

# *Endoscopy in Inflammatory Bowel Disease*

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- Brief overview of inflammatory bowel disease

- Endoscopic findings of UC and Crohn's

- Discuss endoscopic approaches to:

  - Colon cancer surveillance

  - Crohn's related strictures

# DISCLOSURES

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**I have no financial disclosures.**

# *Brief*

# *IBD 101*

An **environmentally stimulated, immune mediated, chronic relapsing inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract occurring in genetically susceptible individuals**

## Genetic Predisposition

20%-25% of patients have close relative with IBD

## Immune System Abnormalities

Inappropriate inflammation by body's immune system

## Environmental Factors

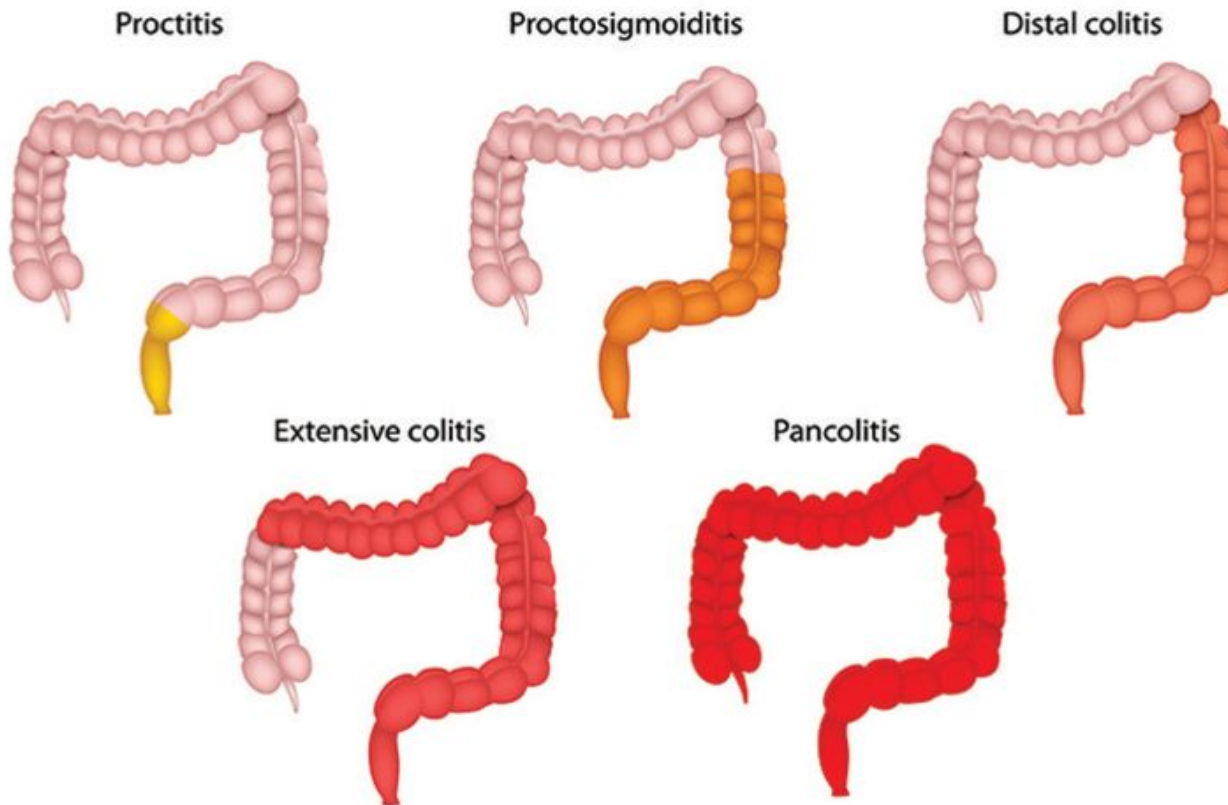
Infections, antibiotics, NSAIDs, diet, smoking, stress

***Inflammatory bowel disease IS NOT irritable bowel syndrome***

***Inflammatory bowel disease IS inappropriate inflammation***

# Classify UC by anatomical extent

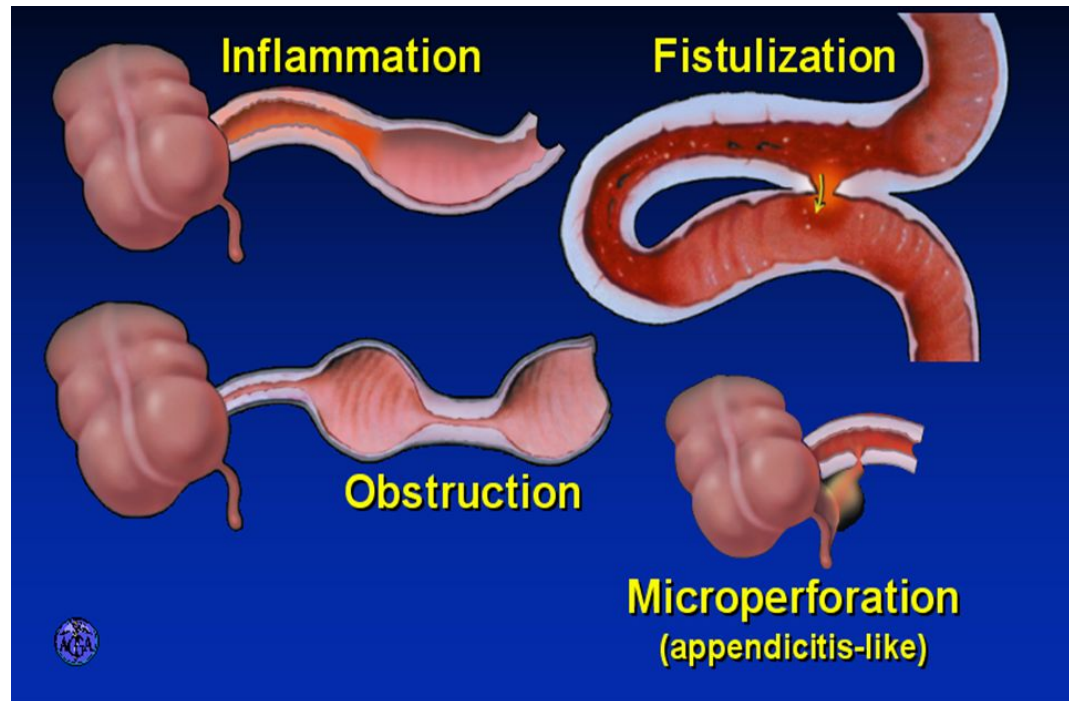
## TYPES OF ULCERATIVE COLITIS



# ***Classify Crohn's Disease by anatomy and phenotype***

## Crohn's Disease (Montreal Classification)

- Terminal ileum (L1)
- Colon (L2)
- Ileocolonic (L3)
- Upper GI (L4)
- Perianal (P)



## Crohn's Phenotype

- Inflammatory (non-stricturing, non-fistulizing)
- Stricturing (Fibrostenosing)
- Fistulizing (Penetrating)

# **?Differences Between Crohn's & UC? (what most doctors learned in school)**

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## Crohn's Disease

- .Affect any part of GI tract
- .Discontinuous areas of inflammation
- .Noncaseating granulomas
- .Rectal sparing
- .Transmural inflammation with fistula and abscess

