Gastrinoma with liver metastasis; is it always bad news?

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Introduction

Gastrinoma are rare neuroendocrine tumours in general population but accounts for 30% pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours

Liver metastases are the most important prognostic factor, the 10-year survival being 90–100% without liver metastases and 10–20% with-it.².

However We present a rare case report of a patient with liver metastasis due to Gastrinoma But has very indolent course for a quite long timE

Case report

A 49 year old male is currently attending Neuroendocrine clinic follow up for the liver metastasis due to Gastrinoma.

His past history includes open laparotomy for severe abdominal pain for suspected peritonitis during which Gastrinoma noted which was resected [Proven histologically] at the age of 12. During the surgery liver metastasis was also noted.

He was followed up in paediatric clinic then subsequently adult clinic until the age of 20 after which he last to follow up

Later he presented with diarrhoea at the age of 38 which is now well controlled with omeprazole

Results





Fasting Gut hormonal profile showed raised Gastrin levels of 450 ng/l while on Omeprazole.

MRI of abdomen in 2014 showed 3 large liver lesions with largest lesion size of 7 cm and compared to previous scans from 2006 lesions remained stable with no growth

Gallium Dotate PET scan showed all lesions are metabolically active.

As showed in the CT images from 2006 and 2010 no change in the liver metastasis size.

Discussion and conclusion

WHO classification subdivides gastrinomas into 3 general categories:(1) well-differentiated endocrine tumours with benign or uncertain behaviour at the time of diagnosis (10–30%);(2)well-differentiated endocrine carcinomas with low-grade malignant behaviour (50–80%) (3) poorly differentiated endocrine carcinomas with high-grade malignant behavior(1–3%).

Presence of liver metastasis with Gastrinoma generally indicates poor prognosis with Some studies suggests 5 years survival rates 20-40% and 10-year survival rate of only 10–20%

However very indolent Gastrinoma with liver metastasis is rare and could be managed conservatively.

References

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