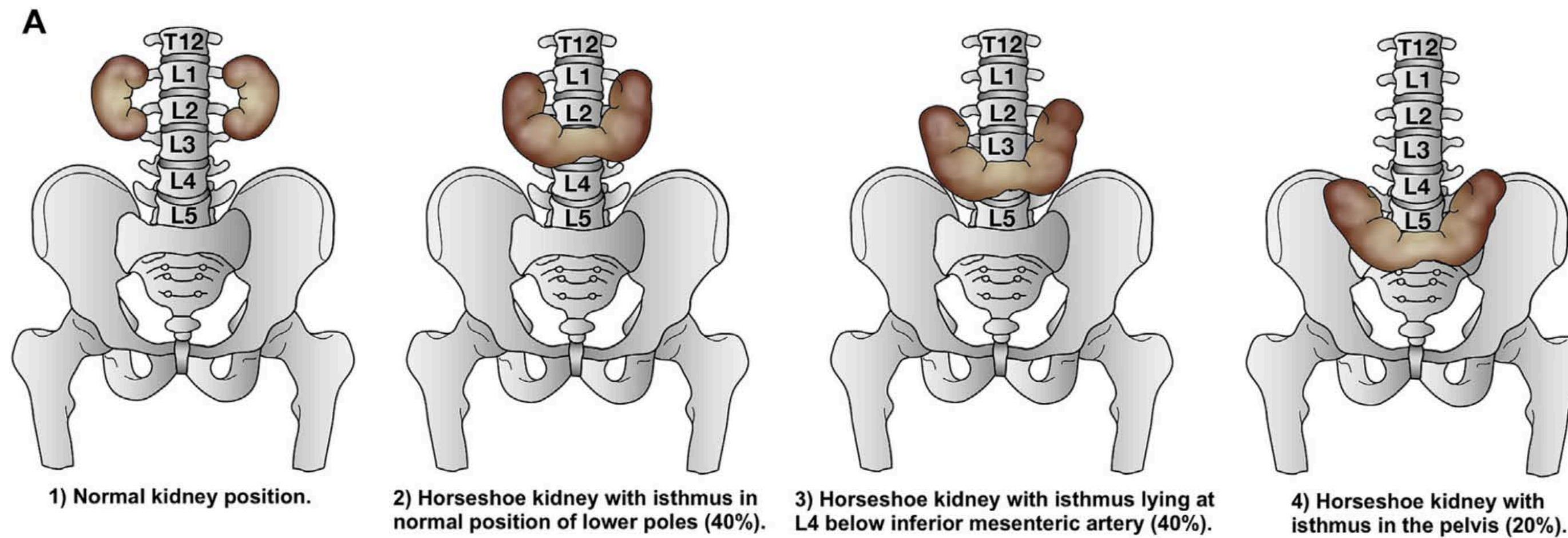
Relationship to inferior mesenteric artery.

“Renal ascent is stopped by the junction of the aorta and inferior mesenteric artery.”

Kidneys are generally lower in the abdomen.



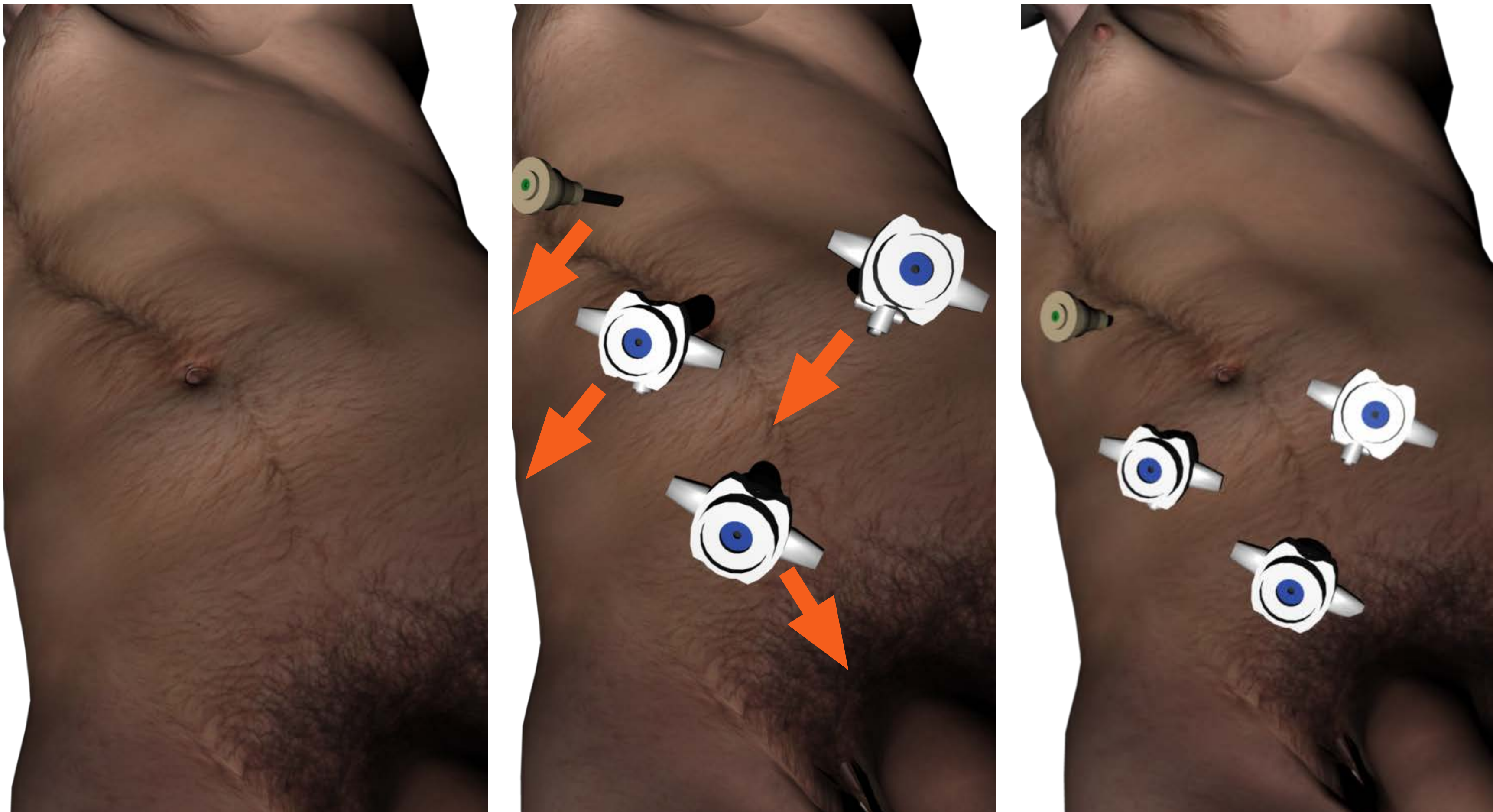




In truth, the kidneys are lower than normal in roughly 60% of cases.

The isthmus lies just below the IMA in 40%.

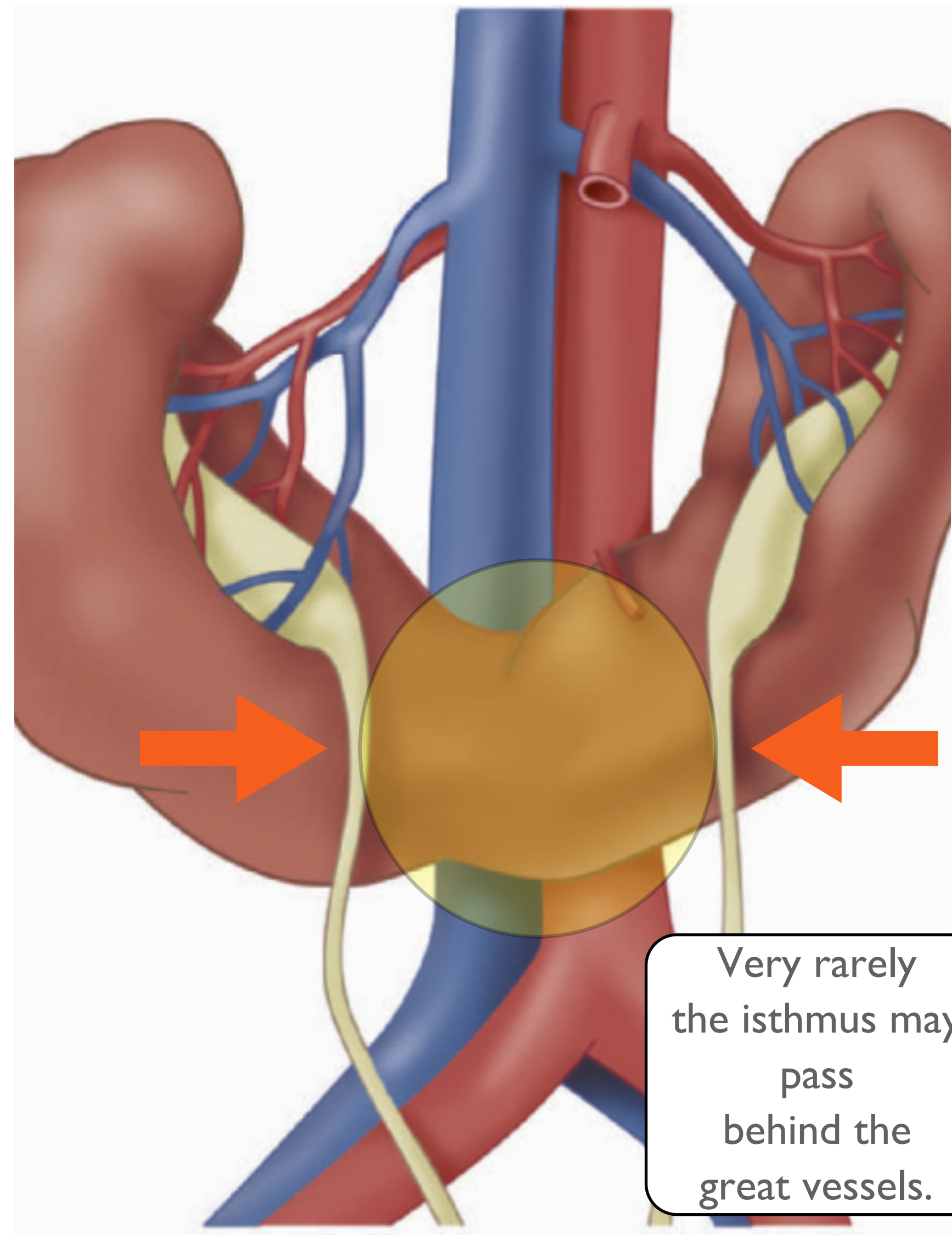
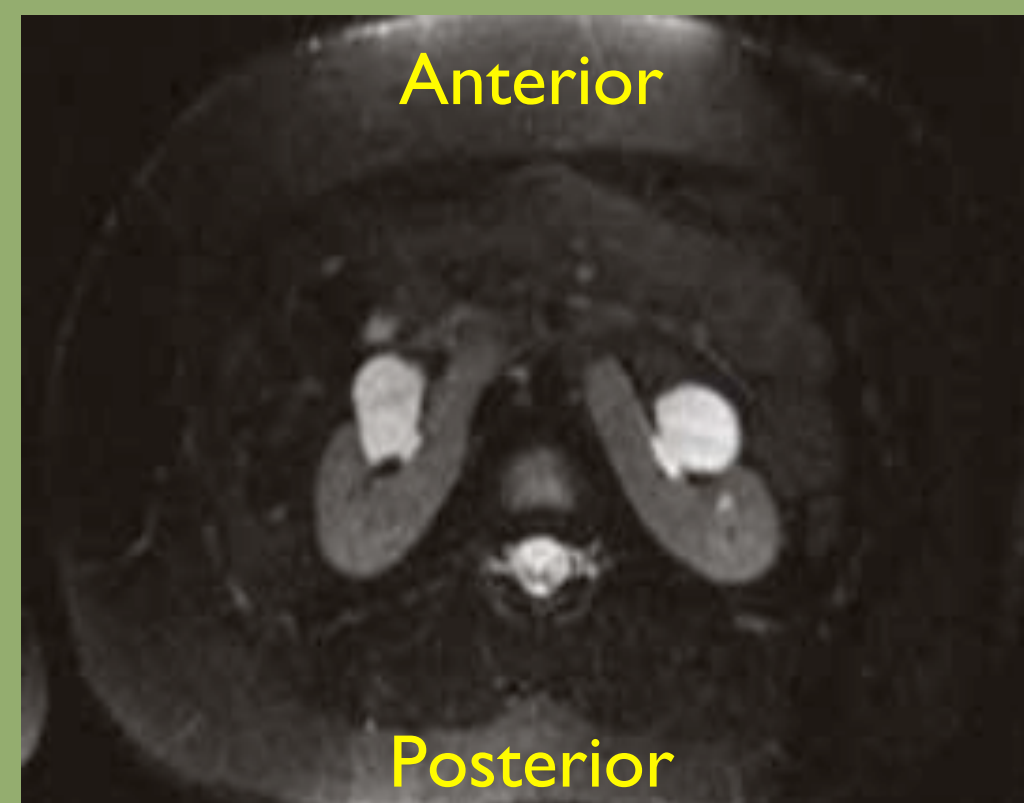




Trocar shifts lower and away from umbilicus

## Critical Features #2

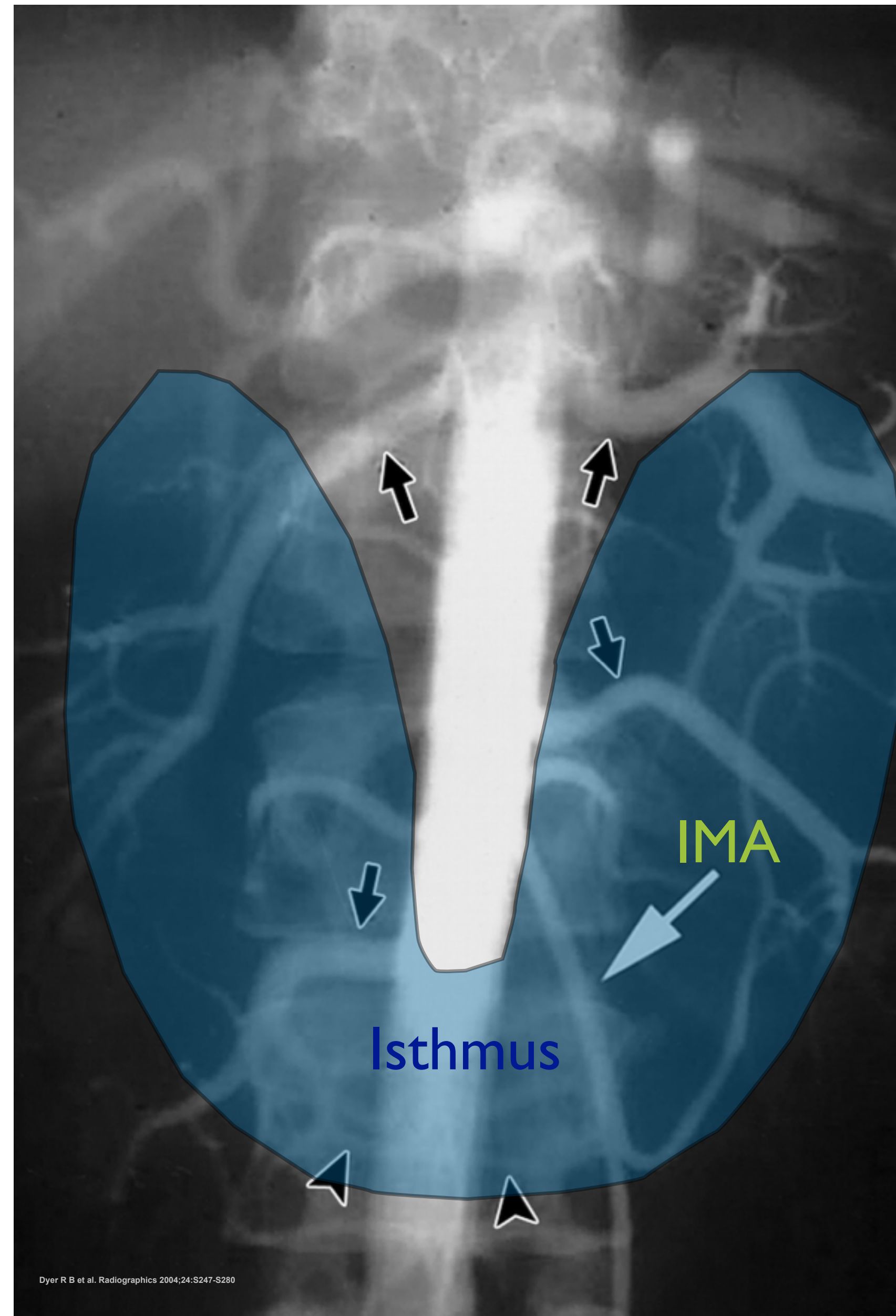
Anteriorly oriented renal pelvis and ureters.





## Critical Features #3

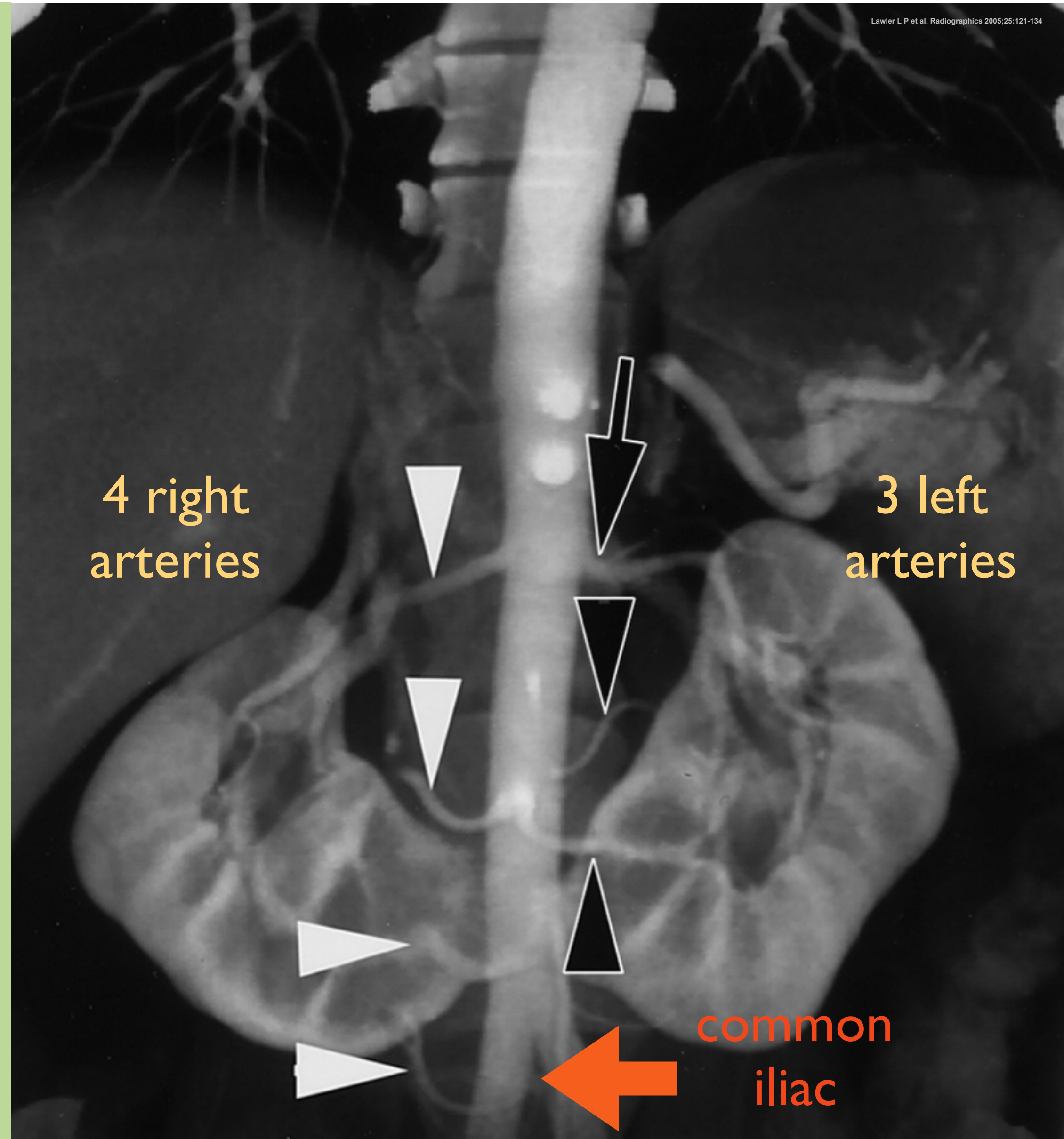
Multiple renal vessels in 70% and variable vessels to isthmus. Vessels are smaller and originate lower.



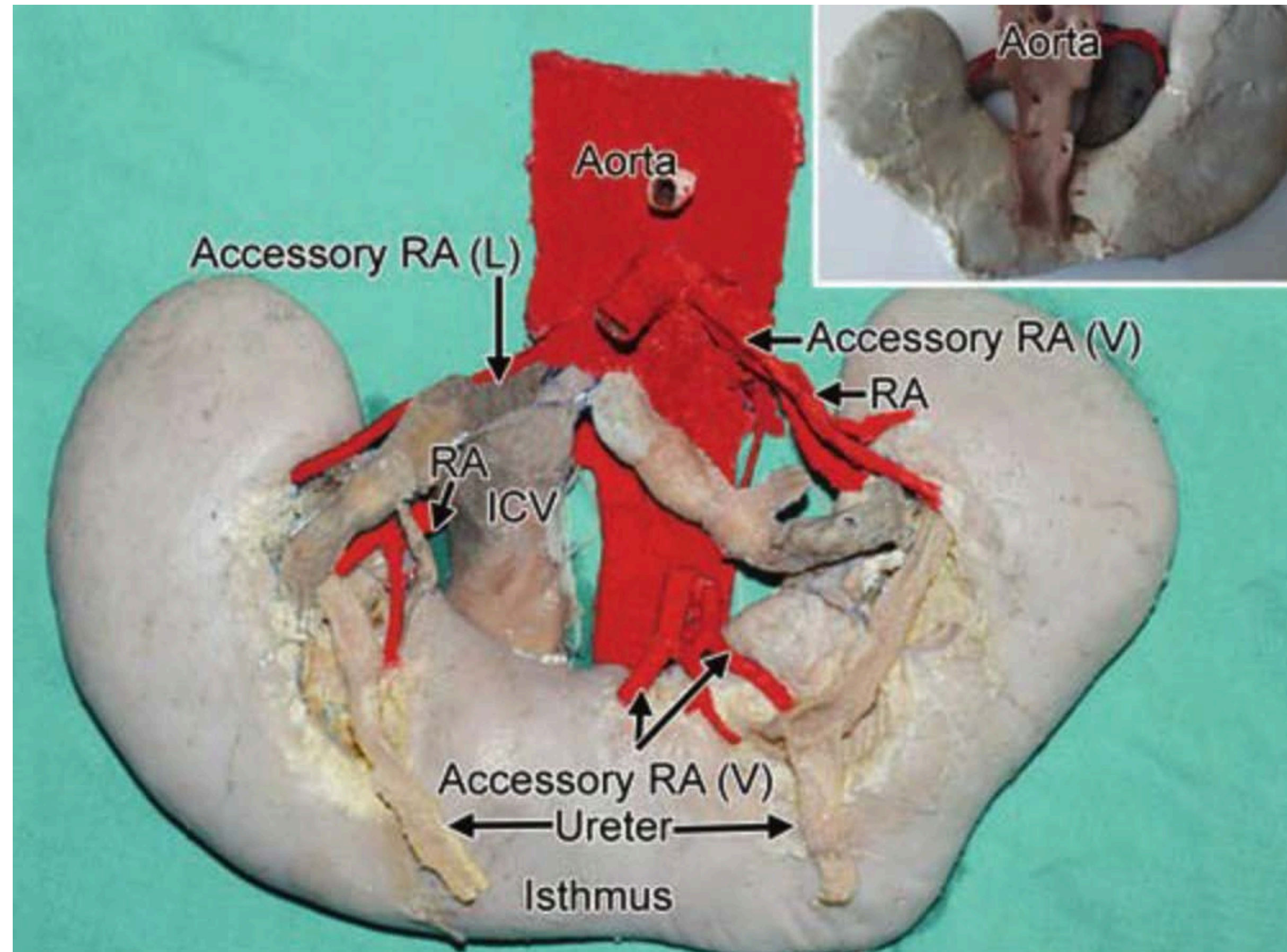
4 right  
arteries

3 left  
arteries

common  
iliac







Watch out for arteries entering the isthmus directly from the aorta or the iliacs.

*Gupta T., et. al.: JPMER. Dec 2016,*

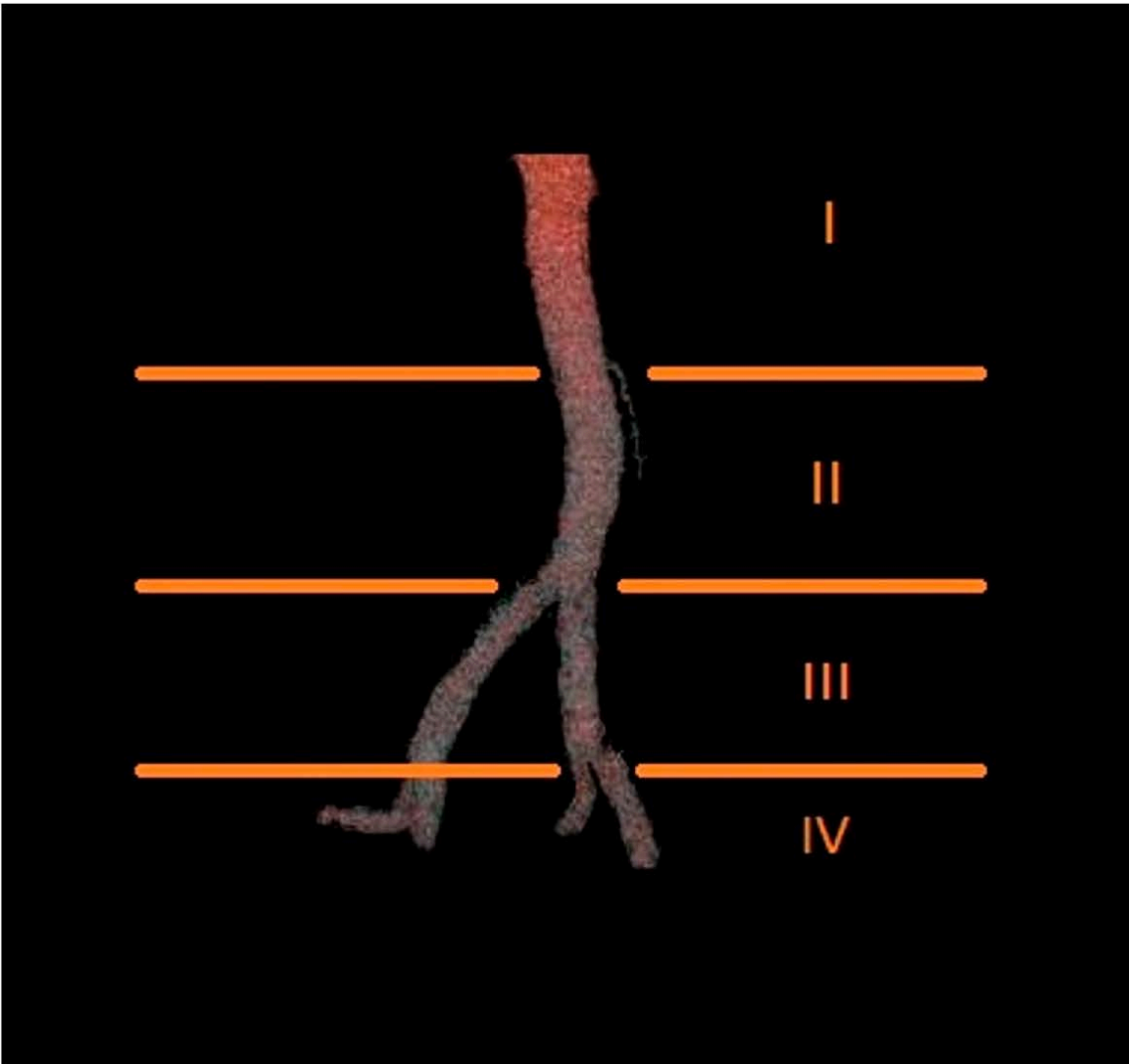


Figure 3. Diagram presenting the proposed levels of origin of renal arteries.

