

Poster Presentation 3

UNUSUAL CAUSES OF UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDING

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Introduction

Common causes of upper gastrointestinal (UGI) bleeding are oesophageal varices, gastric erosions and peptic ulcers. However, few patients may present with UGI bleeding due to other rare causes, and we report a series of such patients who presented with haematemesis or haematochezia due to uncommon pathology.

Materials and Methods

Five patients presenting with haematemesis, haematochezia and melaena to the Professorial Surgical Unit, National Hospital of Sri Lanka from October 2007 to April 2008, were evaluated with UGI endoscopy (UGIE) as the initial investigation. One patient presented with haematochezia and cardiovascular instability, and had to be operated after initial endoscopic management. Others stabilized after the initial haematemesis or haematochezia and were investigated with CT and Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) before definitive surgery.

Results

	Presentation	Investigations- initial diagnosis	Final diagnosis
Patient 1	Haematochezia	UGIE, CT abdomen - tumour at the DJ flexure	Gastrointestinal Stromal tumour (GIST) at the DJ flexure
Patient 2	Haematemesis	UGIE, CT abd, EUS-gastric tumour ?GIST	Ectopic pancreatic tissue in the body of the stomach
Patient 3	Haematemesis and melaena	UGIE, CT abd-pedunculated gastric tumour	Neuroendocrine tumour of the stomach
Patient 4	Haematochezia	UGIE, Ba meal, CT abdominal diverticulum	Duodenal diverticulum
Patient 5	Haematemesis	UGIE, EUS- Gastric tumour ?GIST	Lipoma of the stomach

Conclusion

UGI endoscopy was informative and aided the decision making in all these patients although two of them presented with haematochezia. It should be the initial investigation in any patient presenting with massive upper or lower GI bleeding. We recommend that all postgraduate trainees, surgical or medical, to be trained in upper GI endoscopy.