

Encapsulating Peritoneal Sclerosis

- Rare but serious condition characterized by the encasement of bowel loops within a thick fibrocollagenous peritoneal membrane, resulting in so-called "cocooning" of the intestines.
- Non-malignant
- Can be idiopathic
- Secondary due to:
 - continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (prevalence ~0.7%)
 - tuberculosis
 - peritoneovenous or ventriculoperitoneal shunts
 - treatment with Practolol

CT

- Diagnostic of sclerosing encapsulating peritonitis.
 - Entire dilated small bowel at the center of the abdomen and encased within a thick fibrocollagenous membrane, as though it were in a cocoon
- Other imaging findings may include:
 - Enhancing peritoneum, thickened >2 mm
 - Signs of small intestinal obstruction
 - Fixation of intestinal loops
 - Ascites or localized fluid collections (especially interbowel)
 - Bowel wall thickening
 - Peritoneal or mural calcification
 - Calcified and/or reactive adenopathy