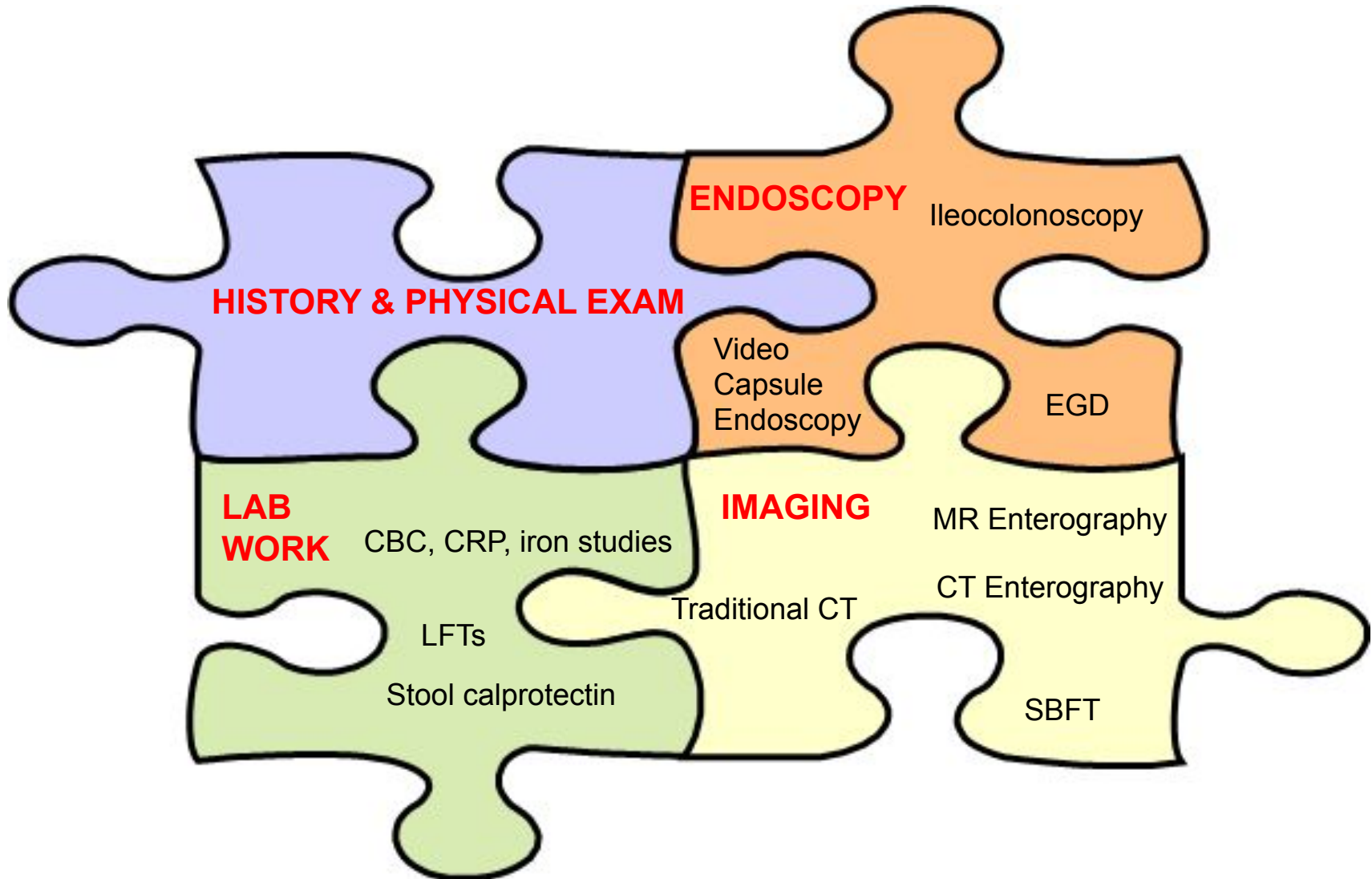
## Ulcerative Colitis

- .Limited to colon
- .Continuous area of inflammation
- .No granulomas
- .No rectal sparing
- .Mucosal inflammation

***Two disease labels on a wide spectrum of inflammatory bowel disease.***



# IBD Diagnosis - Putting Together the Pieces



# Goals of Comprehensive

## IBD Care

Psychologist  
Pediatric to Adult Transition

Educate/Monitor on  
Medication Risks

Surveillance  
Colonoscopy

Provide  
emotional  
support

Prevent  
cancer

Patient Support  
Groups

Minimize  
treatment  
toxicity

Treat  
Inflammation

Ensure  
Successful  
Treatment  
Outcomes

IBD  
Management  
Goals

Improve  
quality of  
life

Ensure  
adequate  
nutrition

Nutritionist &  
Dietary Guidance

Prevent Disease  
Complications

Vaccinations  
Bone Health

Control  
symptoms

Maintain  
remissions

Medication Adherence  
Insurance Guidance

Control Symptoms  
from IBS v. IBD

*And Now...*  
*IBD and*  
*Endoscopy*

# *Diagnosing IBD by Colonoscopy – It's In the Details...*

- Perianal examination

  - Skin tags, fistula, abscess, fissures, anal stenosis

- Determine anatomical extent/distribution

  - Ileum intubation

  - Rectum assessment

  - Colonic involvement

- Determine inflammation severity and complications

  - Mild, moderate, severe

  - Dysplasia**

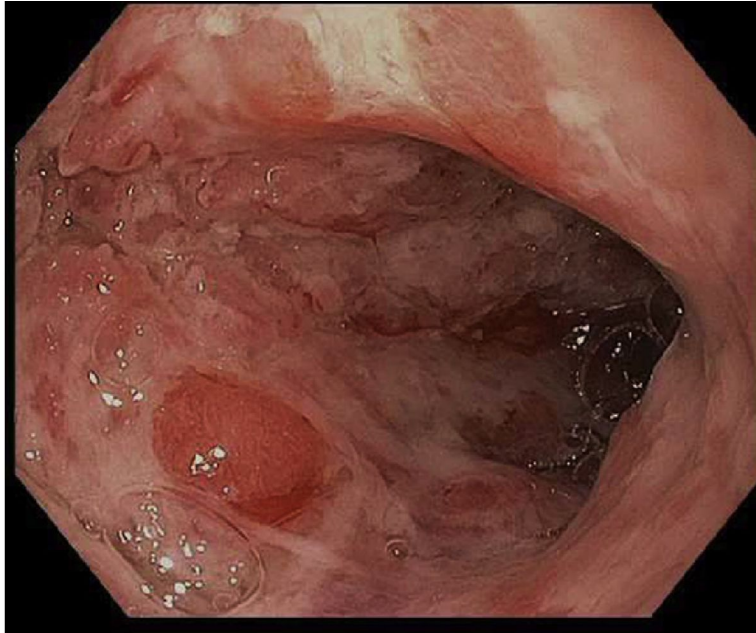
  - Strictures**

  - Response to therapy, mucosal healing

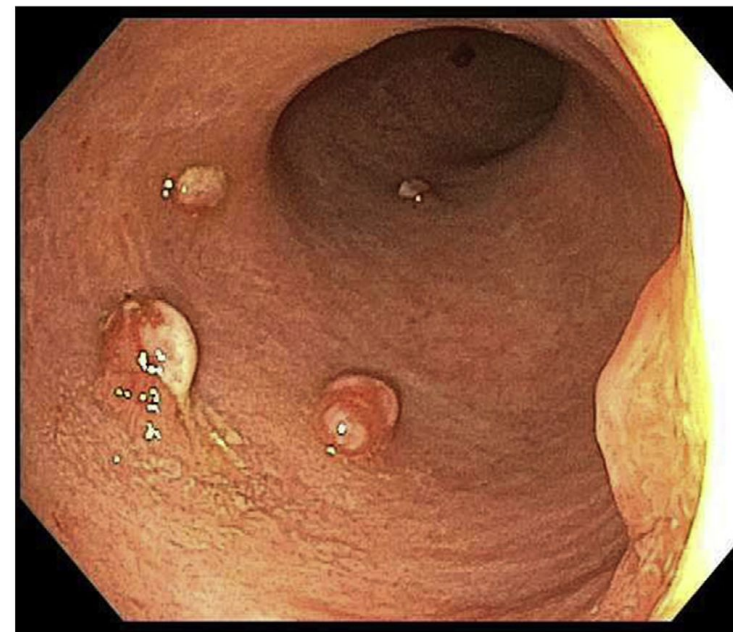
- Obtain tissue for histopathology

# UC vs Crohn's – Endoscopic Findings *Try to Differentiate*

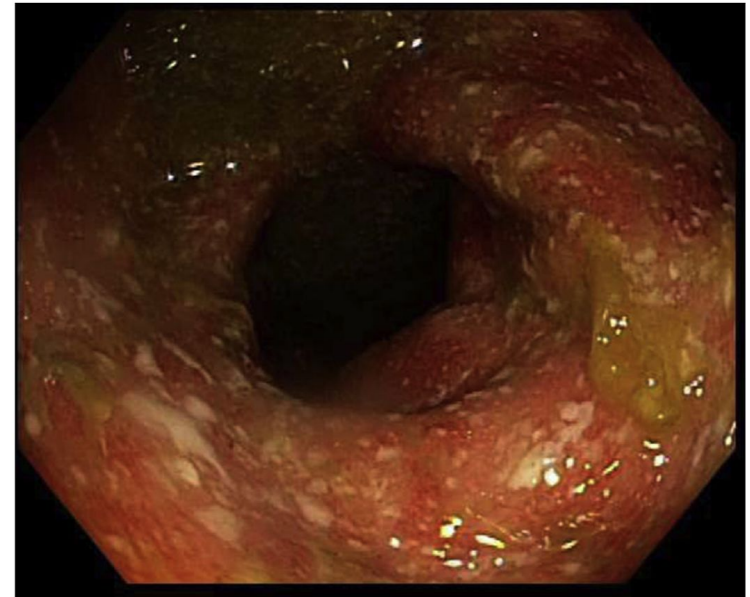
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Severe Crohn colitis with cobblestoning.



Inflammatory pseudopolyps in UC.



