



# **Congenital extrahepatic porto-systemic shunt: a case report**

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# Case report

- 15-year-old female referred for abdominal pain of 5 months
- Medical history:
  - Splenectomy for an unknown reason at 4 months of age
  - Repair of atrial septal defect at 8 months of age
- No clinical evidence of jaundice or icterus
- Suspected mass in LUQ

# Complete blood count

- WBC: 6 100/uL with normal differential
- RBC: 4.3 million/uL
- Hg: 11 g/dL
- Ht: 34%
- MCV: 79 fL
- Platelets: 247 000/mm<sup>3</sup>
- Ferritin: 11 ng/mL

# Liver function tests

- TB 0.58 mg/dL
- DB 0.2 mg/dL
- AST: 24 units/L
- ALT: 18 units/L
- ALP: 562 units/L (normal: < 279)
- Albumin: 4.33 g/dL
- PTT 41 sec
- INR 1.28
- Ammonia: 87 mcg/dL (normal: 19 – 82 for women)

# UGI endoscopy

- **UGI endoscopy:**

Absence of esophageal or fundic varices

Severe antral congestion

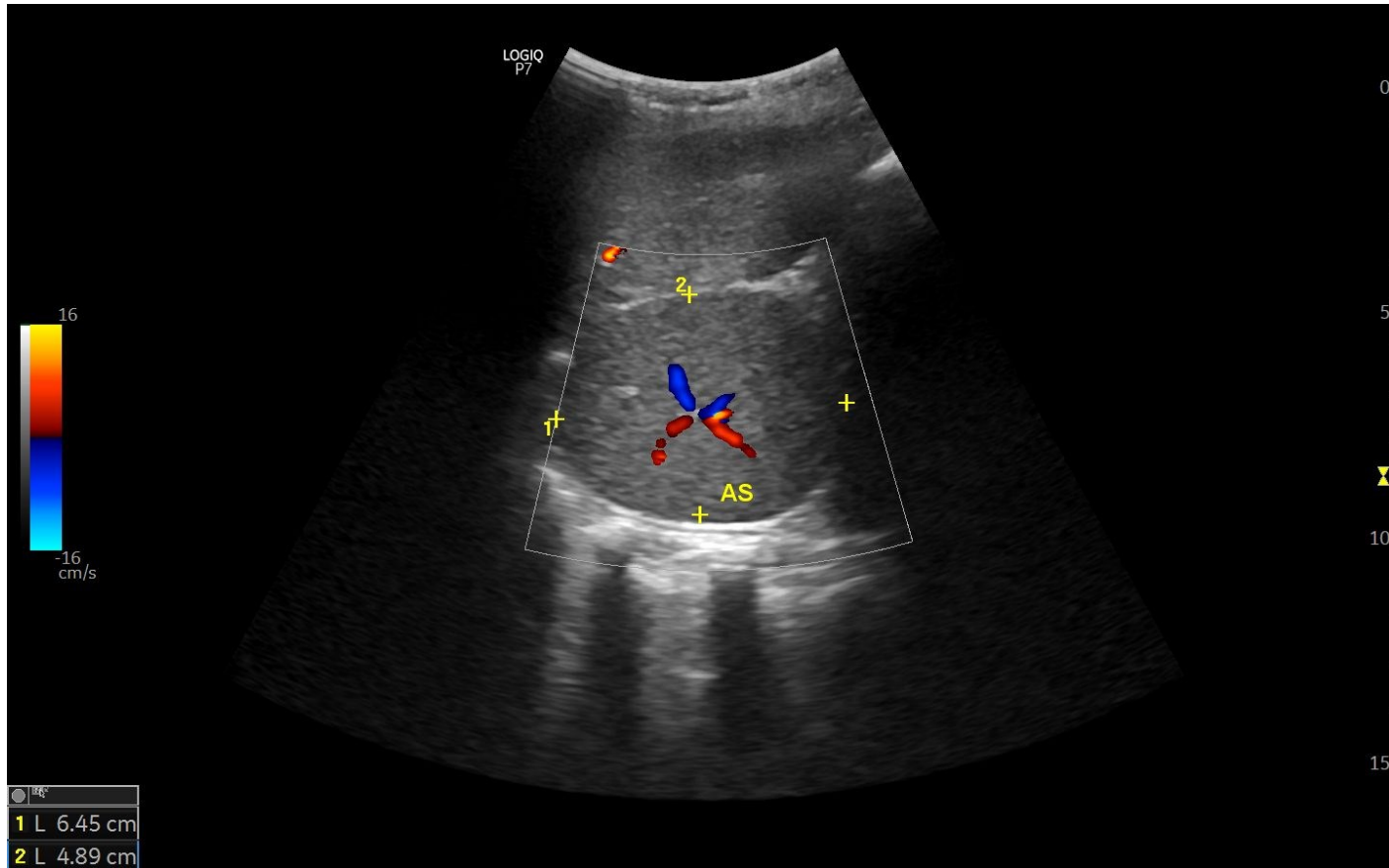
- **Biopsies:**

Stomach: Chronic gastritis, *Helicobacter pylori* positive

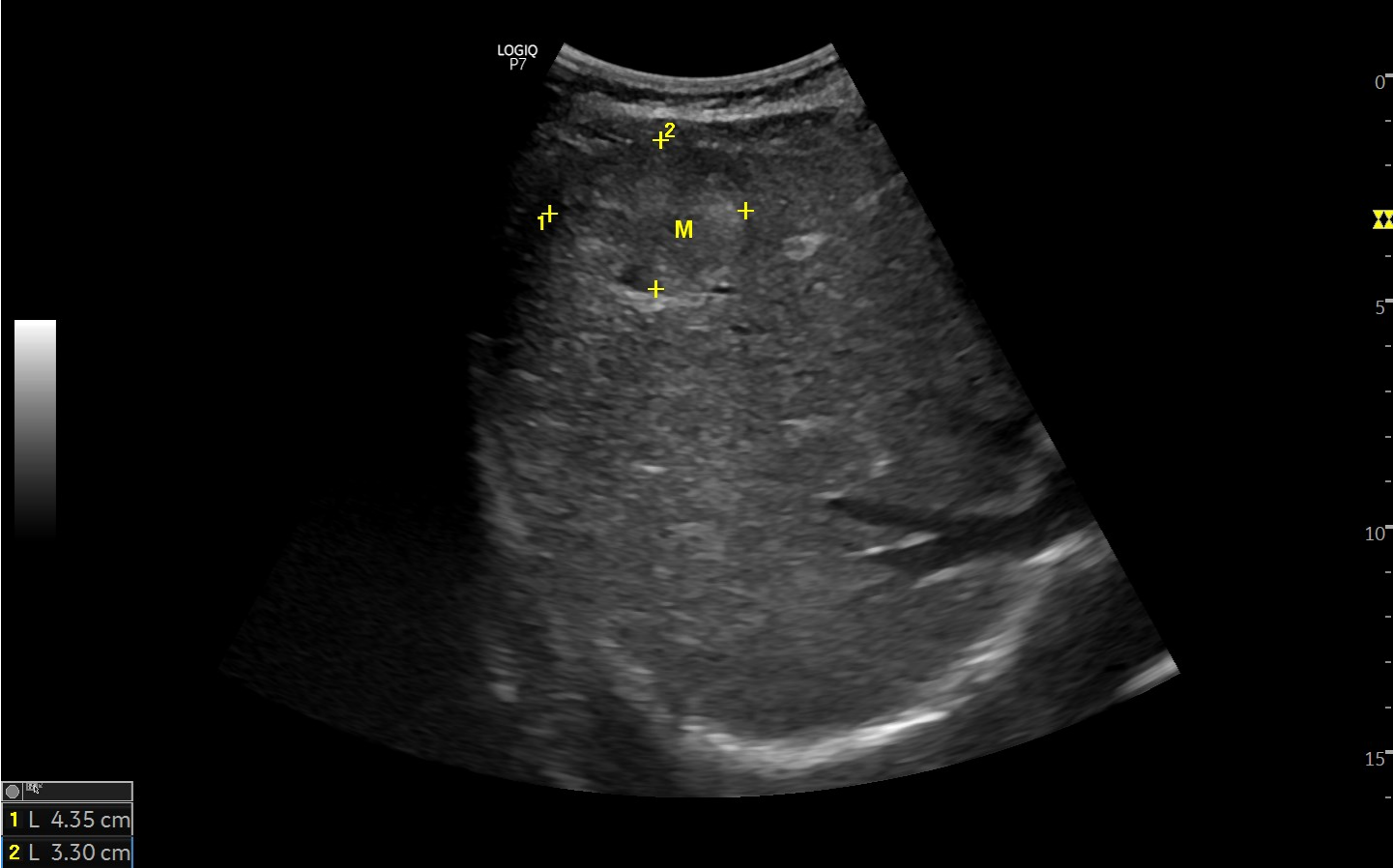
Duodenum: Nonspecific inflammatory changes

