

1. Lymphatics: 3. Accessory spleen

- A specimen of normal spleen with accessory spleen is in view
- Spleen and accessory spleen attached with splenic ligament and adipose tissues

General description

- It's also called as supernumerary spleen, splenule and splenunculus,
- It is a benign and asymptomatic condition where the splenic tissue is found outside the normal spleen.
- 10% to 30% of the population have accessory spleen.
- A possibility of 1-6 accessory splenic buds.
- Most accessory spleens are approximately 1-5 centimetre.

Embryology

- Due to incomplete fusion of mesenchymal buds during development.
- Can develop along the path from the midline, or follow the path of gonad descent.
- If mesenchymal buds moving away from the midline path do not fuse together, then accessory spleens can form.
- An accessory spleen, however, can also be formed by the descent of the gonads during development.