Severe UC with superficial ulceration, edema, and mucosal friability.

# ***Colon Cancer in IBD – Finding dysplasia associated with chronic inflammation***

## ***Dysplasia***

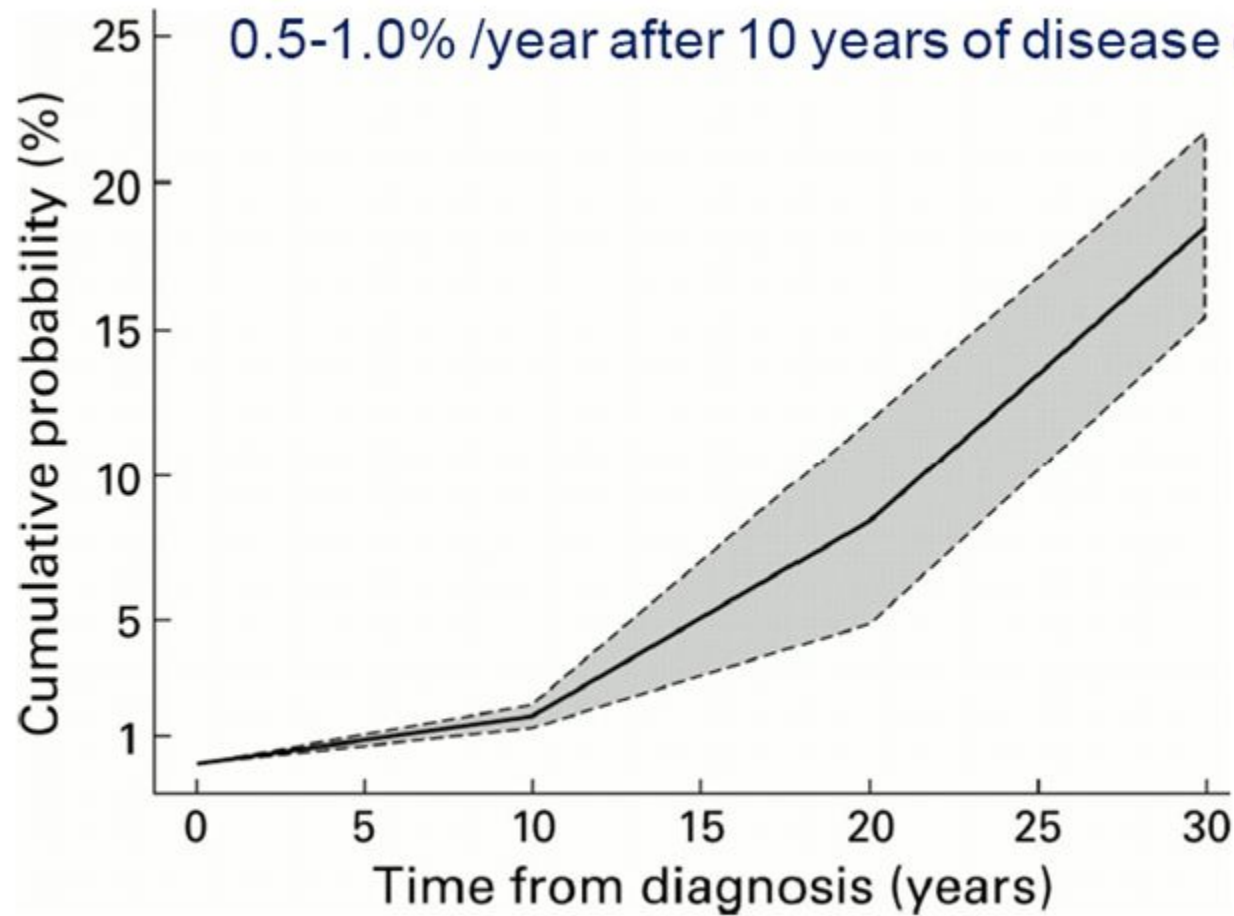
*Precancerous changes in cells*

*Not invasive (carcinoma) changes*

***Inflammation – Dysplasia – Carcinoma Sequence***

***The aim is early detection of dysplasia, to prevent or reduce mortality from colorectal cancer.***

# Increased Colon Cancer Risk (in UC)



*Eaden et al., Gut*

# Meta-analysis aimed to determine risk of colorectal cancer in patients with UC

*Seminal* meta-analysis 54,478 UC patients, 116 studies

Overall CRC prevalence of 3.7%

Cumulative incidence of developing CRC

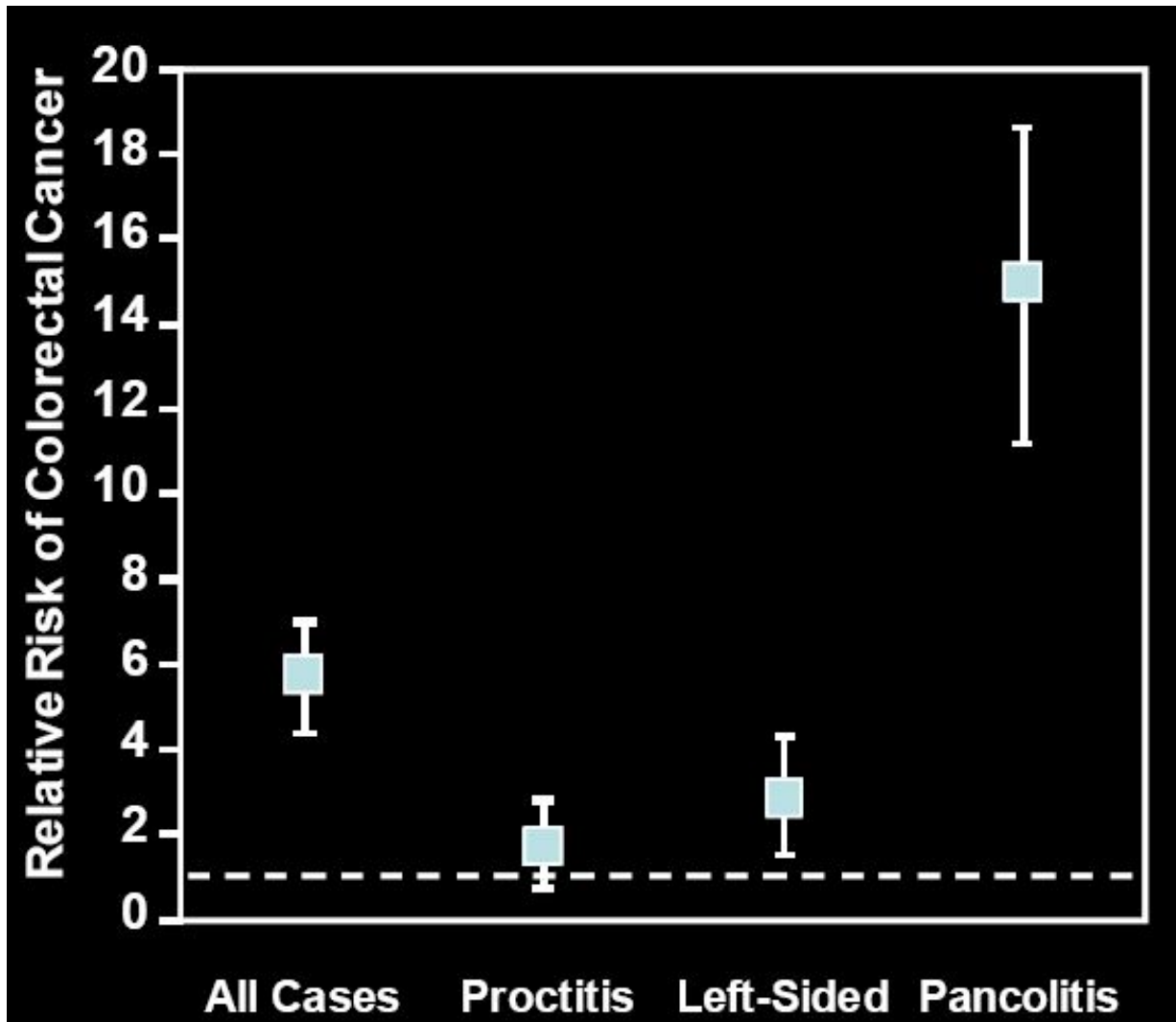
2% by 10 years

8% by 20 years

18% by 30 years



# Relative Risk of CRC Based on Extent of UC



## Factors increasing risk of colorectal cancer

.Duration, severity, and extent of IBD

.Family history of CRC

.Primary sclerosing cholangitis

.Younger age at UC diagnosis

**.Presence of dysplasia of any grade  
    indefinite, low, or high dysplasia**

*Colonic strictures, maybe*

*Inflammatory polyps, maybe*

# ***The Protocol and Process to Find Dysplastic Lesions***

Ideally, surveillance performed w/ clinical remission

Active colitis can impair visibility of subtle lesions

Decrease accuracy of histology

Good (*meaning great*) bowel prep

## ***The Technique & The Controversy***

White Light Endoscopy (high def)

VS.

