

Question 29 – Week of January 17

A 72 year old woman comes with profuse painless hematochezia. She is resuscitated with 4 units of PRBC. NG aspirate was negative for blood and emergent colonoscopy performed. This is noted in the rectum.

Which of the following is false?



- A. Rectum is the most common location for this lesion in the GI tract
- B. Endoscopy generally does not reveal a distinct mucosal defect
- C. Hemostasis with a clip may be the most effective mode of therapy
- D. Pathology will likely reveal a submucosal 1-3 mm artery

Answer: A

This is a rectal Dieulafoy's lesion. It is uncommon in the rectum, mostly found in the stomach. An aberrant submucosal artery that becomes epithelial and bleeds. Usually endoscopic mucosal disruption is not clearly evident. Hemostasis is excellent with clips. Although cautery and APC have also been described, due to the arterial nature of the bleeding sometimes this is ineffective.