Horseshoe kidneys:  
  
Smaller arteries  
Arise lower on the aorta, common iliac or iliac  
Smaller in caliber

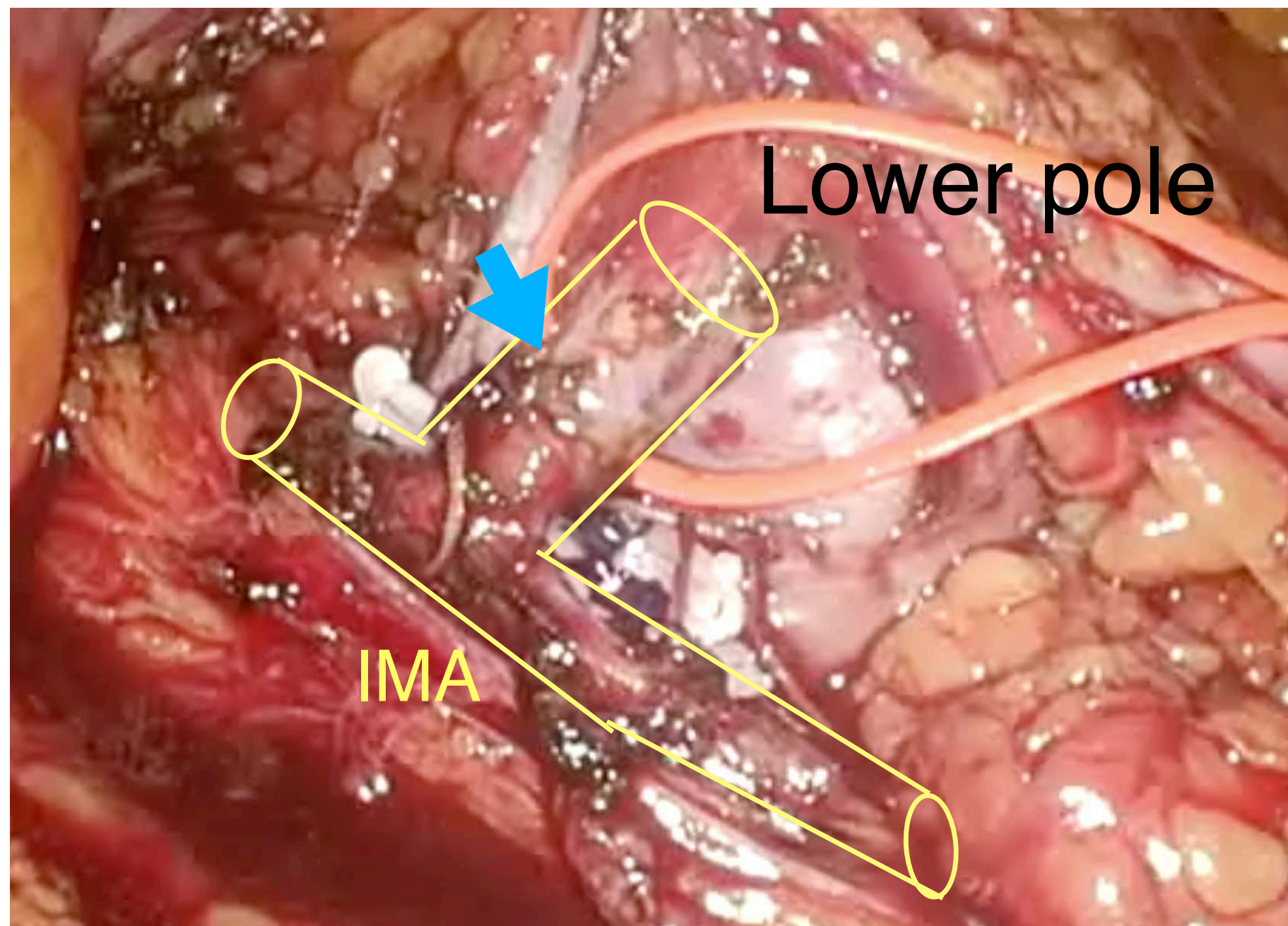
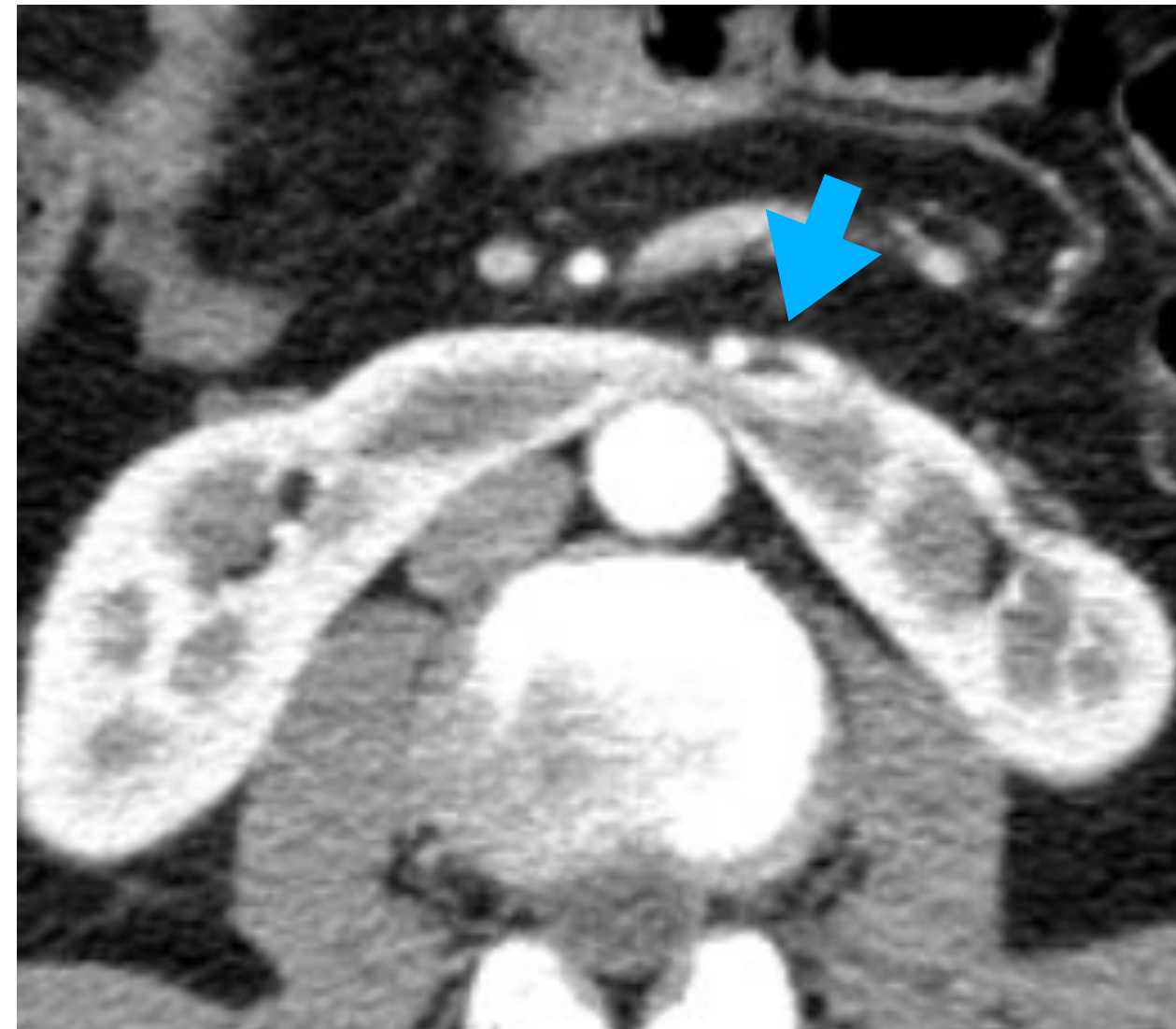
Table 2. The diameters of renal arteries according to branching level.

| Arteries Supplying Horseshoe Kidneys |     |           |             |          |          |         | Arteries Supplying Separated Kidneys |           |             |          |          |         |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| Level of Origin of Renal Artery      | N   | Mean (mm) | Median (mm) | Min (mm) | Max (mm) | SD (mm) | N                                    | Mean (mm) | Median (mm) | Min (mm) | Max (mm) | SD (mm) |
| I                                    | 230 | 4.54      | 4.60        | 0.60     | 8.50     | 1.64    | 596                                  | 5.53      | 5.70        | 1.00     | 9.80     | 1.61    |
| II                                   | 108 | 4.28      | 4.20        | 1.40     | 7.40     | 1.35    | 2                                    | 4.45      | 4.45        | 2.80     | 6.10     | 2.33    |
| III                                  | 57  | 3.41      | 3.30        | 1.10     | 6.30     | 1.11    | 0                                    | 0         | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0       |
| IV                                   | 3   | 3.43      | 3.20        | 2.80     | 4.30     | 0.78    | 0                                    | 0         | 0           | 0        | 0        | 0       |

Retrospective CT angiogram study:  
248 normal kidney patients vs. 88 horseshoe kidney patients.

Majos M, et. al.: J. Clin. Med. 2019, 8, 464





Tricky vascular anatomy





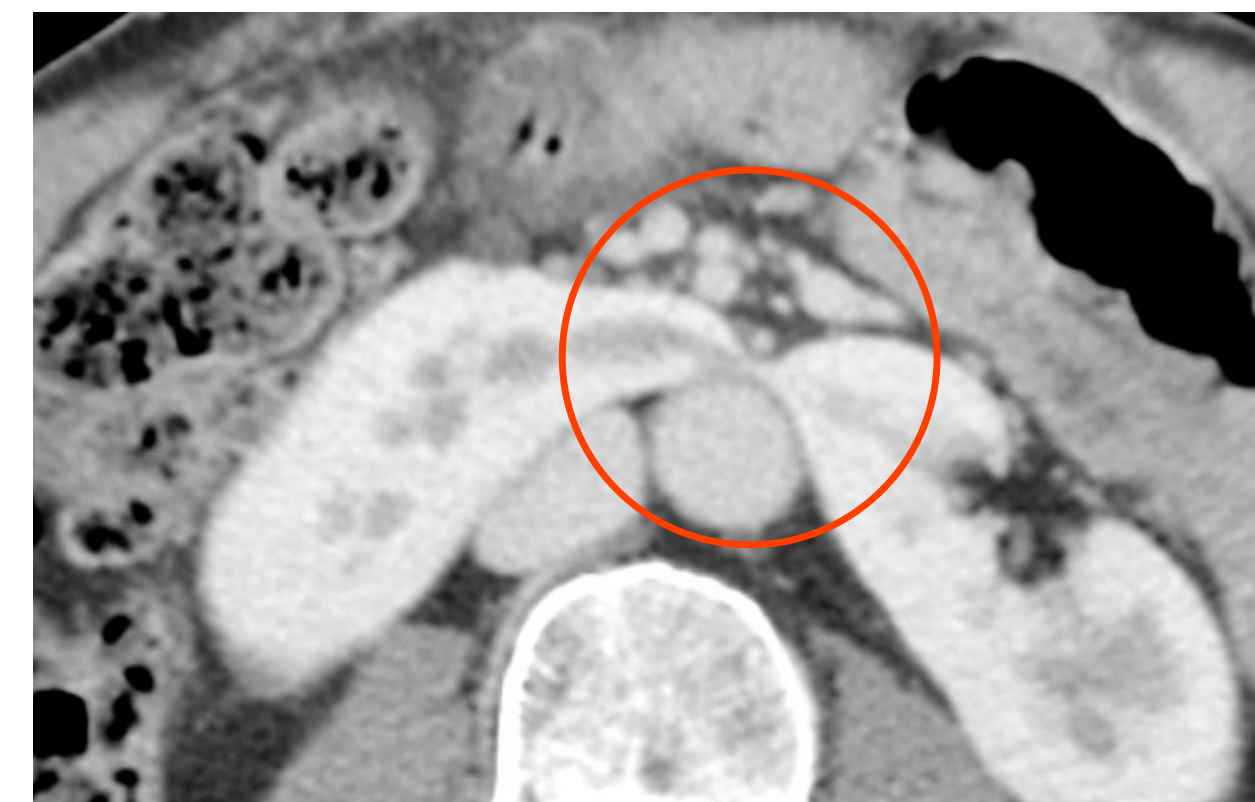
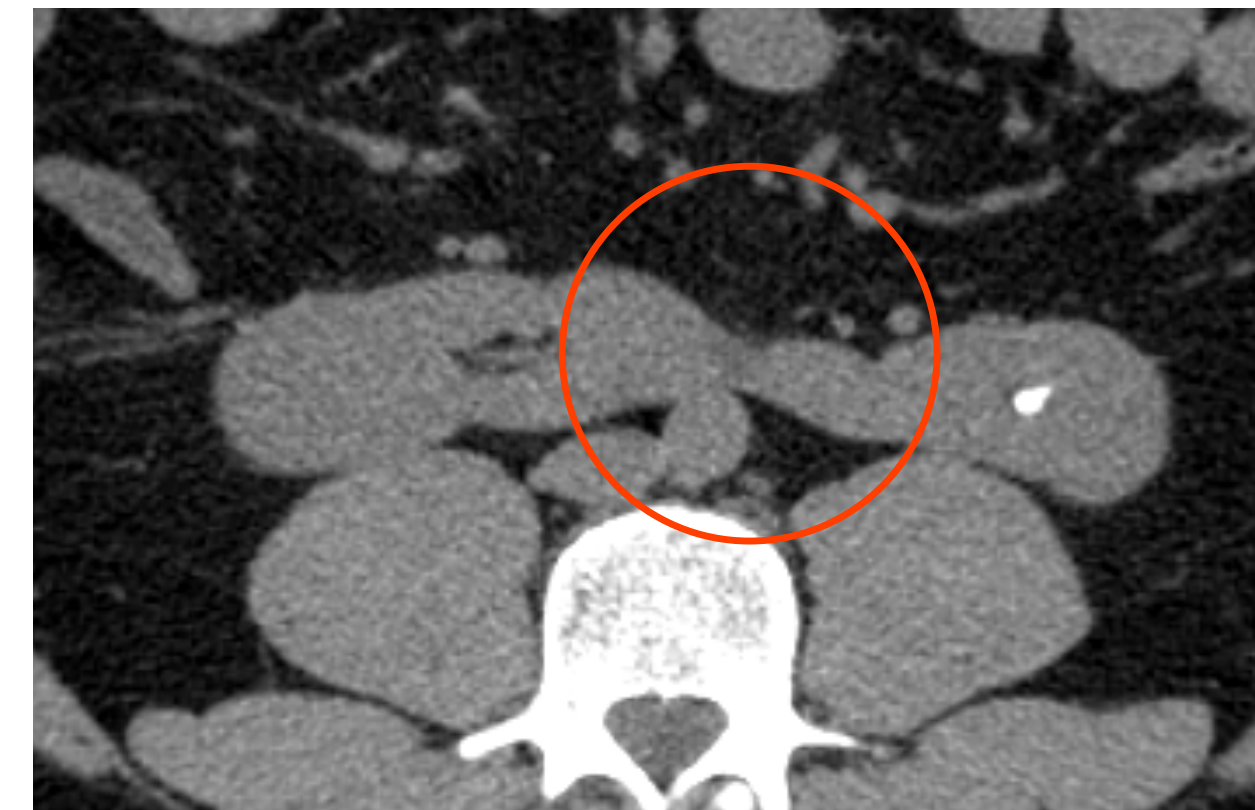
## Critical Features #4

Significant variation in isthmus thickness and presence of collecting system in the isthmus.

The isthmus is usually bulky and located at the L3 or L4 level.

Occasionally it is just a thin fibrous band.

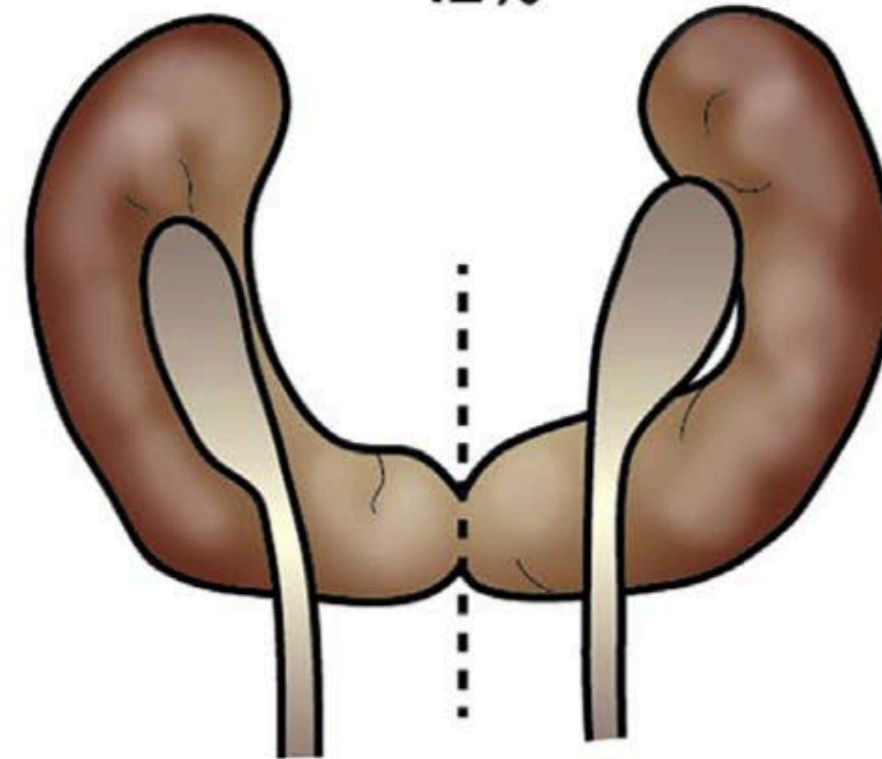
In some cases, the lowermost calyces overlies the vertebral column.





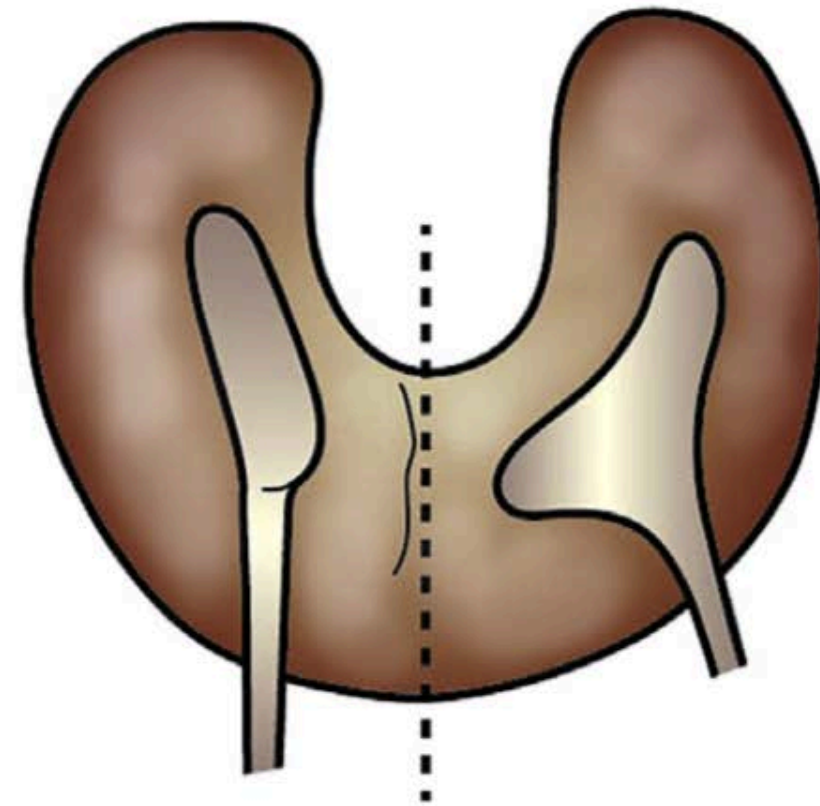
## Midline Fusion

42%



narrow isthmus (20%)

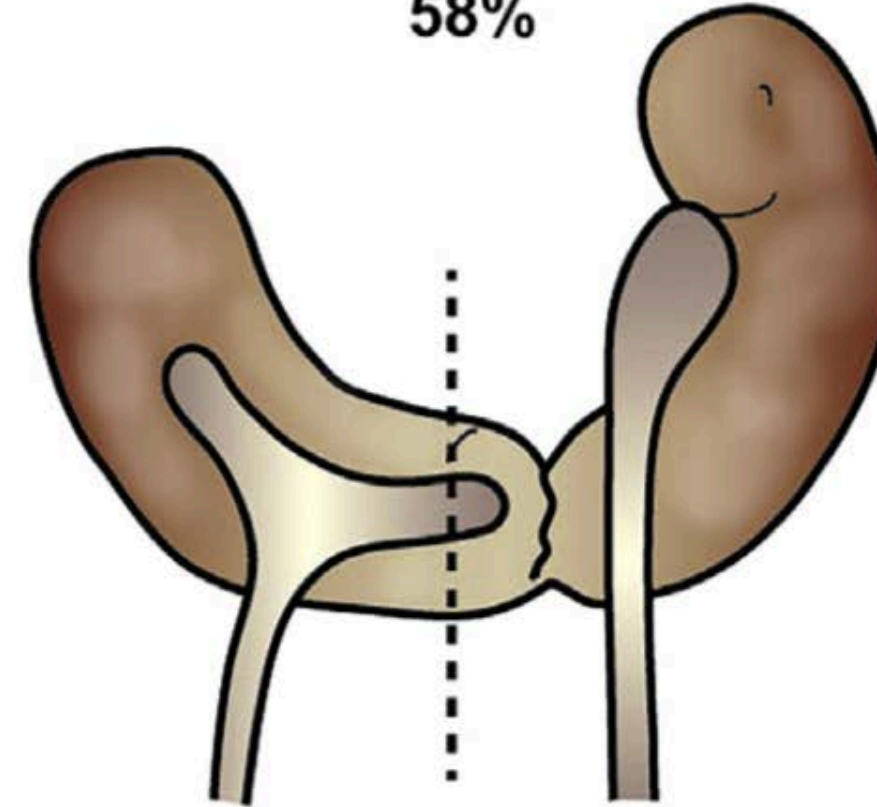
wide isthmus (80%)



Vertebral column

## Lateral Fusion

58%



Watch  
Out!

Symmetrical or asymmetrical systems.

Asymmetrical systems are LEFT side dominant in 70%.



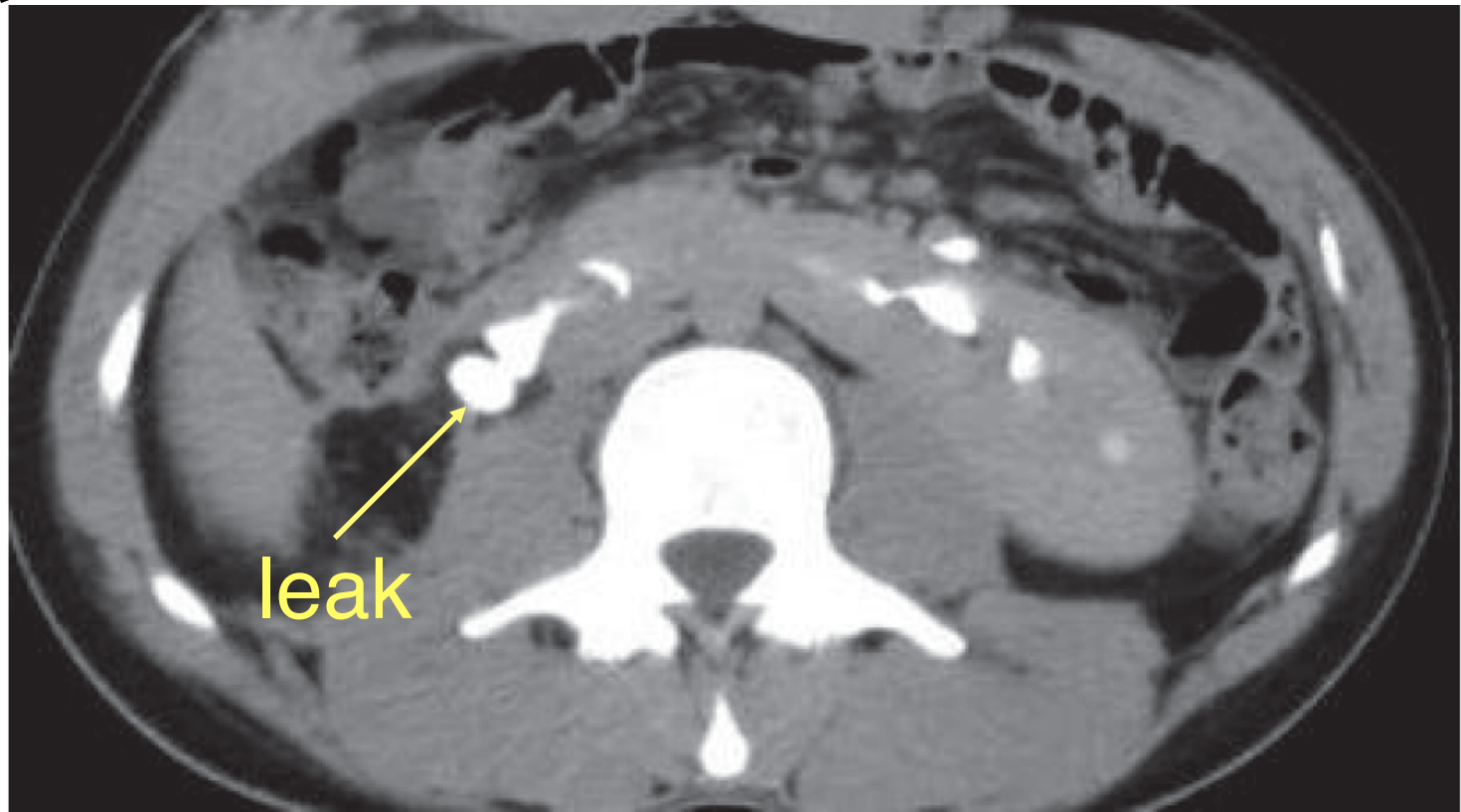
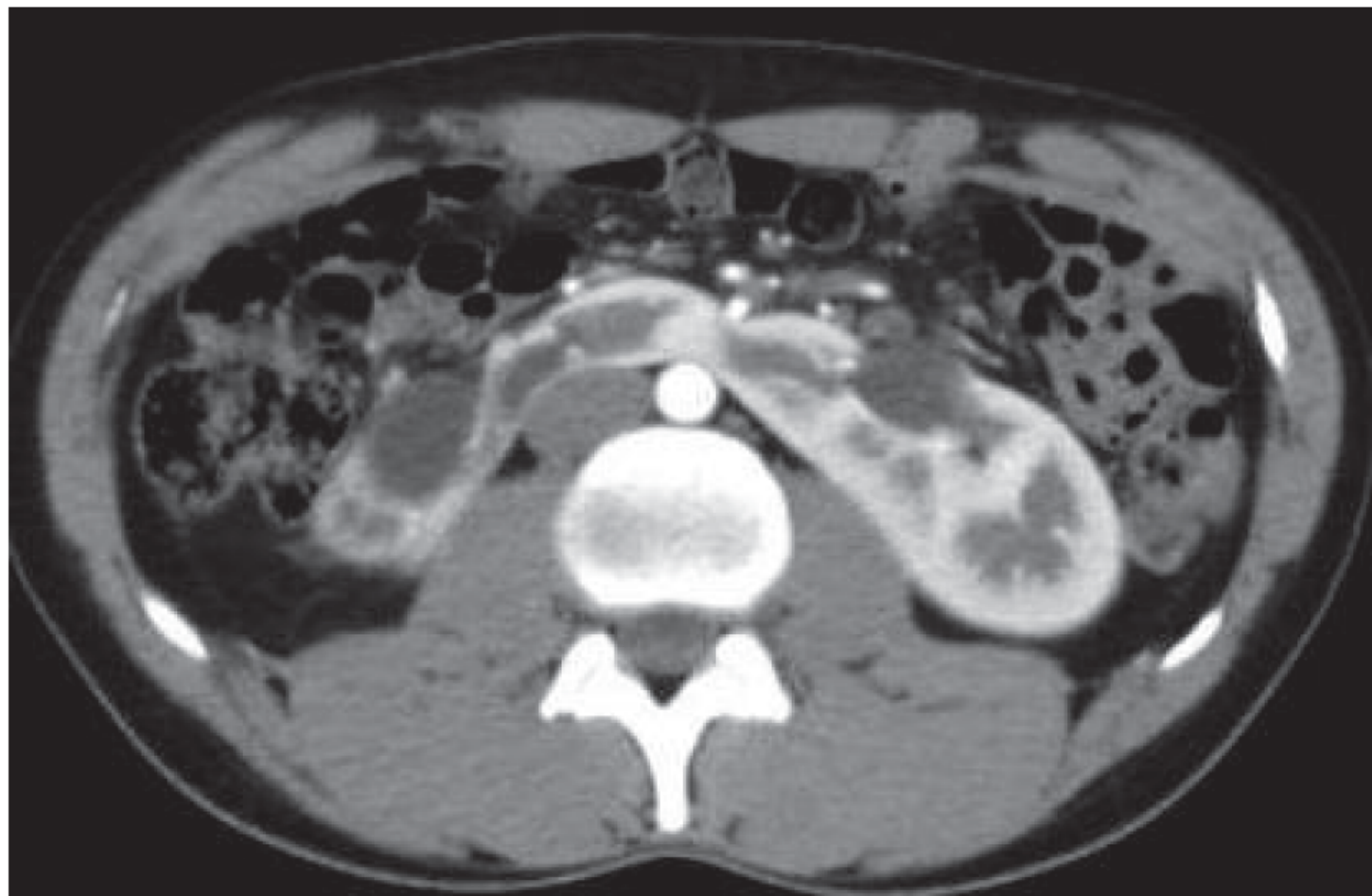
Case Report

**A Case of Incomplete Removal of Horseshoe Kidney by Laparoscopic Nephrectomy in an Adult Leading to Urinary Leak: An Eye Opener**

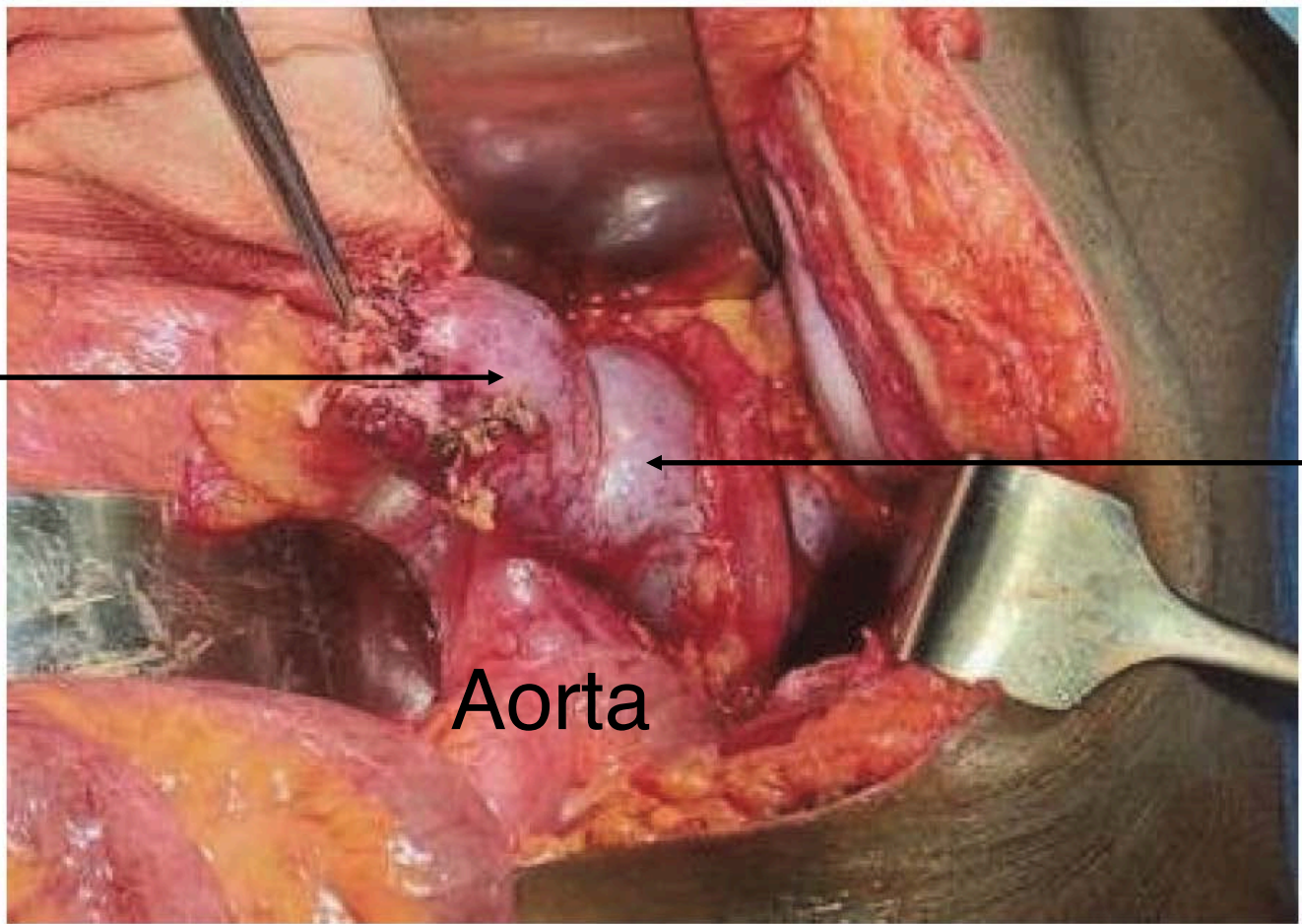
S. Venkat Ramanan , P. Velmurugan , A. R. Bhaskar Prakash, Anuj Arora, and LeelaKrishna Karri  
*Department of Urology, Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai, India*

Hindawi  
Case Reports in Urology  
Volume 2019, Article ID 4132521, 3 pages

Laparoscopic right Nx



Residual  
right lower  
pole with fusion  
well to left of aorta.



