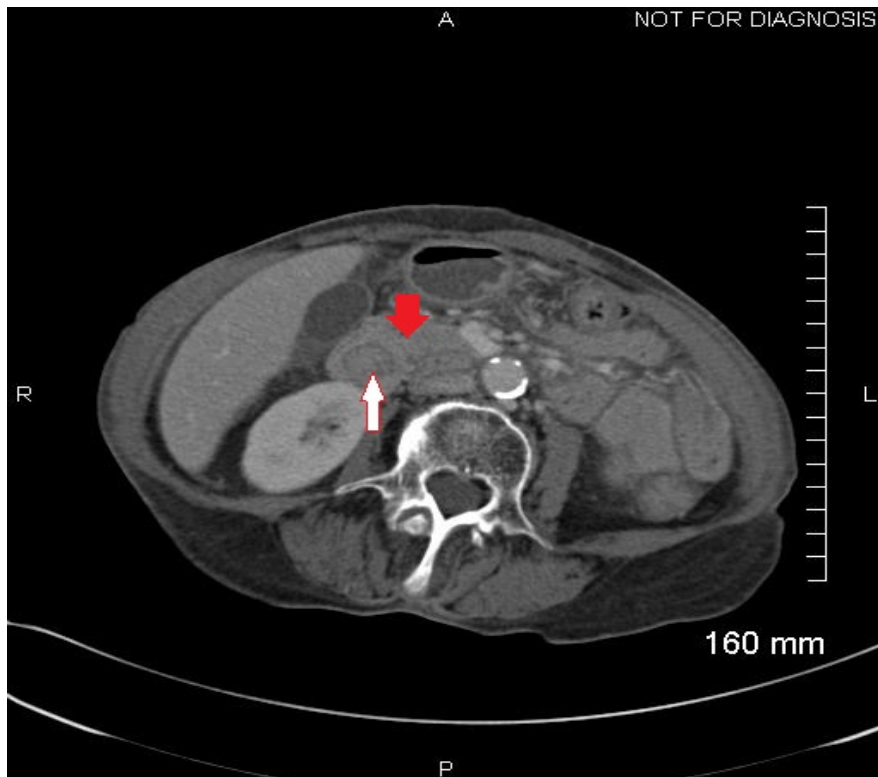


Question 12 – October 17

A 39 year old male presents with complaints of chronic postprandial abdominal pain, early satiety and vomiting. He has previously undergone a workup that included complete blood count, comprehensive metabolic panel and a 3-view abdominal radiograph which were all negative. You decide to obtain a CT scan of the abdomen, the results of which are shown below. The white arrow points to the duodenum and the red arrow to the pancreas.



Which of the following statements regarding this condition is TRUE?

- A. This is a congenital anomaly that results from a failure of the ventral bud of the pancreas to rotate with the duodenum, thereby causing envelopment of the duodenum.
- B. Endoscopic placement of a duodenal stent is the treatment of choice.
- C. Nearly 90% of patients with this condition are symptomatic.
- D. Patients with this condition do not have a higher risk of pancreatic cancer compared with the general population.

Answer: A

This CT scan shows envelopment of the duodenum by the pancreas and is diagnostic for annular pancreas. This condition is caused by a failure of the ventral bud of the pancreas to rotate with the duodenum, thereby causing envelopment of the duodenum. Though 2/3 of patients remain asymptomatic, adults can develop symptoms of gastric outlet obstruction. The

treatment of choice for symptomatic patients is surgical bypass of the annulus. There is typically no role for stenting in patients with obstruction due to annular pancreas. Patients with annular pancreas are at higher risk for pancreatic cancer.

Reference:

Urayama S, Kozarek R, Ball T, et al. Presentation and treatment of annular pancreas in an adult population. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 1995;90(6):995-9.