

GLOMUS TUMOR OF THE STOMACH

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ÖZET: Glomus tümörü, glomus cisimciğinin düz kas hücrelerinden değişerek meydana gelen benign bir tümördür. Çoğu subungual bölgede bulunur. Ancak böbrekler, uterus, vagina, mediasten, trakea, kemik ve nazal kaviteden de meydana gelebilir. Bu çalışmada 56 yaşında erkek hastada saptanan mide yerleşimli bir glomus tümörü bildirilmektedir.

ANAHTAR KELİMELEER: Mide, glomus tümörü.

SUMMARY: A glomus tumor (GT) is a benign tumor that arises from the modified smooth muscle cells of the glomus body. Most (GT)s are found in the subungual region. However this tumor may also occur in numerous other organs including the kidneys, uterus, vagina, mediastinum, trachea, bone and nasal cavity. In the paper is presented a gastric glomus tumor of a 56 year old male patient.

KEY WORDS: Stomach, glomus tumor.

INTRODUCTION

The normal glomus body is a neuromyoarterial receptor which is sensitive to variations in temperature and regulates arteriolar flow. The glomus body has an afferent artery, arteriovenous anastomosis and efferent veins. Surrounding the anastomosis, there is a collection of specialized endothelial cells known as glomus cells (6,2).

A GT is a benign tumor that arises from the modified smooth muscle cells of the glomus body. Glomus bodies may be located anywhere in the skin, but are most commonly found in the distal portion of the fingers and toes, especially under the nails. Subungual region is the most common location of the GT (3). Unusual locations have included the kidneys, uterus, vagina, mediastinum, trachea, bone rectum, stomach, patella and mesentery (2,3,6).

CASE REPORT

A 56-year old male patient was admitted to the general surgical outpatient clinic with the complaint of epigastric discomfort. He did not complain of nausea, vomiting, hematemesis or melena. An upper gastrointestinal tract series showed a mass on the greater curvature in the antrum. An antrectomy was performed.

Grossly the antral portion of the antrectomy specimen disclosed a mucosal bulge measuring 1.5 x 1.5 cm. The rugal folds were lost in the region of the bulge. The serosal aspect of the stomach showed mild hiperemia. Microscopically intestinal metaplasia of the surface epithelium was noted. Between the muscularis mucosa and muscular layer, there were large and small abnormal vascular channels surrounded by uniformly appearing cells with large, round or ovoid nuclei, prominent nucleoli and pale eosinophilic cytoplasm (Figures 1-2). Histopathologic diagnosis was interpreted as glomus tumor and intestinal metaplasia of the stomach.

DISCUSSION

In 1924 Masson first recognized the origin and described the histologic pattern of the GT (1). Kay et al. Reported the first cases of GT in 1951 and since that time more than 30 cases have appeared in the literature (5).

Warner et al. reported that from 1975 till 1984 only 4 cases which were not in English were described and they were unable to find any new reports in the American literature.

GT of the stomach occurs in any age group with equal frequency in either sex. The tumors are generally small,

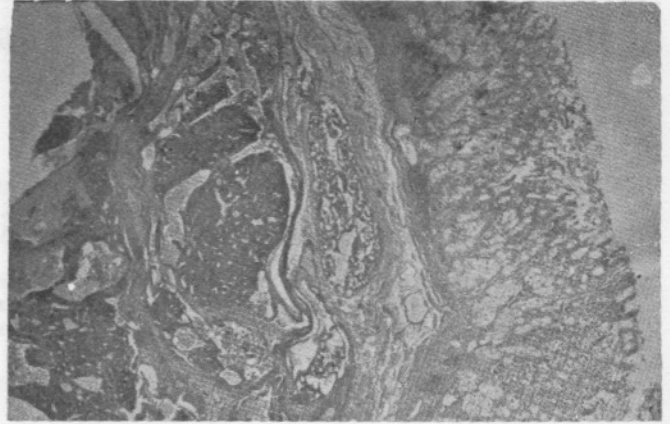


Figure 1: Gastric glomus tumor located below the muscularis mucosa (H&E x 69).

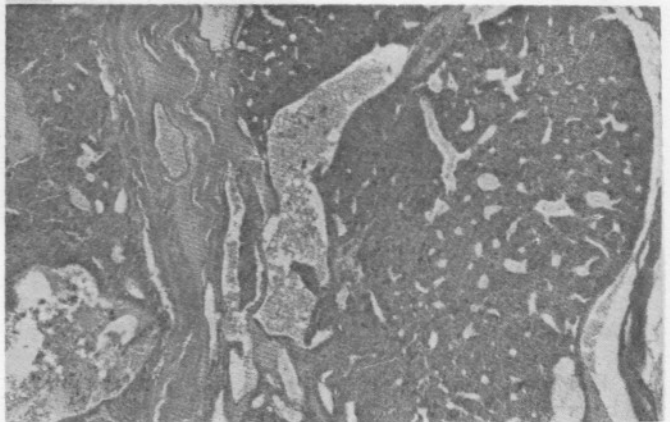


Figure 2: Microscopic appearance of the gastric glomus tumor: Glomus cells with uniform nuclei, eosinophilic cytoplasm, around cyst vascular structures (H&E x 200).

solid rather than cystic and located along the greater curvature three times more common than the lesser one especially at the pyloric antrum (1,4,6).

Clinically this uncommon gastric tumor mimics most of the benign and malignant lesions of the stomach (5). There are no distinctive signs or symptoms of the tumor that would allow for preoperative diagnosis (6). In the stomach, GT usually attains a bigger size than the cutaneous form and in most cases is symptomatic the majority inducing gastric ulceration and bleeding (5).

The case as being an example of rare antral GT was a 56-year old male patient, with only epigastric discomfort. The aim of this report is to present an additional case of antral GT.

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