Left lower  
pole

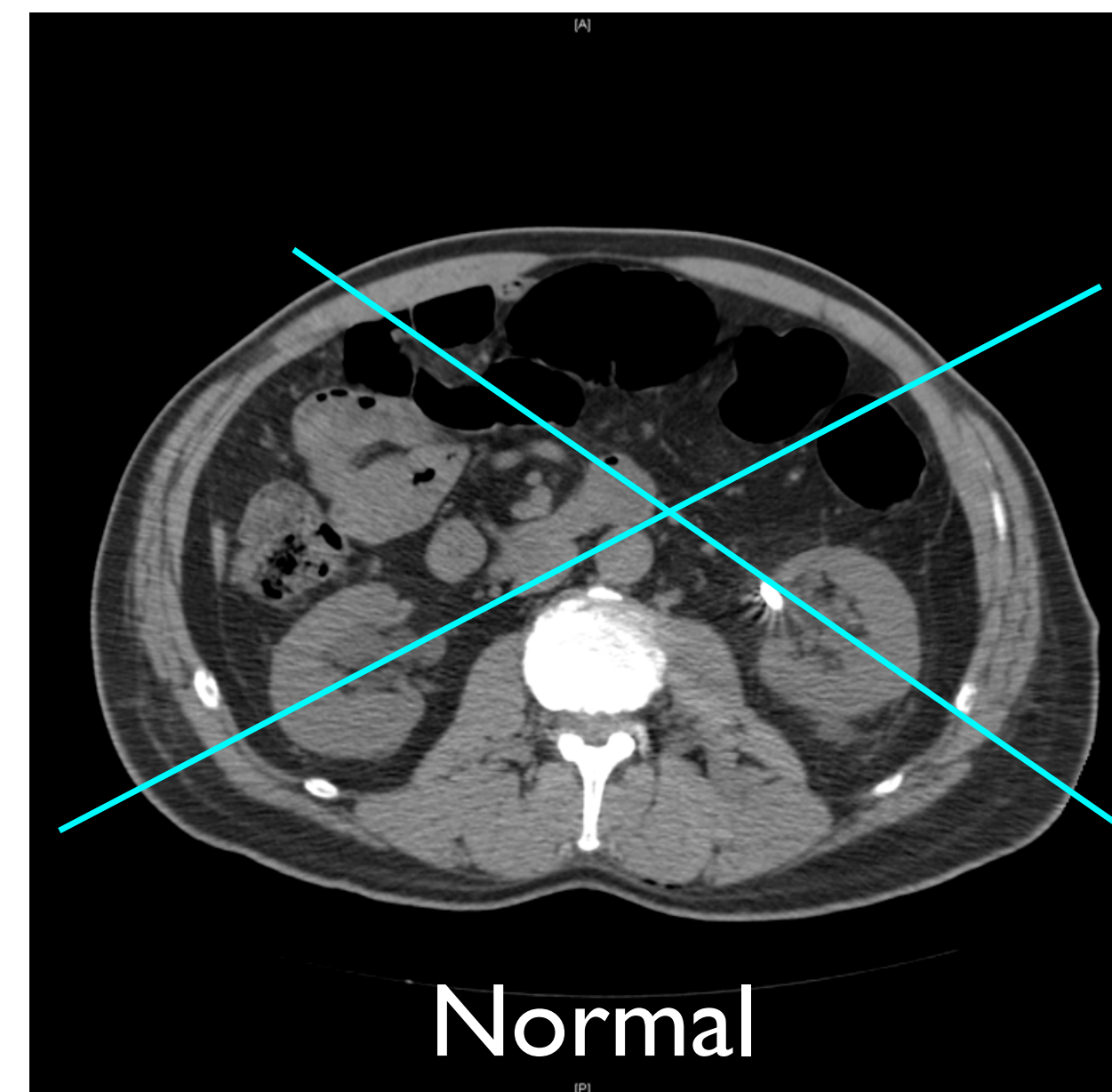
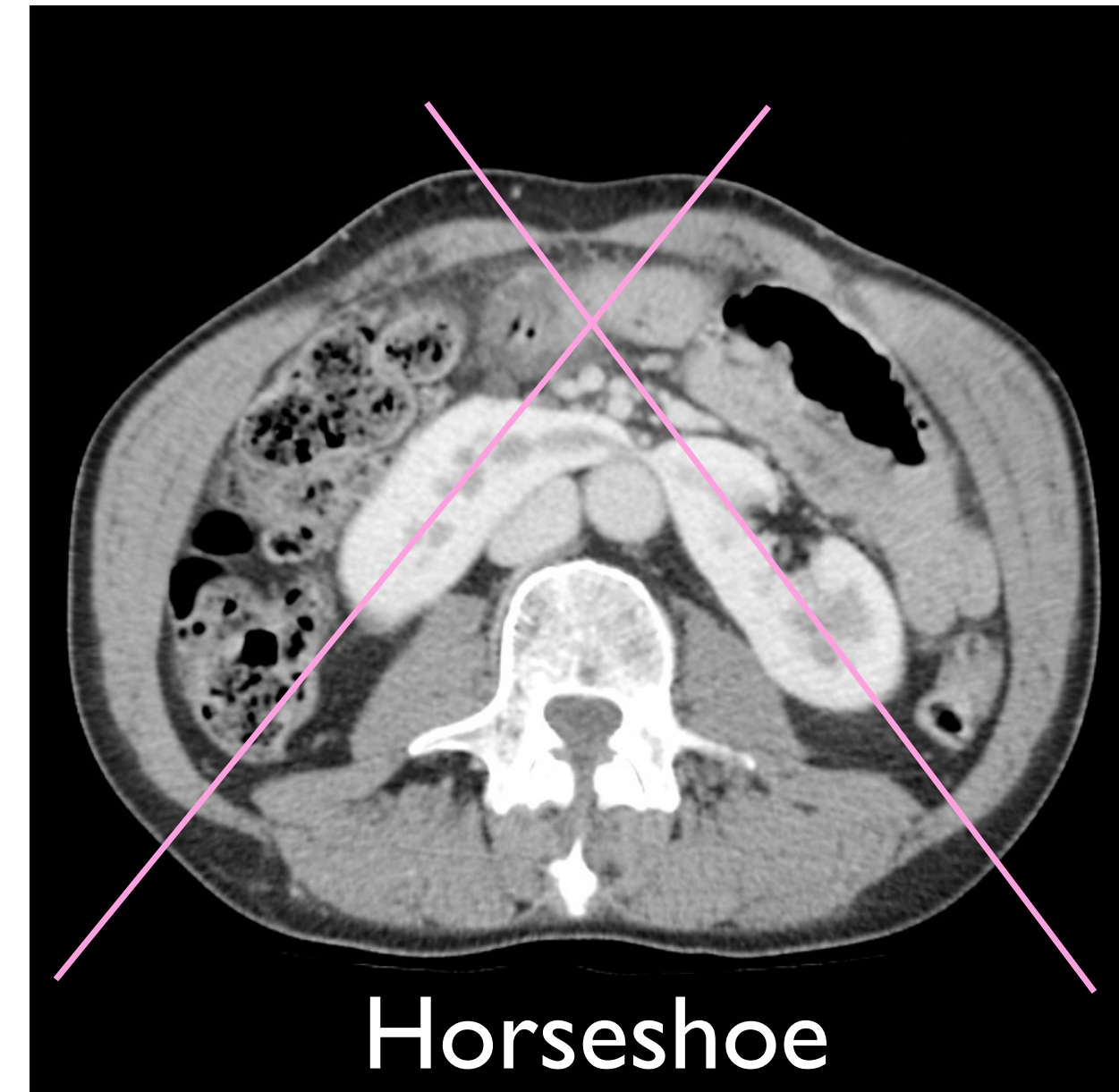
Aorta



## Critical Features #5

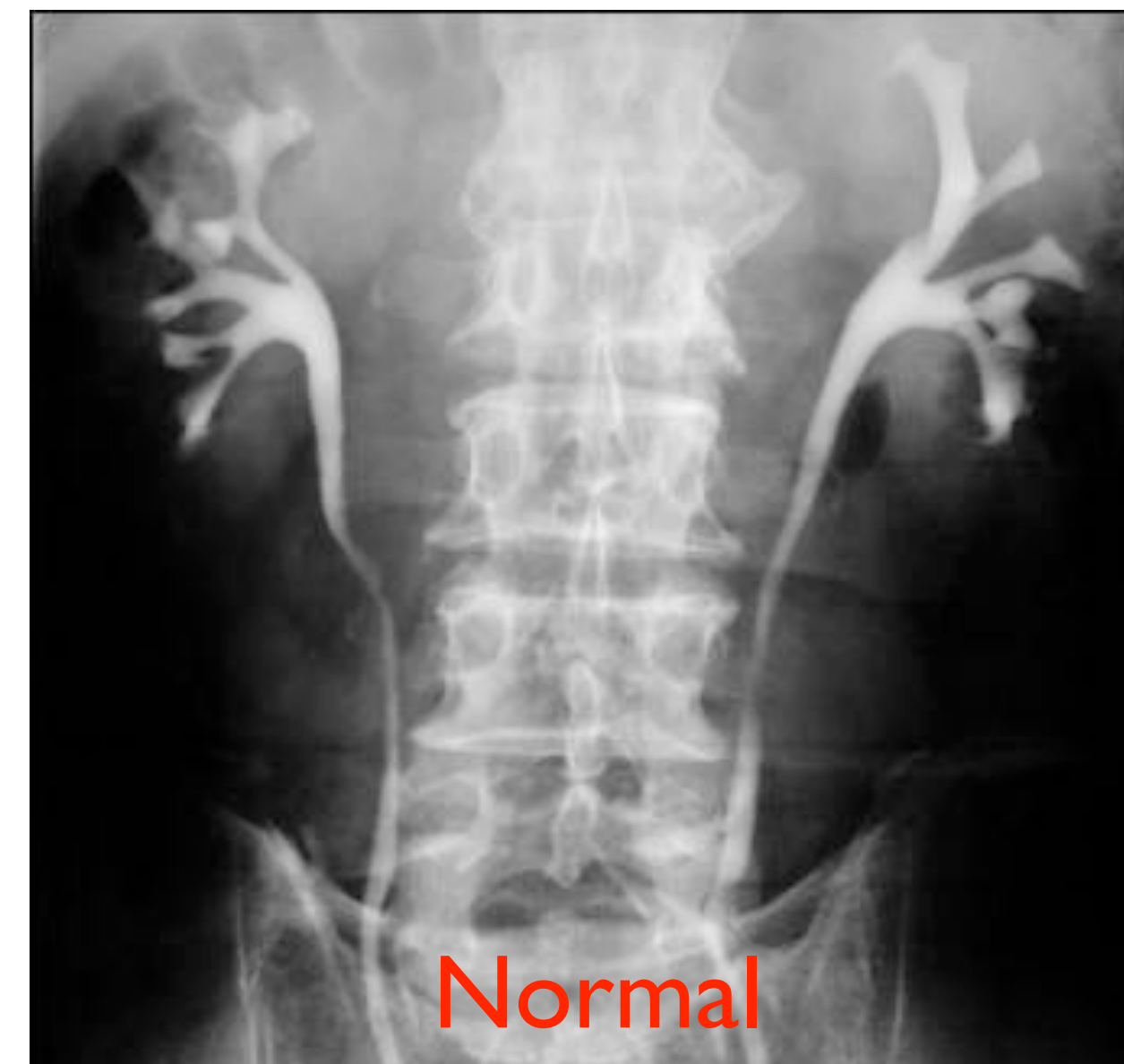
The kidneys do not rotate completely antero-medially due to the fusion event.

This results in kidneys that are posteriorly rotated.



## Critical Features #6

Horseshoe kidneys have the same number of calyces as normal kidneys but these calyces are atypical in orientation.

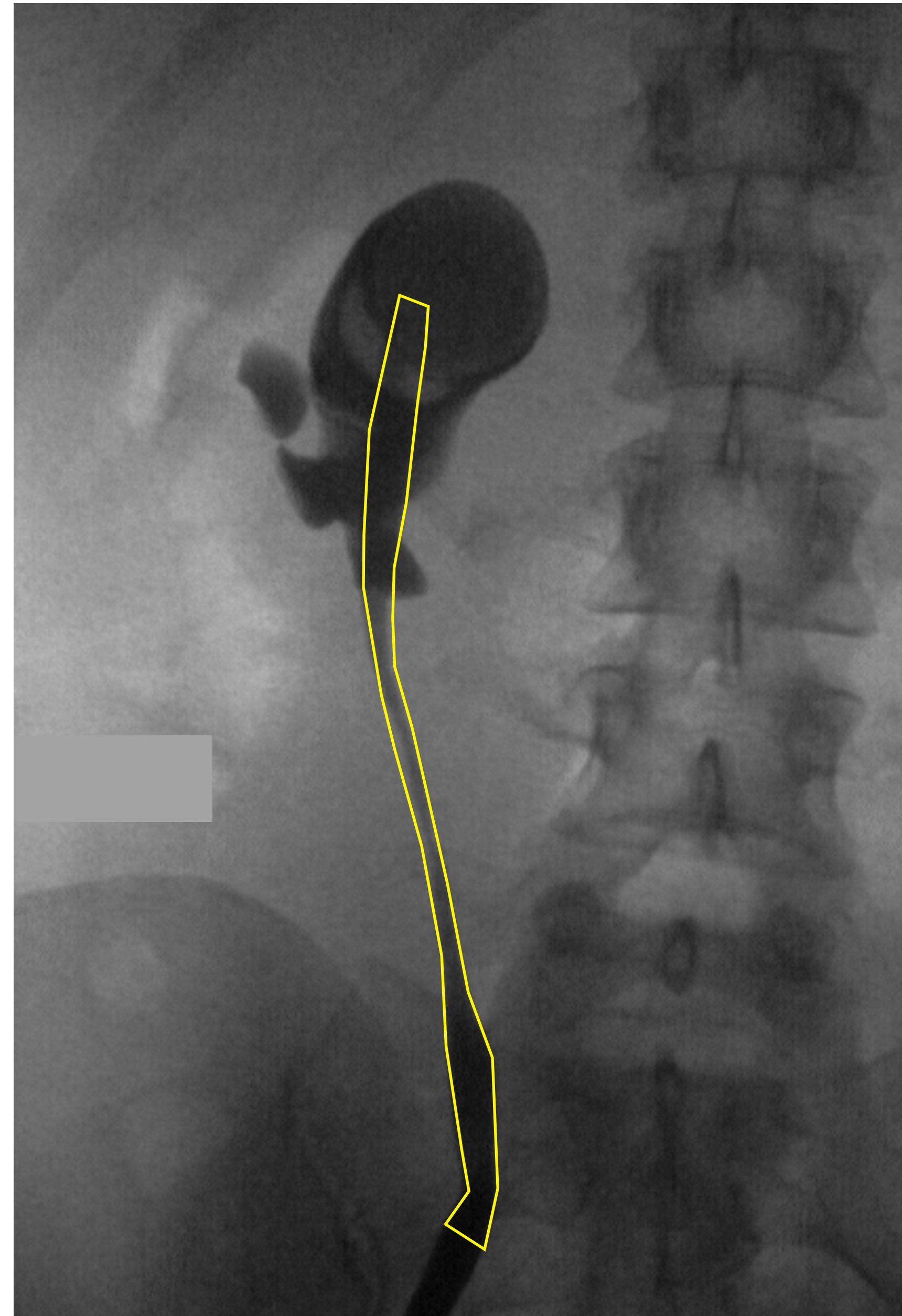




## Critical Features #7

The ureter often inserts high into the renal pelvis.

The lower ureter usually enters the bladder normally.



# Targets for today

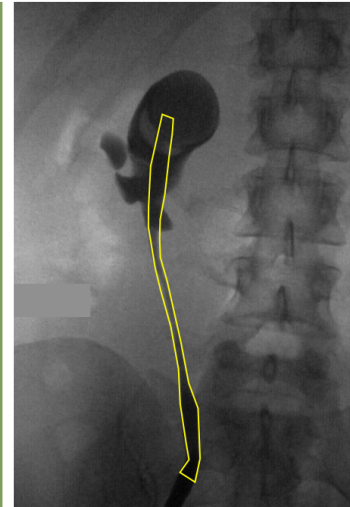


- ▶ General overview of horseshoe kidneys in adults.
  - ▶ Critical anatomic features.
  - ▶ The special case of the horseshoe kidney in:
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    - ▶ Surgical management (heminephrectomy, isthmus division, partial nephrectomy, donor nephrectomy)
- Diagram showing Ureteral obstruction and Nephrolithiasis leading to Infection:
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graph LR; A[Ureteral obstruction] --> C[Infection]; B[Nephrolithiasis] --> C;
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Critical Features #7

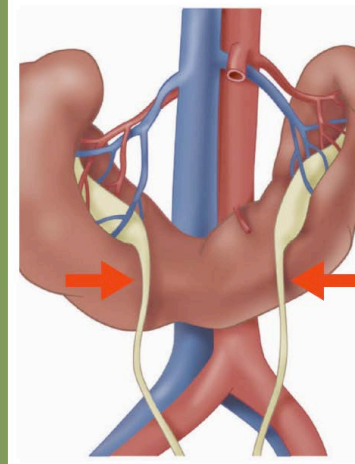
The ureter often inserts high into the renal pelvis.

The lower ureter usually enters the bladder normally.



Critical Features #2

Anteriorly oriented renal pelvis and ureters.



Increased risk of urinary stasis



Increased UTI risk



Dietary factors



Metabolic factors



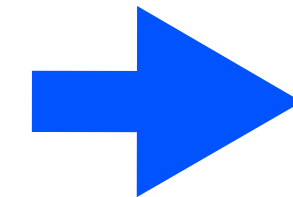
Nephrolithiasis



Genetic factors



Nephrolithiasis

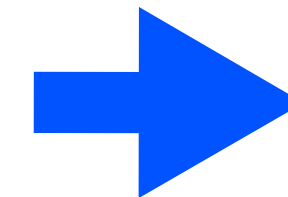
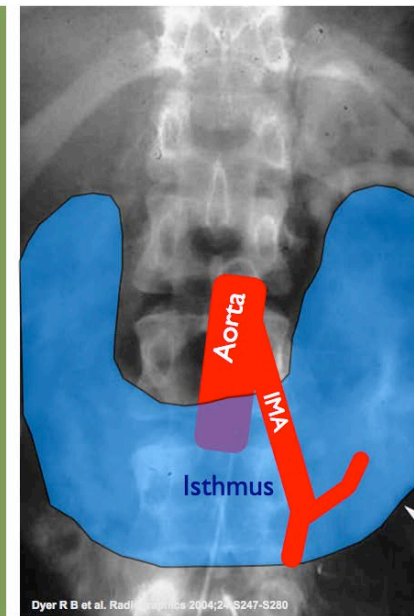


Critical Features #1

Relationship to inferior mesenteric artery.

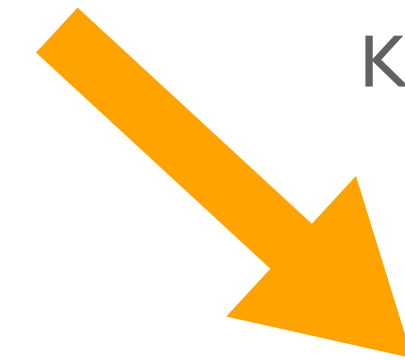
Renal ascent is stopped by the junction of the aorta and inferior mesenteric artery.

Kidneys are lower in the abdomen.



ESWL

Difficulty targeting during ESWL:
due to transverse processes, vertebral bodies, bony pelvis, bowel gas. May need prone ESWL.

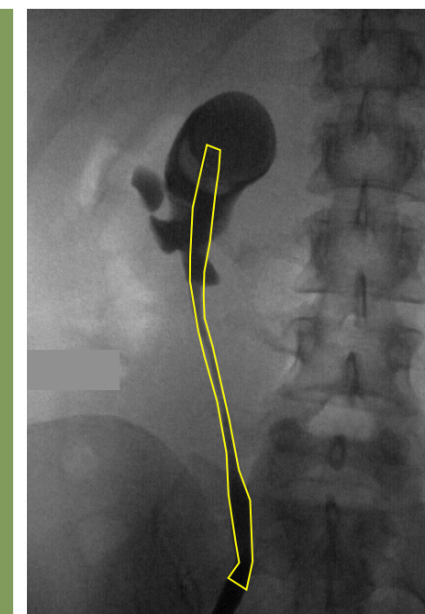


Kidneys lower in abdomen

Critical Features #7

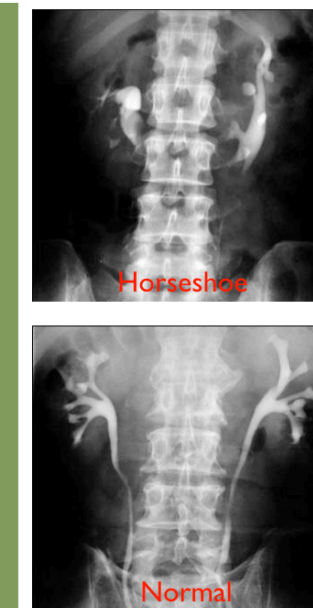
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Critical Features #6

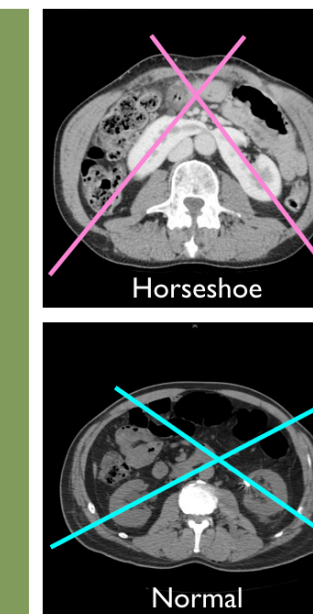
Horseshoe kidneys have the same number of calyces as normal kidneys but these calyces are atypical in orientation.



Critical Features #5

The kidneys do not rotate completely antero-medially due to the fusion event.

This results in kidneys that are posteriorly rotated.



Ureteroscopy

Difficult angles during ureteroscopy. Hard to reach all calices.



PCNL

Limitations in percutaneous access approach.

Any modality that leaves fragments behind may be less effective in the horseshoe kidney due to suboptimal urine drainage.

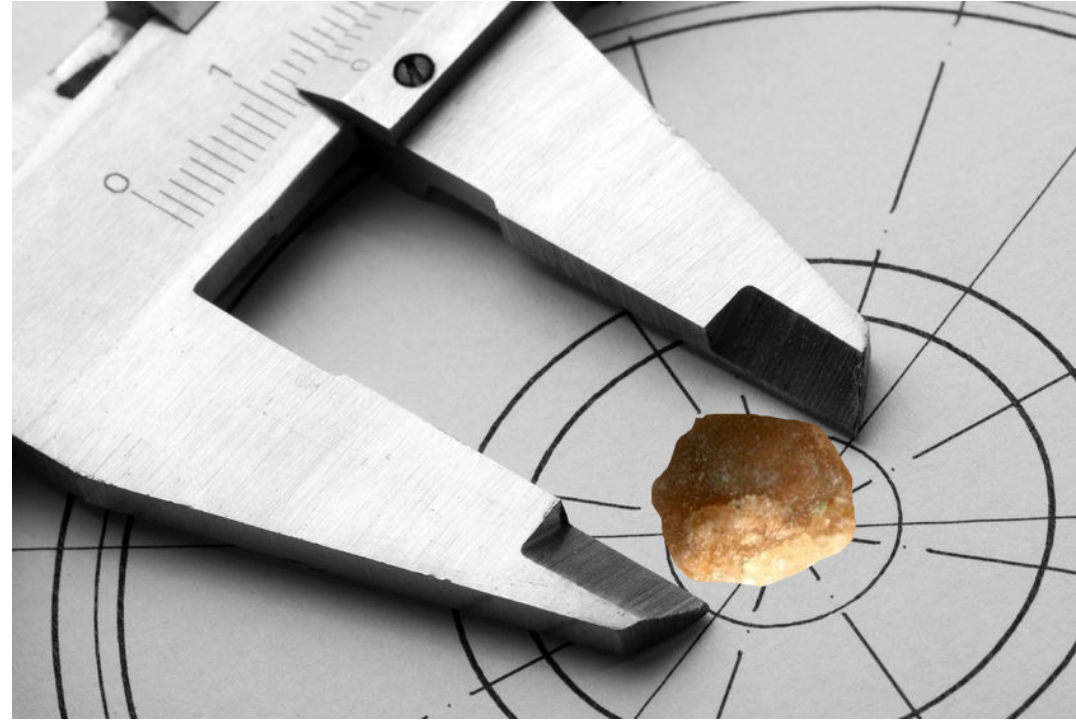


ESWL



Ureteroscopy

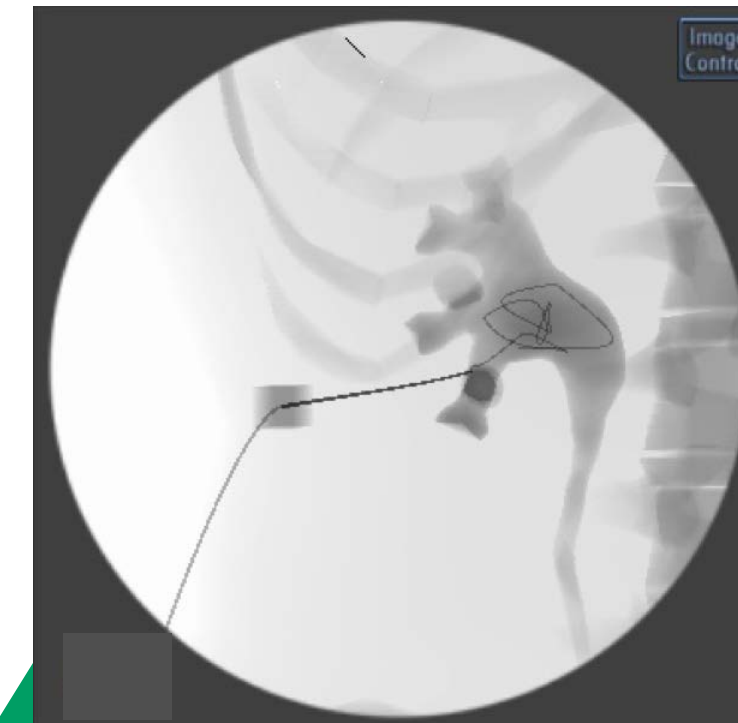




Stone Size



ESWL



PCNL



ESWL in horseshoe kidney

Traditionally has been the mainstay of therapy for stone burden ≤ 1.5 cm

Table 1
Results of SWL patients with horseshoe kidneys

Investigator, Y	Mean Stone Diameter, mm	No. of Patients	Fragmentation Rate, %	Stone-Free Rate, %	Retreatment Rate, %
Esuvaranathan, ¹²² 1991	12	7	Not Reported	59	50
Kirkali et al, ⁵ 1996	24	18	78	28	57
Smith, ¹²³ 1989	Not Reported	14	Not Reported	79	29
Bhatia and Biyani, ² 1994	28	27	Not Reported	70	48
Sheir et al, ⁷ 2003	13.5	49	Not Reported	71	71
Tunc et al, ⁶ 2004	22	46	Not Reported	66	Not Reported
Ray et al, ⁹ 2011	9.5	41	Not Reported	39.1	71

Tan YK: Management of stones in abnormal situations. *Urol Clin N. Am.* 40, 2013

Total stone free rate = 60% (39 to 79%)

Retreatment rate = 61% (29 to 71%)



PCNL in the horseshoe kidney

JOURNAL OF ENDOUROLOGY
Volume 22, Number 6, June 2008
© Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.
Pp. 1219–1226
DOI: 10.1089/end.2008.0051

The Presence of Horseshoe Kidney Does Not Affect the Outcome of Percutaneous Nephrolithotomy

Nicole L. Miller, M.D.,¹ Brian R. Matlaga, M.D.,² Shelly E. Handa, R.N., B.S.N.,³
Larry C. Munch, M.D.,³ and James E. Lingeman, M.D.³

n = 44

Primary stone free rate: 84%

Second look in 11%

Overall stone free: 93%

JOURNAL OF ENDOUROLOGY
Volume 24, Number 4, April 2010
© Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.
Pp. 531–536
DOI: 10.1089/end.2009.0264

Percutaneous Management of Staghorn Calculi in Horseshoe Kidneys: A Multi-Institutional Experience

Evangelos N. Liatsikos, M.D., Ph.D.,¹ Panagiotis Kallidonis, M.D.,¹ Jens-Uwe Stolzenburg, M.D., Ph.D.,²
Micheal Ost, M.D., Ph.D.,³ Frank Keeley, M.D., Ph.D.,⁴ Olivier Traxer, M.D., Ph.D.,⁵
Norberto Bernardo, M.D., Ph.D.,⁶ Petros Perimenis, M.D., Ph.D.,¹ Arthur D. Smith, M.D., Ph.D.³

n = 17

Primary stone free rate: 82%

Consensus: Stone clearance rates generally equivalent to PCNL in normal kidneys.

