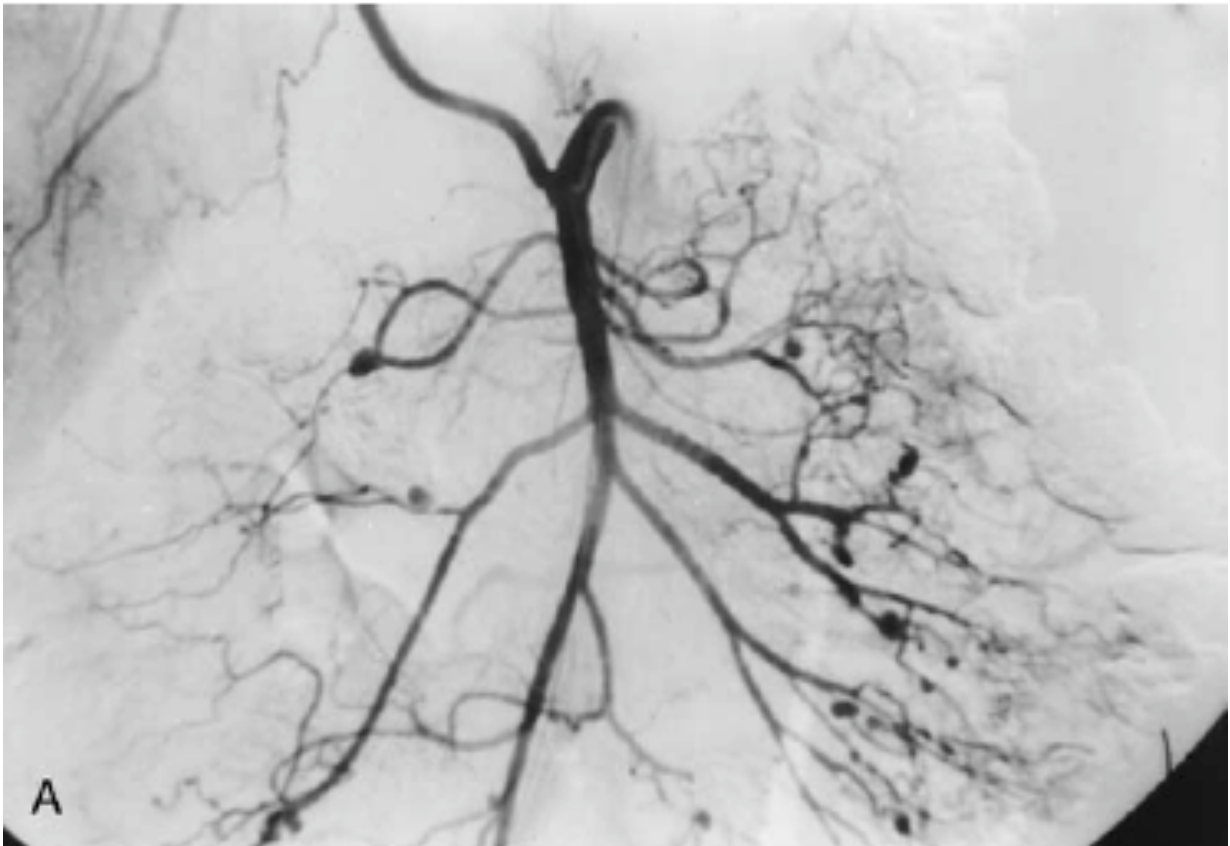


## 20. Vasculitis

### Learning Objectives and Summary



Superior mesenteric artery angiogram demonstrating abnormal vasculature typical of Polyarteritis nodosa, a medium vessel vasculitis

## 20. Vasculitis

### Learning objectives:

1. To understand the classification of vasculitis
2. To understand the pathophysiology of the inflammatory response that results in the pathology of vasculitis.
3. To understand that the clinical manifestations of vasculitis are determined by the size of the vessels involved as well as the target organs affected.
4. To understand that the treatment of vasculitis is primarily oriented toward suppressing an inappropriately hyperactive immune or inflammatory response.

### SUMMARY

1. Giant-cell arteritis is a large vessel non-necrotizing arteritis of the thoracic aorta and its branches affecting primarily the elderly population.
2. Polyarteritis nodosa is a necrotizing vasculitis of medium-sized vasculature of the abdominal viscera, commonly associated with active Hepatitis B infection.
3. Wegener's granulomatosis is a rapidly progressive small vessel vasculitis associated with the presence of anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA) which primarily affects the upper and lower respiratory tracts as well as the kidneys.
4. Henoch Schonlein Purpura (HSP) is a self-limited small vessel vasculitis of children which is characterized by the presence of tissue deposition of IgA immune complexes.