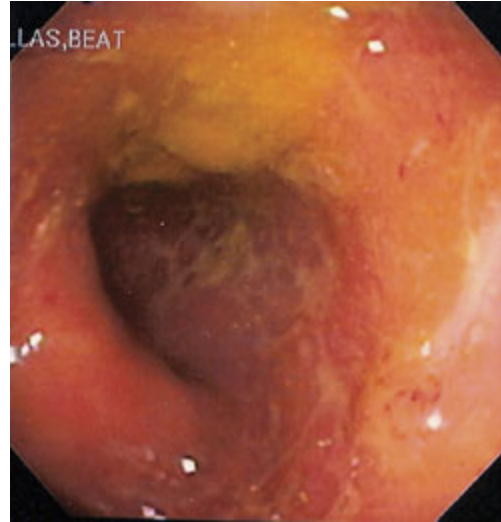
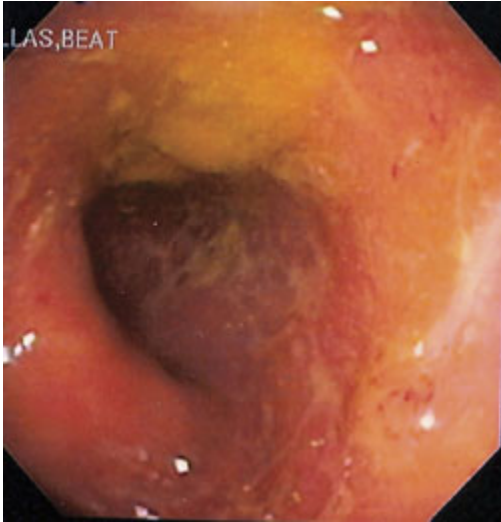


Question 2 – Week of February 25

A 45-year-old woman with AIDS develops acute watery diarrhea while on HART therapy. CD4 count is 10. A stool sample for *Clostridium difficile* is negative and stool culture is negative for enteric pathogens. Colonoscopic appearance is shown in the figure with patchy changes seen from the rectum to the cecum. What is the most likely diagnosis?



- A. HSV
- B. CMV
- C. *Clostridium difficile* colitis
- D. Microsporidia
- E. Ischemic colitis

Answer: B

With immunosuppression CMV colitis is very high on the list. The endoscopic picture shows a nonspecific colitis. There is no evidence of *Clostridium difficile* given this picture. Ischemia is unlikely with inflammation that extends all the way to the rectum. HSV does not extend above the dentate rectal area. Biopsy for CMV and viral culture are indicated. Microsporidia does not cause gross colonic inflammatory changes.

Reference:

1. Matthes T, Kaiser L, Weber D, et al. Cytomegalovirus colitis - A severe complication after standard chemotherapy. *Acta Oncol* 2002;41:704-706.