Soft-tissue case 50. Presentation

An 81-year-old woman complained of abdominal bloating, lower abdominal discomfort and no bowel movements for several days. She had had an episode of acute diverticulitis 1 year earlier, and a barium enema had confirmed the presence of severe diverticular disease. Endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography 8 months previously had demonstrated a cholecystoduodenal fistula but no gallstones. She had not undergone any abdominal surgery and had been relatively well for the past 8 months.

Abdominal radiographs were consistent with partial bowel obstruction. Computed tomography of the abdomen (Fig. 1) contributed to the diagnosis.

Can you make the diagnosis? For the answer and a discussion of the diagnosis see page 152.



FIG. 1.

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