A Clear Diagnosis of Intussusception of the Appendix

K. M. Reddy, M. J. Lamparelli,
S. S. Mudan, R. J. Leicester,
M. J. Knight

Department of Surgery,
St. George's Hospital,
London, UK

Corresponding Author

M. J. Knight, M.S., F.R.C.S.
Consultant Surgeon
St. George's Hospital
London SW17 0QT
UK
Fax: +44-181-672-8114

Intussusception of the appendix is a rare condition (0.01% of specimens) which can cause diagnostic difficulty, and lead to prolonged investigation of vague abdominal symptoms. Non-filling of the appendix and a coiled appearance at the caecum is suggestive of the diagnosis. In this young woman, a barium enema showed a caecal polyp (Figure 1), but the correct diagnosis of appendiceal intussusception was made by colonoscopy (Figure 2), obviating further investigation. The specimen contained a focus of endometriosis.