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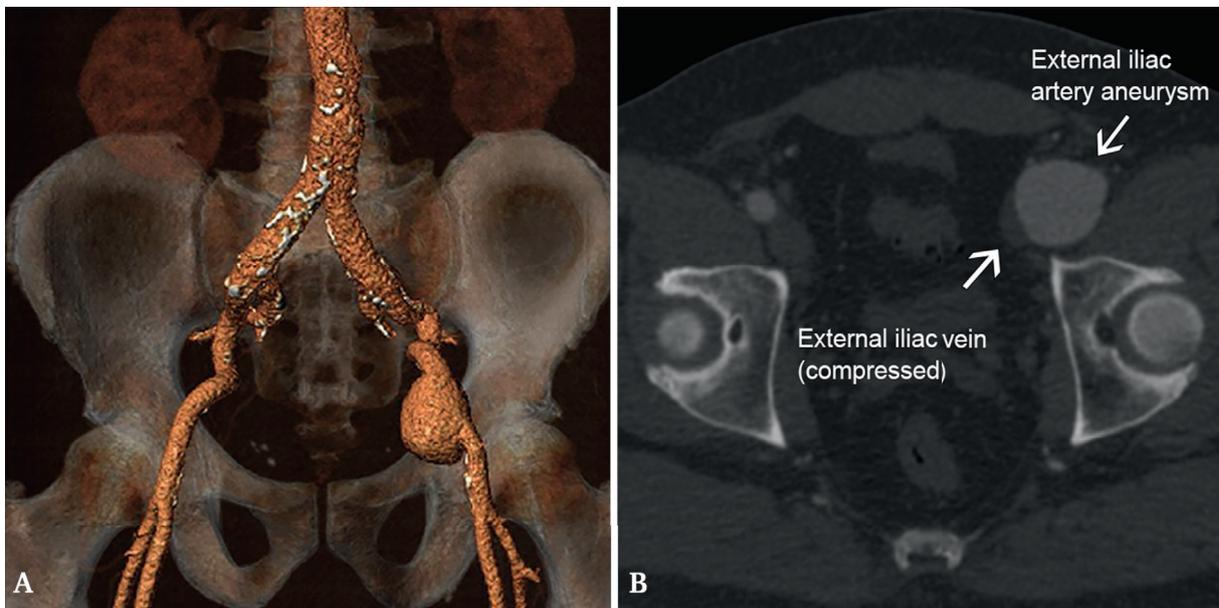
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COUP D'OEIL

External Iliac Artery Aneurysm Causing Severe Venous Obstruction

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A 65 year old otherwise healthy man was admitted with a swollen left leg of three weeks' duration. Treatment by his general practitioner with antibiotics, diuretics, and steroids was unsuccessful. Imaging showed no signs of deep vein thrombosis (DVT), but revealed a 3.5 cm external iliac artery aneurysm with severe iliac venous obstruction (A, B). He was treated by aneurysm excision and tube graft replacement via a retroperitoneal approach. Recovery was uneventful and his oedema resolved completely within three weeks. True isolated external iliac artery aneurysm is extremely rare, with only a dozen cases described in the literature to date. Although rare, they may mimic DVT or May–Thurner syndrome.

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