

The many faces of gastrointestinal T-cell lymphoma manifest simultaneously in the same patient

A 50-year-old man with a history of AIDS presented with complaints of dyspnea on exertion, anemia, and melena. Seven years prior to the current presentation, he presented with intussusception, underwent right hemicolectomy, and was diagnosed with a cecal mass consistent with T-cell lymphoma. He was noncompliant with his medication regime and was lost to follow-up until the current admission. He underwent esophagogastroduodenoscopy and colonoscopy for further evaluation of iron-deficiency anemia and melena. Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy revealed: (1) multiple concentric rings in the lower esophagus, (2) a small (4-mm) nodule in gastric cardia, and (3) a nodule with central ulceration in the gastric body (● Fig. 1). Colonoscopy showed: (1) a large mass protruding from the small intestine into the ileocolonic anastomosis, (2) ulceration within the blind loop at the anastomosis, and (3) a sessile polyp in the sigmoid colon (● Fig. 2). Pathology review of specimens from all of these sites revealed a high-grade peripheral T-cell lymphoma positive for T-cell markers CD4 and patchy for CD3. Immunostaining was negative for CD7 and CD8 (● Fig. 3). The patient was started on appropriate highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) therapy and chemotherapy.

The gastrointestinal tract is the most commonly involved site for extranodal primary non-Hodgkin lymphomas, accounting for 30%–40% of all cases [1]. Histopathologically, lymphomas with B-cell origins form a major subset (over 90%) of all gastrointestinal non-Hodgkin lymphomas compared to T-cell lymphomas and Hodgkin disease, which are observed less frequently [2]. HIV-infected individuals, like our patient, have been known to be at risk for development of a T-cell lymphomas affecting multiple organs [3]. This case illustrates the vast array of endoscopic appearances of gastrointestinal tract involvement of T-cell lymphoma in a single patient at different locations. Esophageal

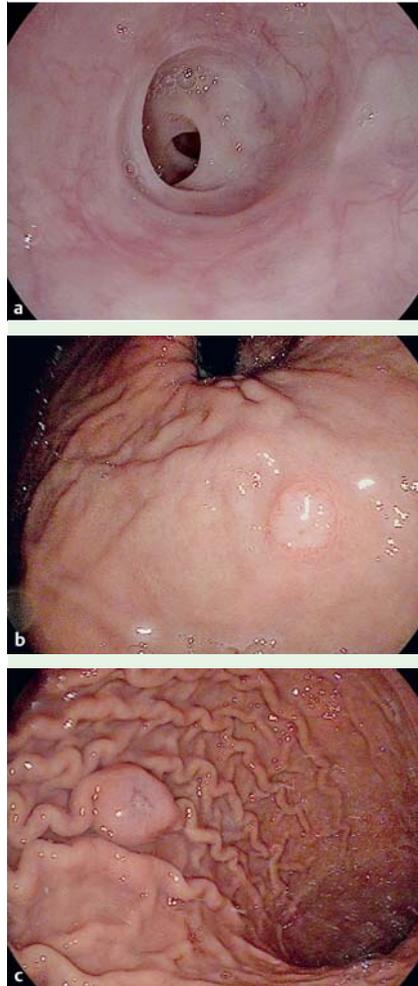


Fig. 1 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy images: **a** concentric rings in lower esophagus, **b** nodule at gastric cardia, and **c** nodule with central ulceration in gastric body.



Fig. 2 Colonoscopy images: **a** protruding mass at ileocolonic anastomosis, **b** ulceration within blind loop at ileocolonic anastomosis, and **c** sessile polyp at sigmoid colon.

involvement in T-cell lymphoma is extremely rare [4], and endoscopic findings of multiple concentric rings in the esophagus due to T-cell lymphoma have to the best of our knowledge never been reported in the literature.

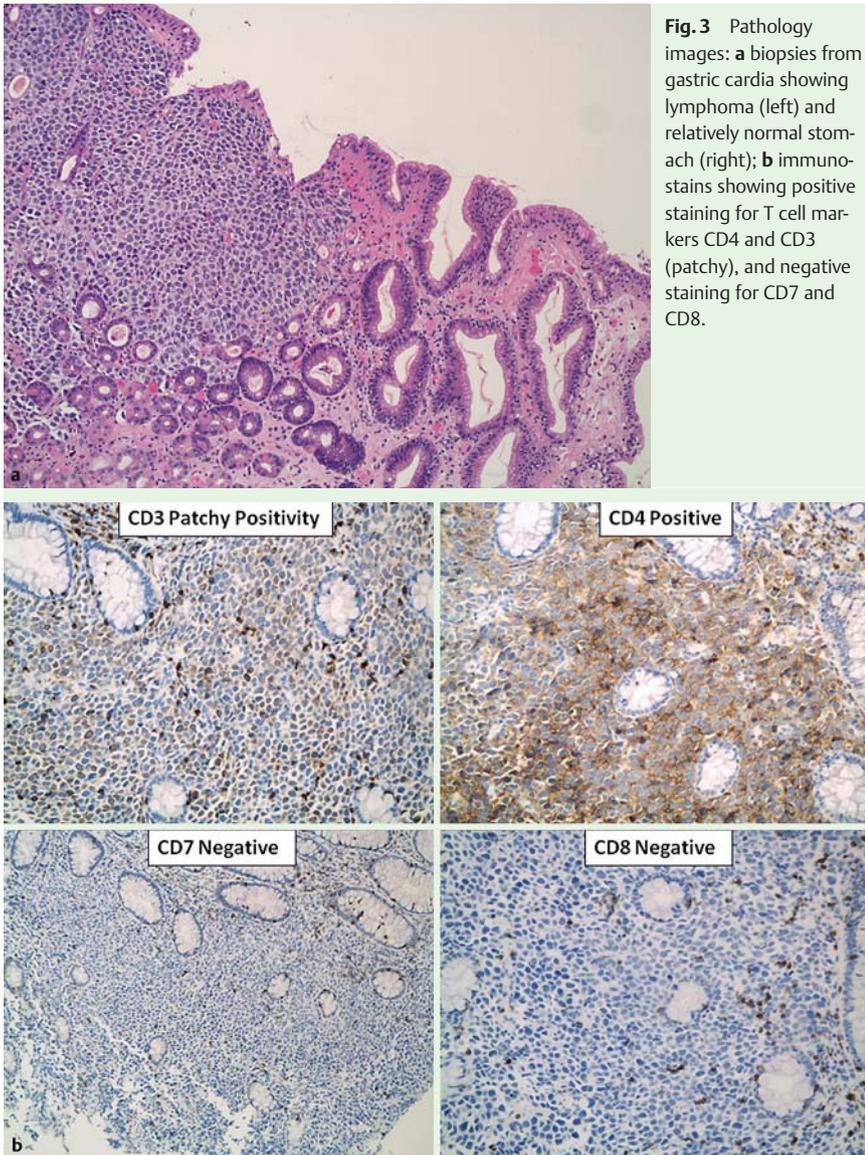
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Competing interests: None

N. Thosani¹, A. Quesada², D. Kulkarni¹, D. S. Wolf¹

¹ Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Houston, Texas, USA

² Department of Pathology, The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Houston, Texas, USA



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Corresponding author

N. Thosani, MD, MHA
 Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology
 and Nutrition
 Department of Internal Medicine
 6431 Fannin, MSB 4.234
 Houston
 Texas 77030
 USA
 Fax: +1-713-500-6699
 Nirav.c.thosani@uth.tmc.edu