

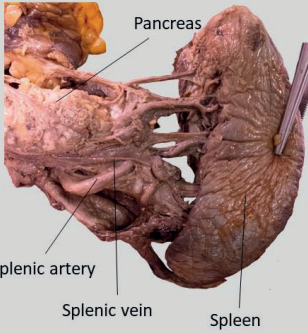
# A photographic exploration of an abdominopelvic dissection

By: Antonina Tcacenco Stage1 GEM

The abdominopelvic cavity extends from the diaphragm superiorly, to the termination of the gastrointestinal tract inferiorly. It holds large vessels including the abdominal aorta and inferior vena cava and contains a vast nerve supply by both the sympathetic and parasympathetic systems. This poster serves as a brief introduction to abdominopelvic vascular and nerve supply.

## Spleen

As a highly vascular organ, it receives its blood supply from splenic artery of the coeliac trunk, running laterally along the superior aspect of the pancreas, within the splenorenal ligament. The splenic vein also runs along the pancreas, after which it joins with the mesenteric veins. The splenic artery also supplies the body of the pancreas and the greater curvature of the stomach through the left gastroepiploic artery. The spleen receives its innervation from the celiac plexus



Liver

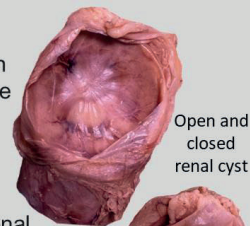


## Liver

The hepatic portal vein transfers blood into the liver for filtration. It runs close the hepatic arteries which contribute oxygenated and nutrient rich blood and close to the common bile duct. The hepatic vein returns deoxygenated blood into the inferior vena cava.

## Tumours

A large multi-lobular tumour of unknown origin, with blood supply from the portal vein and gastric arteries was found posterior to the pancreas, causing variation in vasculature of that area.

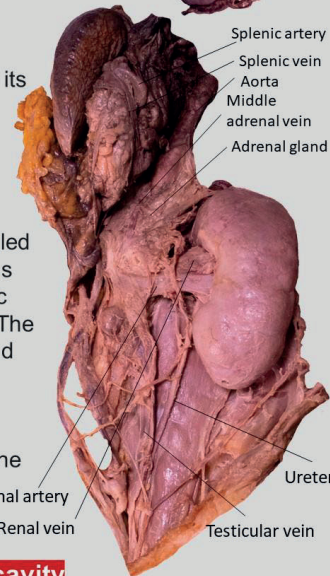


## Renal cysts

A fluid filled, thin walled renal cyst was found on the left kidney. Renal cysts are usually benign and asymptomatic but when significant in size can cause space occupying lesions which can be diagnosed using ultrasound.

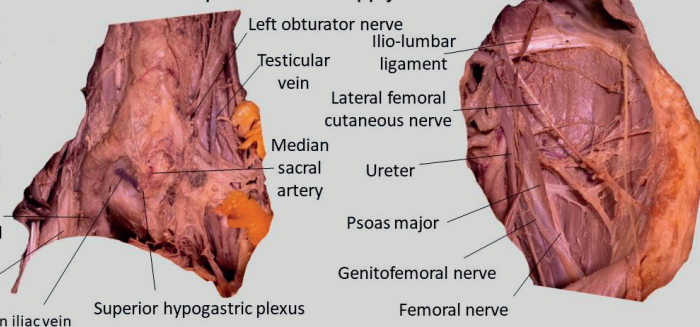
## Kidneys

Each kidney gets its vascular supply directly from the aorta and drains into the inferior vena cava. Their filtration is controlled by the renal plexus of the sympathetic nervous system. The gonadal artery and vein can also be seen arising from the aorta and posterior part of the renal vein respectively.



## Pelvic cavity

The pelvic vasculature begins at the branching of the inferior vena cava and aorta into the common iliac veins and arteries respectively. The start of the lumbosacral trunk, running anterior along the psoas muscle and the femoral nerve posteriorly, serve as some of the main pelvic nerve supply.



## Mesenteries

Beneath a layer of reflected peritoneum, there is an extensive vascular network, essential for nutrient collection from the gut. The marginal artery forms an anastomosis between the superior and inferior mesenteric arteries. The superior and inferior mesenteric veins join with the splenic vein to form the hepatic portal vein. The mesenteric branching into internal and external iliac arteries can be seen overlying the abdominal aorta.

