

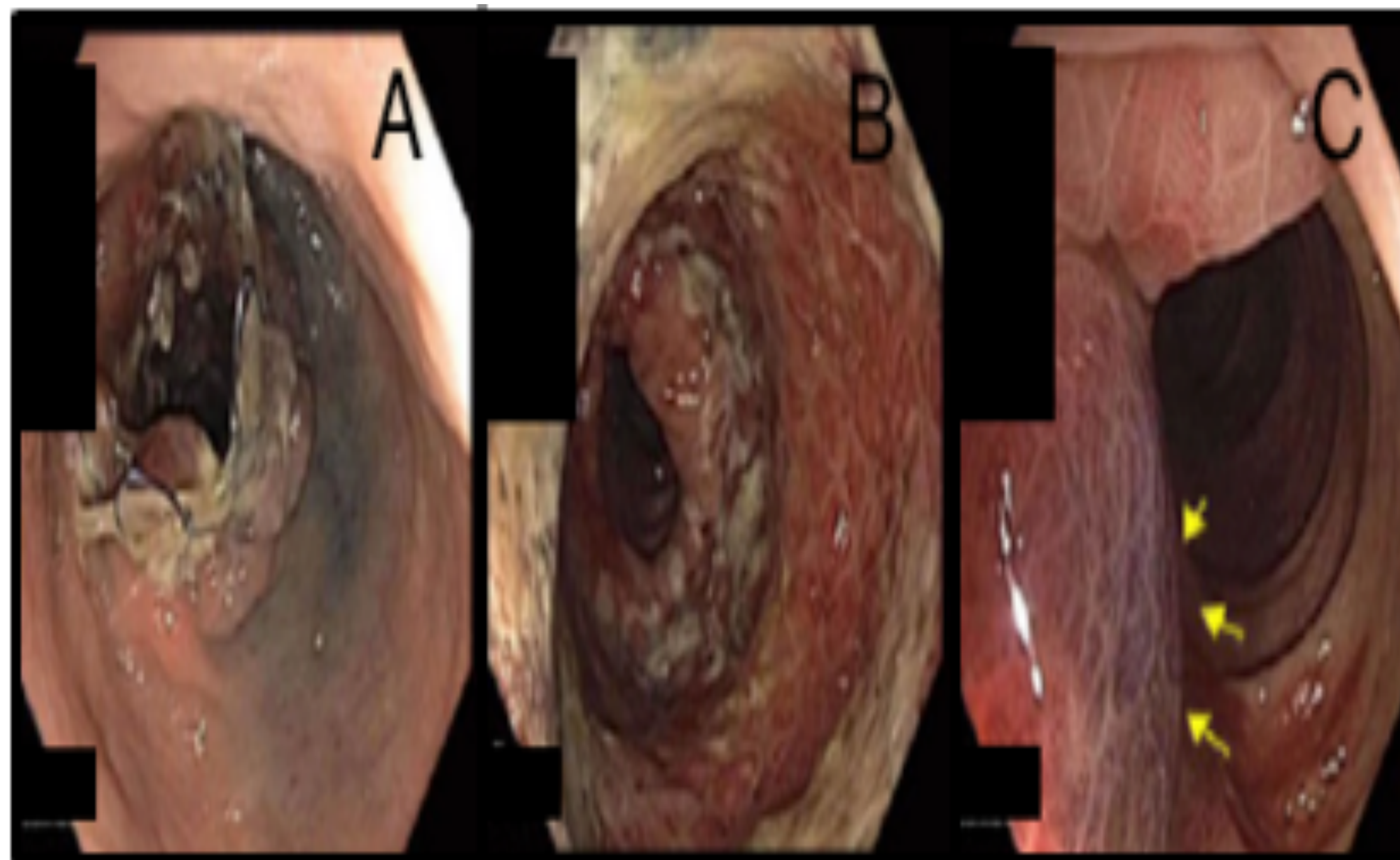
## Introduction

- Endoscopically placed colonic stenting is a palliative measure that can be used for unresectable metastatic colon cancer.
- It is a relatively safer procedure with a mortality rate of about 3.9%, as compared to emergent surgery (9.4%).
- Intussusception is a rare complication of colonic stenting that occurs when the bowel telescopes about itself, possibly leading to obstruction or ischemia.
- Here we present a patient with intussusception six days after placement of a self-expandable rectosigmoid metal stent. We demonstrate successful reduction of rectosigmoid intussusception through colonoscopy with air insufflation.

## Case Presentation

- A 35-year-old female presented with 3 days of constant and progressively-worsening rectal pain, bloody rectal discharge, and thin stool.
- Her past medical history was significant for metastatic colon cancer treated with sigmoid colectomy and chemotherapy two years prior, with recurrence of disease requiring palliative self-expandable rectosigmoid metal stent placement 6 days prior to arrival.
- Vital signs were normal. She did not appear in acute distress and was hemodynamically stable. Pertinent examination findings included lower abdominal tenderness, normal bowel sounds, and normal rectal tone.
- Labs revealed WBC 12.4, Hgb 13.2, Plt 443, AST 14, ALT 8, ALP 77, total bilirubin 0.7, and a lactate of 0.9.

## Images



**Figure 1:** A. A view of the distal aspect of the rectosigmoid stent revealing adequate translocation of tumor mass without evidence of obstruction. B. A view of the proximal aspect of the rectosigmoid stent revealing a dusky appearance, with thickening of the bowel. C. A view of the proximal aspect of the stent with the ball-shaped mass in a dusky appearance consistent with intussusception, as seen by arrows.

## Case Presentation (Cont.)

- CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis revealed intussusception at the proximal sigmoid colon without evidence of bowel obstruction.
- Colonoscopy revealed ball-shaped mucosa with a dusky appearance at the proximal end of the stent, consistent with intussusception and ischemic colitis.
- The intussusception was successfully reduced with air insufflation through colonoscopy. The patient tolerated the procedure well and was started on a diet the next day with an improvement in her rectal pain and resolution of rectal discharge.

## Discussion

- Endoscopic colonic stenting remains a valuable palliative treatment for metastatic colon cancer.
- Survival rates of metastatic colon cancer do not significantly differ between palliative colonic stenting and colonic resection.
- However, there are fewer complications with colonic stenting than colectomy, making palliative stenting a preferred option.
- Intussusception is a rare complication of colonic stenting that is often treated surgically in adults.
- Here we demonstrate successful reduction of intussusception through colonoscopic air insufflation. We hope to bring awareness of this complication and consideration to air insufflation as first-line therapy.