Chromoendoscopy

Biopsy or remove visible lesions

4 random biopsies every 10 cm

Randomly samples <0.1% of mucosa

**GOAL - Detect flat endoscopically *invisible* lesions**

Finds dysplasia in ~2.6% of IBD patients

Laborious, expensive, low diagnostic yield

## ***Finding Dysplasia –***

# **Chromoendoscopy & Targeted Biopsies**

Chromoendoscopy – enhanced visualization with dye to better ***identify lumps and bumps***

Methylene blue – stains normal mucosa

Indigo-carmin - Non-absorptive blue contrast agent

Targeted biopsies increases dysplasia detection 4.5-fold

All ‘abnormal’ lesions should be removed or biopsied

**Recommended by SCENIC Guidelines** - Surveillance for Colorectal Endoscopic Neoplasia Detection and Management in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients

- Highly variable adoption

- Longer procedure time (~11 min longer than WLE)

- Training and Experience

  - Spraying dye

  - Identifying suspicious mucosal patterns

  - Identifying lumps and bumps

  - Determining if lesions *endoscopically resectable*

# Finding Dysplasia – Characterizing Visible Dysplasia Lesions

## Describing Lesions

Polypoid or nonpolypoid

Flat or depressed

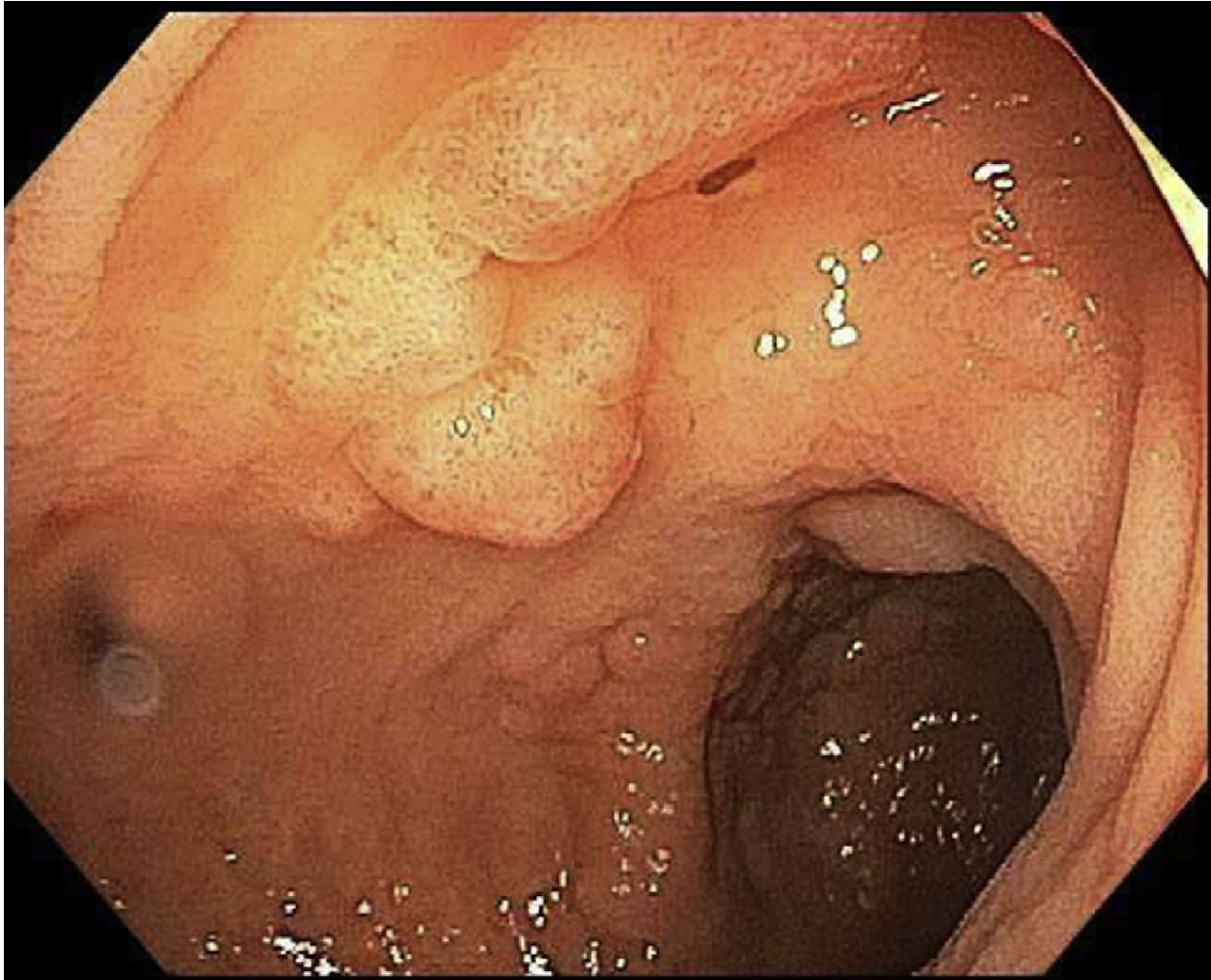
Borders

Distinct or indistinct

***Endoscopically resectable  
or not***

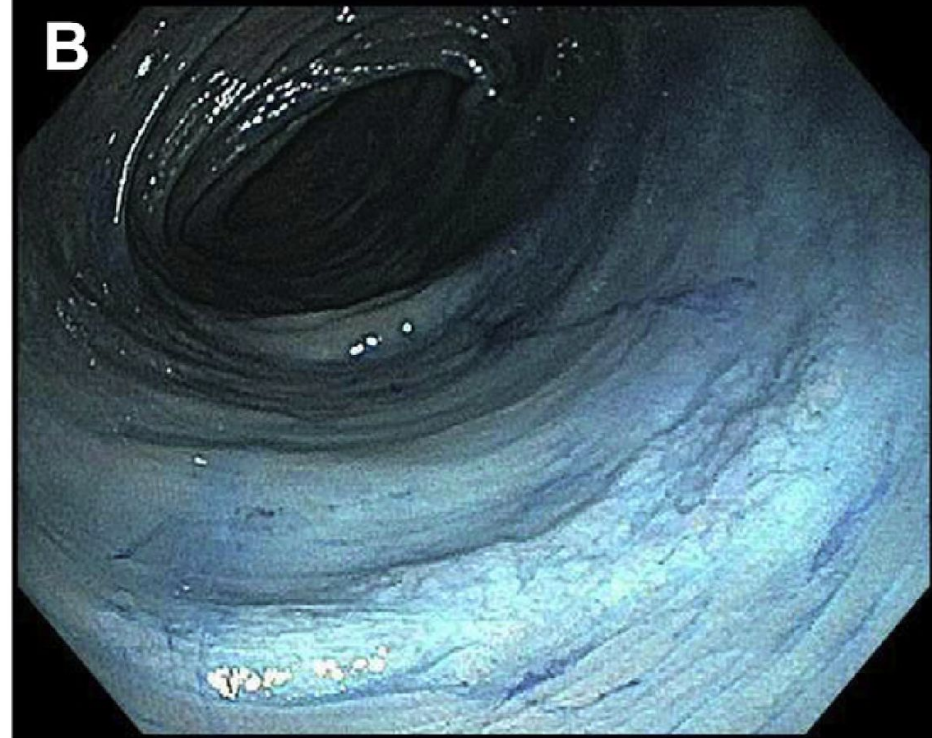
| Term                 | Definition  |
|----------------------|---|
| Visible dysplasia    | Dysplasia identified on targeted biopsies from a lesion visualised at colonoscopy                         |
| Polypoid             | Lesion protruding from the mucosa into the lumen $\geq 2.5$ mm  |
| Pedunculated         | Lesion attached to the mucosa by a stalk  |
| Sessile              | Lesion not attached to the mucosa by a stalk: entire base is contiguous with the mucosa                   |
| Non-polypoid         | Lesion with little ( $< 2.5$ mm) or no protrusion above the mucosa  |
| Superficial elevated | Lesion with protrusion but $< 2.5$ mm above the lumen ( $<$ height of the closed cup of a biopsy forceps) |
| Flat                 | Lesion without protrusion above the mucosa  |
| Depressed            | Lesion with at least a portion depressed below the level of the mucosa                                    |
| General descriptors  |   |
| Ulcerated            | Ulceration (fibrinous-appearing base with depth) within the lesion  |
| Border               |   |
| Distinct border      | Lesion's border is discrete and can be distinguished from surrounding mucosa                              |
| Indistinct border    | Lesion's border is not discrete and cannot be distinguished from surrounding mucosa                       |
| Invisible dysplasia  | Dysplasia identified on random (non-targeted) biopsies of colon mucosa without a visible lesion           |

