A Clear Diagnosis of Intussusception of the Appendix

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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.