

**Question 35 – May 2**

A 28 year old Hispanic obese, female patient presents with acute, severe abdominal pain. In ED her white count is normal. A CT scan of abdomen is shown below:



Based on the CT finding and clinical presentation the most reasonable treatment is:

- A. Oral antibiotics
- B. Oral Ibuprofen
- C. Segmental L hemicolectomy
- D. Observation

Answer: B

The case presented is consistent with epiploic appendagitis. This rare condition is seen more often in young, obese individuals. It is thought to be due to torsion or thrombosis

of a small blood vessel within the colon epiploic appendages. Treatment is empirically based on NSAIDs. The course is benign with spontaneous remission in 2-3 weeks.

Reference:

Desai HP, Tripodi J, Gold BM, Burakoff R. Infarction of an epiploic appendage. Review of the literature. *J Clin Gastroenterol* 1993; 16:323.