PCNL in horseshoe: caveats #1

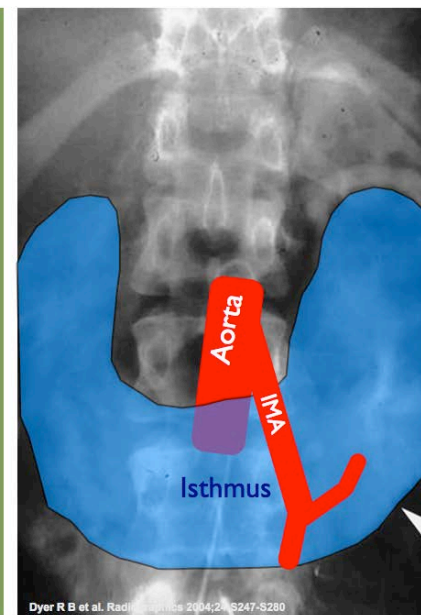
- Percutaneous access can be more technically difficult due to malrotation, lower renal units.

Critical Features #1

Relationship to inferior mesenteric artery.

Renal ascent is stopped by the junction of the aorta and inferior mesenteric artery.

Kidneys are lower in the abdomen.



Critical Features #5

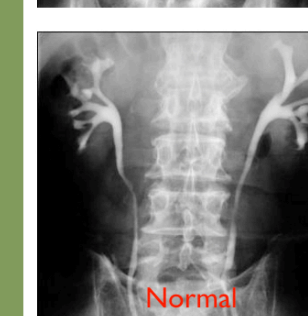
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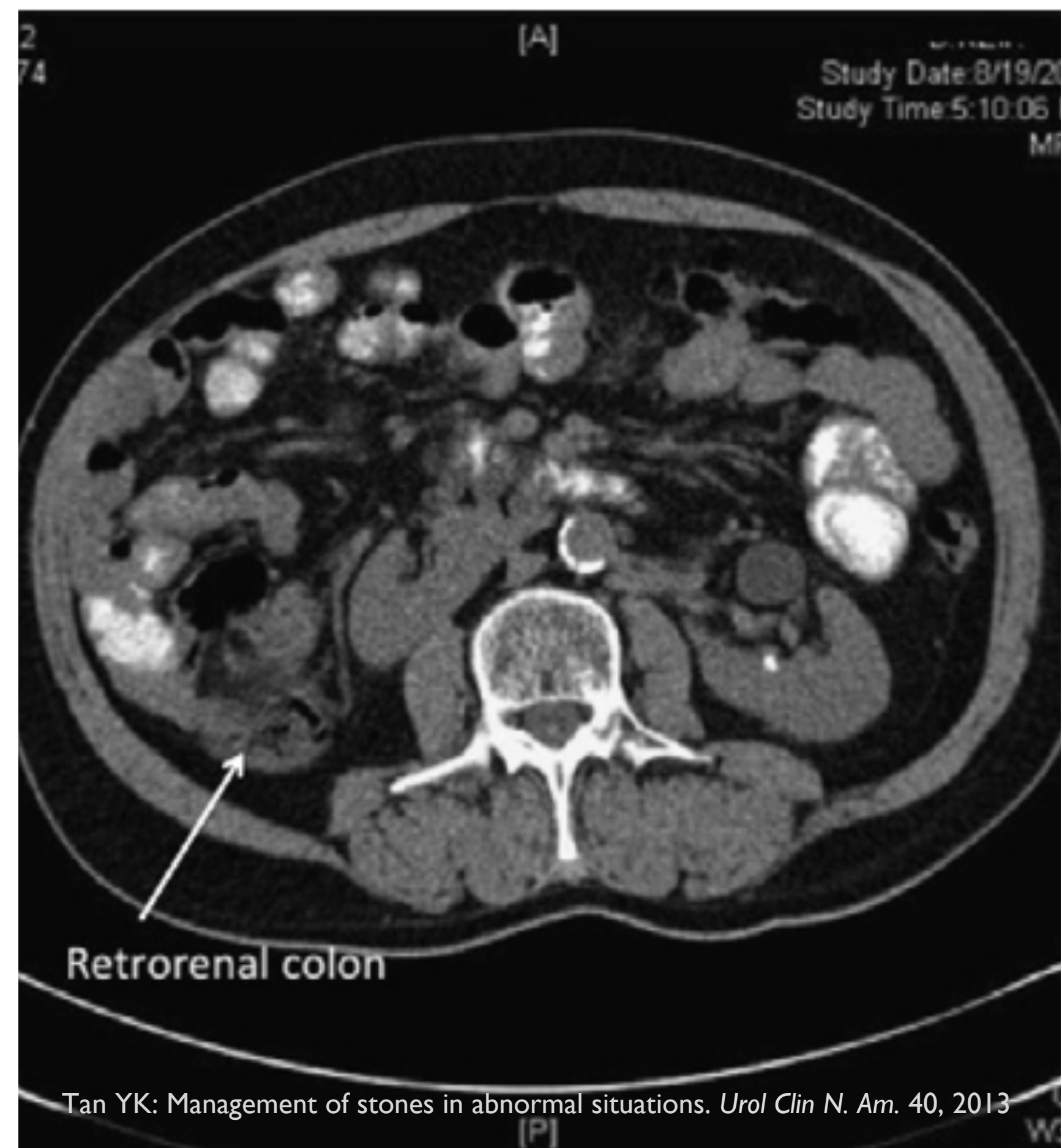
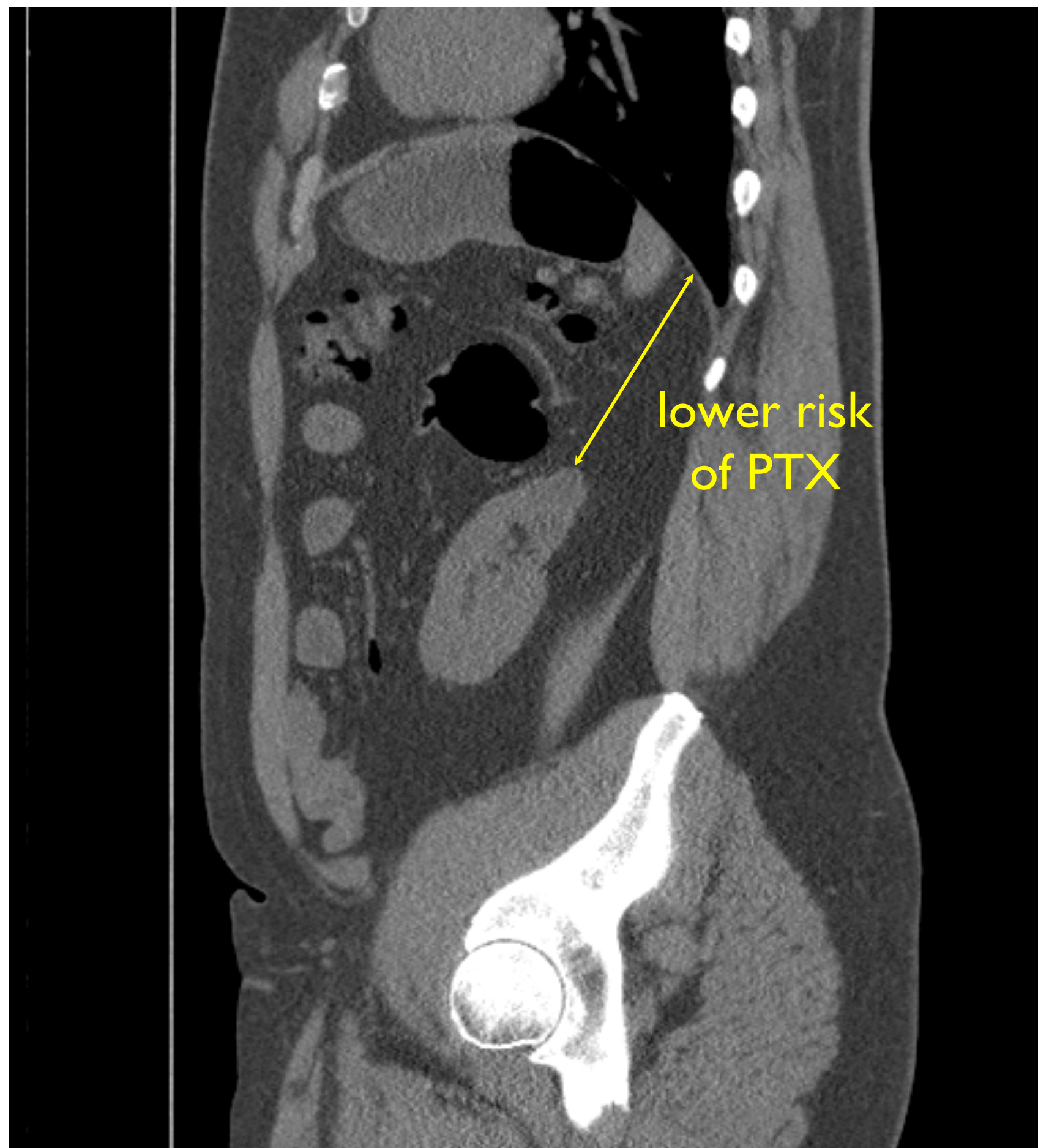


Critical Features #6

Horseshoe kidneys have the same number of calyces as normal kidneys but these calyces are atypical in orientation.



- Almost all require upper pole, posterior calyceal access.
- Some require CT guided or laparoscopic-assisted access.

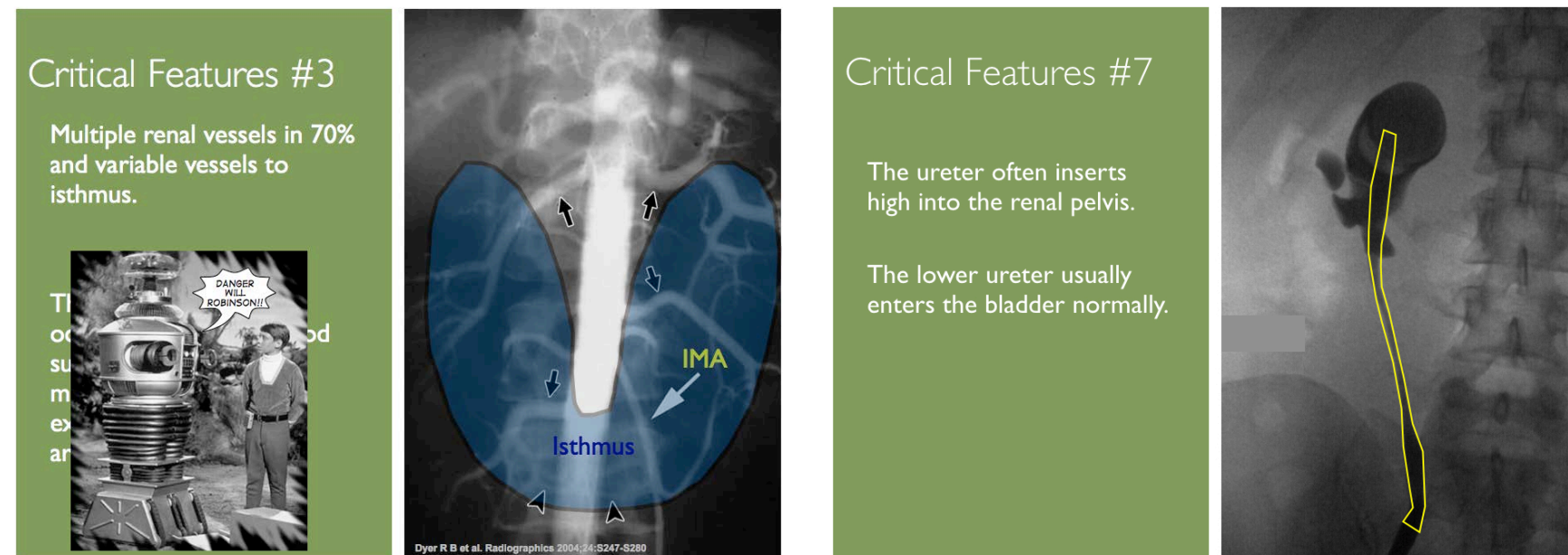


Tan YK: Management of stones in abnormal situations. *Urol Clin N. Am.* 40, 2013

Good news and bad news.....

PCNL in horseshoe: caveats #2

- ▶ Multiple vessels and UPJ obstruction can also complicate access to the calyx of entry and the ureter.



- ▶ This is a factor almost exclusively when attempting lower pole access. Posterior vessels into the isthmus preclude access there.
- ▶ **Bleeding risk is not increased in horseshoe kidney PCNL due to medial entry point of vessels..**

4 right
arteries



Due to kidney location, the access tract can be very long in horseshoe kidney patients, requiring special instrumentation and technique.

long nephroscopes
flexible nephroscopes
buried sheath





Low stone clearance rate
High retreatment rate

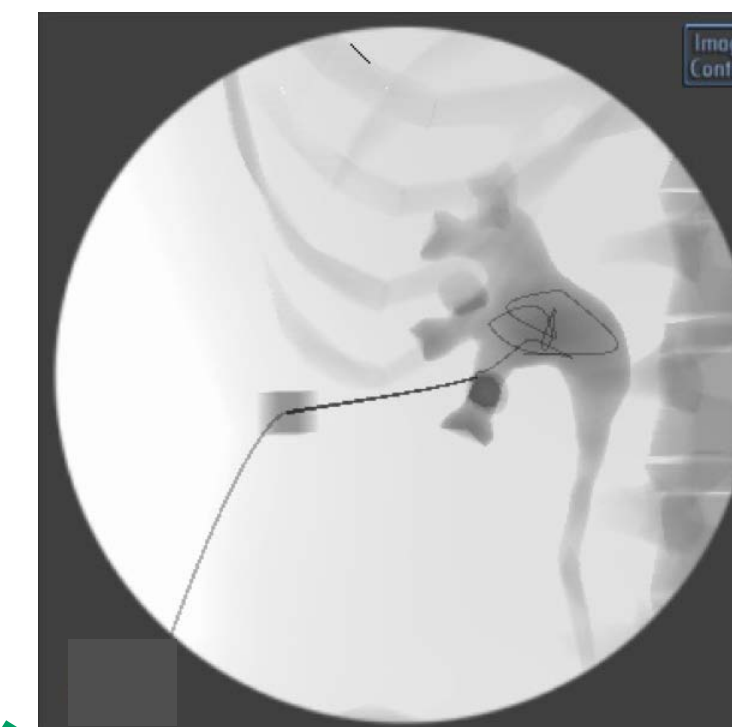


ESWL

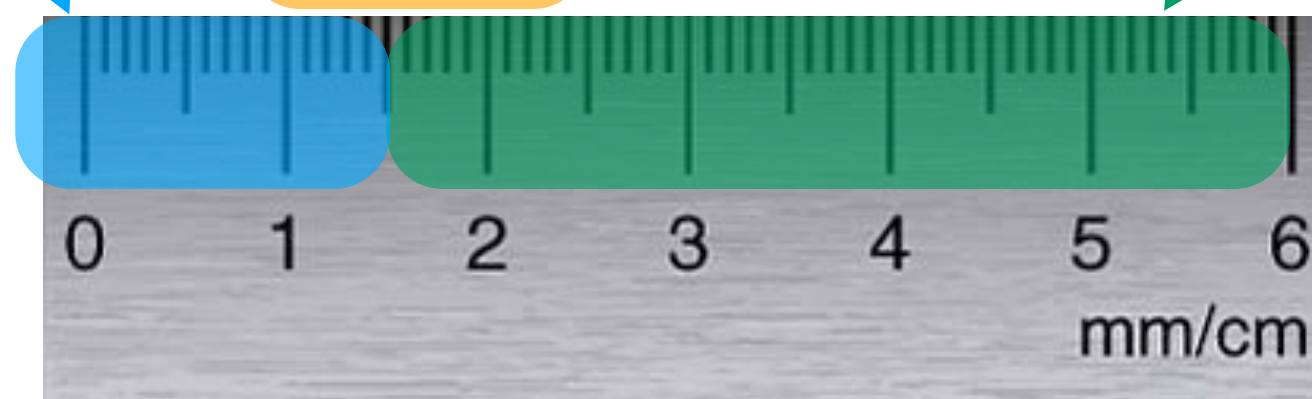


Ureteroscopy

High complication rate



PCNL



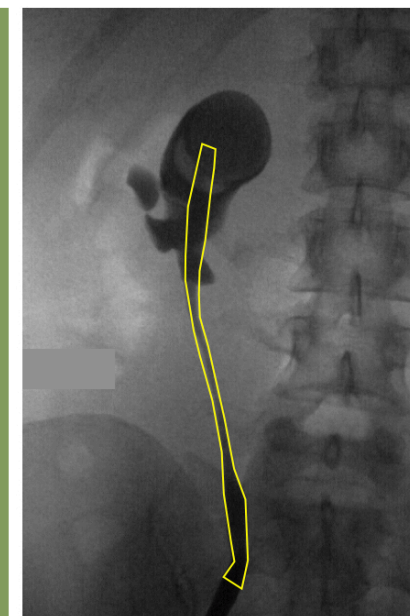
Ureteroscopy in the horseshoe kidney

- ▶ Technically challenging.
- ▶ Usually requires:
 - ▶ flexible instrumentation
 - ▶ access sheath
- ▶ Not all calyces can be accessed.
- ▶ Staged procedures are common.
- ▶ Subsequent drainage remains a factor.

Critical Features #7

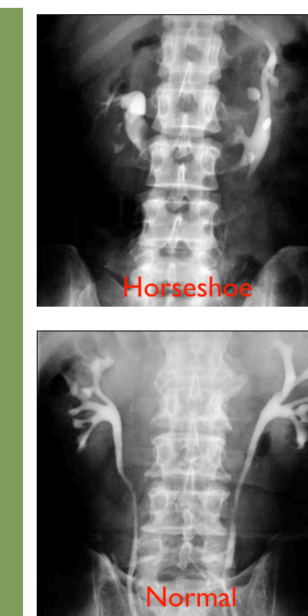
The ureter often inserts high into the renal pelvis.

The lower ureter usually enters the bladder normally.



Critical Features #6

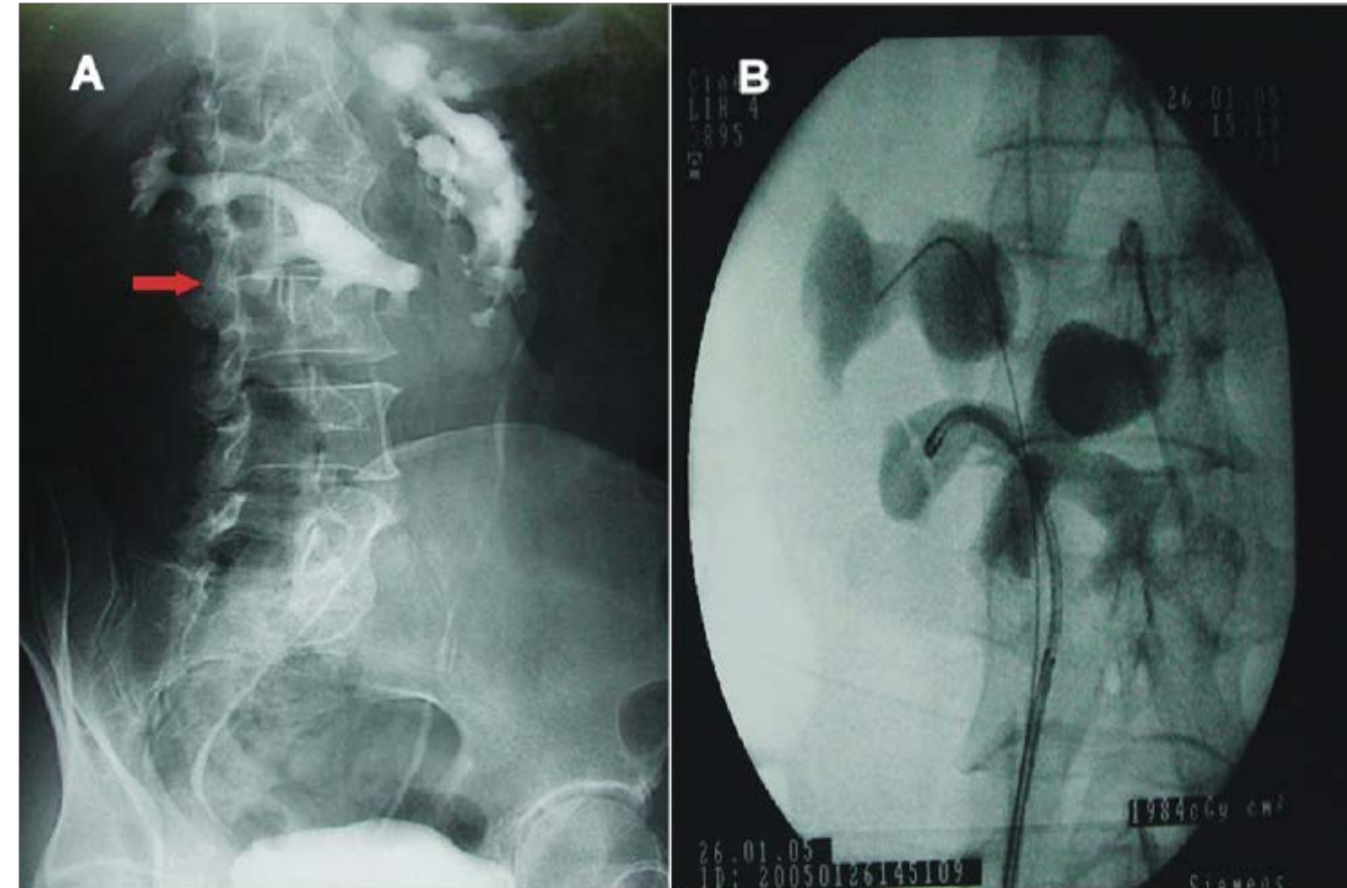
Horseshoe kidneys have the same number of calyces as normal kidneys but these calyces are atypical in orientation.



Flexible Ureterorenoscopy With Holmium Laser in Horseshoe Kidneys

Benoit Molimard, Saeed Al-Qahtani, Amine Lakmichi, Majed Sejiny, Sixtina Gil-Diez de Medina, Xavier Carpentier, and Olivier Traxer

UROLOGY 76 (6), 2010



- ▶ 17 patients
- ▶ Average stone burden 1.6 cm.
- ▶ 42% of patients required a second procedure.
- ▶ On average 1.5 procedures per patient (total of 25).
- ▶ Overall stone free rate was 88%.
- ▶ No major complications, no transfusions.
- ▶ One patient treated for pyelonephritis.

Ureteroscopic Urinary Stone Treatment Among Patients With Renal Anomalies: Patient Characteristics and Treatment Outcomes

Jaap D. Legemate, Barbaros Baseskioglu, Jakub Dobruch, Jorge Gutierrez-Aceves, Oscar Negrete, Carlos Rioja Sanz, Muharrem Murat Yildiz, and Jean J.M.C.H. de la Rosette

UROLOGY 110, 2017

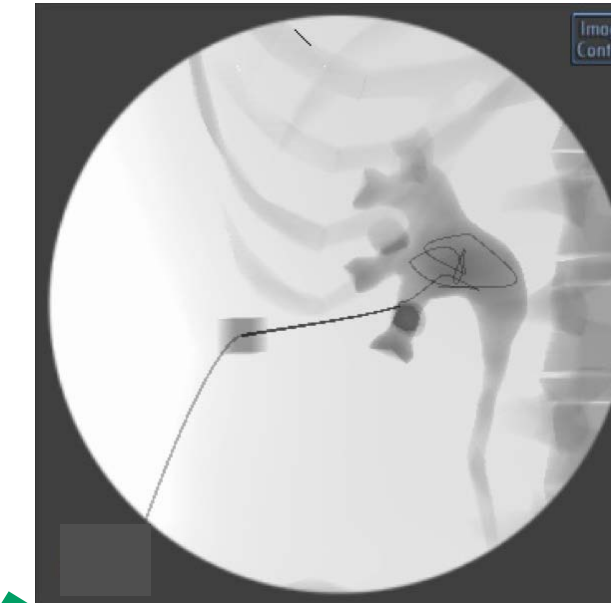
Outcomes	Horseshoe Kidney n = 43
Stone-free rate n (%)	
Renal stones overall SFR*	17 (77.3)
≤80 mm ²	10 (83.3)
>80 mm ²	7 (70.0)
	(n = 22)
Ureteral stones overall SFR	17 (85.0)
≤80 mm ²	15 (93.8)
>80 mm ²	2 (50.0)
	(n = 20)
Evaluation method n (%) [†]	
Computed Tomography	4 (9.3)
Ultrasound	20 (46.5)
X-ray/KUB	21 (48.8)
IVU	1 (2.3)
Retrograde study	1 (2.3)
Intraoperative confirmation	6 (14.0)
Other	2 (4.7)
Intraoperative complications n (%)	5 (11.6)
Overall	3 (7.0)
Bleeding	1 (2.3)
Perforation	1 (2.3)
Failed procedure	0 (0)
Conversion	0 (0)
Avulsion	0 (0)
Other	(n = 43)
Postoperative complications n (%)	3 (7.0)
Overall	1 (2.3)
Bleeding	0 (0)
Fever (>38.0)	1 (2.3)
UTI	0 (0)
Sepsis	1 (2.3)
Other	(n = 43)
Median length of hospital stay in days, [IQR]	1 [1-2] (n = 43)
Retreatment n (%)	7 (16.3) (n = 43)
Readmission < 3 months n (%)	5 (12.5) (n = 40)



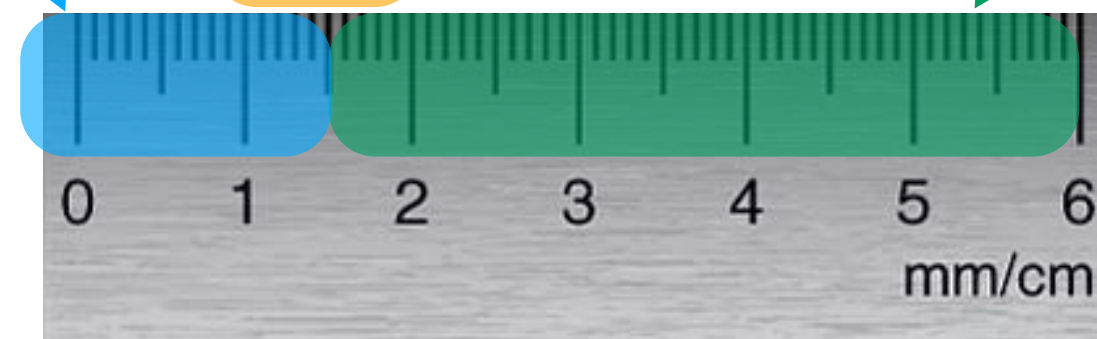
ESWL



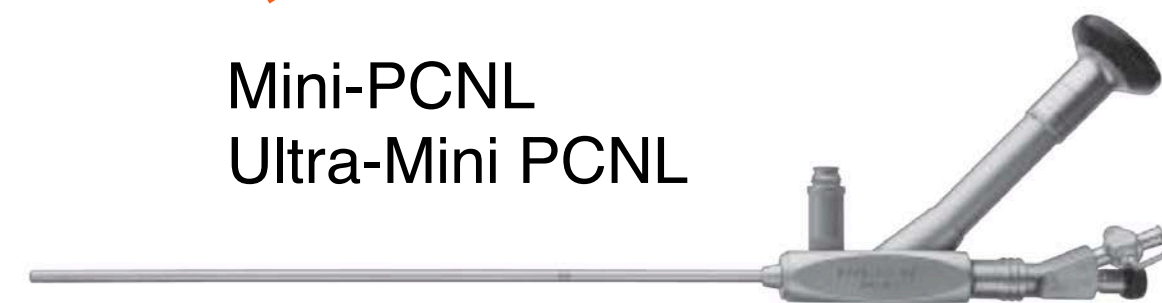
Ureteroscopy



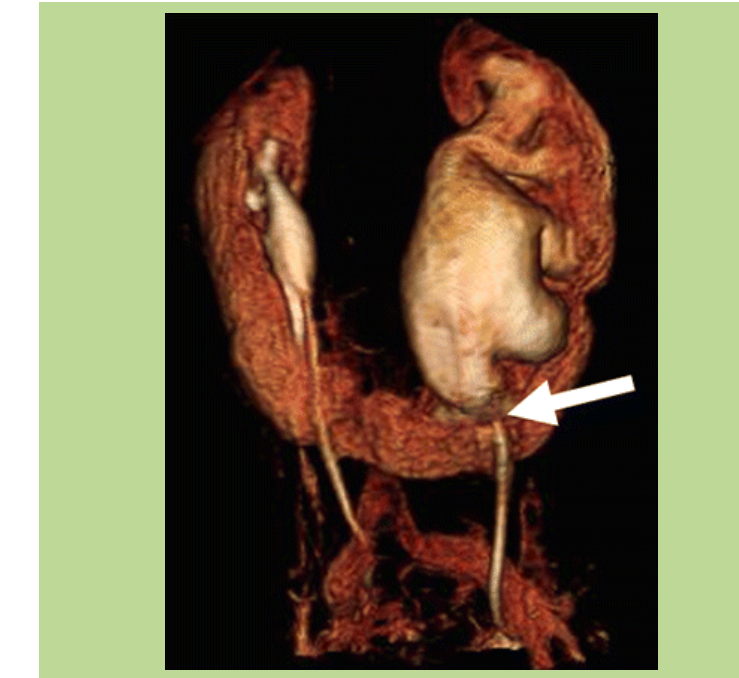
PCNL



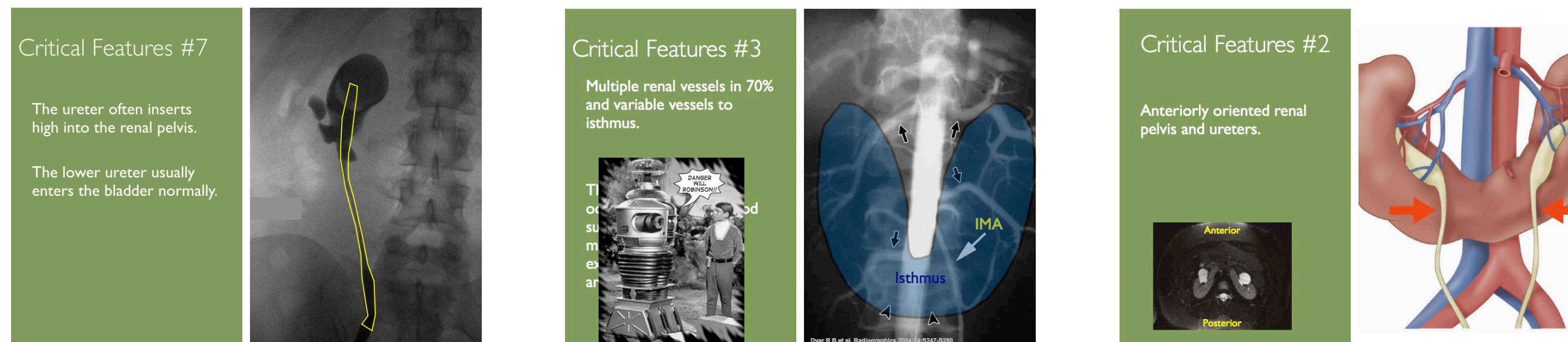
Mini-PCNL
Ultra-Mini PCNL



UPJ obstruction in horseshoe kidneys



- Incidence is 15 - 30% in the horseshoe population.