# A Clear Lesion...High Grade Dysplasia Lesion in UC

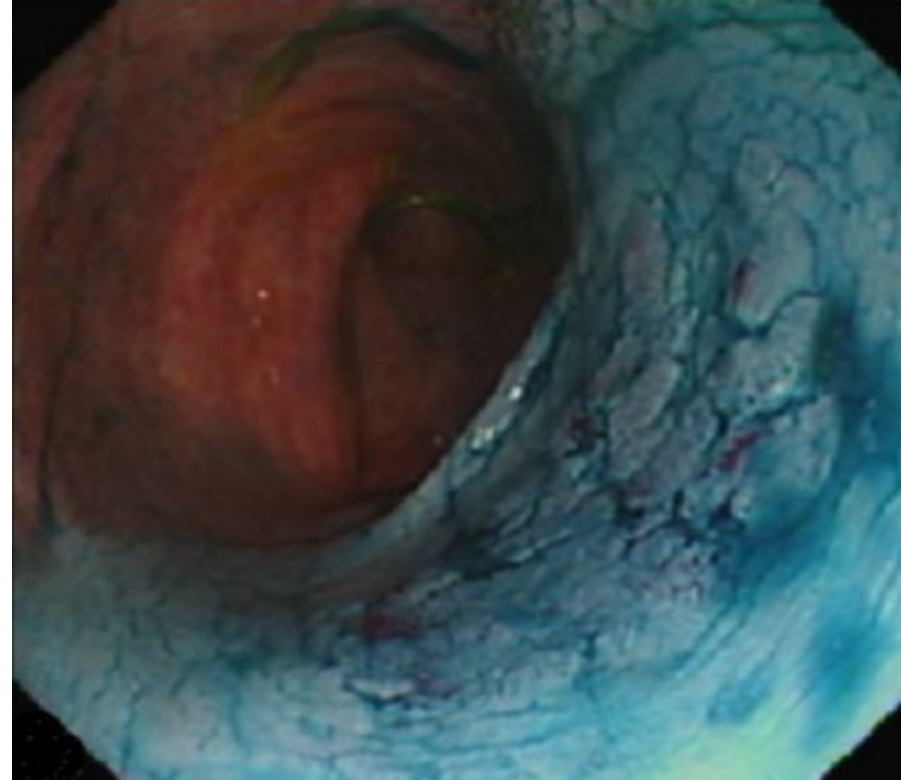
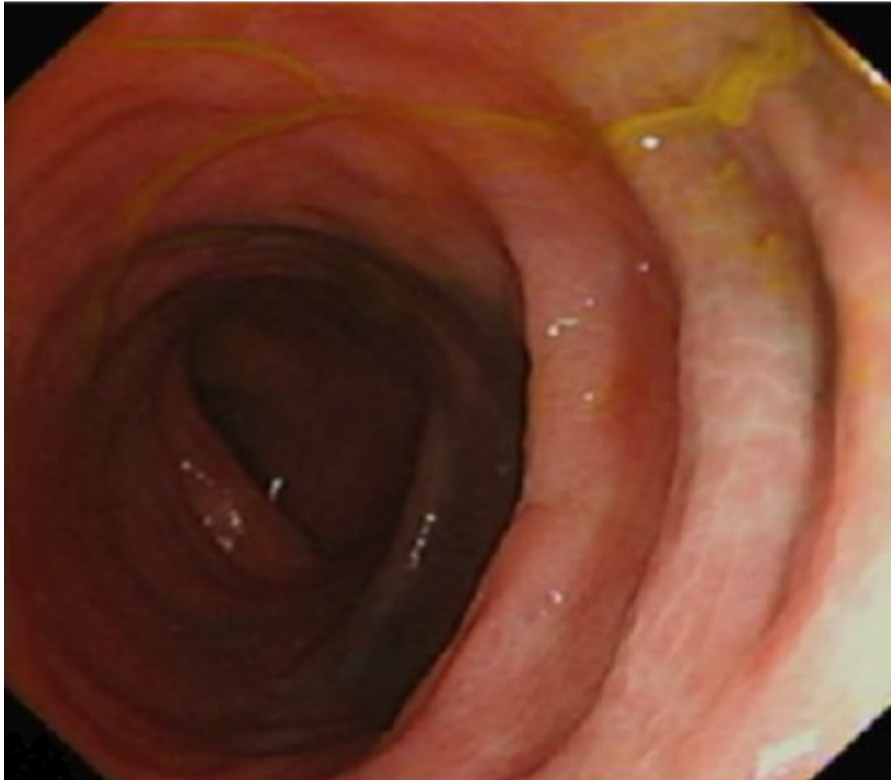




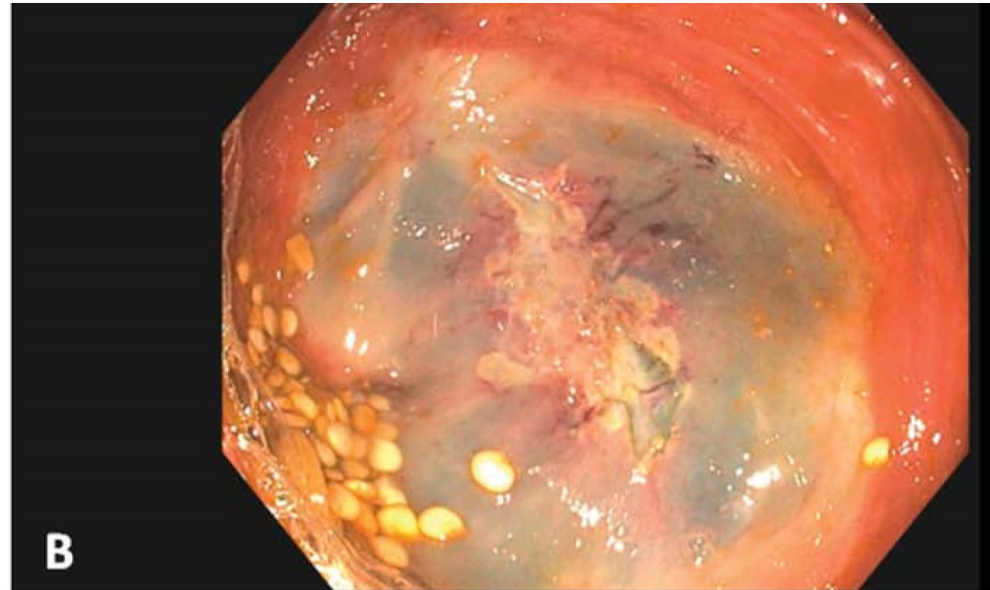
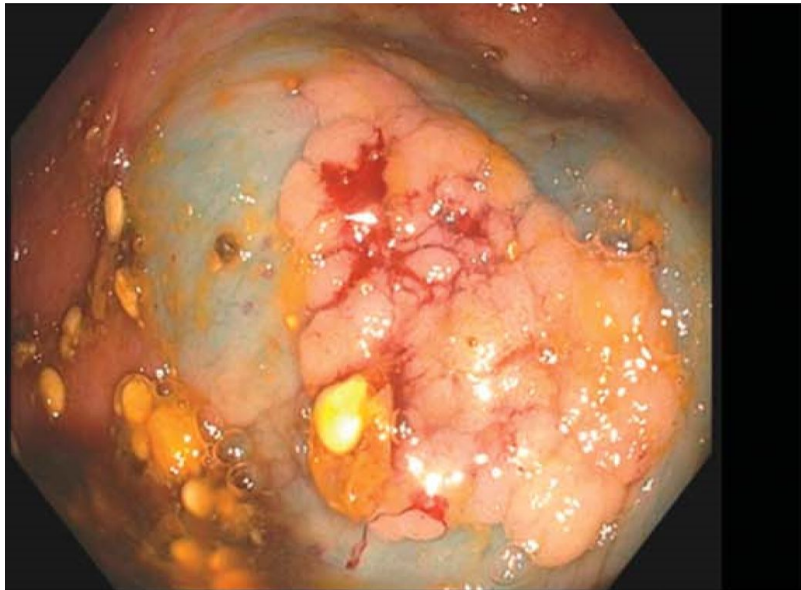
# Displaying the Dysplasia - A Lesion by White-light vs Chromoendoscopy



# Displaying the Dysplasia - A Lesion by White-light vs Chromoendoscopy



# Flat, Non-polypoid, Distinct Borders, Endoscopically Resectable Lesion



# Finding Dysplasia –

## ?Colectomy with **invisible** LGD?

- 1) Referral to experienced IBD endoscopist for repeat endoscopy
- 2) If dysplasia *still invisible*, risk stratify to decide on **colectomy**

