

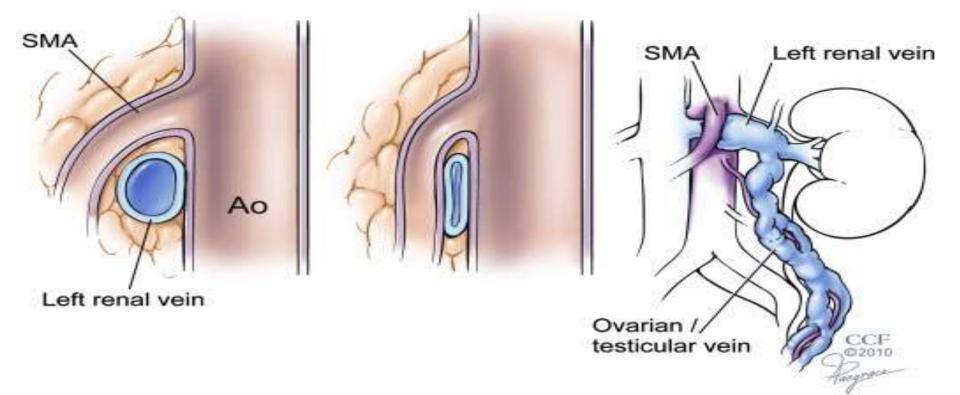


#### DEFINITION

Entrapment of the left renal vein (LRV) between the abdominal aorta and superior mesenteric artery (SMA).

Normal

Renal Vein Compression











• The true prevalence of Nutcracker syndrome remains unknown.















# ETIOLOGY

- Narrow aorto mesenteric angle
- Abnormally low or lateral origin of SMA
- Excessive fibrous tissue at the origin of SMA
- Stretching of LRV over the aorta
- Abnormal branching of the superior mesenteric artery from the aorta.

### **ETIOLOGY**

- Abnormal posterior ptosis of the left kidney
- Asthenic body habitus
- Lack of retroperitoneal fat
- Wasting of paraspinal muscle





#### **PATHOPHYSIOLOGY**

- Due to etiological factors
- Compression of the left renal vein
- Venous ruptures of the collecting system or between dilated venous sinuses and adjacent renal calyces
- Increased left renal vein pressure
- LRV hypertension
- Development of manifestations

### **CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

- Haematuria
- Anemia
- Abdominal pain (left flank or pelvic pain)
- Since the left gonad drains via the left renal vein it can also result in left testicular varicocele

## **CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

- Nausea and vomiting can result due to compression of the splanchnic veins.
- Varicose veins in the lower limbs.





### **DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATIONS**

- Urinalysis
- Blood investigations
- Venography
- Doppler ultrasound measurements of the anteriorposterior (A-P) diameter and peak velocities of the left renal vein may be helpful in diagnosing nutcracker syndrome

### **DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATIONS**

- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and MR angiography may also demonstrate the compression of the left renal vein between the superior mesenteric artery and the aorta.
- USG- left renal vein stenosis
- CT and CT angiography are other noninvasive modalities that can demonstrate compression of the left renal vein in the aortomesenteric angle.

## **MANAGEMENT**

- Symptomatic management
- **✓** Analgesics
- ✓ Anti emetics
- ✓ Treating anemia



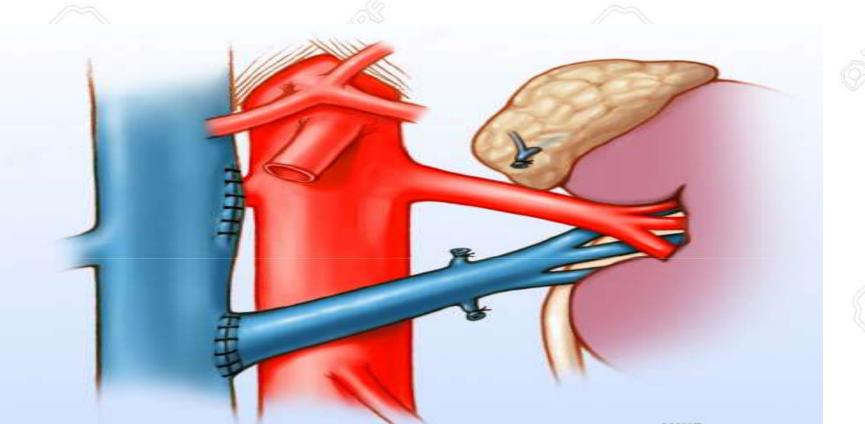






# **SURGICAL MANAGEMENT**

- Left renal vein transposition
- Superior mesenteric artery transposition

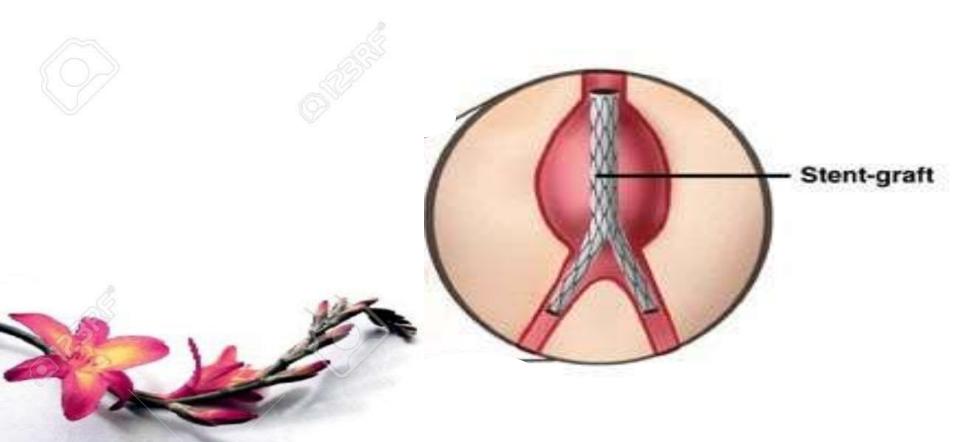




# **SURGICAL MANAGEMENT**



• Endovascular stent-graft placement



# **SURGICAL MANAGEMENT**

- Nephrectomy
- Nephropexy-Nephropexy is the surgical fixation of a floating or mobile kidney (Nephroptosis)
- Renal vein bypass grafting





## COMPLICATION

Renal vein thrombosis

Cessation of kidney functions





## CONCLUSION

The Nutcracker syndrome is a rare condition, but is certainly underdiagnosed. It should be considered when patients present with left flank pain and hematuria, or pelvic congestion syndrome, or both.





