

Gastric Irritation Noted in Patients Using New Tablet-Based Colonoscopy Preparation

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Introduction

- In November of 2020, the FDA approved a tablet-based bowel prep
- Contains poorly absorbed sulfate salts → osmotic diarrhea
- Contains potassium chloride → replete diarrheal potassium losses
- Patients described underwent upper and lower endoscopy and were prescribed tablet-based colonoscopy preparations

Conclusions

- Potassium chloride is a mucosal irritant; has been reported to cause upper gastrointestinal ulcers and erosions
- In each case, gastric irritation was an unexpected finding in a patient without risk factors for developing gastric ulcers
- Noted was a similar pattern of ulceration in the gastric antrum and body noted in these patients, which could be in a pattern of the tablets resting on the greater curve of the stomach
- While gastric ulceration may be asymptomatic, it can lead to diagnostic confusion and further unnecessary workup

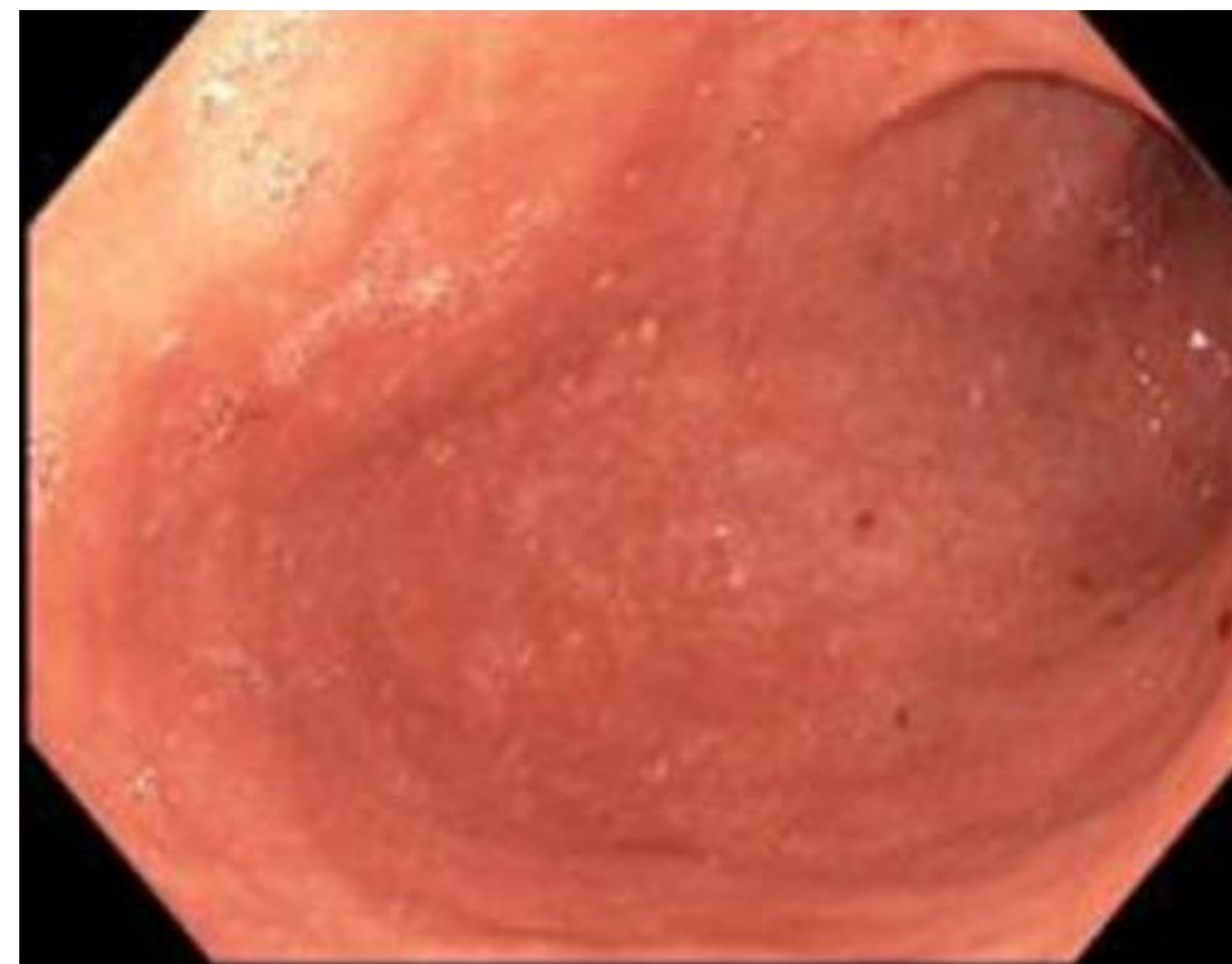
Case 1

- 35 yo M with GERD
- 5-days abdominal pain
- Colonoscopy → internal hemorrhoids
- EGD → ulceration of the stomach body
- Biopsies → focal active gastritis and superficial erosion; no H pylori organisms
- Started daily PPI, 3 months later EGD showed normal mucosa both visually and pathologically



Case 2

- 59 yo F with recently treated H pylori
- 1 month abdominal bloating and heartburn (post treatment)
- Screening colonoscopy → normal
- EGD → multiple diminutive round erythematous spots in the stomach antrum with pinpoint foci of dark heme
- Biopsies → moderate inactive chronic inflammation; no H pylori organisms



Case 3

- 70 yo F with remote hx of H pylori
- Requested endoscopy given family history of gastric cancer
- Screening colonoscopy → normal
- EGD → superficial erosions in the lesser curve of the stomach
- Biopsies → gastric mucosa with reactive epithelial changes; no H pylori organisms



References

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