- Disease activity

- Risk factors for CRC

- ?Close endoscopic surveillance (q6 monthly-yearly) vs colectomy

*No studies comparing surveillance colonoscopy and colectomy for endoscopically invisible dysplasia*

Pooled data from studies over mean follow-up of 15–50 months

- **CRC developed in 7 out of 122 patients with LGD (6%, range 3%–9%)**

# ***Finding Dysplasia – Colectomy for invisible HGD***

Traditionally, **colectomy advised for invisible HGD**

? high rates of synchronous or metachronous cancer

? repeat colonoscopy by expert endoscopist

Using high-definition chromoendoscopy

Determine if lesion endoscopically visible and possibly resectable

## *Intestinal strictures*

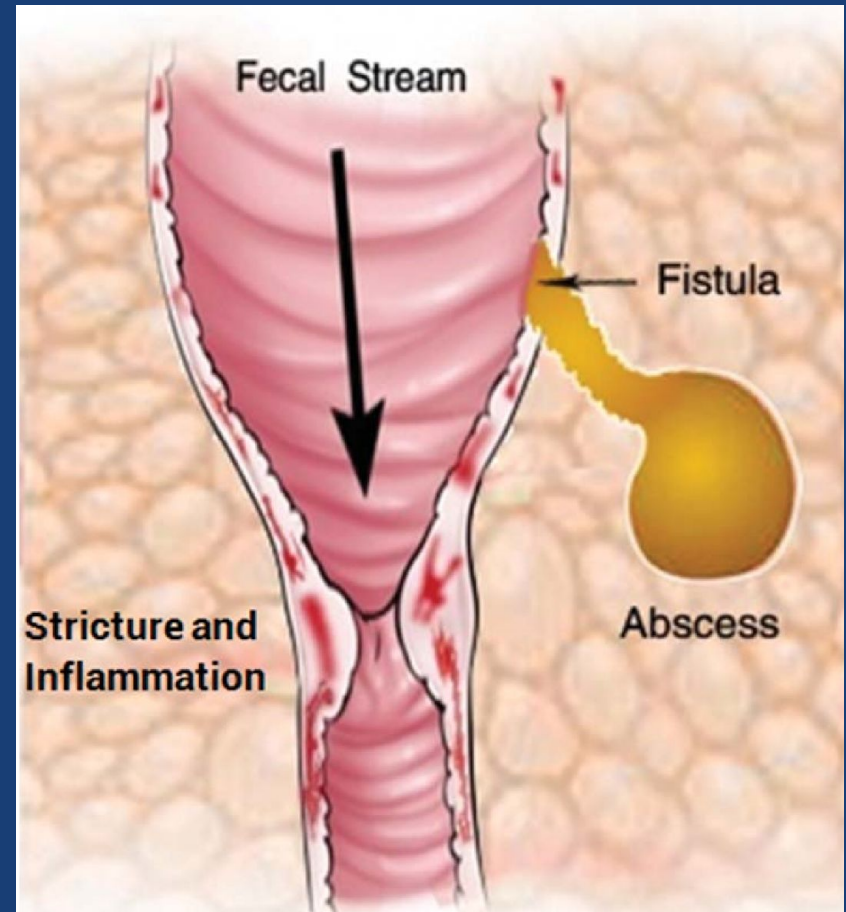
*Inflammatory*

*Fibrostenotic*

*Mixed type*

*May be associated with  
fistula*

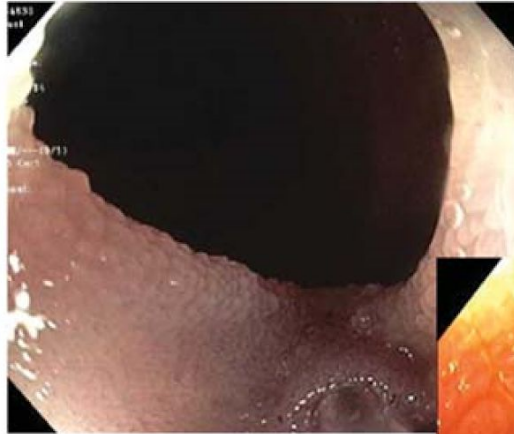
*To Dilate or Not...*



# Crohn's Strictures – Choosing the Right Lesion to Dilate

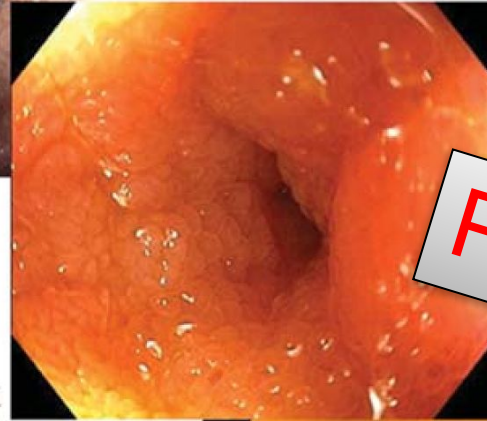
| <b>Strictures Amenable to Dilation</b>  | <b>Strictures <i>Less</i> Amenable to Dilation</b>  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Predominantly <b>fibrotic</b> stricture</li><li>• <b>Short stricture (&lt;4 cm)</b></li><li>• Benign stricture</li><li>• <b>Straight bowel lumen</b></li><li>• Stricture far from fistula opening</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Predominantly inflammatory stricture</li><li>• Long stricture (&gt;4 cm)</li><li>• Malignant stricture</li><li>• Angulated stricture</li><li>• Multiple strictures</li><li>• Stricture associated with abscess</li><li>• Stricture at fistula opening</li></ul> |