No signs of celiac disease

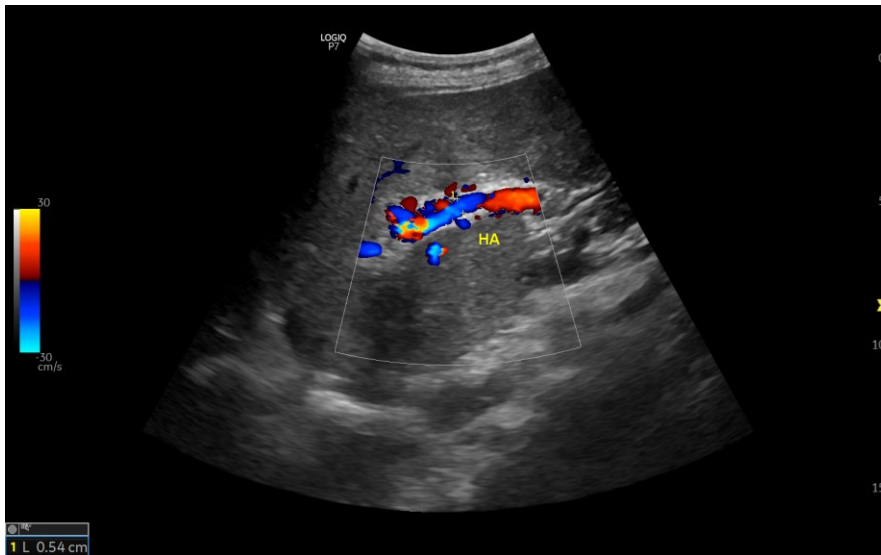
# Accessory spleen in RUQ



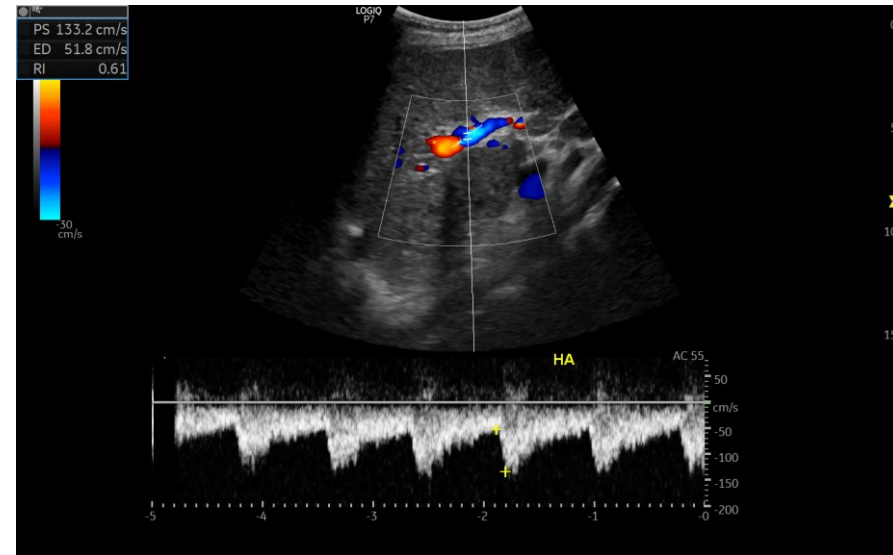
# Nodular hepatic lesion on US