- Conventional open management included dismembered pyeloplasty, division of isthmus and nephropexy.
- More recent studies confirm that division of isthmus and nephropexy are not necessary in most cases.

Success Rates (1° UPJ)

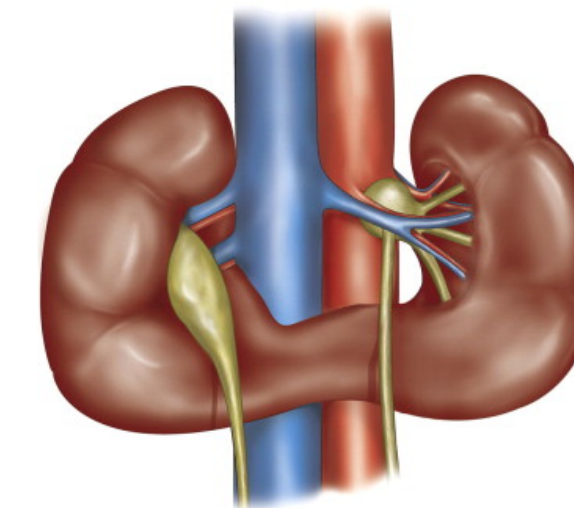
- ▶ Acucise endopyelotomy - 56 - 77 %
- ▶ Endopyelotomy - 62 - 94%
- ▶ Laparoscopic pyeloplasty - 89 - 98%
- ▶ Open pyeloplasty - 86 - 93%

Depends heavily on patient selection criteria:

Degree of hydronephrosis
Presence of crossing vessel
Degree of renal function

Also....with longer followup (5-10 yrs), we are seeing lots of late failures with endopyelotomy...

Crossing vessels can be seen in 87% of endopyelotomy failures.



Tips and tricks

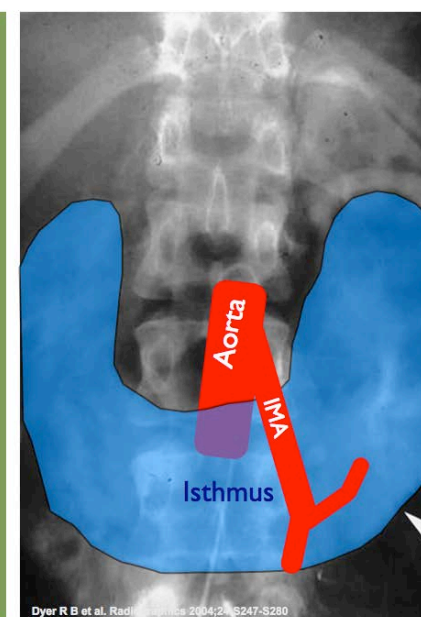
- ▶ Lower placement of trocars.
- ▶ Transperitoneal, and sometimes transmesenteric, approach is favored due to anterior location of pelvis and ureter relative to isthmus.
- ▶ A preoperative CT angiogram may be helpful to provide a roadmap of aberrant vasculature.
- ▶ Pelvic reduction is at the discretion of the surgeon. Correction of high insertion is not....

Critical Features #1

Relationship to inferior mesenteric artery.

Renal ascent is stopped by the junction of the aorta and inferior mesenteric artery.

Kidneys are lower in the abdomen.



Don't be a T-rex,
spread out the trocars
away from target.



Case example

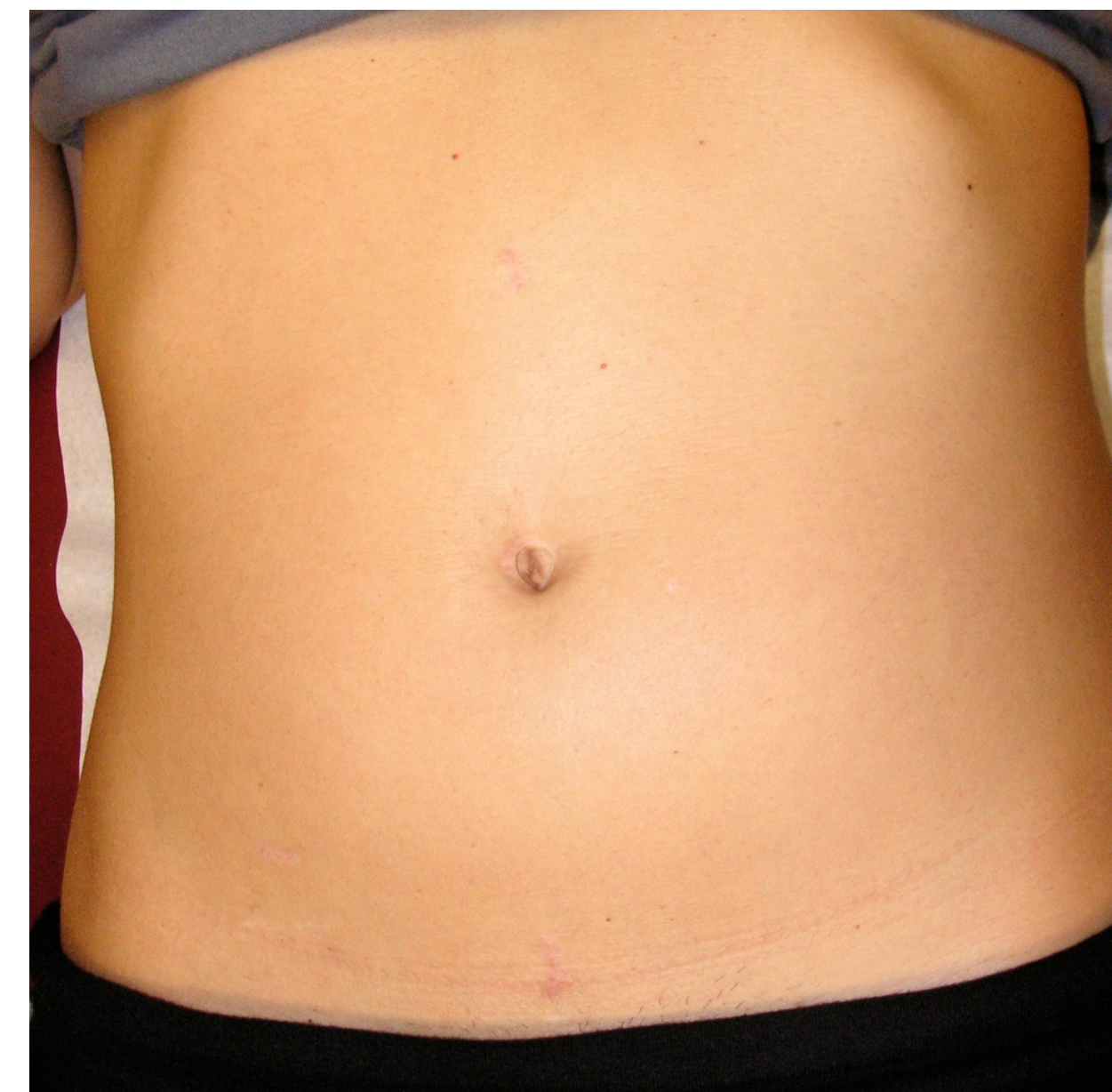
31 year old woman with
right upper quadrant pain
and microscopic
hematuria.

Pain generally worse with
alcohol intake.

No prior surgery.



- ▶ Robotic dismembered pyeloplasty and pyelolithotomy performed.
- ▶ Multiple aberrant vessels and high insertion present.
- ▶ Large stone placed into LapSac.
- ▶ LapSac exteriorized at umbilicus and stone fragmented and evacuated with nephroscope and Cyberwand.
- ▶ Smooth postop recovery.
Symptom free without new stone formation at 4 years postop.

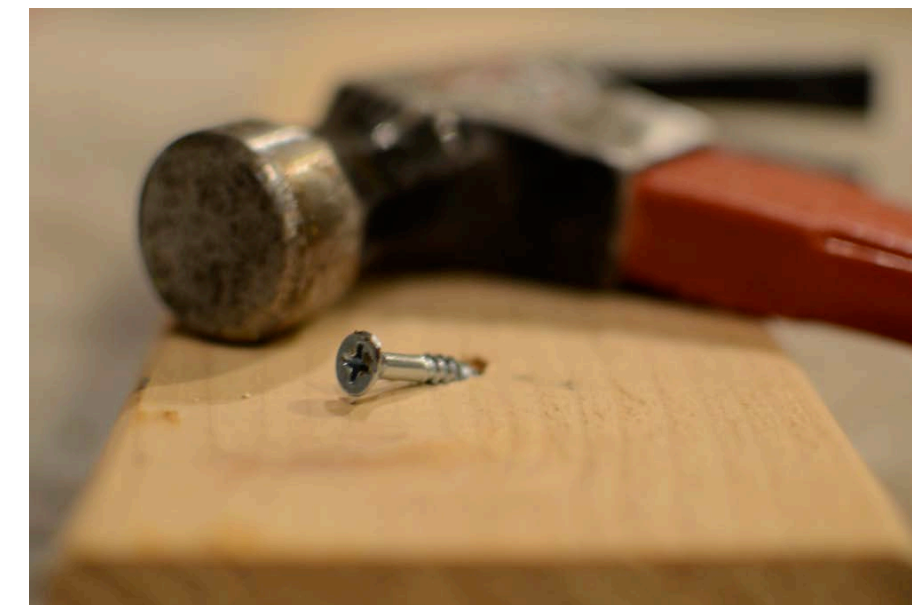
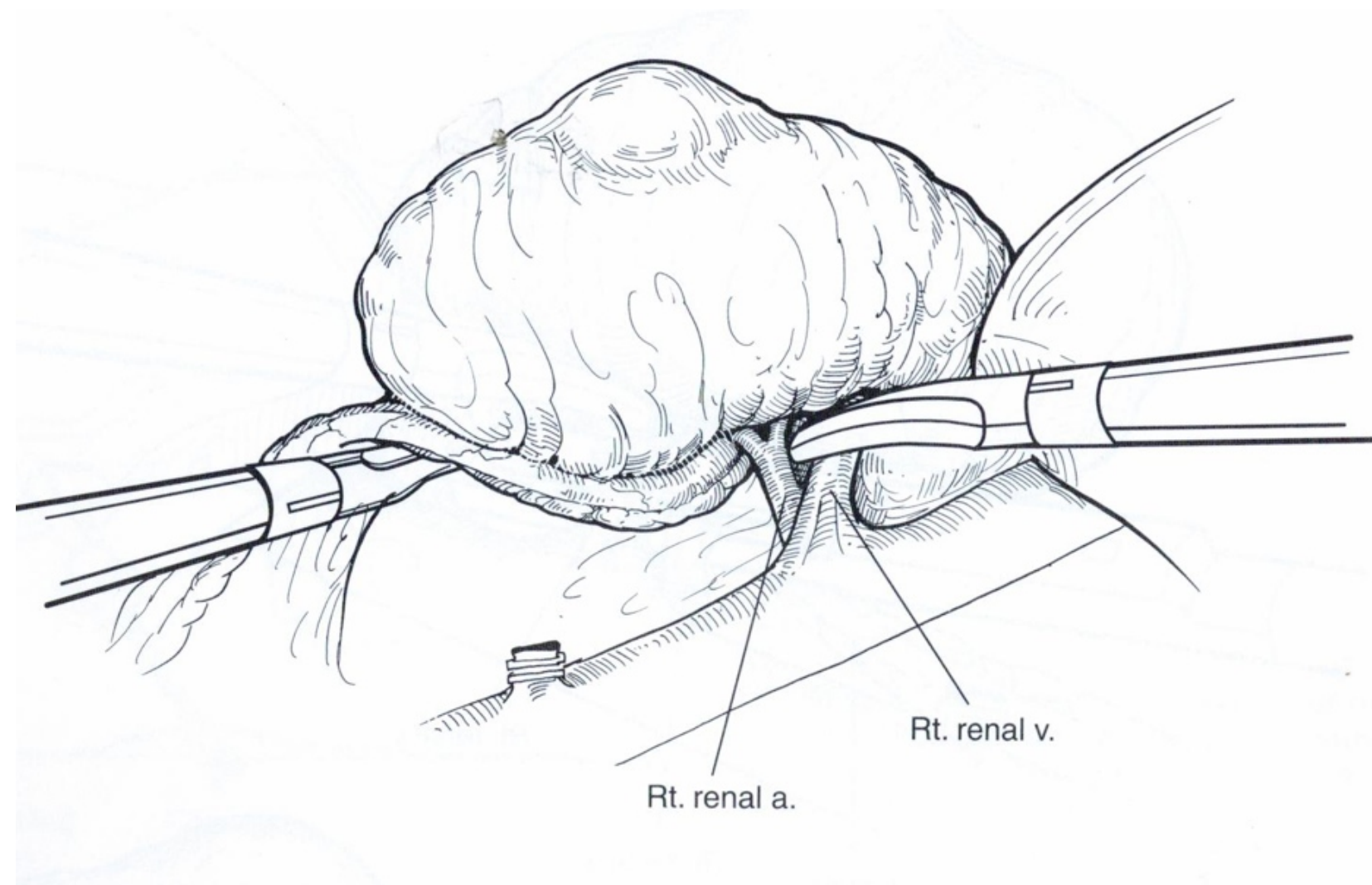


Heminephrectomy

- ▶ In some cases (malignancy, infection), heminephrectomy is indicated and can be performed using minimally invasive approaches (laparoscopic, single site laparoscopic or robotic) in horseshoe kidney patients.
- ▶ Issues:
 - ▶ Positioning of trocars.
 - ▶ Anticipate and control multiple vessels
 - ▶ Divide the isthmus
 - ▶ Be careful for short arteries feeding the isthmus from the aorta.

Heminephrectomy

- ▶ Skill set is a fusion of skills used for laparoscopic donor nephrectomy and laparoscopic/robotic partial nephrectomy.
- ▶ Generally favor a top down approach, dealing with the isthmus as the last step once everything else is mobilized.



Not so effective with horseshoe kidney due to tethering at isthmus.

Dividing the isthmus

- ▶ Methods depend on thickness of isthmus.
 - ▶ Harmonic scalpel or ligasure for thin fibrous isthmus. Stapler also an option for medium thickness without collecting system.
 - ▶ Scissors with oversew/reconstruction for thick, “meaty” isthmus in fashion similar to MIS partial Nx.
 - ▶ Laparoscopic Satinsky clamp can be helpful for contralateral parenchymal control. In my experience, bulldog clamping of contralateral lower pole vessels is unnecessary.
 - ▶ Watch out for short posterior vessels!

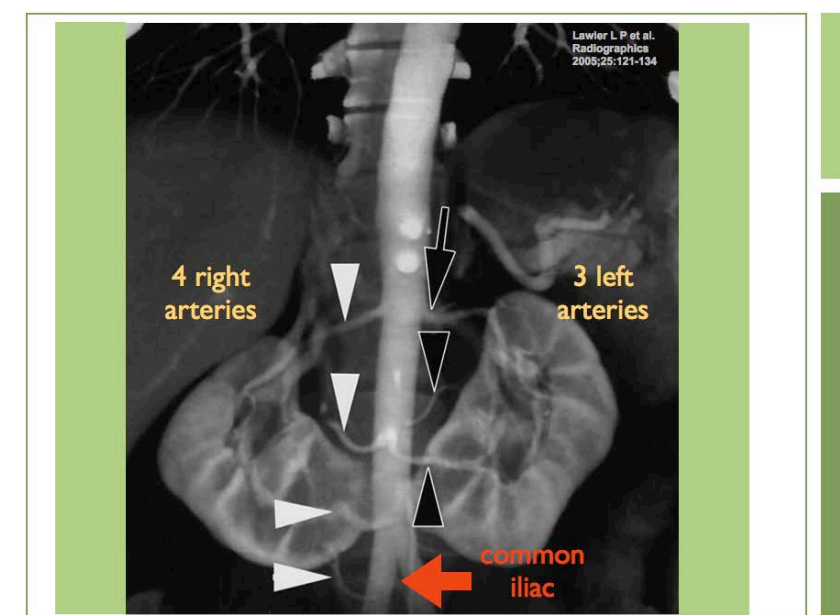
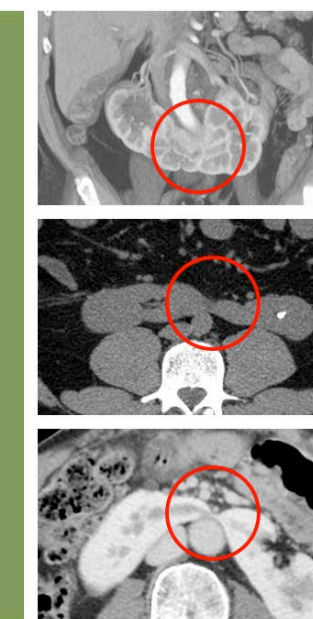
Critical Features #4

Significant variation in isthmus thickness.

The isthmus is usually bulky and located at the L3 or L4 level.

Occasionally it is just a thin fibrous band.

In some cases, the lowermost calyces overlie the vertebral column.

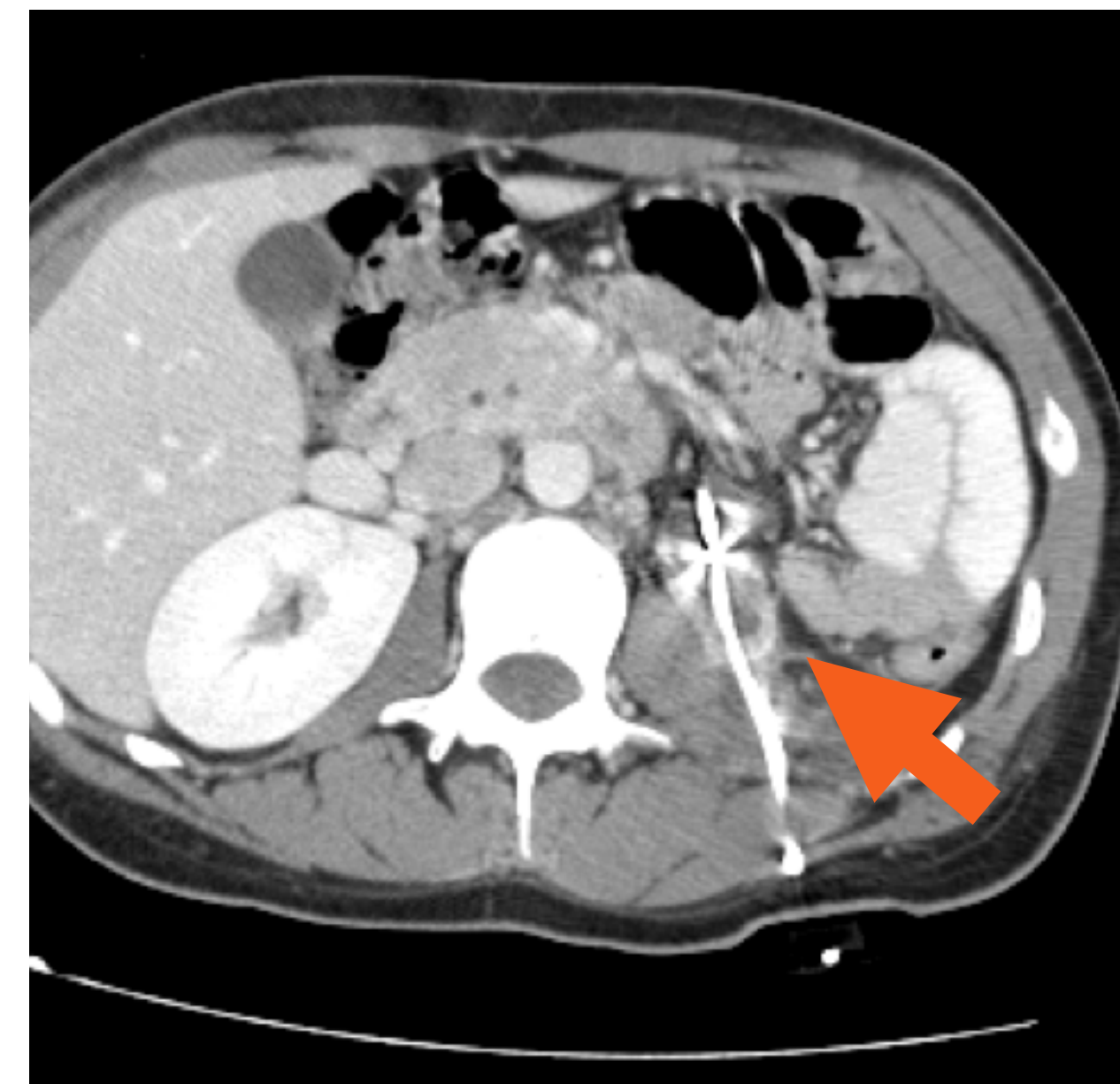


Case example

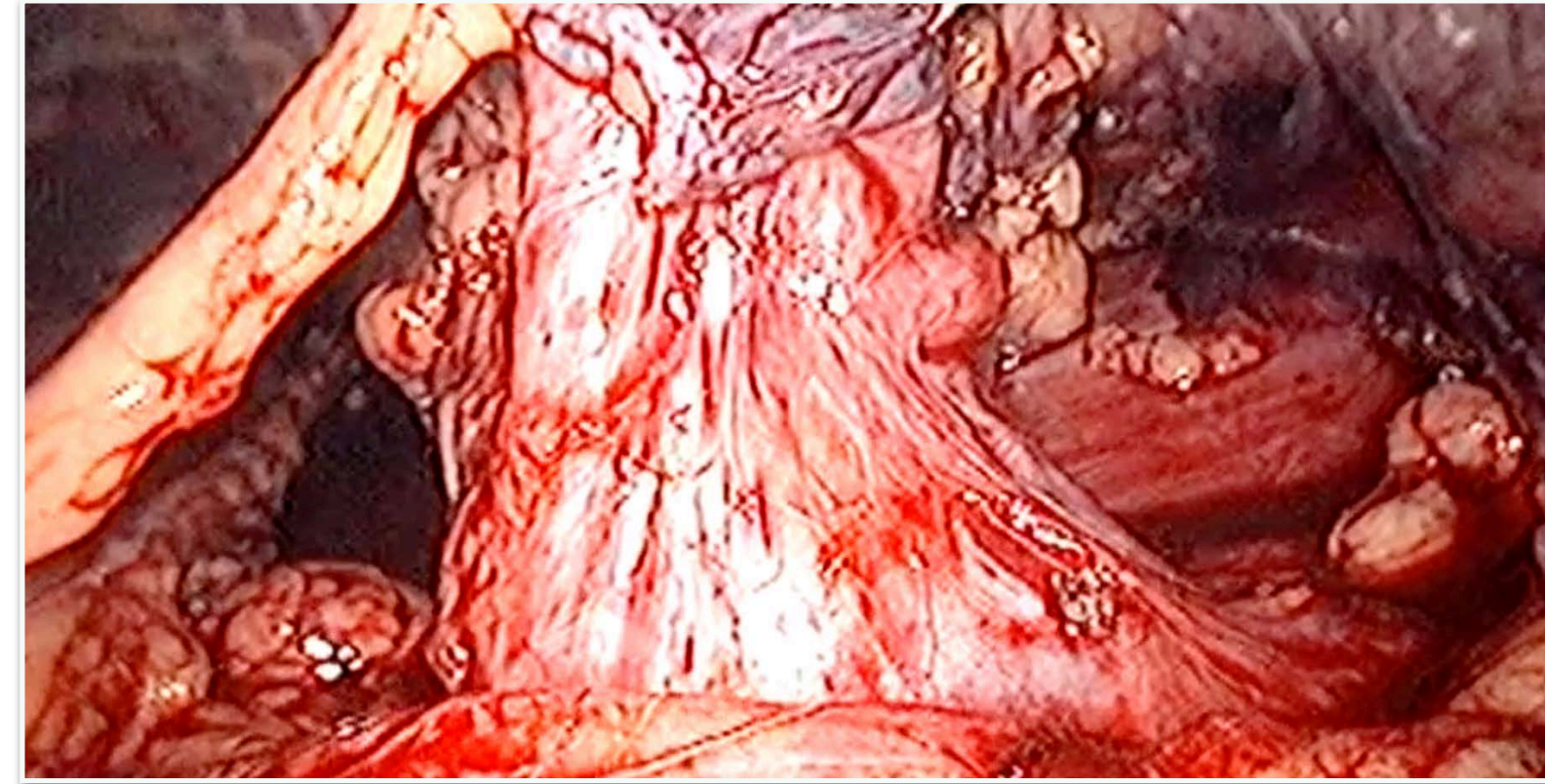
24 year old patient with horseshoe kidney and recurrent episodes of pyelonephritis.

Severe episode of urosepsis necessitating PCN placement.

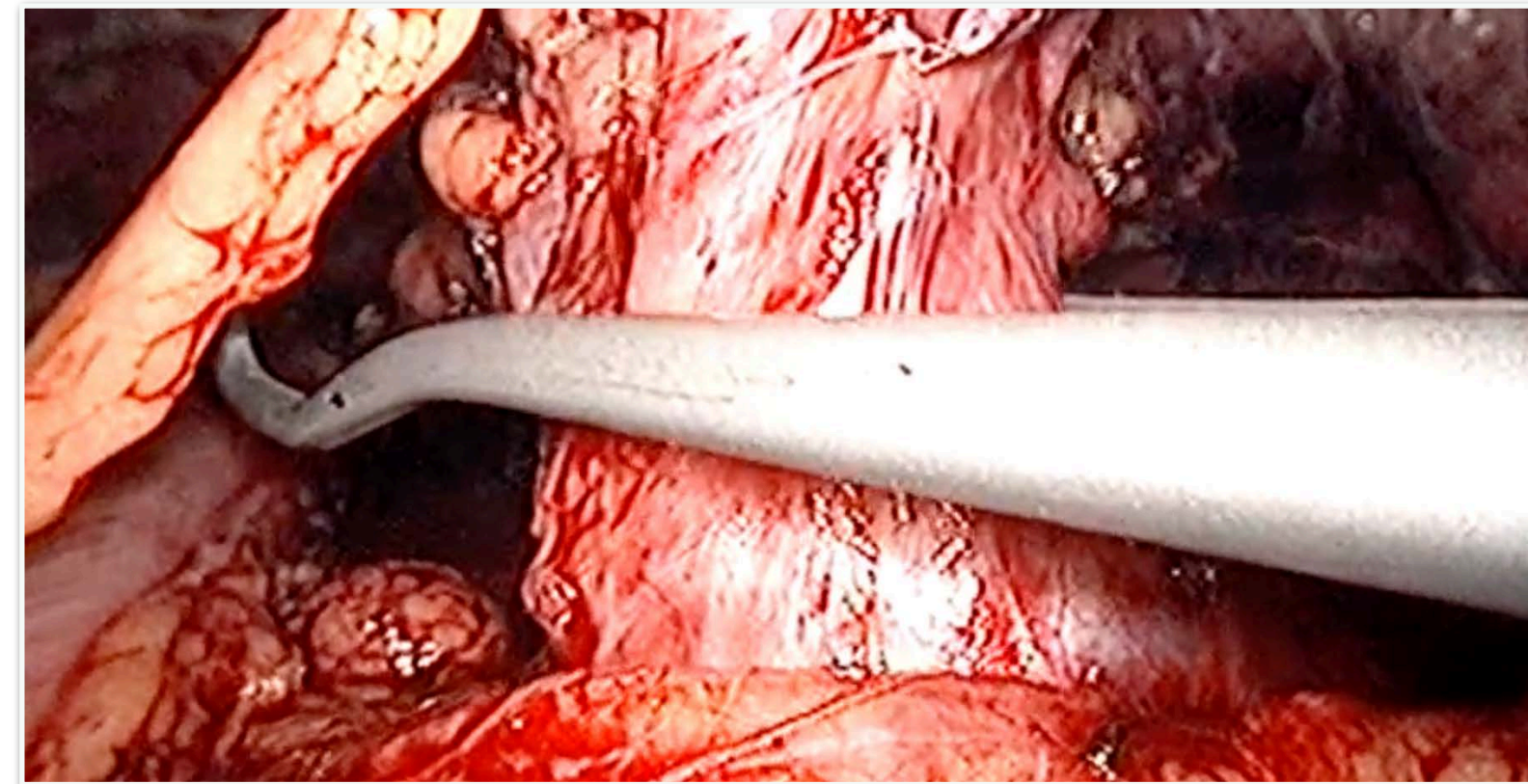
CT scan shows burned out, decompressed right renal moiety.



