IMAGES OF MEMORABLE CASES: CASE 120*

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External Image

Please see:

http://rup.rice.edu/memcases-button.jpg

Exercise 1 (Solution on p. 2.)



This 36-year-old man presented with a four-day history of severe epigastric pain following an alcoholic binge. His serum amylase level was 821 U/L, and an abdominal CT scan showed marked inflammatory changes in his pancreas, omentum, and surrounding mesentery.

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Solutions to Exercises in this Module

Solution to Exercise (p. 1): 120. Acute pancreatitis with Cullen's sign

In patients with acute pancreatitis, ecchymoses of the abdominal wall may appear near the midline anywhere from the umbilicus to the symphysis pubis (Cullen's sign). These ecchymoses, however, are not specific for pancreatitis, and in the absence of trauma and blood disorders, merely signal retroperitoneal or intra-abdominal hemorrhage.