# Doppler ultrasound of porta hepatis



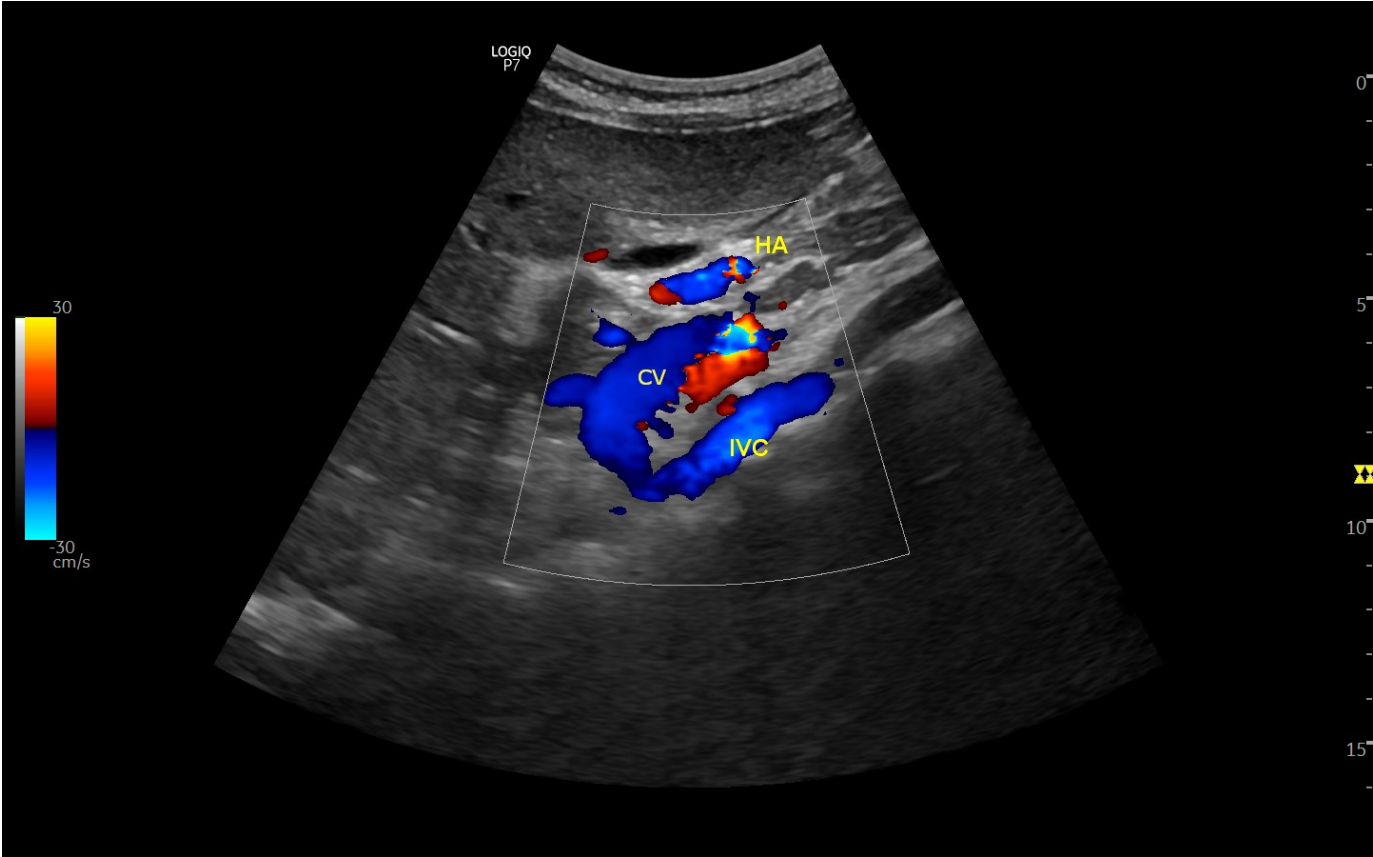
Absence of portal vein  
Tiny venules in porta hepatis  
Dilated hepatic artery (5.4 mm)



