

## Image of the Month

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**A** 63-YEAR-OLD WOMAN WHO HAD A LEFT hemicolectomy 3 years ago (secondary to adenocarcinoma of splenic curvature of colon [T4N1, Dukes C2]) presented with dyspnea, retrosternal pain, and low-grade fever for a few days. A physical examination revealed tachycardia and hypotension. Auscultatory percussion over the heart was tympanic, and metallic splashing sounds syn-

chronous with heart beats could be heard as well. A chest radiograph showed an area of radiolucency on both sides of the heart and a poorly visible, narrow radiolucent area extending toward the colon (**Figure 1**).

### What Is the Diagnosis?

- A. Acute pericarditis
- B. Gastropericardial fistula
- C. Malignant pericardial effusion
- D. Diaphragmatic hernia

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**Figure 1.** Chest radiograph showing air in the pericardial cavity of a 63-year-old woman.