# Crohn's Strictures – Choosing the Right Lesion to Dilate



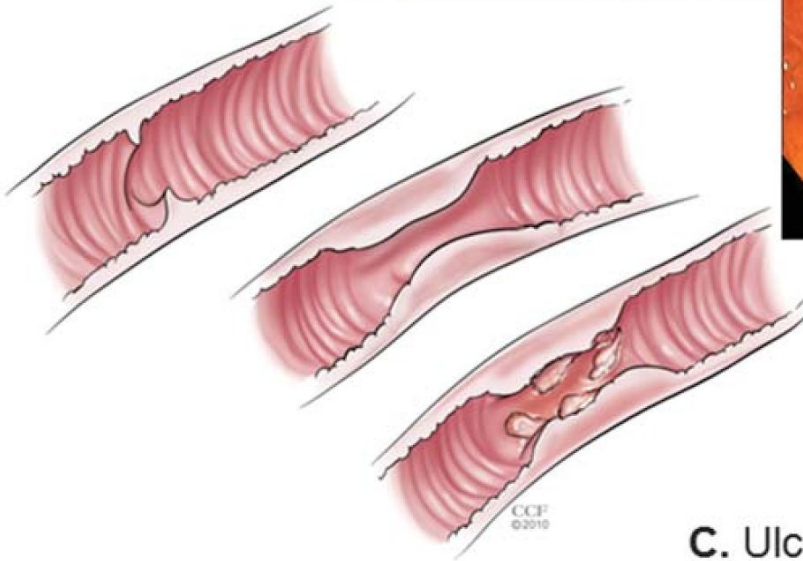
A. Web-like

Yes



B. Spindle-like

Probably Not



C. Ulcerated

Probably Not





**Review imaging, understand “road map”**

**Understand surgically altered anatomy**

**Sedation with monitored anesthesia care (MAC)**

**Equipment**

**Choice of scope**

**Carbon dioxide insufflation**

**Fluoroscopy (and radiology tech)**

**Guidewires**

**TTS radial expansion balloons – 5.5 cm and 8 cm options**

**Endoclips if hemostasis needed**

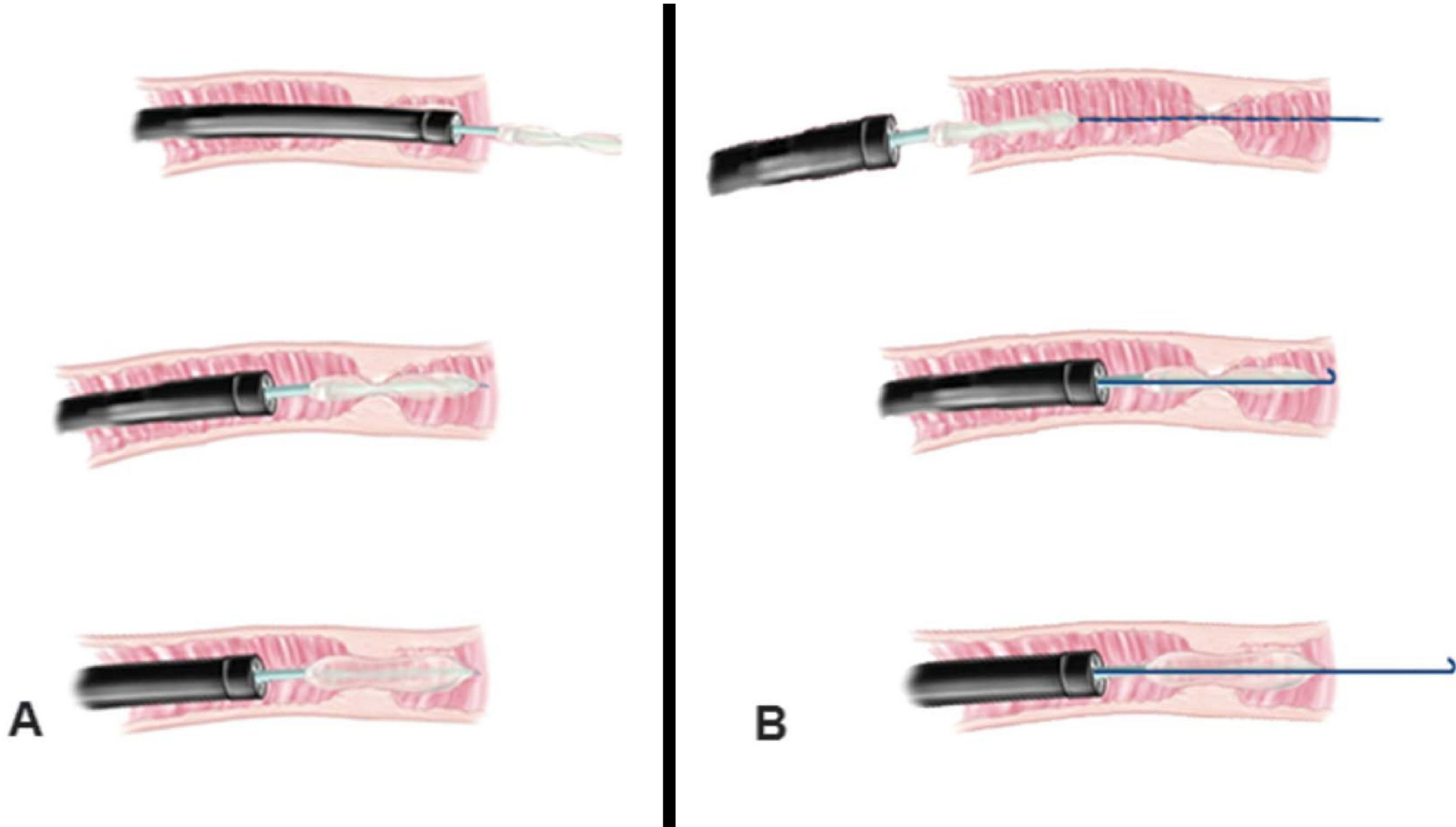
**Needle-knife and Doppler ultrasound**

# ***Perforation Risk with Endoscopic Balloon Dilation***

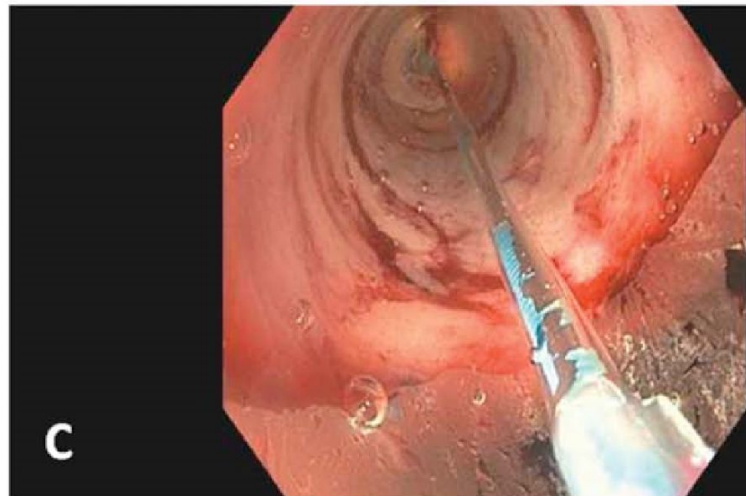
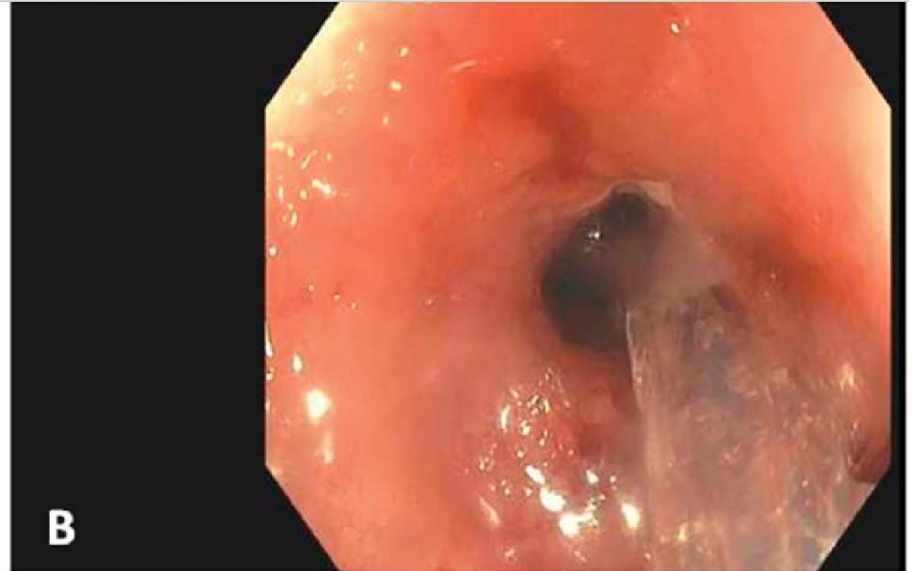
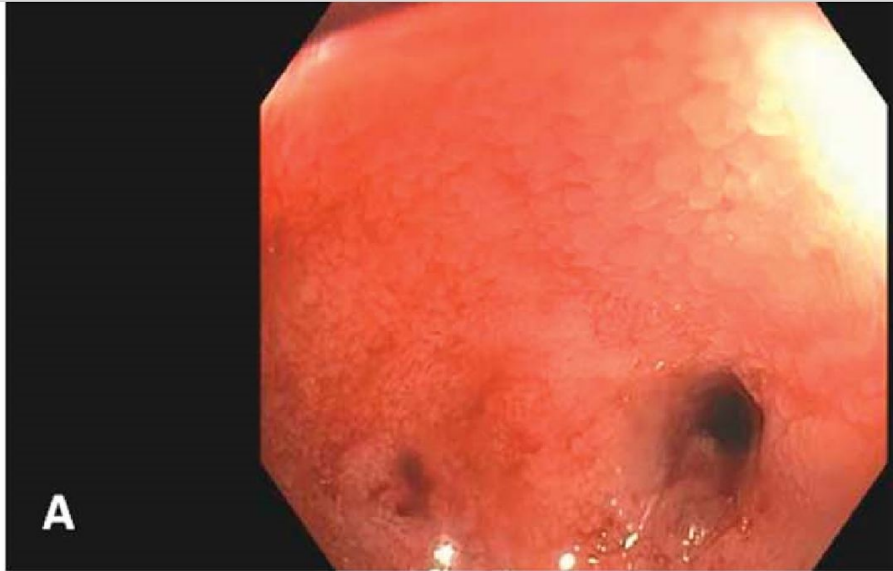
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- Overall perforation risk 2% - 10%
- Consider possible risk factors
  - Active mucosal inflammation
  - Corticosteroid use
  - Anastomotic strictures