Pulsed Doppler of hepatic artery  
Normal resistive index: 0.61

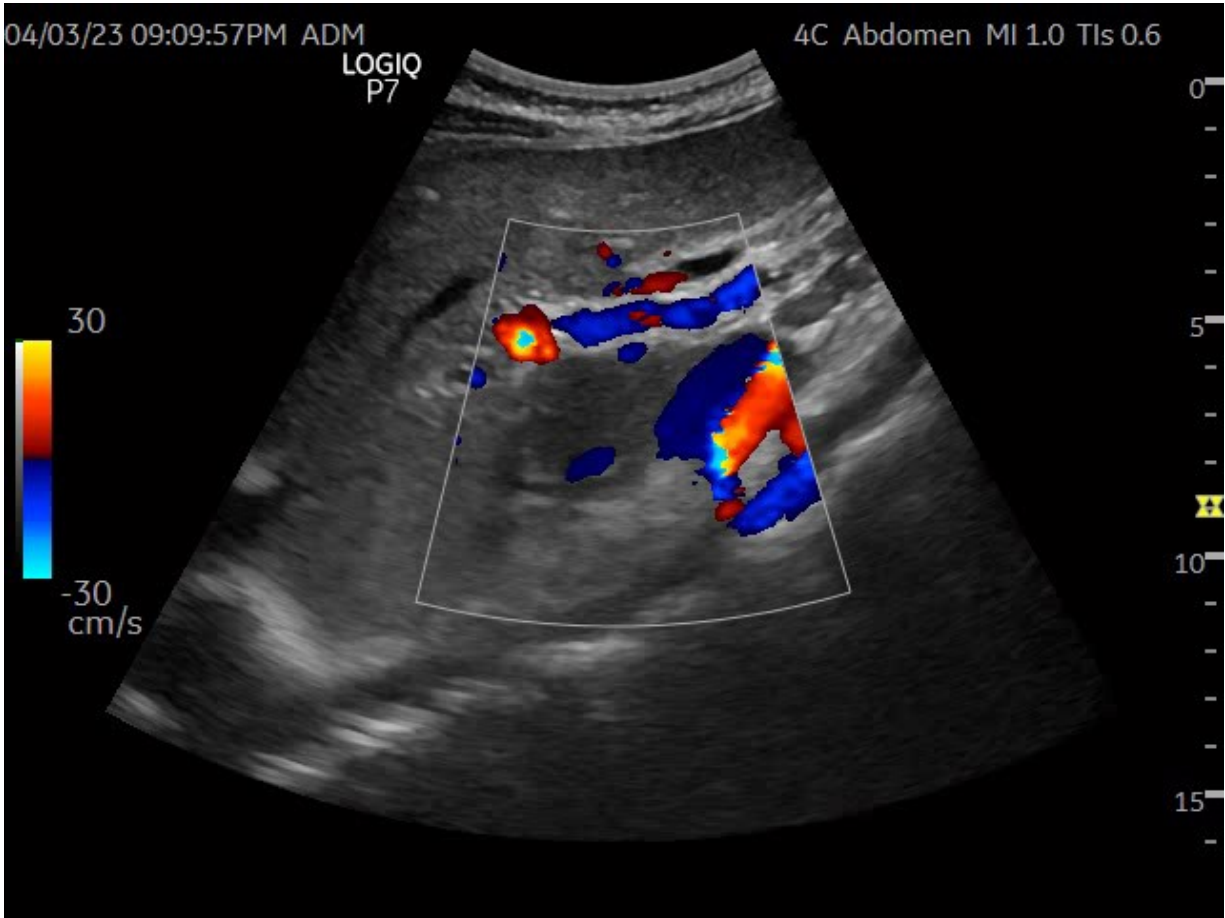


# Abdominal color Doppler ultrasound



Venous trunk drained into IVC

# Venous trunk drained into IVC



# Contrast-Enhanced Computed Tomography

## Oblique view



Splenic vein & superior mesenteric vein form common trunk (star)  
which drains into IVC

# Contrast-Enhanced Computed Tomography

## Axial view



Inferior vena cava draining into azygos vein  
which continues behind right crus of diaphragm

# Contrast-Enhanced Computed Tomography

## Reconstruction of abdominal venous system



Abernethy malformation type Ib  
Drainage of IVC into azygos vein

# Cardiac Ultrasound

- Normal mobility & volume of left ventricle
- Ejection fraction: 65%
- Moderate Tricuspid valve stenosis  
Pressure of 19 mm/Hg and median of 14 mm/Hg
- Closed atrial septal defect (ASD)
- Normal pulmonary valve
- Normal aortic arch

# Abernethy malformation

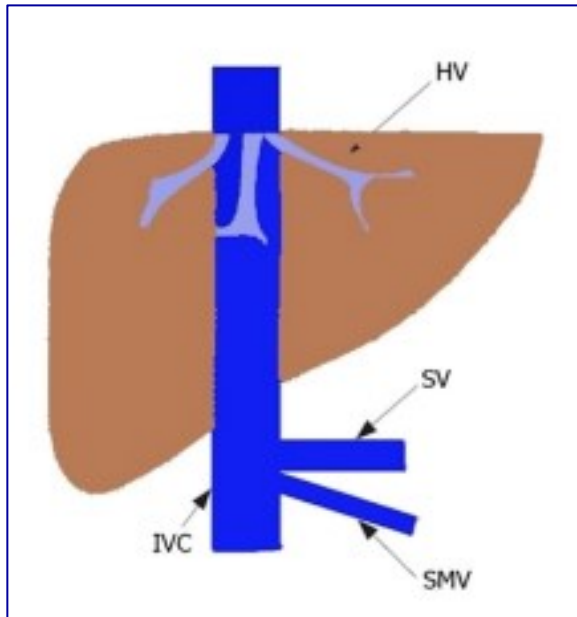
## Congenital extrahepatic portosystemic shunt

