SECTION EDITOR: SAMIR S. SHAH, MD, MSCE

Picture of the Month

Fran Balamuth, MD, PhD; Naomi Balamuth, MD; Monika Goyal, MD

A 9-MONTH-OLD PREVIOUSLY HEALTHY INfant presented to our emergency department with an episode of gagging with feeds. His parents reported that he had been well until the day of admission and had noted gagging with his dinner that evening, with 1 subsequent episode of nonbilious, nonbloody emesis. He had no fever, cough, rhinorrhea, respiratory distress, or excessive drooling. He had been gaining weight well, and there was no history of head trauma. The child had several toddler and preschool-aged siblings at home; thus, a concern for foreign body ingestion was raised.

On physical examination, the child was afebrile with stable vital signs. He was playful and interactive. No foreign body was noted on examination of the oropharynx, and no excessive drooling was noted. The neck was supple without lymphadenopathy. Lungs were clear to auscultation, with no cough, stridor, or wheeze. Cardiac examination was unremarkable. The abdomen was soft, without tenderness, distension, masses, or organomegaly. Genitourinary examination revealed a circumcised boy with bilaterally descended testes; no hernias were noted.

Because of the history of possible foreign body ingestion, chest and abdominal radiography were performed (**Figure**, A). Ultrasonography and computed tomographic (CT) scan were subsequently performed based on the results of the radiographs (Figure, B-D).

Author Affiliations: Department of Emergency Medicine (Drs F. Balamuth and Goyal) and Division of Oncology (Dr N. Balamuth), The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia.

See http://www.archpediatrics.org for the Picture of the Month Web Quiz: What is your diagnosis?

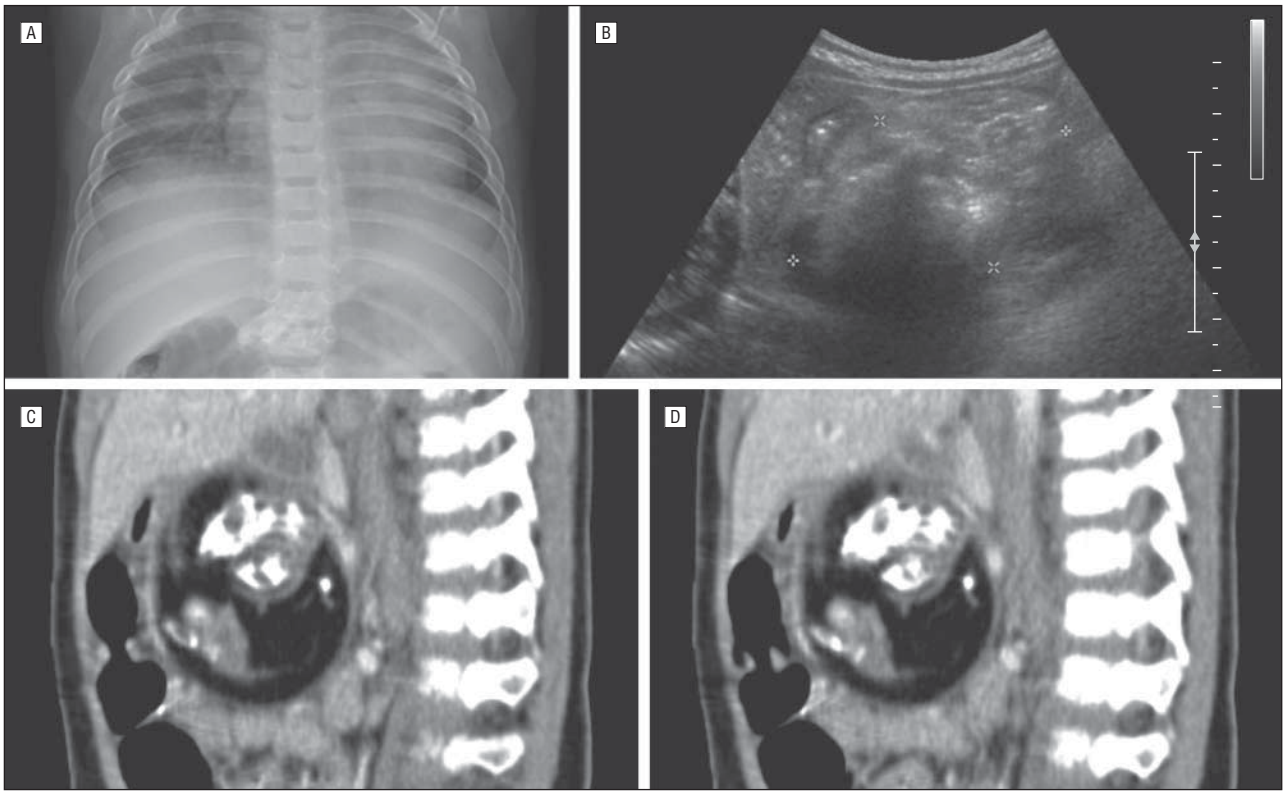

Figure. A, The initial radiograph. B, An image from the patient's ultrasonography of the abdomen. C and D, Two representative saggital image slices from the computed tomographic scan of the abdomen.