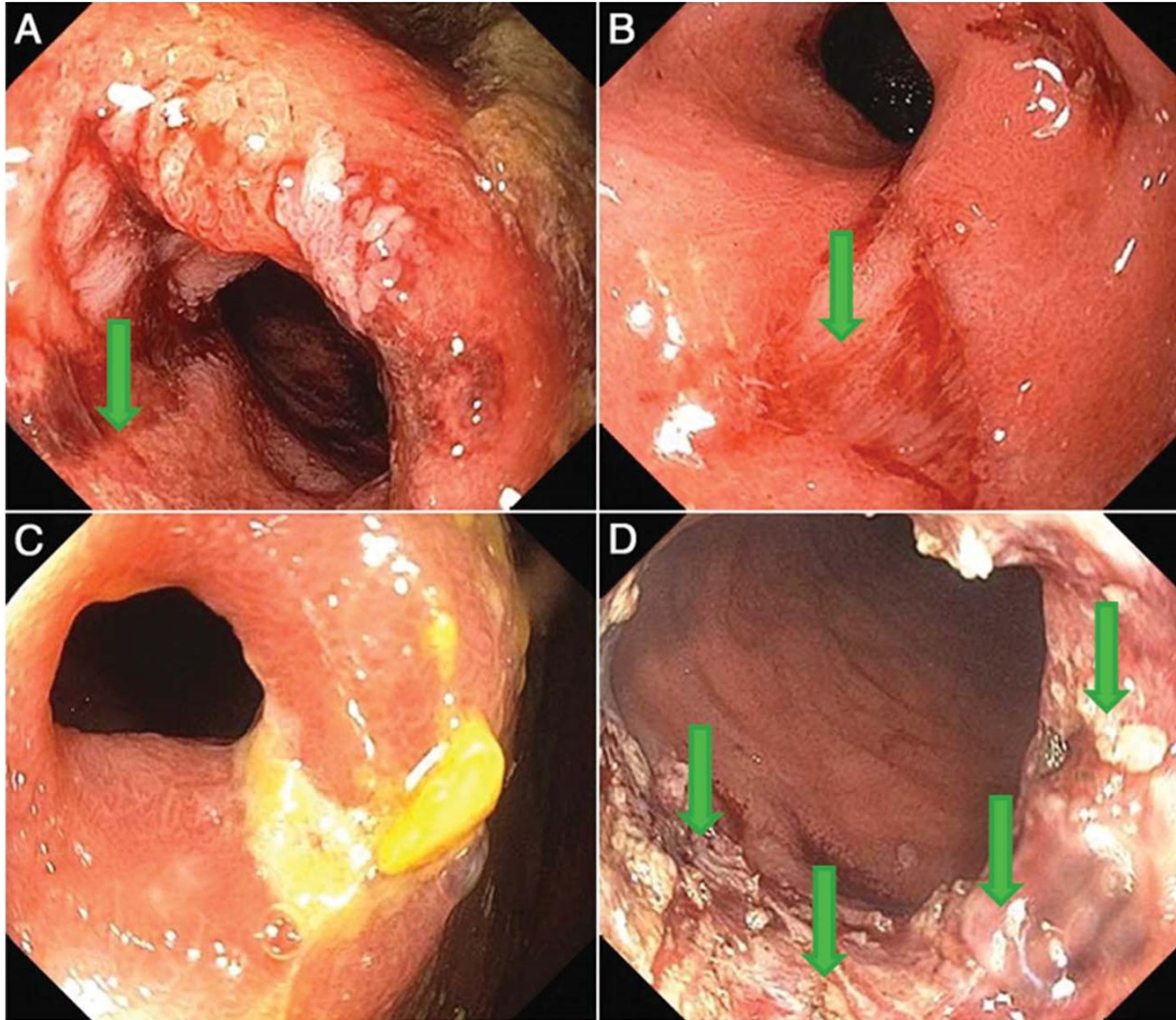
# Crohn's Strictures – Endoscopic Balloon Dilation



# Endoscopic Balloon Dilation – Watching Thru The Balloon



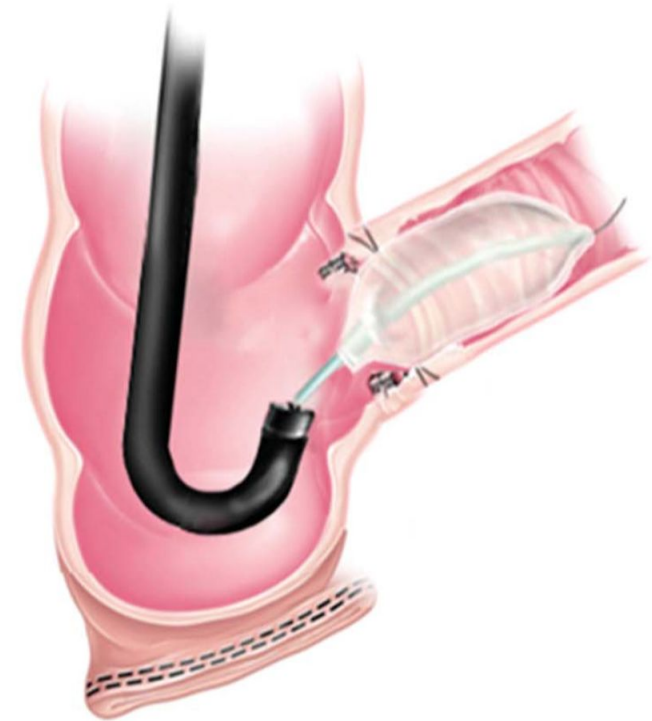
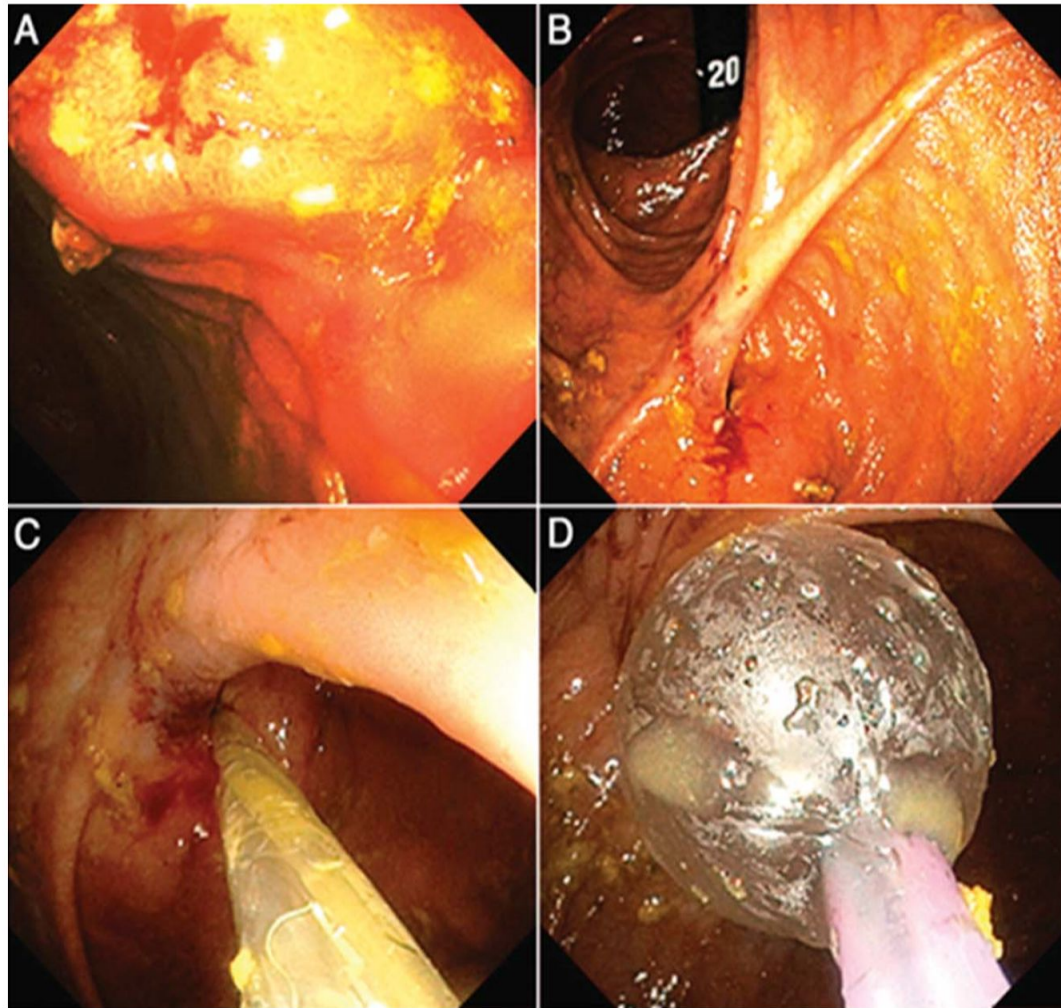
# Crohn's Strictures – Endoscopic Dilation & Stricturotomy



**A & B – Balloon Dilation**

**C & D – Before and After  
Needle-knife  
Stricturotomy**

# Balloon Dilation of Angulated Ileocolonic Anastomotic Stricture



E

Endoscopy as a tool to diagnose and differentiate types of inflammatory bowel disease

Endoscopy techniques to detect dysplasia

- White-light, high definition colonoscopy

- Chromoendoscopy

Endoscopy to remove dysplasia lesions

Endoscopy to treat Crohn's-related luminal strictures

- Risk stratify

- Prepare

- Know your tools, know your patient, know your lesion

***THANK YOU!***