Lymphoepithelial Pancreatic Cyst: An Atypical Benign Pancreatic Mass Presenting with a “Cheerios Like” Appearance

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ABSTRACT

Lymphoepithelial cyst of the pancreas is a rare benign lesion that often presents as an incidental radiological finding, but may cause symptoms like abdominal pain and nausea. It can occur at any location in the pancreas, and pathologically consists of keratinous material and a wall, lined by mature squamous epithelium surrounded by dense lymphoid tissue. The differential diagnosis includes primary splenic cyst, pseudocyst, mucinous cystic neoplasm of the pancreas, left adrenal cysts, duplication cysts and retroperitoneal cysts; some of these diagnoses can be excluded by MRI, however, for the final diagnosis fine needle aspiration or surgical resection may be necessary. We report a rare case of pancreatic lymphoepithelial cyst in an asymptomatic 63-year old man, in clinical follow up for colon cancer. In particular, we describe the unique “cheerios like” appearance of the lesion, that has never been reported before; this particular finding could help in the differential diagnosis of this benign lesion from other pancreatic mass.