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Transabdominal sonography of the small and large intestines

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Transabdominal sonography of the small and large intestines can reveal following diseases such as bacterial and viral enterocolitis. An ulcer, whether it is superficial, deep with risk of impending perforation, perforated, sealed perforation, chronic ulcer and post-healing fibrosis and stricture, polyps and diverticulum, benign intra-mural tumors, intra-mural haematoma, ascariasis, foreign body, necrotizing enterocolitis, tuberculosis, intussusception, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. Complications of an inflammatory bowel disease include perforation and stricture. Neoplastic lesion is usually a segment involvement and shows irregularly thickened, hypo-echoic and aperistaltic wall with loss of normal layering pattern. It is usually a solitary stricture and has eccentric irregular luminal narrowing. It shows loss of normal gut signature and enlargement of the involved segment seen. Shouldering effect at the ends of stricture is most common feature. Primary arising from wall itself and secondary are invasion from adjacent malignancy or distant metastasis. All these cases are compared and proved with gold standards like surgery and endoscopy. Some extra efforts taken during all routine or emergent ultrasonography examinations can be an effective non-invasive method to diagnose primarily hitherto unsuspected benign and malignant gastro-intestinal tract lesions should be the choice of the investigation.

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