

# Treat the patient, not the radiograph

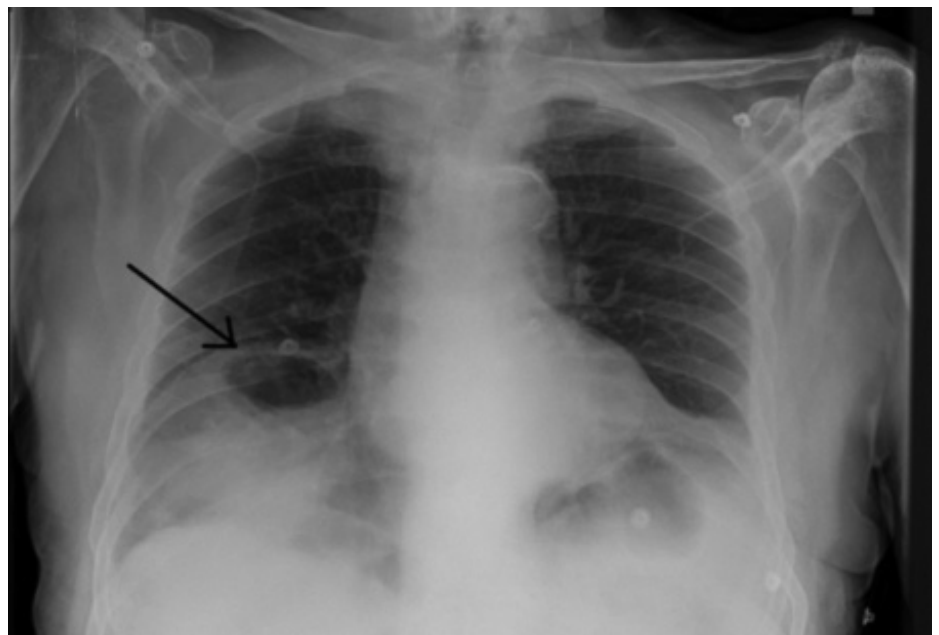
**A** 99-year-old man was admitted to the hospital with a history of transient loss of consciousness and no history of abdominal pain. An upright anterior posterior view of the chest radiograph showed haustra with gas (*Figure 1*), suggestive of large intestinal interposition between the liver and right hemidiaphragm, described as Chilaiditi sign.

Chilaiditi sign is a benign and incidental

radiographic finding that could potentially be mistaken for pneumoperitoneum (presence of air in the peritoneal cavity). It was first described in 1910 by Dr Demetrius Chilaiditi, an Ottoman radiologist.

Clinicians' knowledge of Chilaiditi sign and a high index of suspicion can prevent patients from undergoing needless investigations and unnecessary surgical interventions. [BJHM](#)

**Figure 1.** Chest radiograph showing haustra with gas suggestive of bowel interposition between the liver and right hemidiaphragm (arrow).



**Dr M Ragupathy**, General Practice Vocational Training Scheme Trainee, Department of Health & Ageing, Conquest Hospital, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex

**Dr B Pun**, Trust Grade Senior House Officer, Department of Health & Ageing, Conquest Hospital, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex

**Dr A El Yasaky**, Specialty Registrar, Department of Health & Ageing, Conquest Hospital, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex

**Dr MJH Rahmani**, Consultant Physician, Department of Health & Ageing, Conquest Hospital, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN37 7RD

Correspondence to Dr MJH Rahmani ([m.rahmani3@nhs.net](mailto:m.rahmani3@nhs.net))