

Mantle cell lymphoma presenting as diffuse esophageal, gastric, and duodenal bulb polyposis

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A 66-year-old male with a history of hypertension presented with a 2-month history of epigastric pain with 4.5-kg involuntary weight loss, nausea with vomiting, but no night sweat. Physical signs included mildly pale conjunctiva without jaundice. There was no lymphadenopathy or hepatosplenomegaly. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy showed diffuse esophageal, gastric, and duodenal bulb polyposis, raising concern for infiltrative malignancy (Fig. 1). Multiple biopsies were obtained. Pathology confirmed the diagnosis of Mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) with positive immunohistochemistry for CD5, CD20, Bcl-2, cyclin D1 and negative immunohistochemistry for CD3, CD10, CD23 (Fig. 2). A prompt computed tomography scan of the chest, abdomen and pelvis with contrast showed intrathoracic lymphadenopathy (LAD) with diffuse lobulated enhancing wall thickening of the stomach and pylorus causing severe pyloric canal narrowing and intraabdominal LAD. No evidence of lymphomatous involvement was found on bone marrow biopsy. Unfortunately, the patient died as a result of extensive disease involvement before chemotherapy could be initiated.

The gastrointestinal tract is one of the most common extranodal locations of lymphoma (up to 30%) [1-3]. MCL is typically diagnosed in middle-aged men, with a mean age of 63 years [2], and most commonly involves the stomach, followed by the small bowel, and ileocecal valve [1]. MCL rarely involves the esophagus because of the relatively low number of lymphoid cells. The prognosis in MCL is very poor as it usually demonstrates aggressive behavior and is diagnosed at stage 4 in up to 70% of cases [1-3]. Our report highlights a very interesting endoscopic finding that should be recognized to facilitate prompt clinical management.

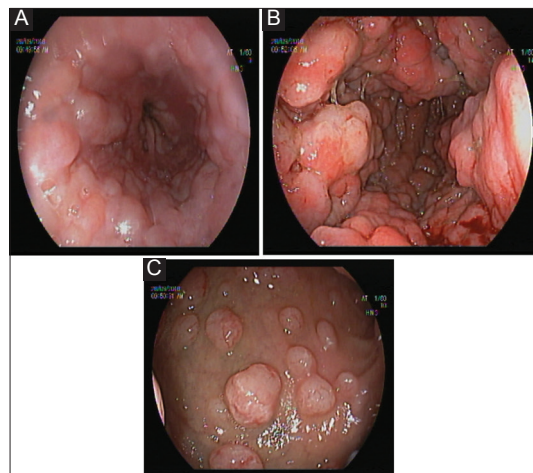


Figure 1 Infiltrative polyposis covering (A) distal esophagus, (B) antrum, causing luminal narrowing, and (C) duodenal bulb

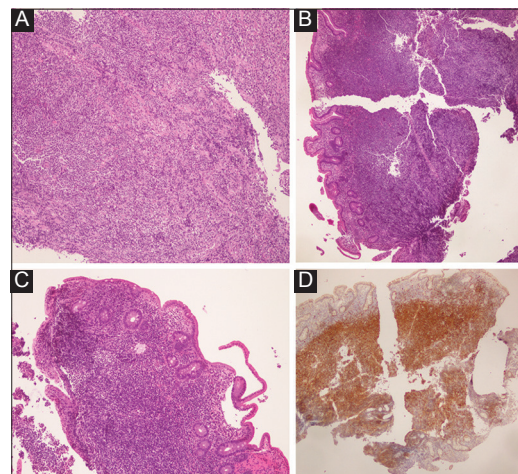


Figure 2 Abnormal lymphomatous cells in (A) esophagus, (B) gastric mucosa, and (C) duodenal bulb. (D) Positive immunohistochemistry of Cyclin D in the duodenum

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