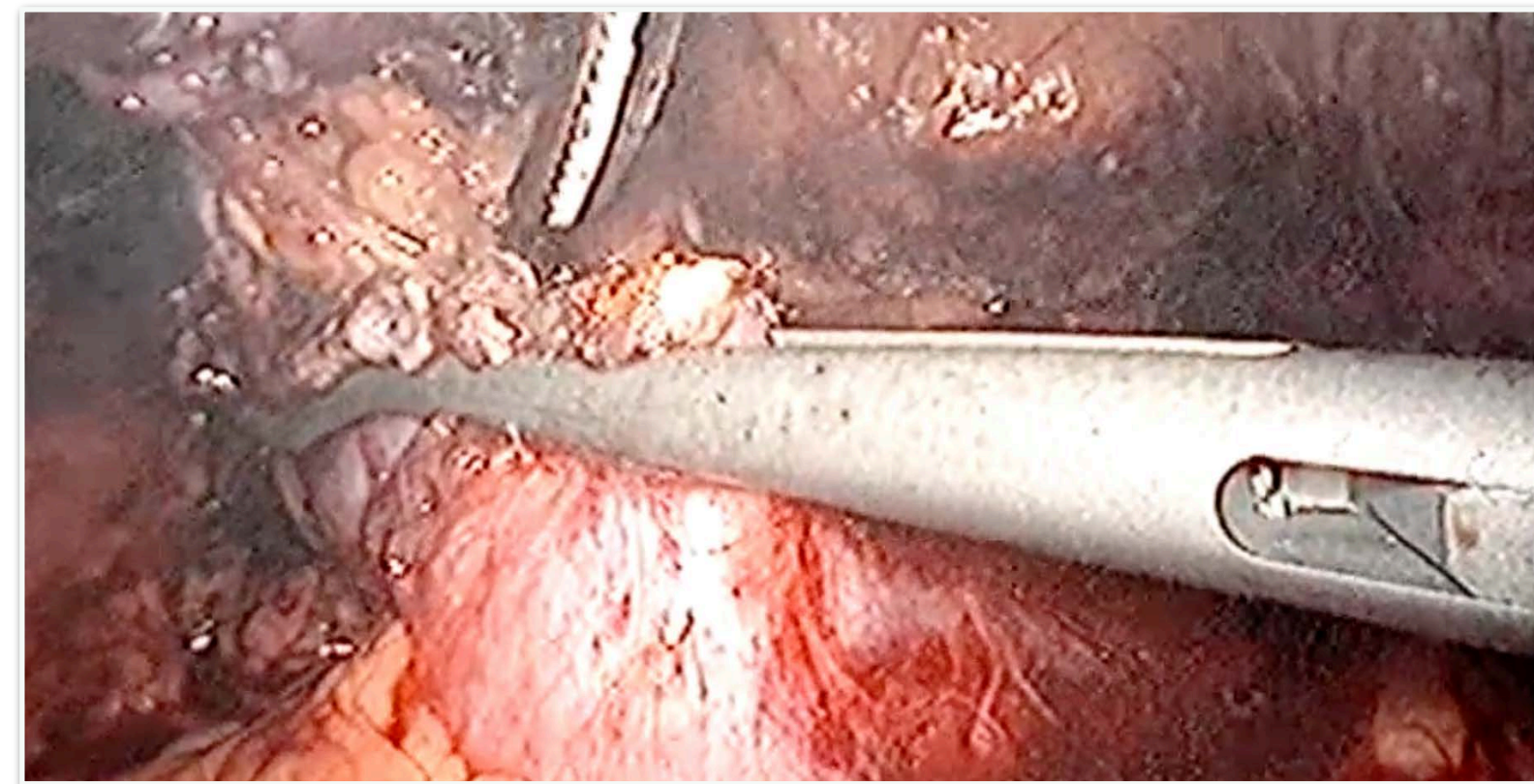
Elevation of right renal moiety.



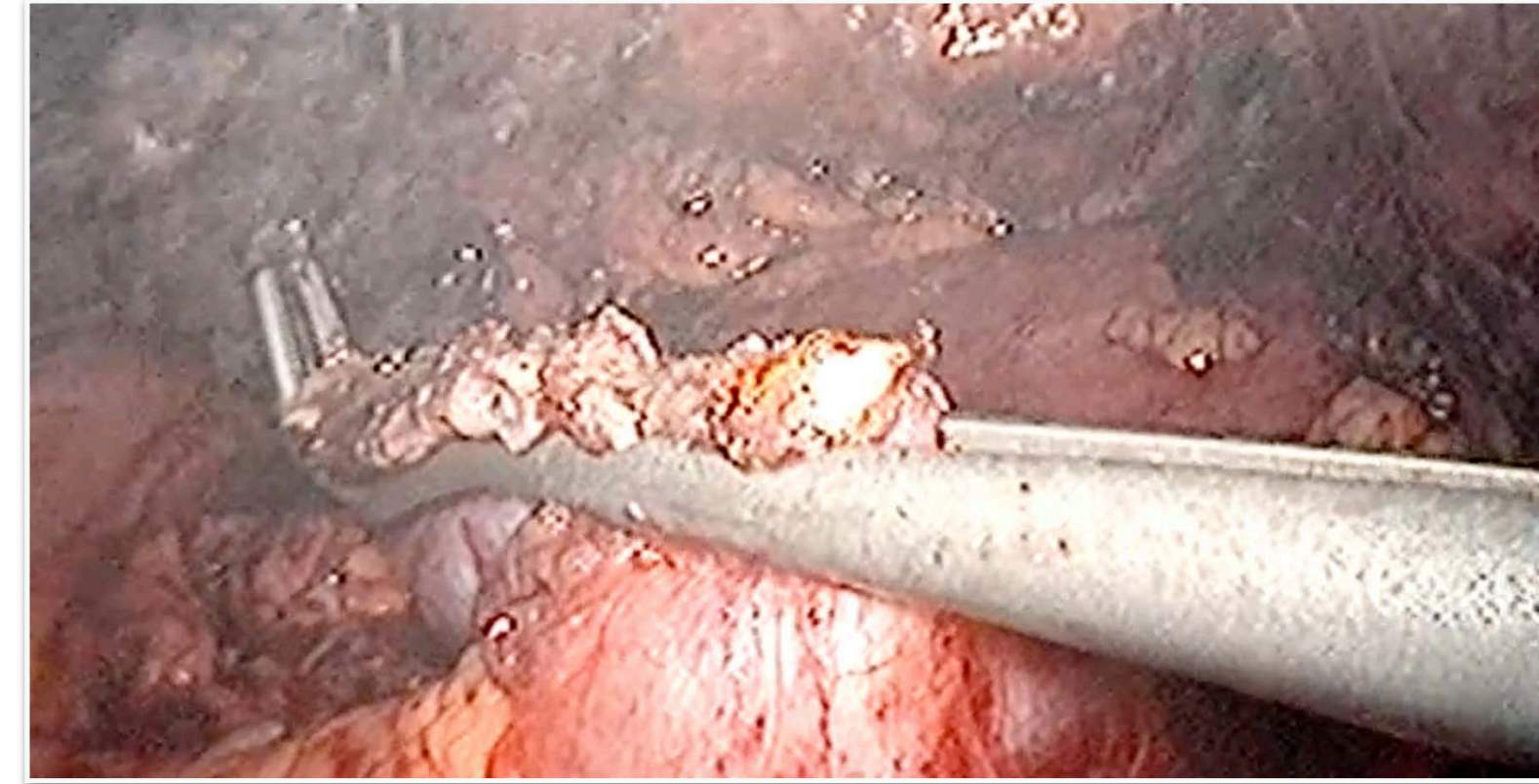
Placement of laparoscopic Satinsky clamp across isthmus.



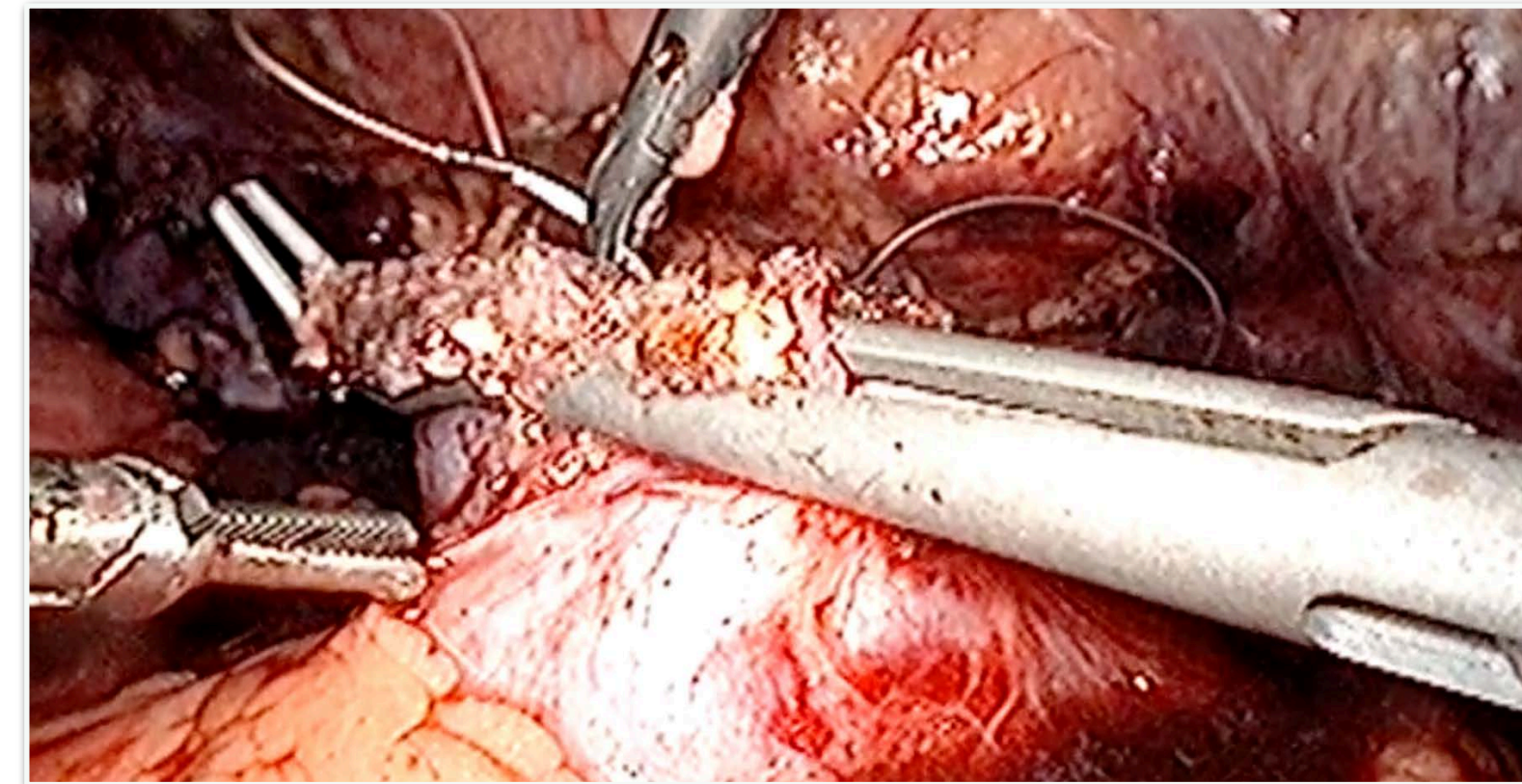
Transection of isthmus.



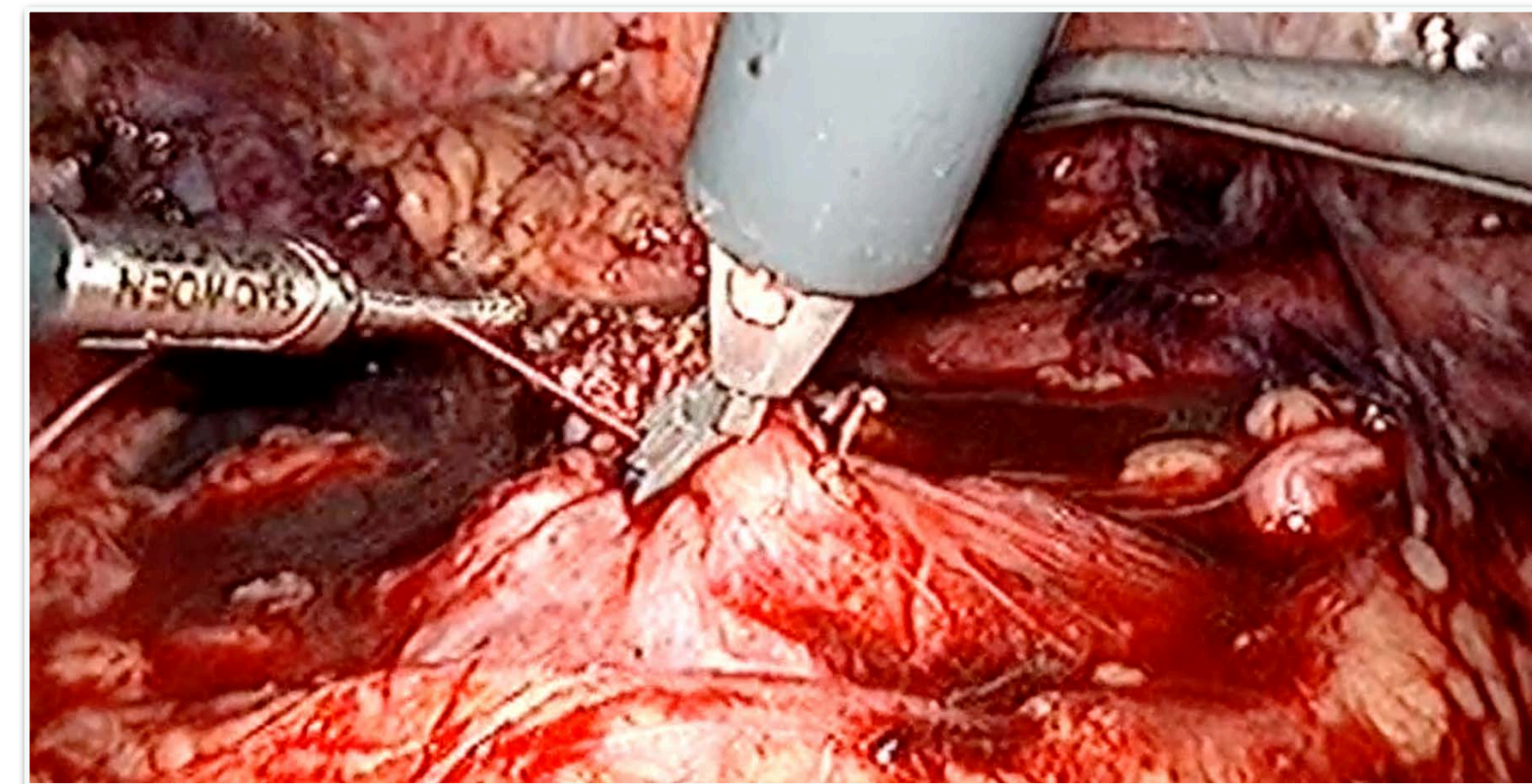
Hemostasis.



Oversewing the isthmus



Use of Lapra-Ty to tension suture line after clamp removal.



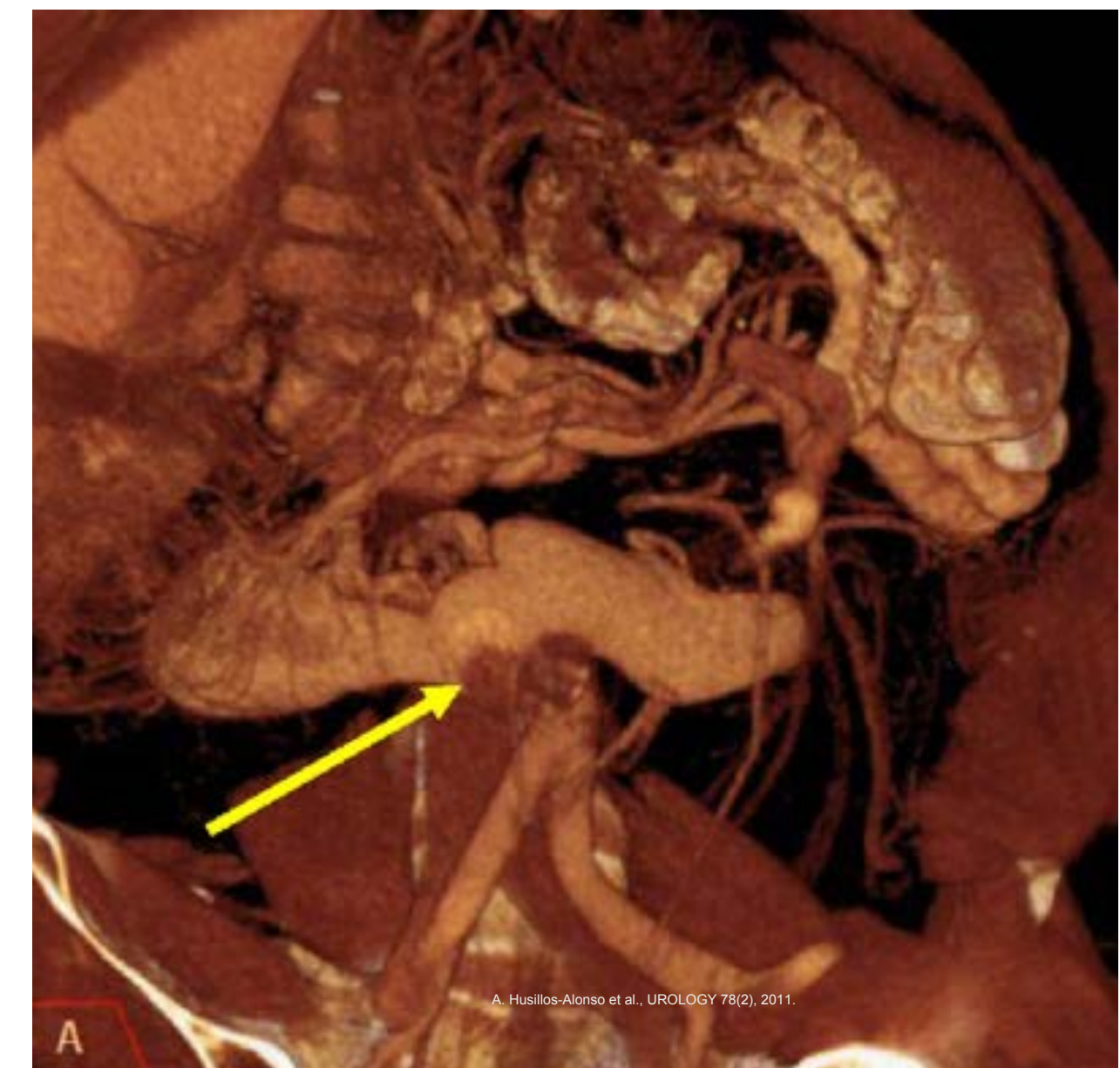


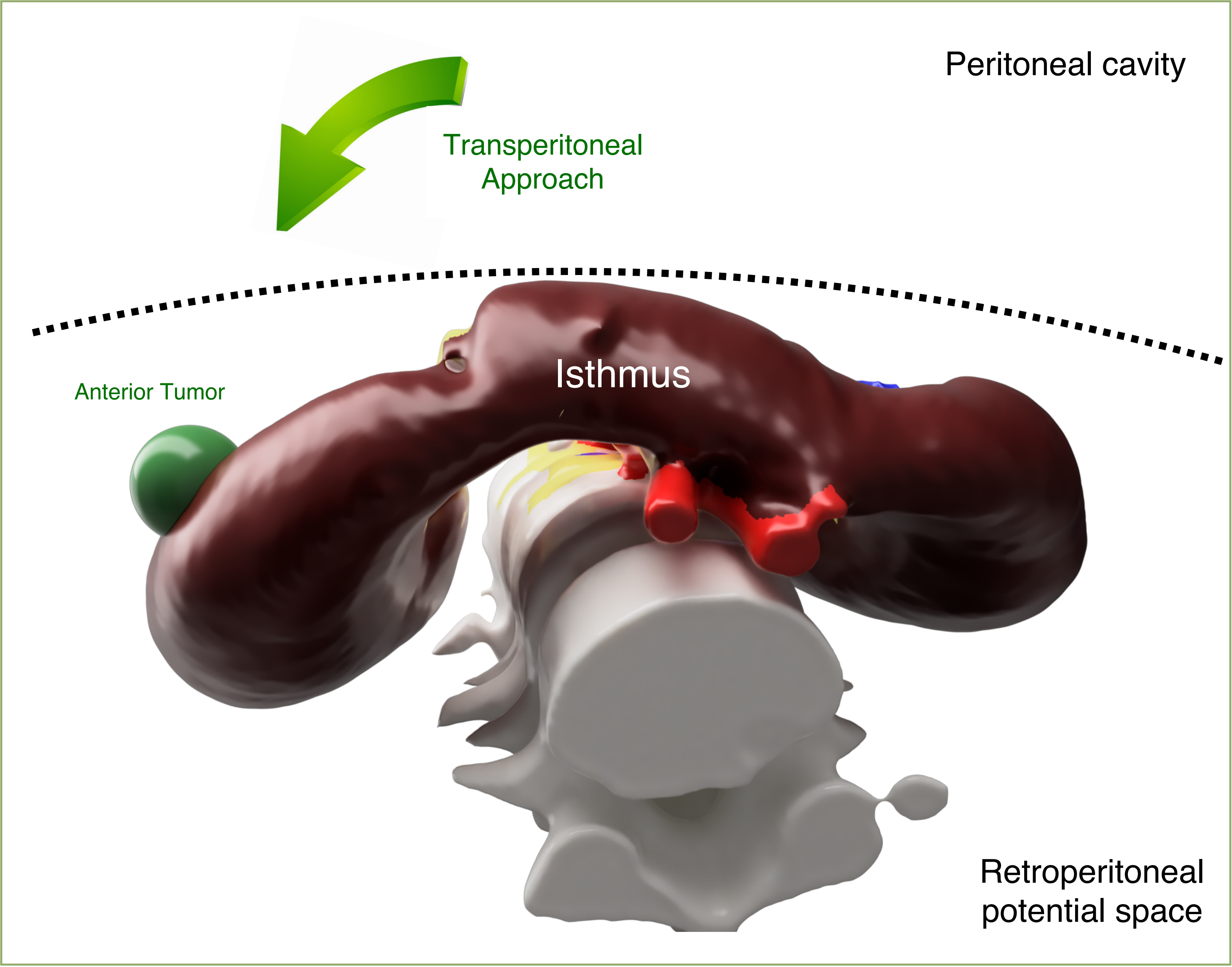
Alternative technique

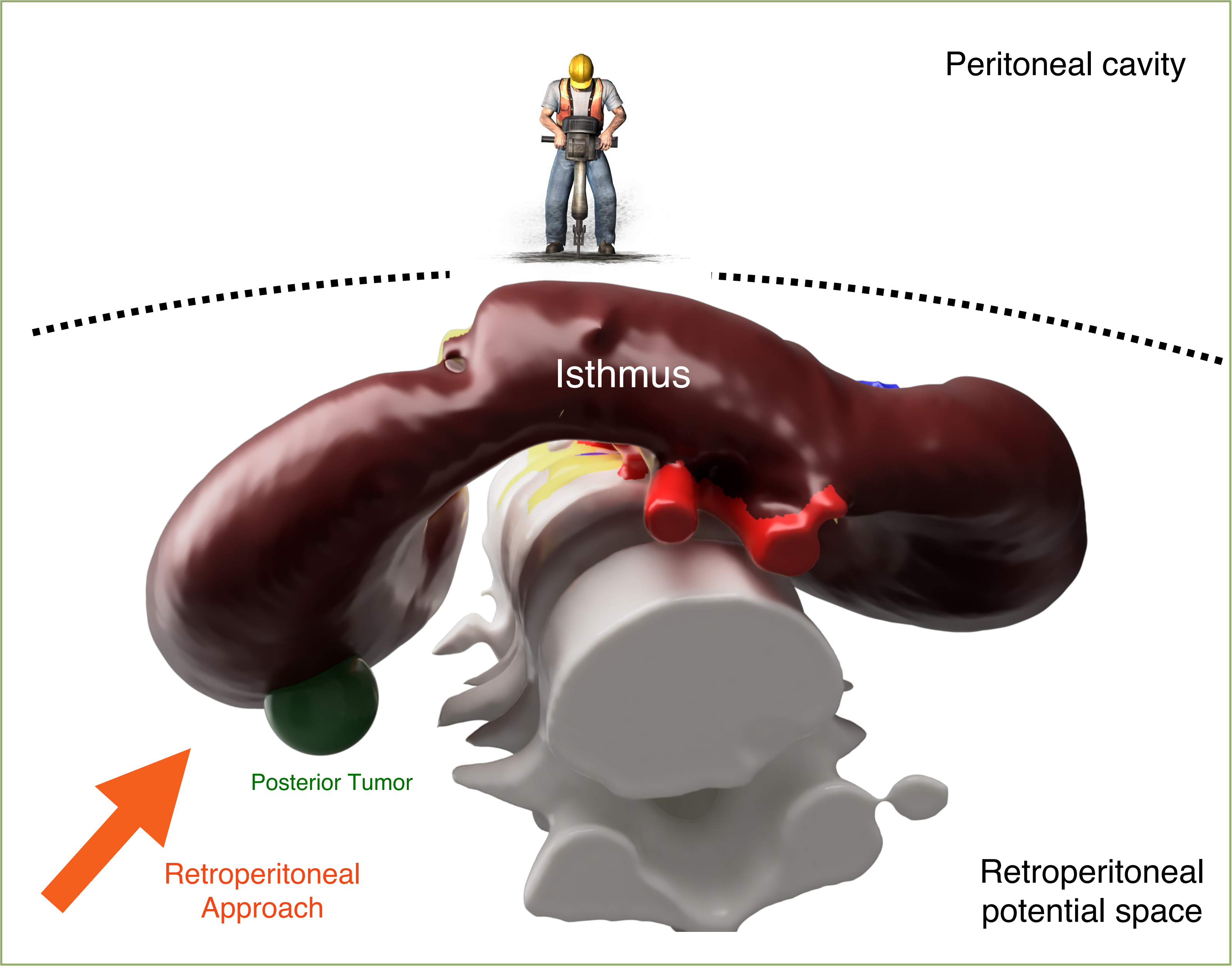
- ▶ Renal cell carcinoma risk is **not increased** by presence of horseshoe kidney.

- ▶ Not infrequently, isthmus division is necessary to facilitate partial or radical nephrectomy.

- ▶ The presence of a tumor in the isthmus can be a challenging situation as the blood supply can be indeterminate.
- ▶ Depending on the size and location of the tumor, bilateral lower pole vessels and/or posterior branches off the aorta may need to be controlled.
- ▶ Would be an excellent indication for fluorescence imaging on the robotic platform or intraoperative doppler ultrasound.

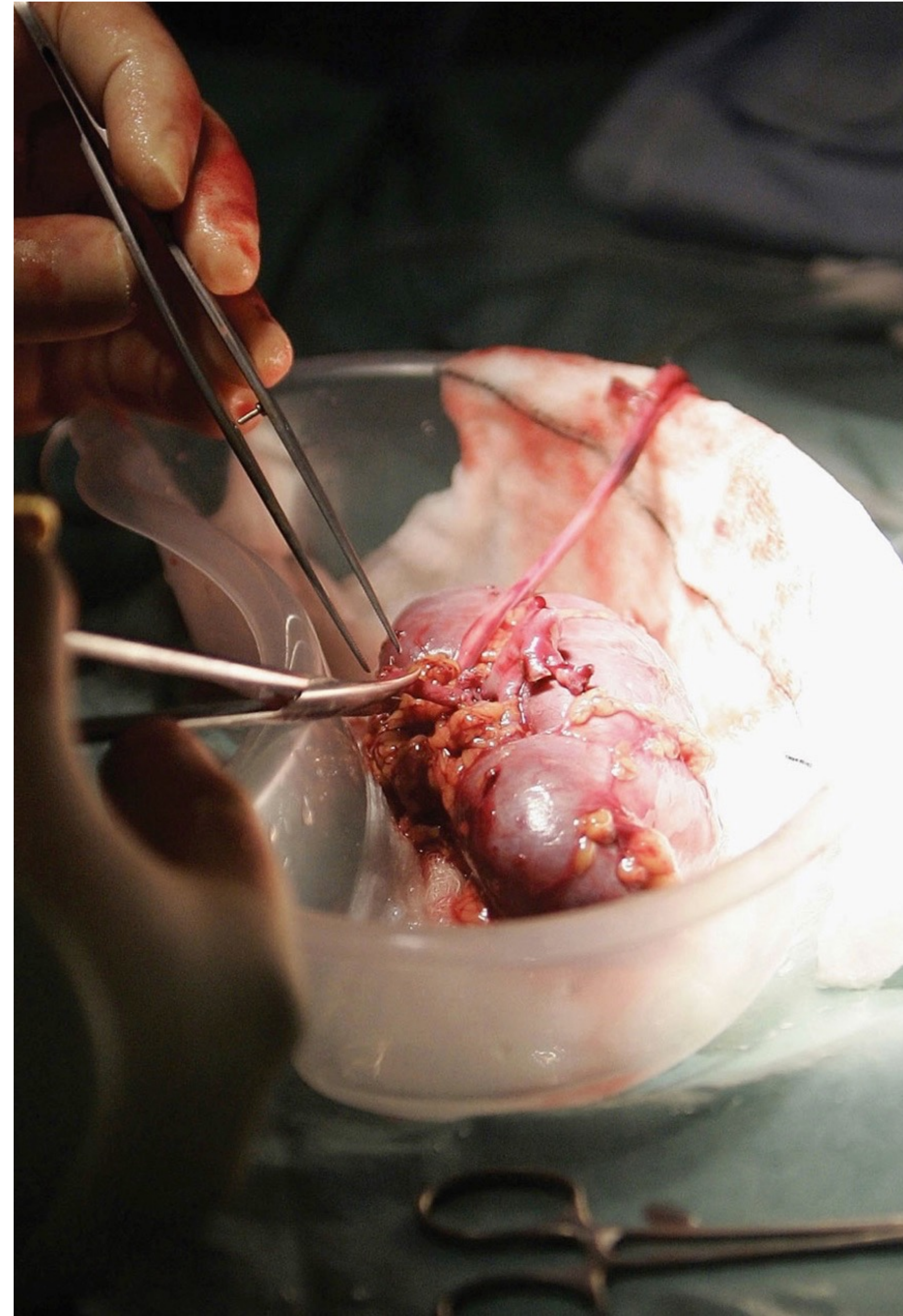




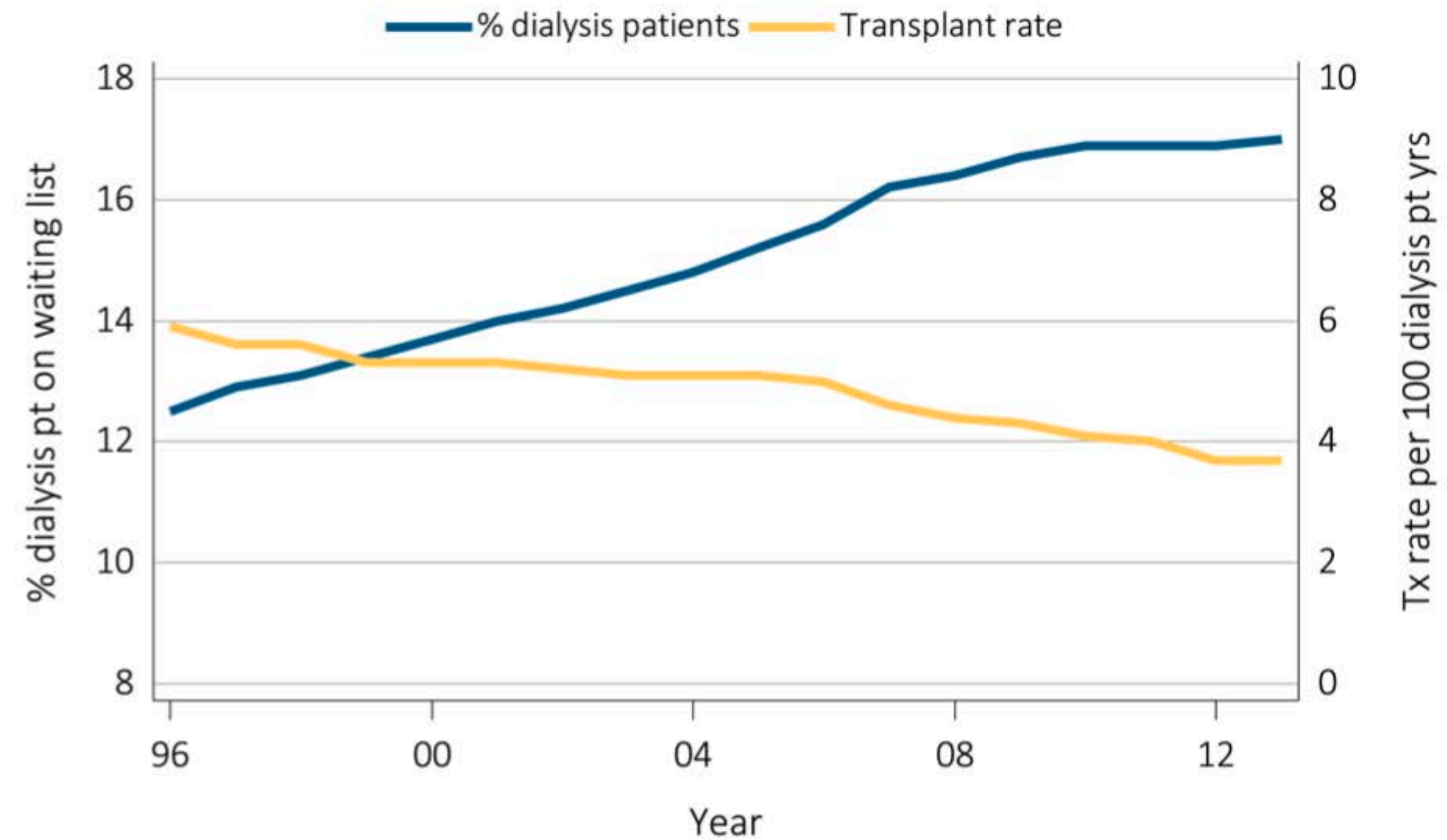


Integrating all the
special characteristics
of horseshoe kidneys.

