Malignant Pancreatic Extra-Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor Diagnosed by Ultrasound Guided Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology. A Case Report with a Review of the Literature

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ABSTRACT

Context Pancreatic extra-gastrointestinal stromal tumors (E-GISTS) are extremely uncommon neoplasm. To the best of our knowledge, only eleven cases have been reported in the literature. All the case reports have been published, mostly with diagnoses made on surgical pathology. Case report A 40-year-old male patient presented with weakness, mild abdominal pain, severe anemia and weight loss. A contrast-enhanced computed tomography of the abdomen revealed heterogeneously enhancing mass (6.5x6 cm) in the body and head of the pancreas. Ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration was performed from the mass of the pancreas before pancreaticoduodenectomy. The cytological diagnosis of pancreatic malignant mesenchymal neoplasms was made. The final diagnosis of primary pancreatic extra-gastrointestinal stromal tumor was confirmed by histopathological examination and immunohistochemical findings (CD117 positivity). This case was diagnosed by percutaneous transabdominal ultrasound, rather than an endoscopic ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration (EUS-FNA), since the earlier three cases have been diagnosed by EUS-FNA. Conclusion We report a very unusual case of pancreatic extra-gastrointestinal stromal tumor which may be diagnosed by ultrasound guided FNA cytology. Although this is uncommon in the pancreas, extra-gastrointestinal stromal tumors should be considered in the differential diagnosis of solid and cystic pancreatic masses on cytology.