

### QUESTION

A 65-year-old male patient with a long history of hypertension and a recent diagnosis of type 2 diabetes mellitus is being treated with lisinopril and metformin. He has been experiencing increasing fatigue and weakness over the past few weeks. His blood pressure is well-controlled, and his blood glucose levels are stable. He has no other significant medical history and is on no other medications. His diet is generally healthy, and he exercises regularly. He is concerned about the possibility of a heart attack or stroke given his medical history.

Parameter	Value	Reference Range
Weight	180 lb (82 kg)	150-200 lb (68-91 kg)
Height	5'10" (178 cm)	5'6" - 6'2" (168-188 cm)
Blood Pressure	120/80 mmHg	120/80 mmHg
Heart Rate	70 bpm	60-100 bpm
BMI	25.8	18.5-24.9
Hemoglobin A1c	6.5%	< 5.7%
Fasting Blood Glucose	100 mg/dL	< 100 mg/dL
Serum Creatinine	1.2 mg/dL	0.7-1.3 mg/dL
Serum Electrolytes	Normal	Normal
Urine Glucose	None	None
Urine Ketones	None	None

What is the most likely cause of the patient's symptoms?

### ANSWER



The patient's symptoms are most likely caused by iron deficiency anemia.