Living donor
heminephrectomy



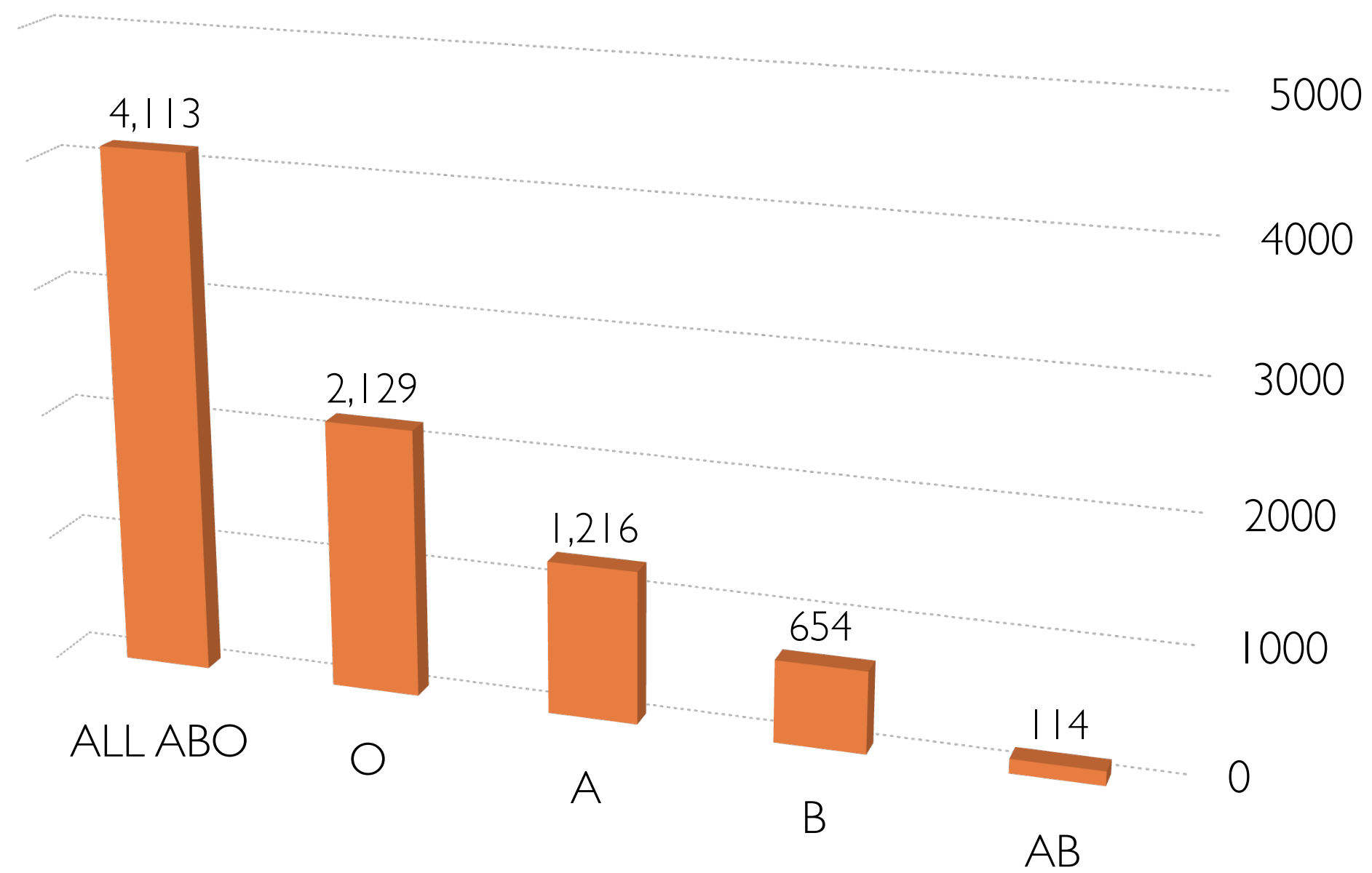
vol 2 Figure i.13 Percentage of dialysis patients wait-listed and unadjusted kidney transplant rates, 1996-2013



USRDS annual report 2015

Sobering statistics

Kidney waiting list patients who died prior to transplantation: 2016

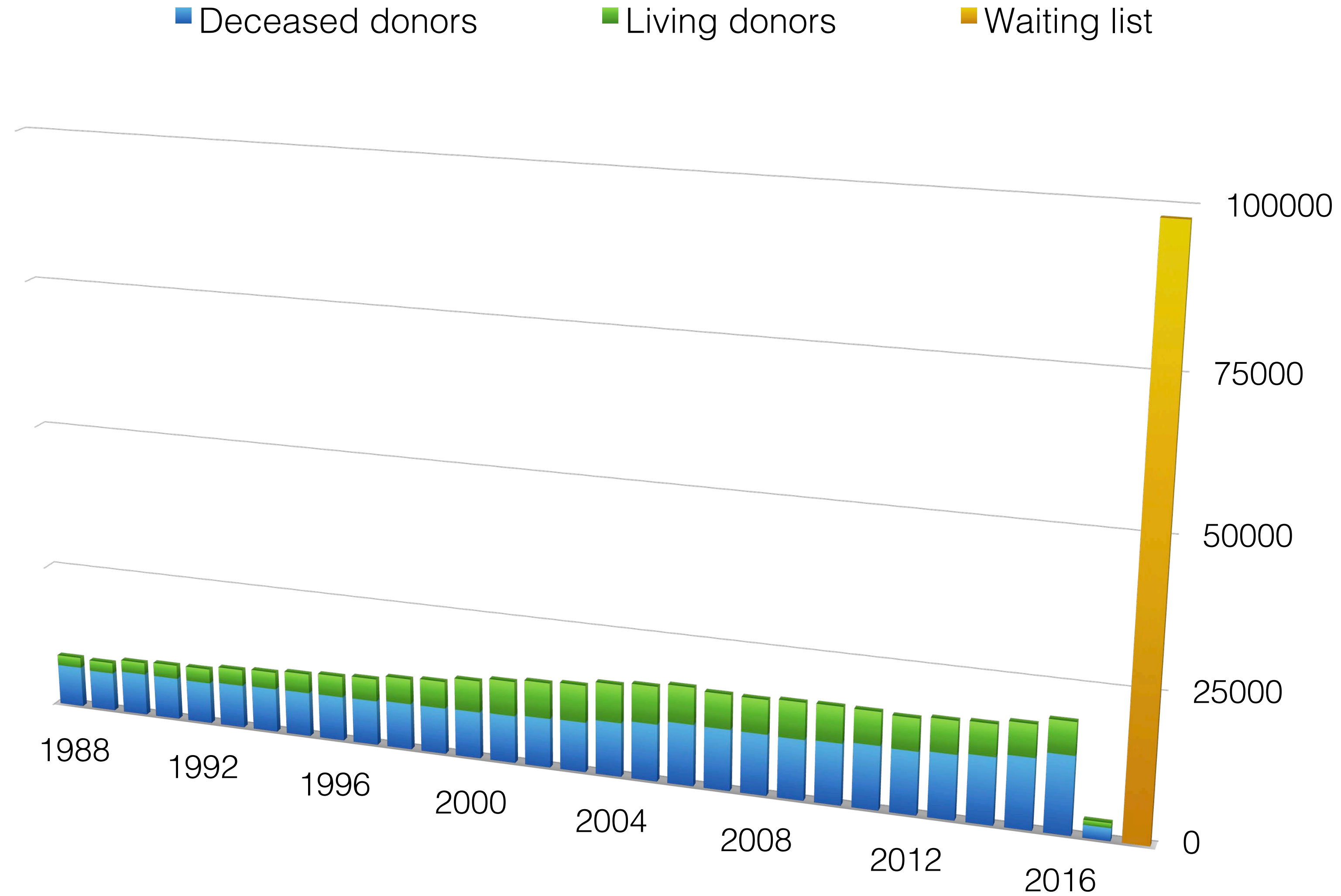


OPTN data 3/19/17



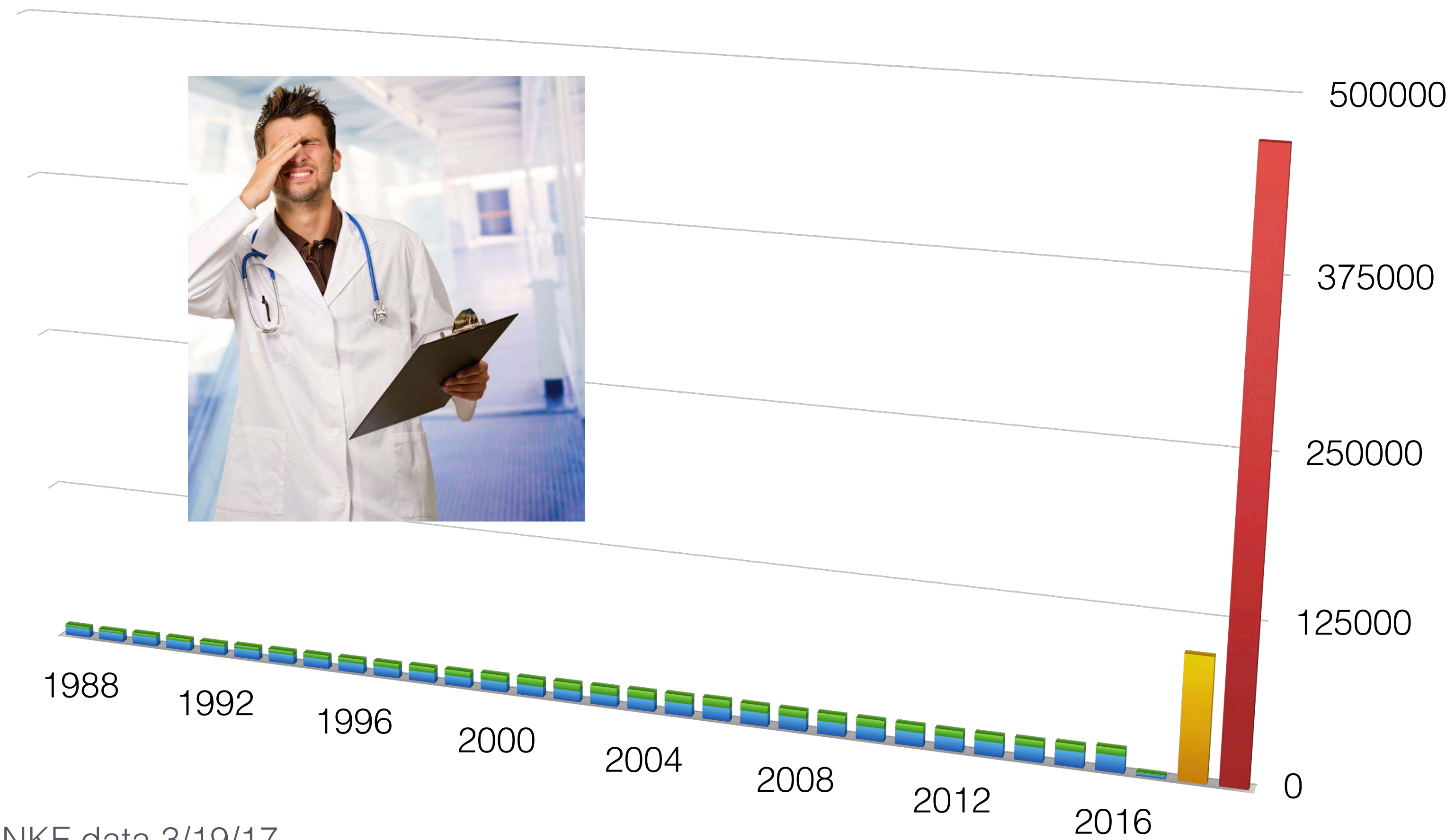
Since 1995,
84,695 patients on the
kidney waiting list
died before being
transplanted.

Transplants by donor type



Transplants by donor type

■ Deceased donors ■ Living donors ■ Waiting list ■ Dialysis



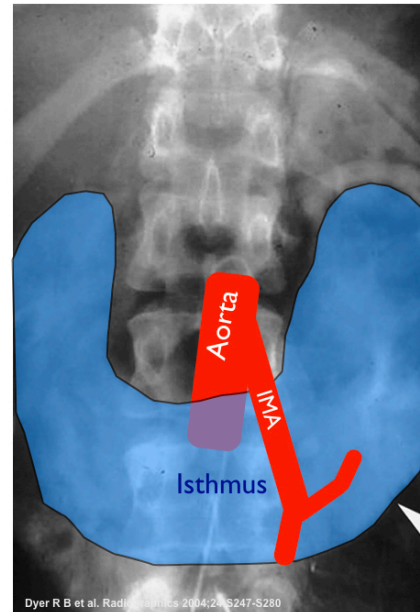
OPTN and NKF data 3/19/17

Critical Features #1

Relationship to inferior mesenteric artery.

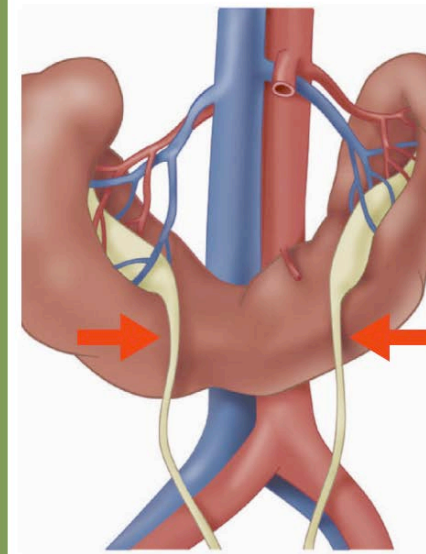
"Renal ascent is stopped by the junction of the aorta and inferior mesenteric artery."

Kidneys are generally lower in the abdomen.



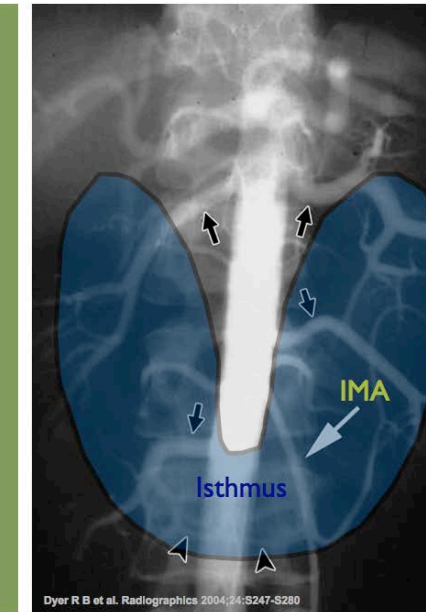
Critical Features #2

Anteriorly oriented renal pelvis and ureters.



Critical Features #3

Multiple renal vessels in 70% and variable vessels to isthmus.



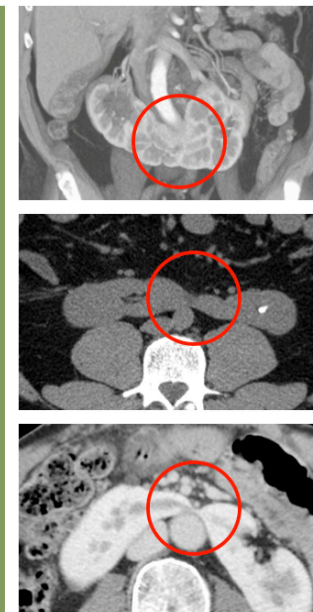
Critical Features #4

Significant variation in isthmus thickness and presence of collecting system in the isthmus.

The isthmus is usually bulky and located at the L3 or L4 level.

Occasionally it is just a thin fibrous band.

In some cases, the lowermost calyces overlie the vertebral column.

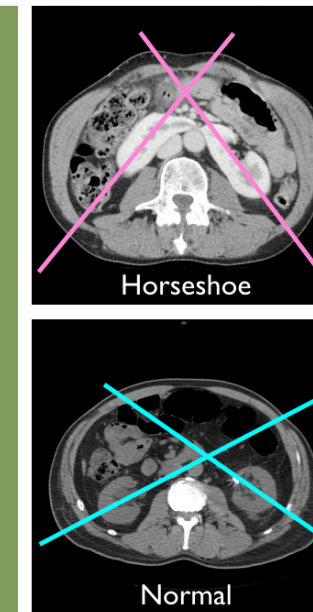


Transplant Donor Nx

Critical Features #5

The kidneys do not rotate completely antero-medially due to the fusion event.

This results in kidneys that are posteriorly rotated.



Critical Features #6

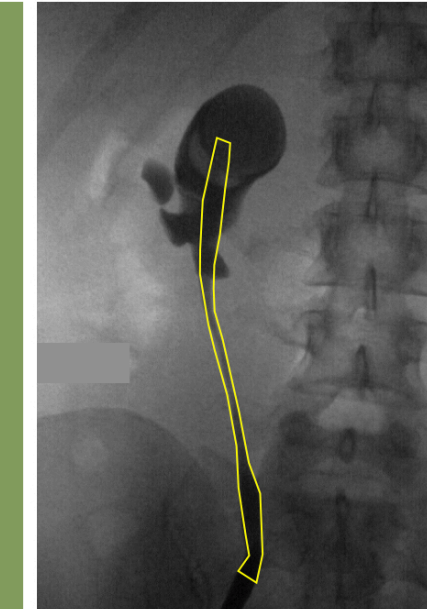
Horseshoe kidneys have the same number of calyces as normal kidneys but these calyces are atypical in orientation.

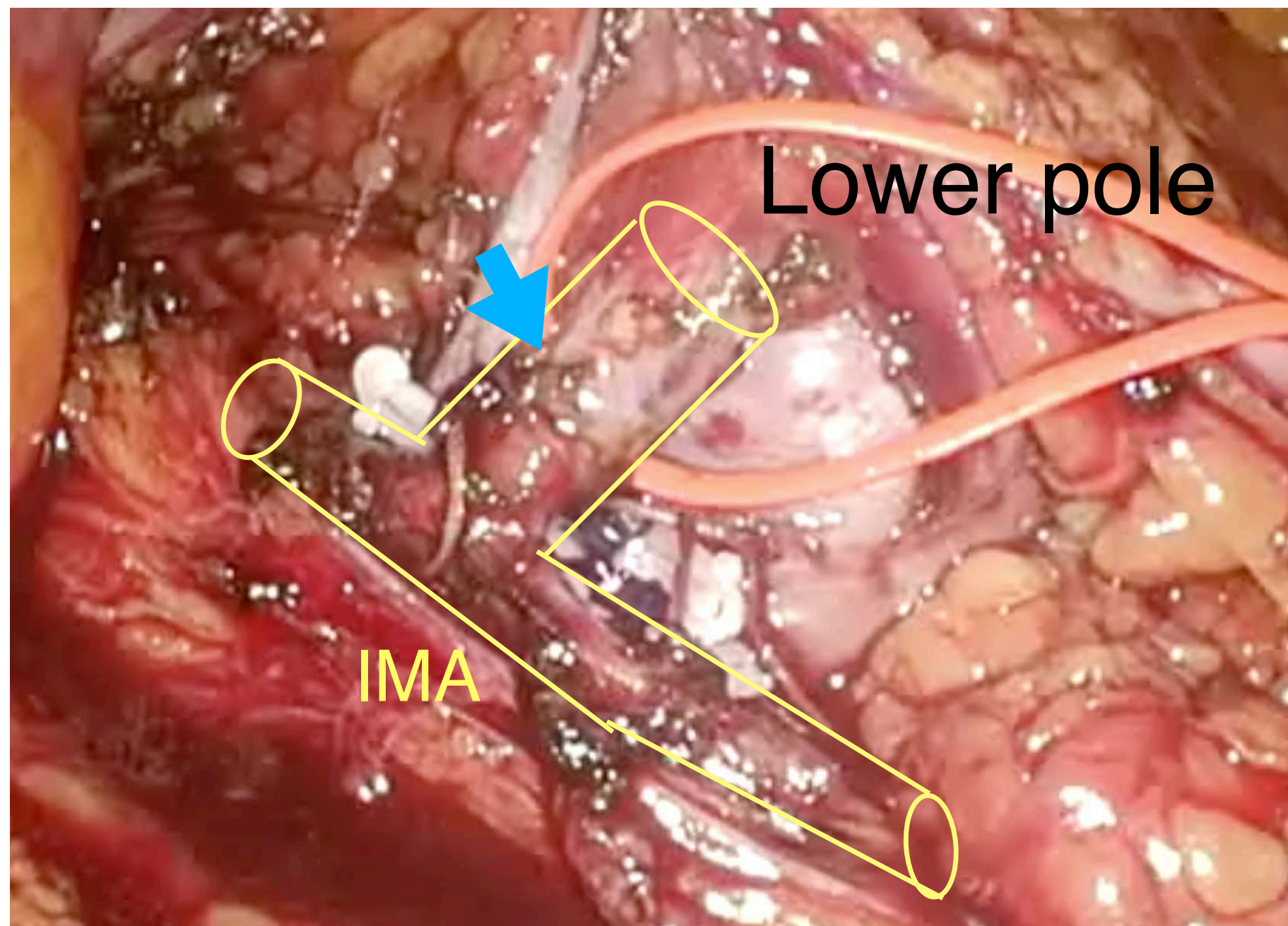
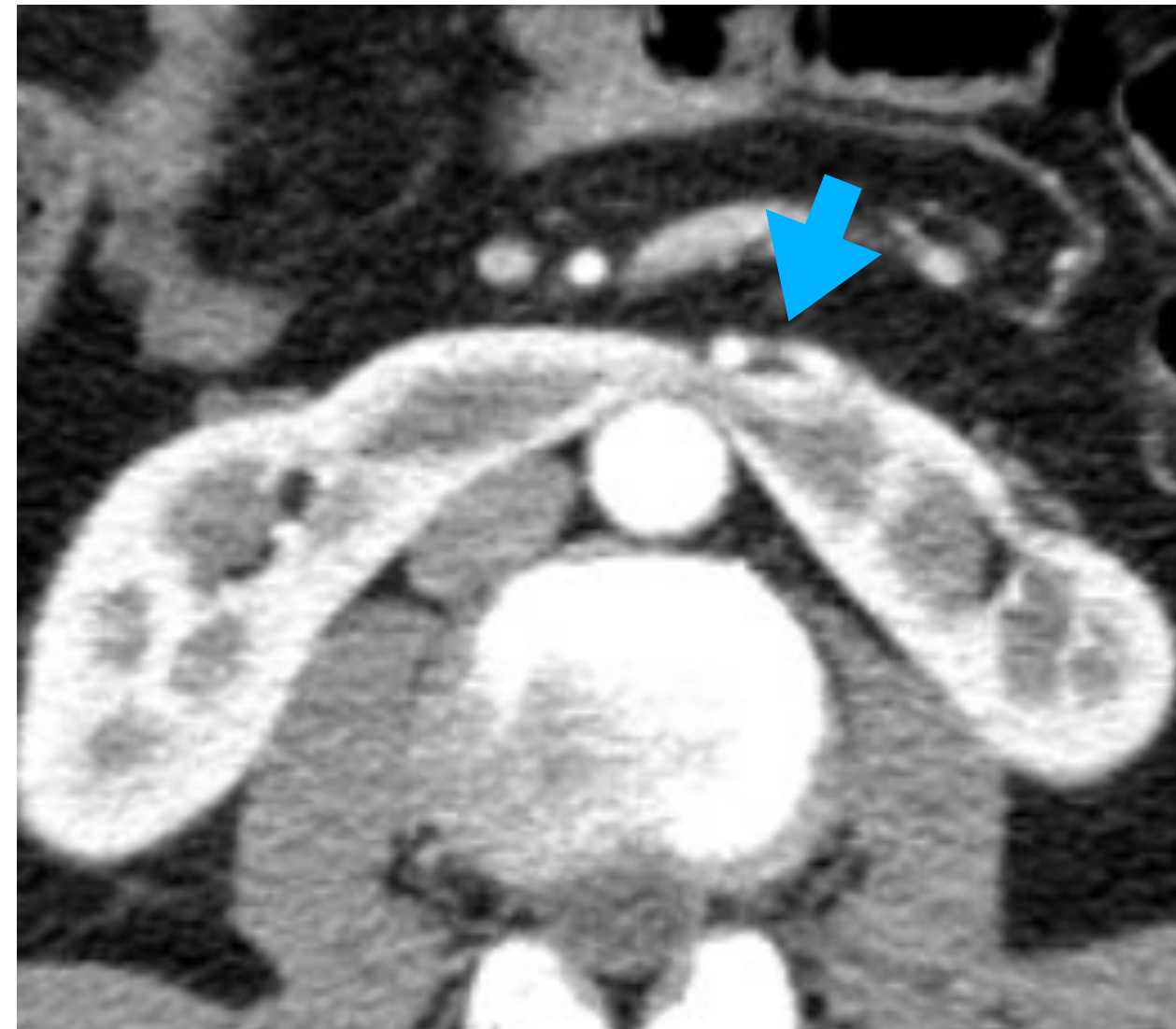