- First reported by John Abernethy in 1793
- Rare: less than 300 cases reported in literature
- Associated with several congenital anomalies  
Associated with multiple nodular liver lesions
- Spectrum of clinical variants: completely asymptomatic to severe forms of HE, hepatopulmonary syndrome & pulmonary arterial hypertension

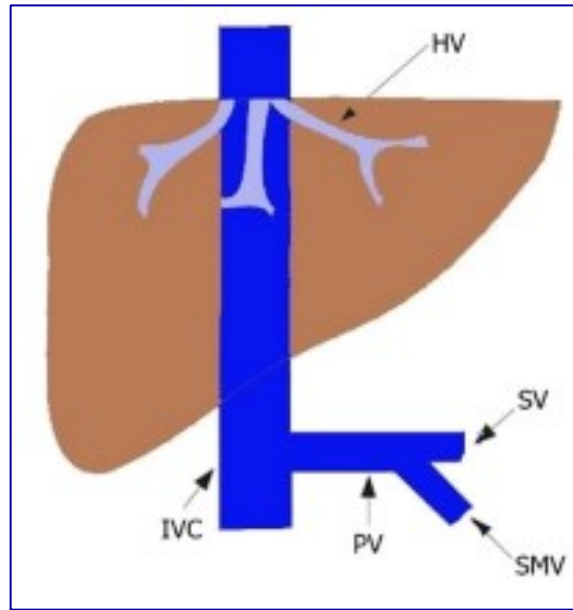
# Classification of Abernethy malformation

## Morgan & Superina classification

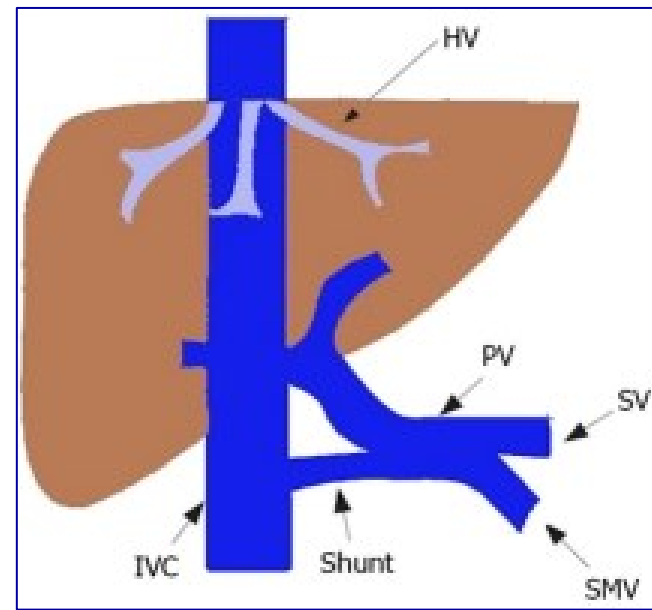
Type Ia



Type Ib



Type II





# Concomitant cardiac abnormalities

## Most common

- Atrial septal defect (ASD)
- Ventricular septal defect
- Patent foramen ovale
- Dextrocardia
- Patent ductus arteriosus
- Tetralogy of Fallot

# Concomitant hepatobiliary abnormalities

<b>Hepatic abnormalities</b>	<b>Nodular liver lesions</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biliary atresia</li><li>• Choledochal cyst</li><li>• Caroli's disease</li><li>• Congenital hepatic fibrosis</li><li>• Intrahepatic gallbladder</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focal nodular hyperplasia</li><li>• Hepatic adenoma</li><li>• Nodular regenerative hyperplasia</li><li>• Hemangioma</li><li>• Hepatoblastoma</li><li>• Hepatocellular carcinoma</li></ul>

