Endoscopic ultrasound-guided diagnosis and management of an unusual gastric submucosal lesion – gastric wall abscess

A 65-year-old alcoholic man presented with upper abdominal pain accompanied by early satiety and nausea of 6 weeks’ duration. He had a history of loss of weight and he also had a low-grade fever for the past 7 days. Examination revealed a vague lump in the right upper abdomen. The patient had undergone gastroscopy at the referring center, where a mass in the antrum was reported with inconclusive endoscopic biopsy. We performed a repeat endoscopy, which revealed a submucosal lesion in the antrum (Fig. 1). Contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CECT) of abdomen showed gallbladder stones with thickening of the antral wall (Fig. 2). Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) revealed a well-defined, heterogeneously echo-textured lesion of 2.5 cm diameter in the gastric wall (Fig. 3). EUS-guided fine needle aspiration from the lesion yielded purulent material full of inflammatory cells (Fig. 4). The CECT was reviewed with coronal reconstruction, revealing thickening of the gallbladder wall adjacent to the antrum, and the possibility of a sealed gallbladder perforation was considered (Fig. 5). The patient was treated with intravenous antibiotics and EUS-guided drainage of the gastric abscess was done using a nasocystic drain (Video 1). The patient’s condition showed gradual improvement and repeat CECT abdomen revealed resolution of the gastric wall lesion (Fig. 6). After 6 weeks he underwent cholecystectomy, and histopathological examination of the gallbladder revealed features of chronic cholecystitis with deep ulcers and transmural inflammation. The patient’s postoperative course was uneventful and he remained asymptomatic over a follow-up of 6 months.

**Video 1**

EUS-guided transmural drainage of the gastric abscess. Balloon dilatation of the transmural tract is being done.
tional method of treating gastric wall abscess [4]. Recently, both percutaneous drainage and endoscopic drainage by resecting the mucosa using a snare or a needle-knife, along with a course of anti-biotics, have been reported to be successful [1].

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Competing interests: None

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