Critical Features #7

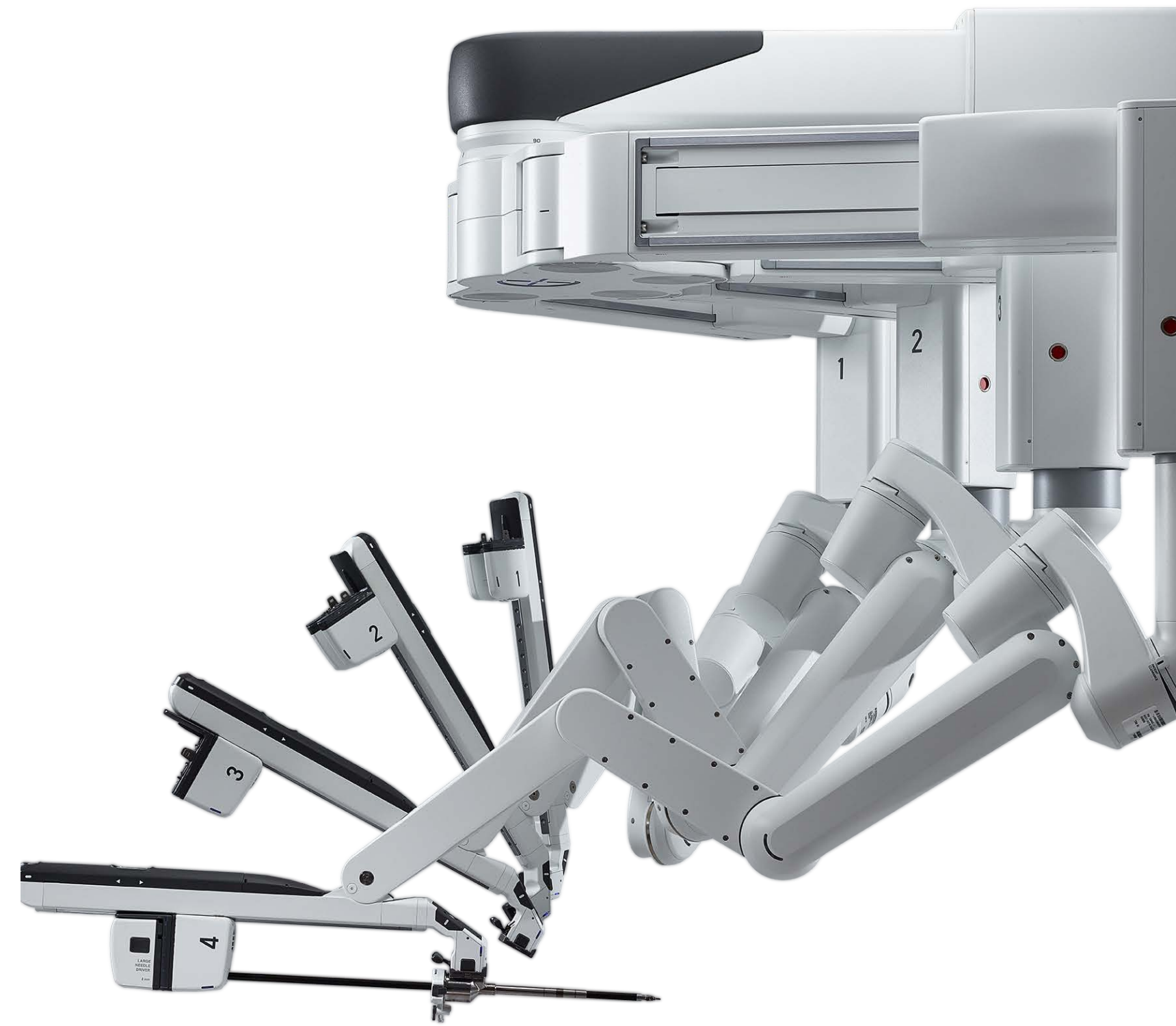
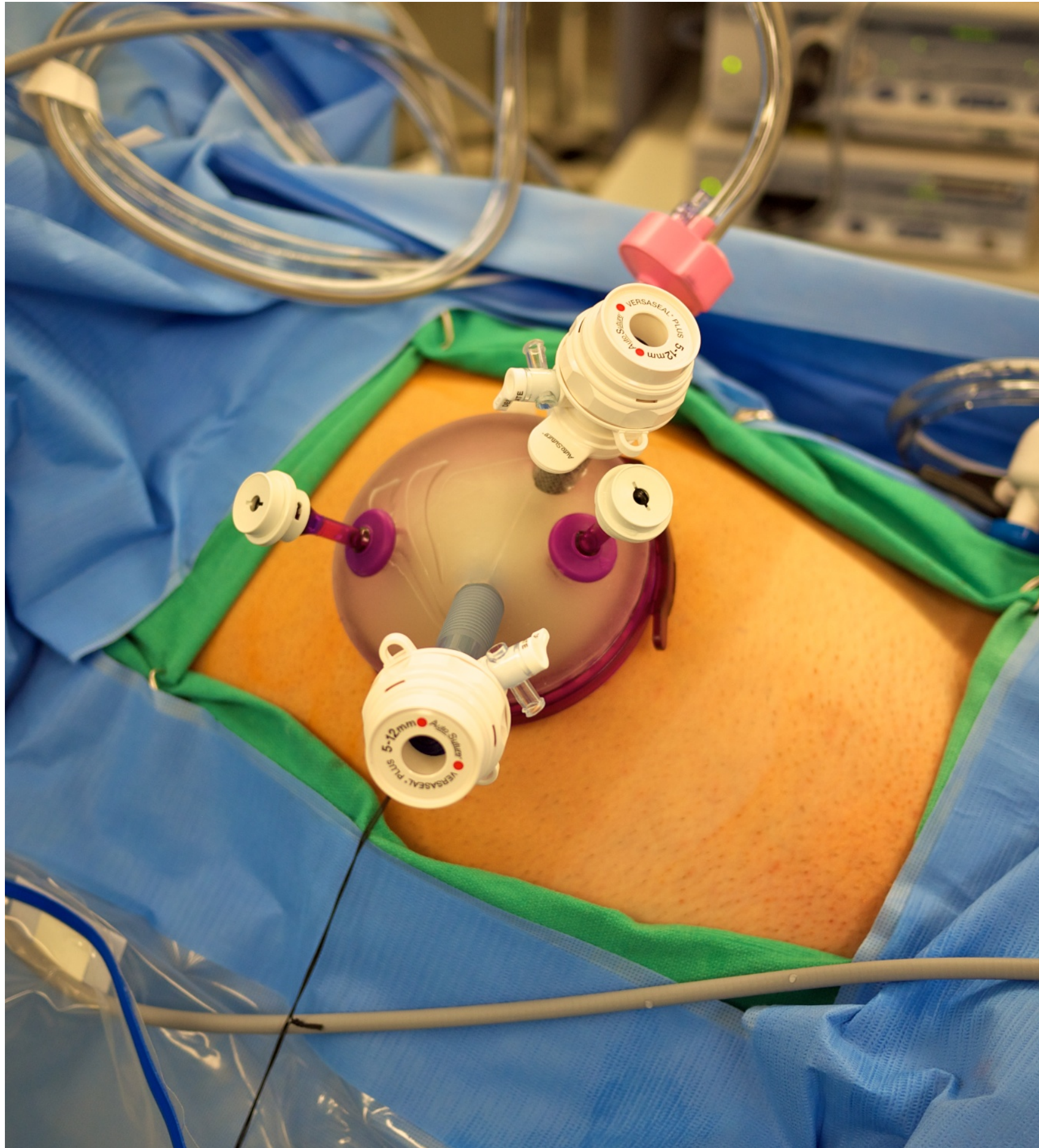
The ureter often inserts high into the renal pelvis.

The lower ureter usually enters the bladder normally.



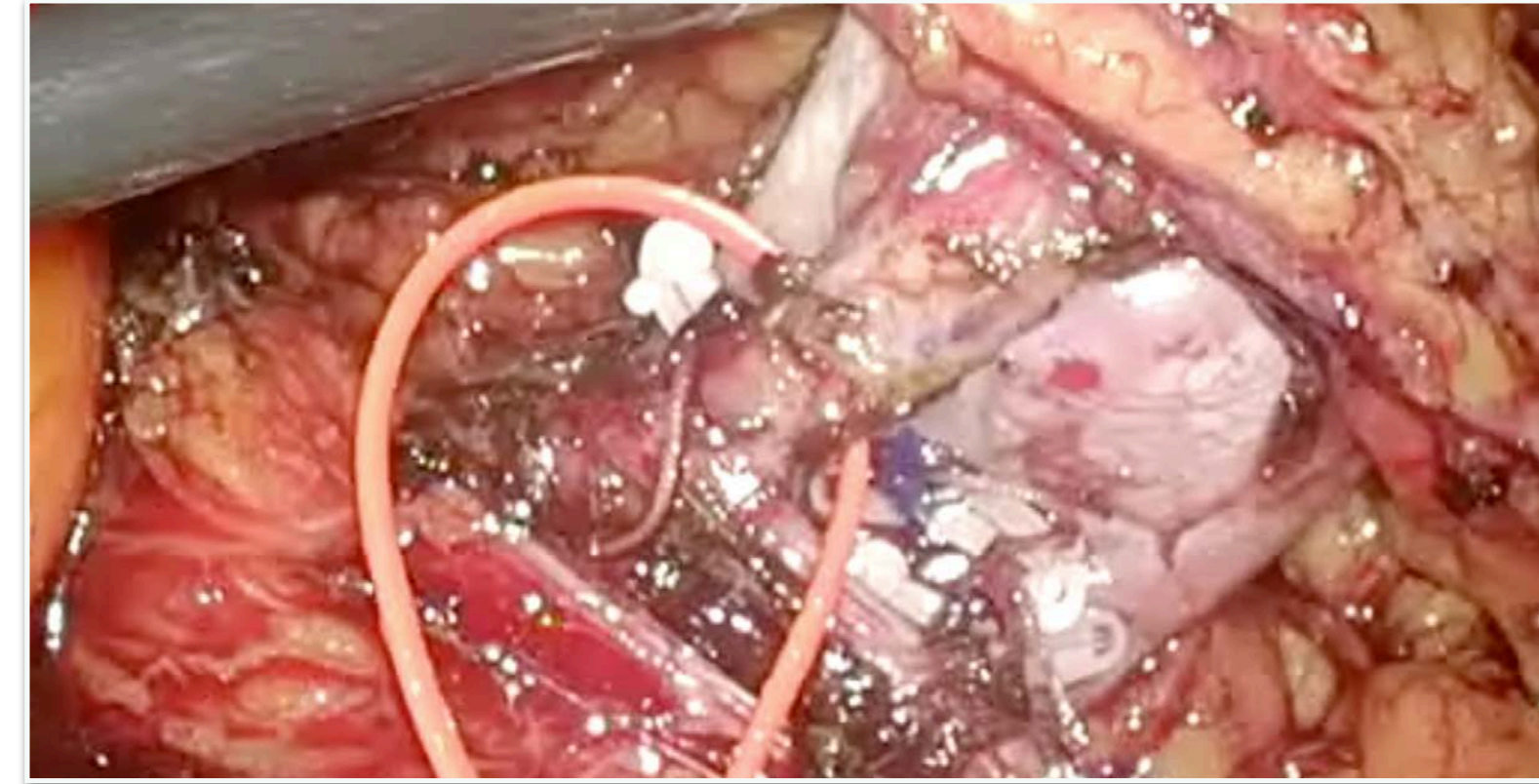


52 year old woman donating to
her father.

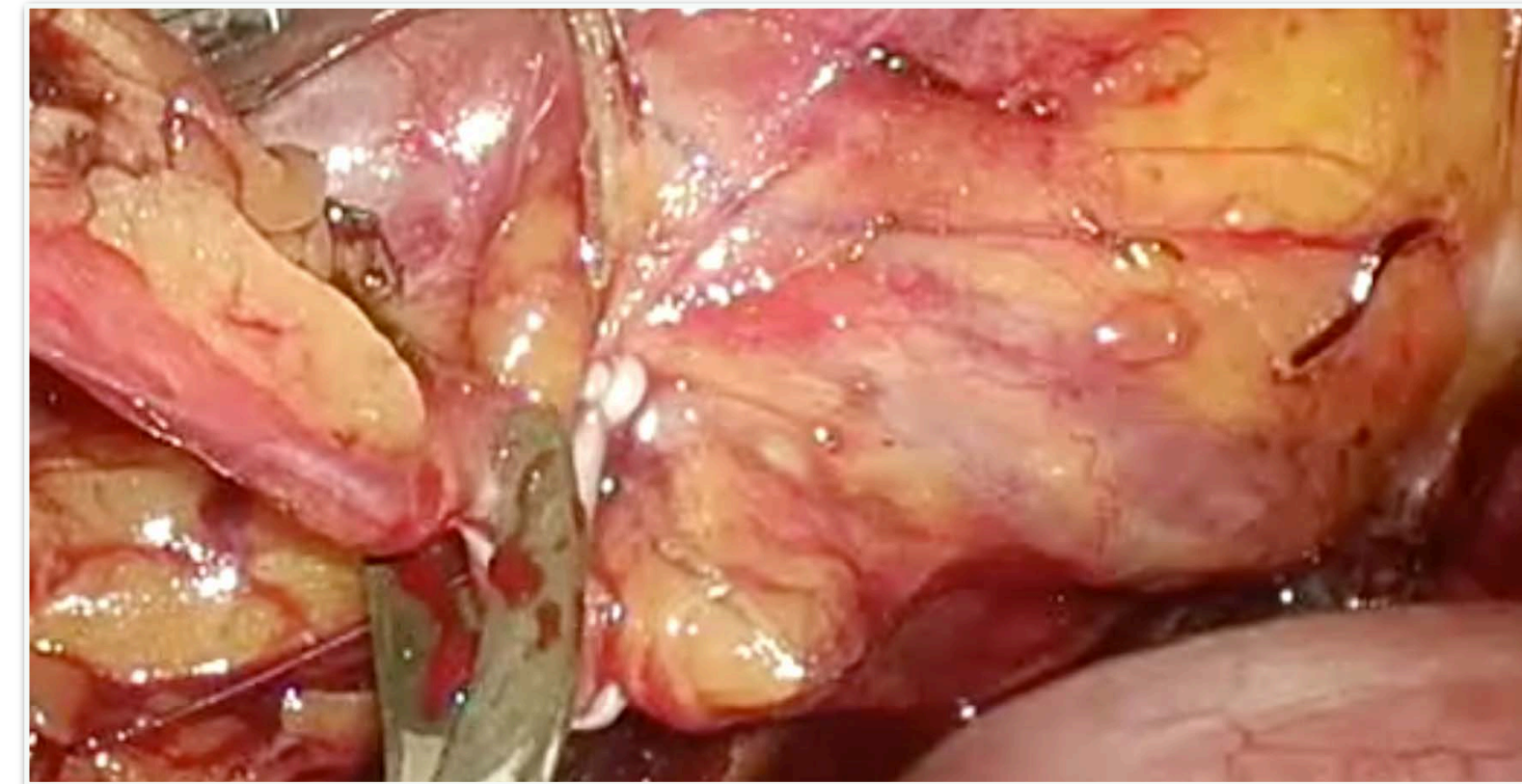


Single-site technique + robotics

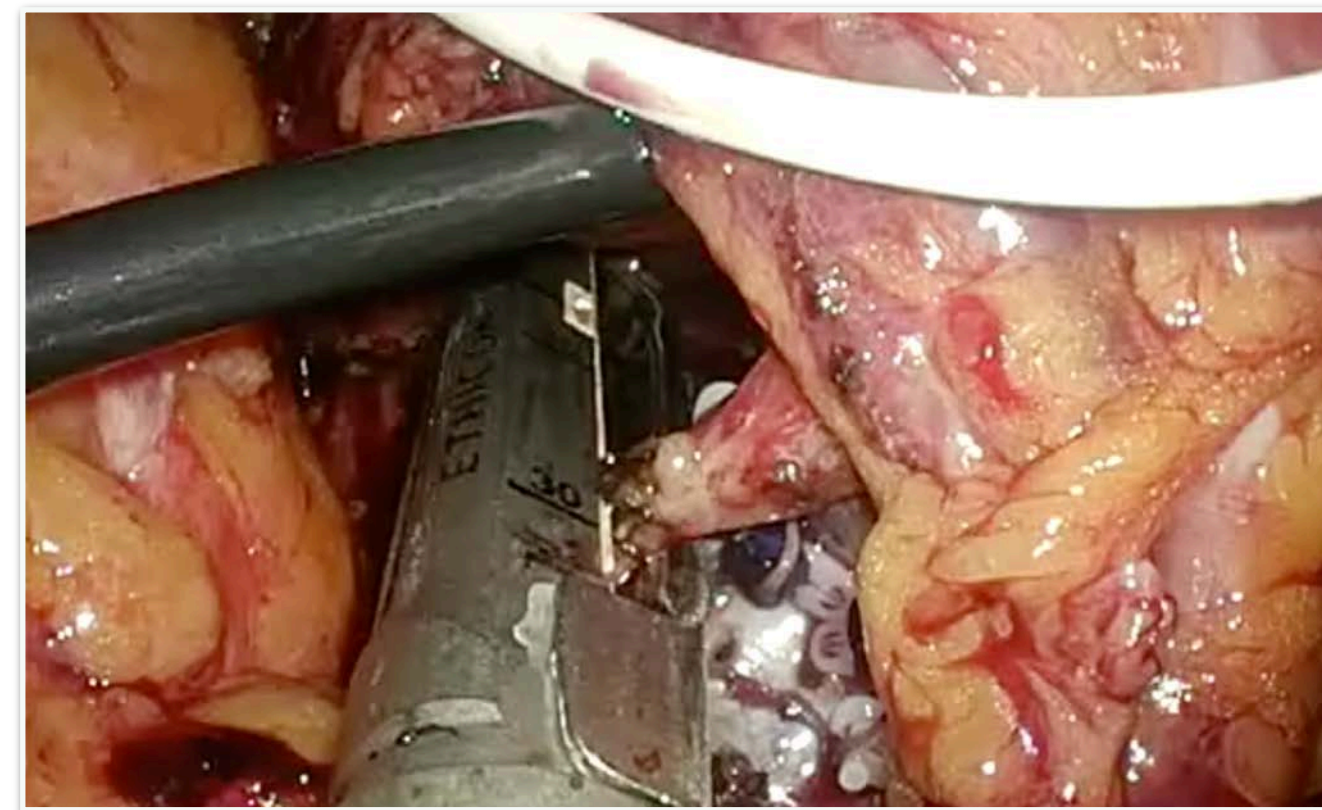
Compression of the renal parenchyma at the narrowest portion of the isthmus using standard partial Nx techniques.



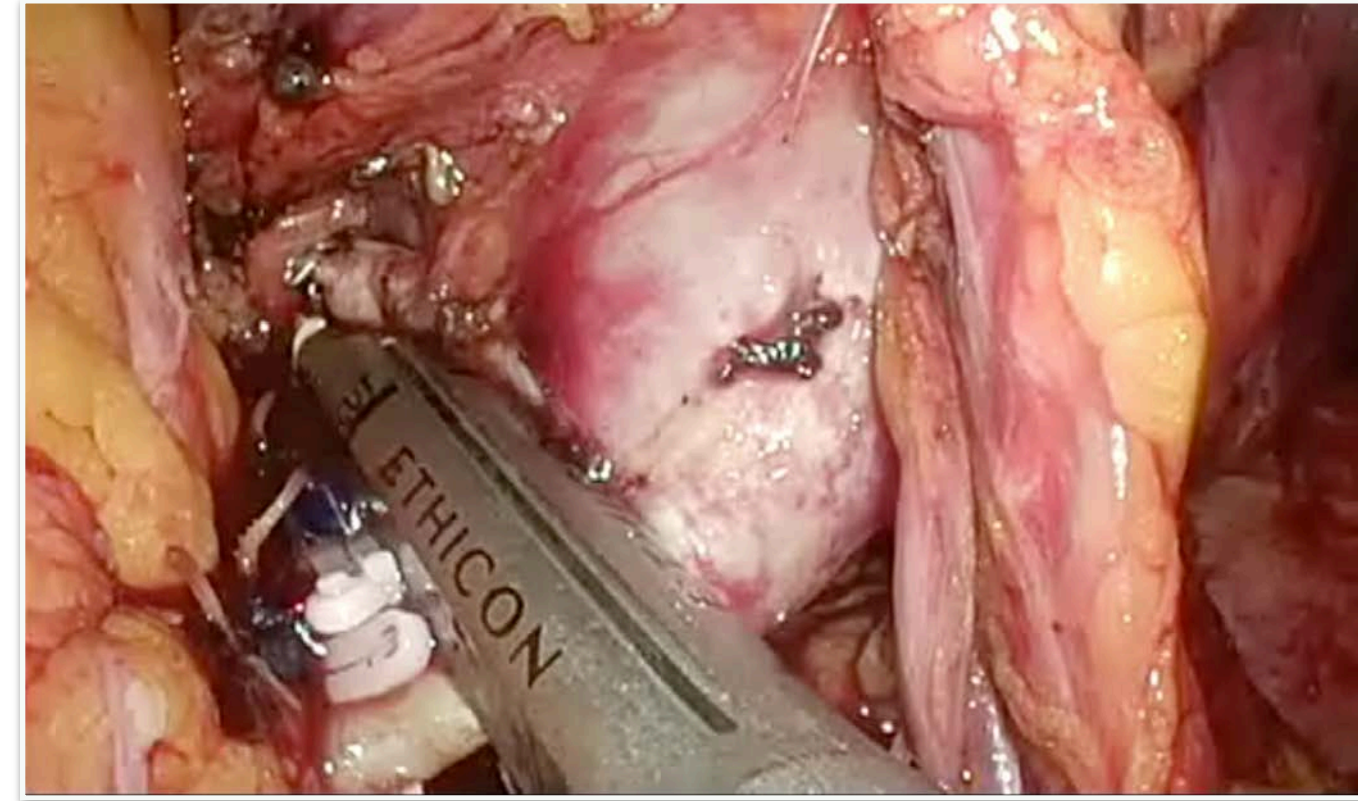
Transection of the ureter.



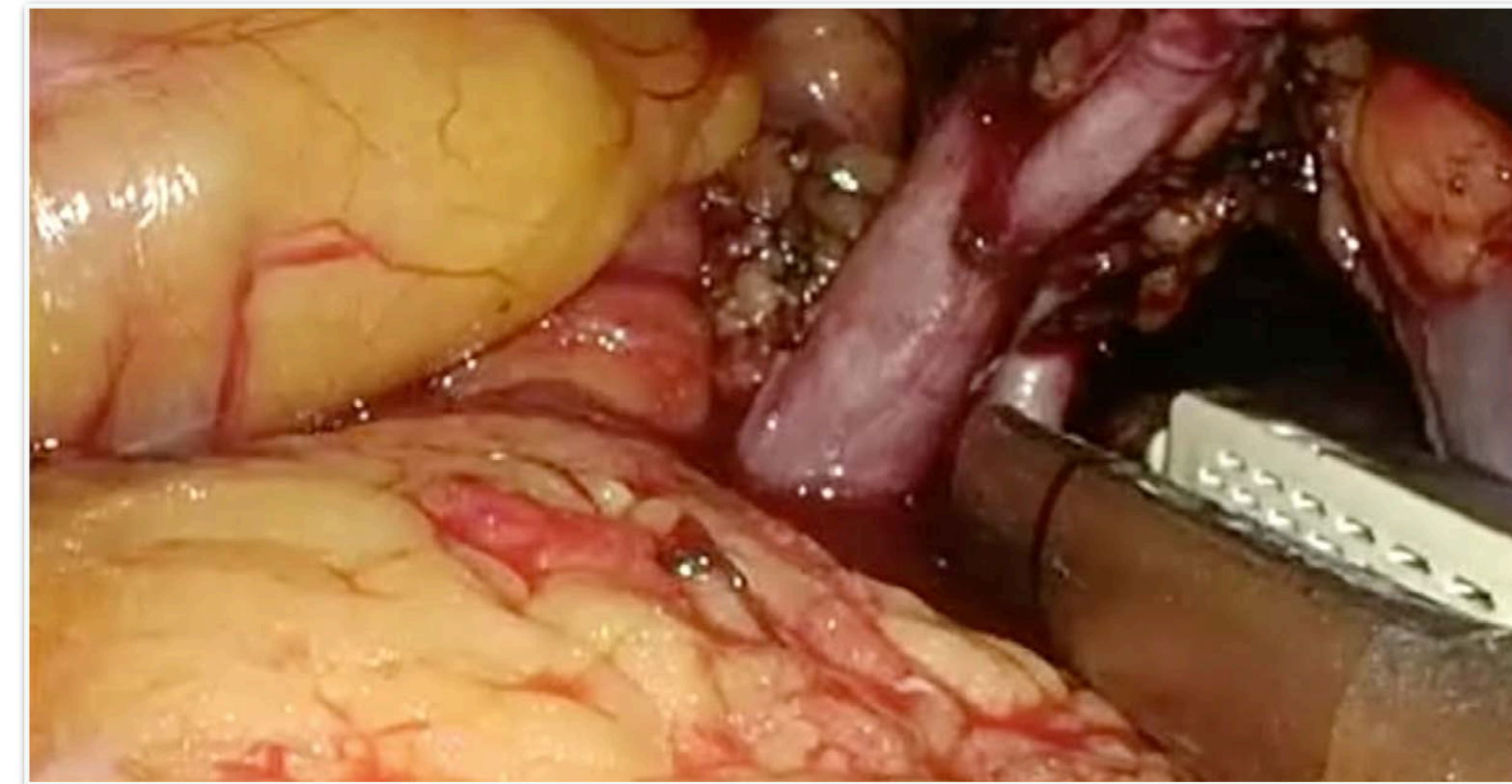
Transection of the lower pole artery arising from the IMA.



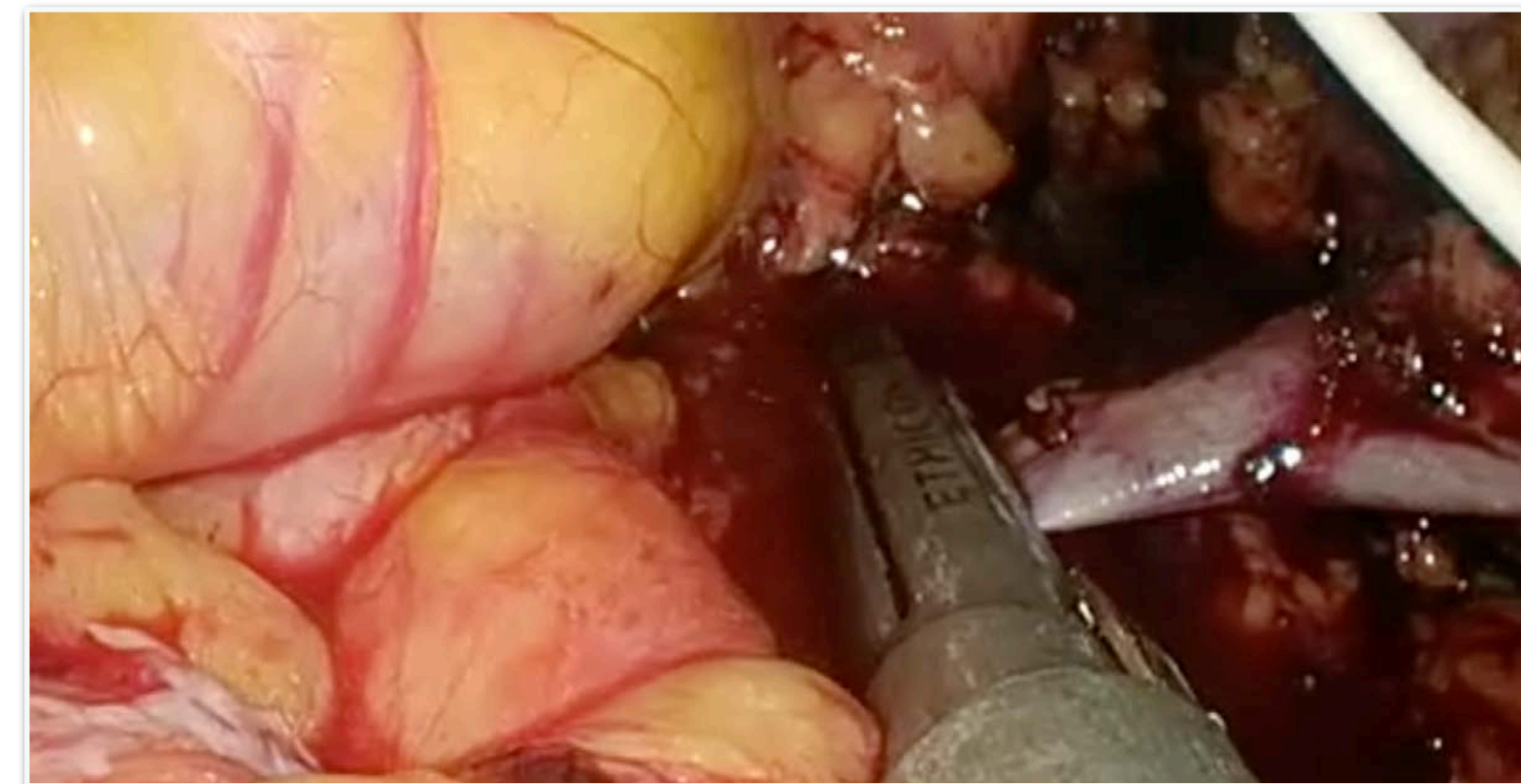
Stapling across the isthmus.



Transection of the main renal artery.



Transection of the main renal vein.



CONCLUSIONS

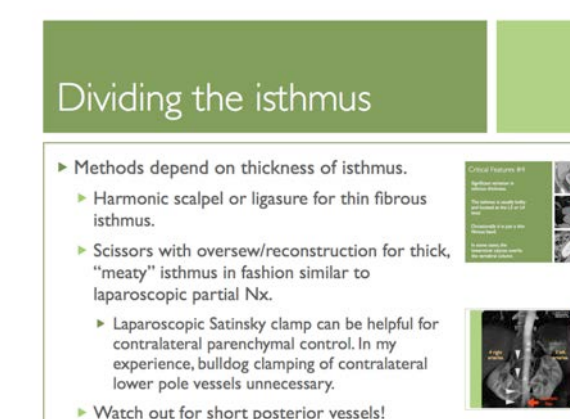
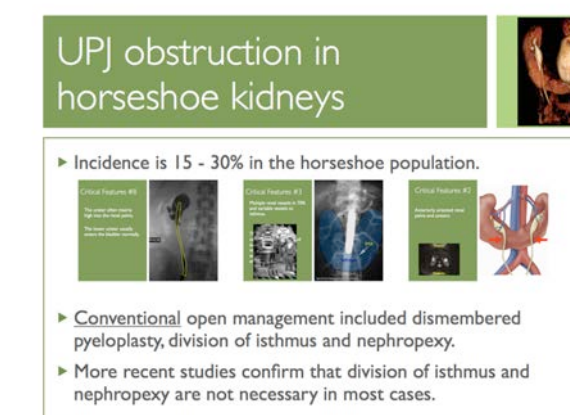
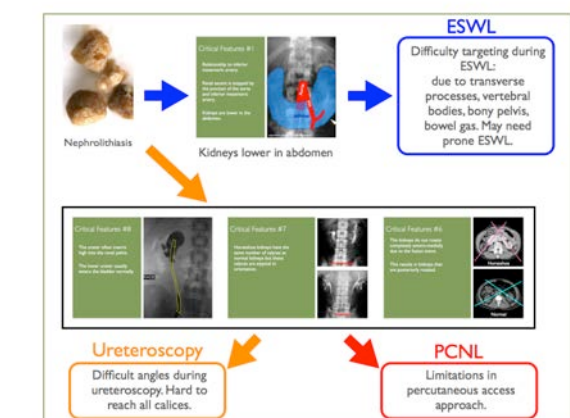
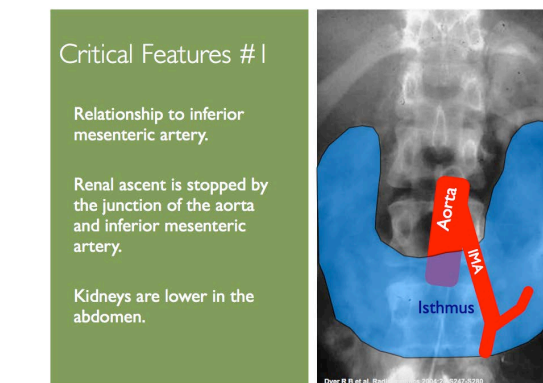
Overview of horseshoe kidneys in adults, incidence, embryology and prognosis.

7 anatomic features of horseshoe kidneys that impact on disease and treatment.

Broad look at stone disease in horseshoe kidneys and technical considerations.

UPJ obstruction is common in horseshoe kidneys but management is fairly standard.

Tips and tricks for managing heminephrectomy and isthmus division for Nx and partial Nx.

[illegible]



Thanks for your attention.