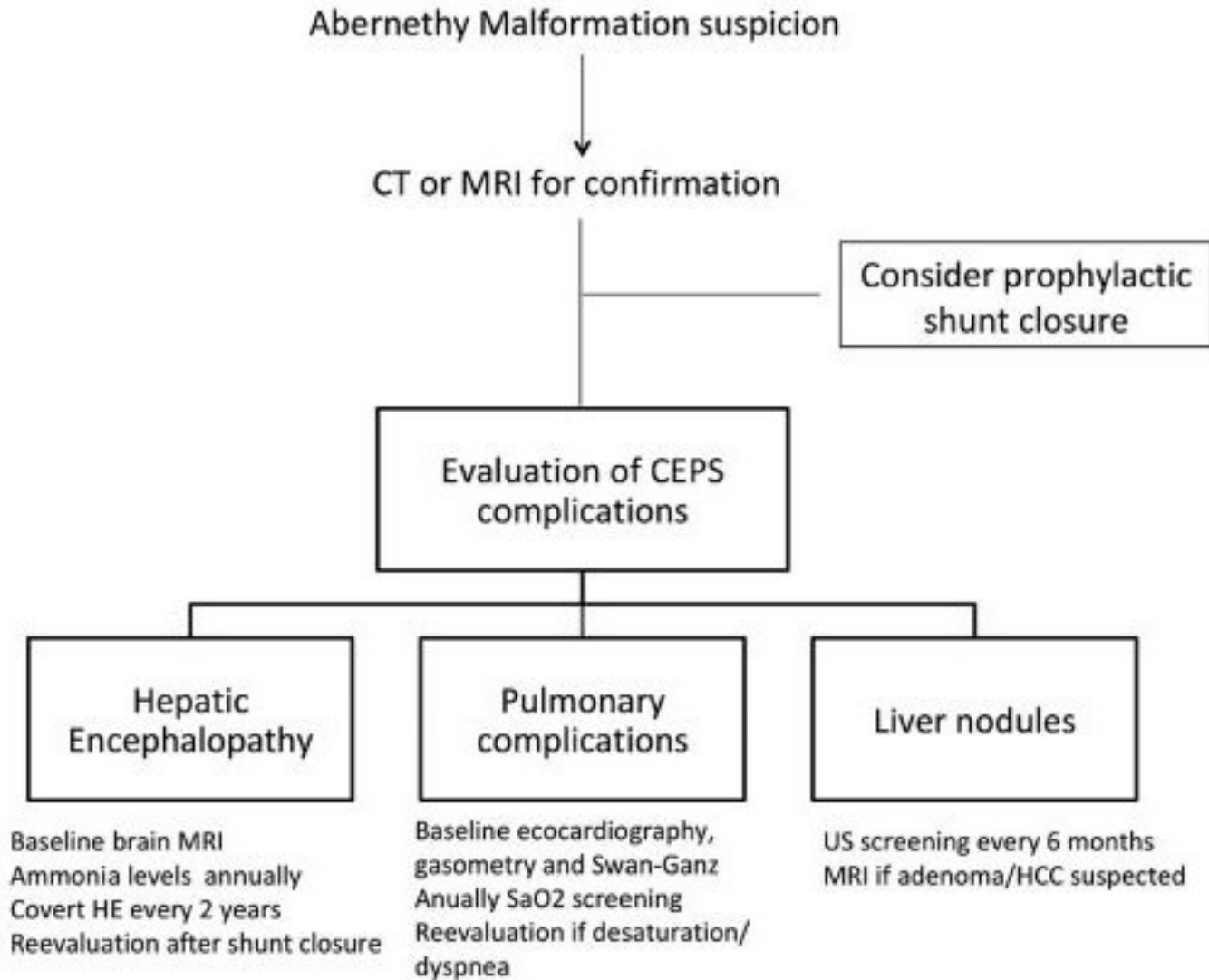
# Concomitant gastrointestinal anomalies

- Esophageal atresia
- Tracheoesophageal fistula
- Intestinal malrotation
- Anal atresia

# Concomitant vascular abnormalities

- Agenesis or double IVC
- Azygos/hemiazygos continuation of inferior vena cava
- Double aortic arch
- Pulmonary artery stenosis

# Management algorithm



# Conclusion

- Abernathy malformations could be suspected by abdominal color Doppler ultrasound
- CEUS or MRI is recommended to confirm the diagnosis and to detect other congenital malformations

# Thank You

