

Mucosal Pseudolipomatosis

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Figure A (Nikon 4X Objective)

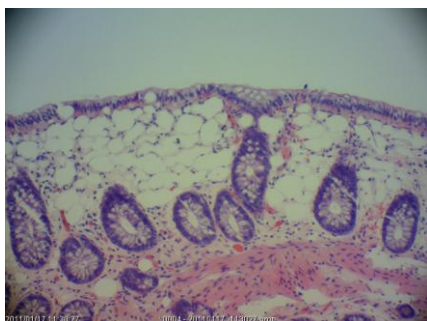


Figure B (Nikon 10X Objective)

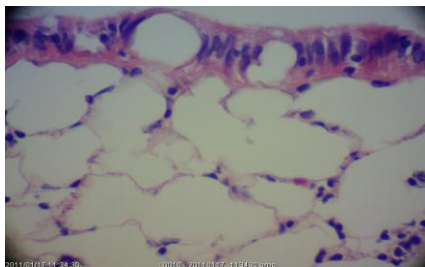


Figure C (Nikon 40X Objective)



Case History: A healthy 52 year old male patient underwent routine screening colonoscopy.

Endoscopic Findings: A 10 cm long, triangular-shaped, continuous, white mucosal patch was noted in the transverse colon. The lesion had ill-defined borders and the white plaques were not removed by washing.

Histologic Findings: Colonic biopsies from the whitish mucosal patch revealed a normal colonic architecture without inflammatory pseudomembranes (Figure A). No evidence of cryptitis or crypt abscesses was seen. Numerous empty spaces were noted within the lamina propria (Figure B). No parasites were noted on the surface epithelium. The vacuolated spaces resemble adipose tissue (Figure C).

Mucosal Pseudolipomatosis

Mucosal Pseudolipomatosis is the result of air penetration into the lamina propria after insufflation (air insufflation artifact). The leakage of air is thought to be facilitated by mucosal injury related to the endoscopic procedure. By electron microscopy, the clear spaces lack an epithelial lining. They are negative for all histochemical and immunohistochemical stains.