

Clinical Image

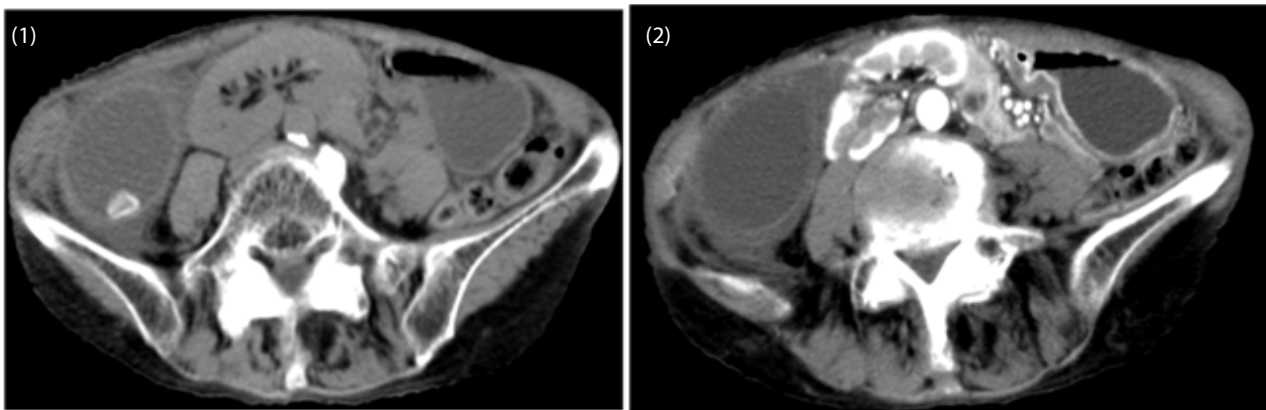
## Torsion of the Gallbladder

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**Figure 1:** Non-enhanced CT revealed a massively swollen gallbladder with high dense.

**Figure 2:** Transverse contrast enhanced CT demonstrated poorly-enhanced edematous gallbladder wall thickening.

**Keywords:** Gallbladder torsion; Computed tomography

An otherwise-healthy 82-year-old woman presented to the emergency department with abdominal pain gradually migrating to the right and vomiting. Her body temperature was 37.2°C, abdominal examination showed tenderness in the right lower abdomen, and her WBC was 8,400/ $\mu$ L no plasma levels of enzymes were elevated. She was thin (body mass index 20.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) with scoliosis. Non-enhanced Computed Tomography (CT) revealed a massively swollen gallbladder with high dense (Figure 1) and contrast enhanced CT demonstrated poorly-enhanced edematous wall thickening (Figure 2), with twisted pedicle detached from the liver, suggesting gallbladder torsion. Emergent cholecystectomy was performed, revealing a 270° counterclockwise torsion of the gallbladder. Gallbladder torsion is more prevalent in thin elderly females with spinal deformation [1]. Characteristic contrast enhanced CT findings are poorly-enhanced and thickened gallbladder wall, pericholecystic fluid, and twisted pedicle (whirl sign) [2]. Contrast enhanced CT can help establish the preoperative diagnosis of gallbladder torsion in cases involving elderly females complaining abdominal pain.

### References

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2. Reilly DJ, Kalogeropoulos G, Thiruchelvam D (2012) Torsion of the gallbladder: a systematic review. *HPB (Oxford)* 14: 669-672.

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