

First report of a mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma of the esophagus diagnosed by endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration (EUS-FNA)



Fig. 1 Endoscopic findings in a 60-year-old woman with dysphagia: a large, rounded mass with normal overlying mucosa is seen extending longitudinally along the entire esophagus.

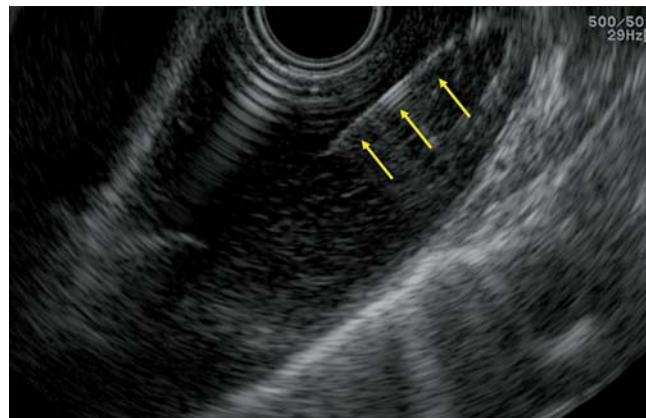


Fig. 3 Endoscopic ultrasound showing a hypoechoic thickening in the third layer. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration was carried out using a 22-G needle (arrows).



Fig. 2 Esophagogram showing a large submucosal tumor with luminal narrowing of the whole of the esophagus.

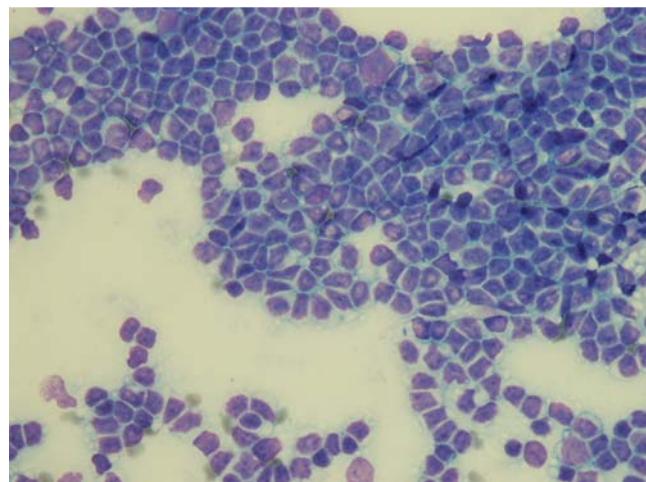


Fig. 4 Small-to medium-sized lymphocytic cells with mildly irregular nuclei.

scribed MALT lymphoma of the esophagus spanning the entire circumference and length of the esophagus [3]. Many of these cases were diagnosed surgically. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration (EUS-FNA) is an established method of obtaining submucosal tissue specimens [5]. We report here the first case of MALT lymphoma of the esophagus diagnosed by EUS-FNA.

A 60-year-old woman attended our institution due to dysphagia. Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy revealed a smooth surface with visible capillaries over the entire circumference of the esophagus and a white, soft, elastic submucosal tumor covered by normal mucosa (► Fig. 1). An esophagogram showed a slightly elevated submucosal tumor extending over the

entire esophageal length (► Fig. 2), and enhanced computed tomography demonstrated thickening of the left bronchial and esophageal walls along with swelling of the pharyngeal lymph nodes. Endoscopic ultrasonography revealed a tumorous lesion presenting as a primarily hypoechoic mass arising in the third layer, with a hyperechoic region.

Because a diagnosis was not reached using specimens obtained with biopsy forceps, EUS-FNA was performed (► Fig. 3). The presence of small- to medium-sized lymphocytic cells with mildly irregular nuclei, along with CD5(–), CD10(–), CD19(+), CD20(+), CD22 (+), and λ monoclonality on flow cytometry, led to a diagnosis of MALT lymphoma of the esophagus (► Fig. 4). We described the tumor as a

Mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma of the esophagus is a rare tumor [1–3] with varying presentations [4]. Only a few reports have de-

malignant, extramarginal zone B-cell lymphoma of the MALT type, clinical stage IV (Lugano International Conference classification). The patient was treated with a total of six courses of chemotherapy with rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, and prednisolone (R-CHOP), and a complete response was achieved.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of EUS-FNA diagnosis of MALT lymphoma of the esophagus.

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T. Ogura^{1,2}, M. Tajika³, S. Hijioka¹, K. Hara¹, S. Haba¹, W. Hosoda⁴, Y. Yatabe⁴, S. Asano⁵, K. Higuchi², K. Yamao¹, Y. Niwa³

¹ Department of Gastroenterology, Aichi Cancer Center Hospital, Nagoya, Japan

² 2nd Department of Internal Medicine, Osaka Medical College, Osaka, Japan

³ Department of Endoscopy, Aichi Cancer Center Hospital, Nagoya, Japan

⁴ Department of Pathology and Molecular Diagnostics, Aichi Cancer Center Hospital, Nagoya, Japan

⁵ Department of Respiratory Medicine, Handa Municipal Hospital, Nagoya, Japan

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Corresponding author

M. Tajika

1-1 Kanokoden

Chikusa-ku

Nagoya 464-8681

Japan

Fax: +81-527635233

mtajika@aichi-cc.jp