

A rare case of a gastric adenomyoma mimicking a gastric duplication cyst

Esra Elif Arslan¹ , Tuğba Acer Demir¹ , Lütfi Hakan Güney¹ , Merih Tepeoğlu² , Müge Sağnak Akıllı¹ , Akgün Hiçsönmez¹ 

¹Department of Pediatric Surgery, Başkent University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey

²Department of Pathology, Başkent University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey

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Dear Editor,

A 5-year-old girl was admitted to our facility with the complaints of abdominal pain, poor oral intake, and fever. The patient had suffered from abdominal pain for 2 years. A physical examination revealed tenderness in the epigastric area. Her serum C-reactive protein level was 84.4 mg/dL (normal: 0-5 mg/dL). Abdominal ultrasonography (USG) was performed, and an intramural hypoechoic heterogeneous nodular mass measuring 33×25 mm was detected in the pyloric region of the stomach. Computed tomography (CT) revealed a cystic lesion measuring 30×28 mm in the gastric and pyloric antrum, which was thought to be formed by inflammation, abscess, or an infected cyst (Figure 1). The patient was hospitalized and treated with antibiotics and antacids. CT for control examination revealed that the cystic lesion had disappeared. The patient was readmitted to our facility after 8 months with abdominal pain and poor oral intake. Abdominal USG reported a cystic lesion measuring 32×26×20 mm in size and interpreted it as a duplication cyst (Figure 2). Abdominal CT revealed soft tissue thickening at the level of the gastric antrum extending to the pylorus (Figure 3). The patient underwent exploratory laparotomy; a 3.5×3-cm mass present at the anterior-inferior wall of the pre-pyloric region was completely excised, and double-layer transverse anastomosis was performed. Pathological examination revealed gastric adenomyoma, which was composed of cysts and glandular structures lined by cuboidal to columnar epithelium surrounded by hypertrophic smooth muscle bundles. Foreign-body giant cells and xanthogranulomatous inflammation were

also detected on the serosal surface (Figure 4). Three months later, control radiological examinations revealed normal gastric anatomy.

Approximately 60% of gastrointestinal adenomyomas are identified in the stomach, and gastric adenomyoma is most frequently found in the gastric antrum (85%) and pyloric region (15%) (1-3). The ages of reported cases ranged from 1 week to 81 years, although most were between the fourth and sixth decades (1,2,4).

Previously, five pediatric cases of gastric adenomyoma have been reported in the literature. The major complaint of the patients was vomiting (1-5). Among



Figure 1. The initial computed tomography image: A cystic lesion (asterisk) measuring 30×28 mm at the gastric antrum

ORCID IDs of the authors: E.E.A. 0000-0002-4528-4671; T.A.D. 0000-0001-5391-9094; L.H.G. 0000-0002-2500-5401; M.T. 0000-0002-9894-8005; M.S.A. 0000-0003-2573-6172; A.H. 0000-0003-2893-393X.

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Corresponding Author: Tuğba Acer Demir; tugba_acer@yahoo.com

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Figure 2. Abdominal ultrasonography showed a thickened wall cystic lesion measuring 32×26×20 mm on the anterior wall of the stomach in the pyloric region



Figure 3. Preoperative computed tomography: Soft tissue thickening at the anterior wall of stomach and pylorus (asterisk); the widest segment was 19×12 mm

these patients, 4 patients [1-week-old boy (4), 13-day-old boy (5), 1-month-old girl (1), and 4-month-old girl (3)] were misdiagnosed as having hypertrophic pyloric stenosis. The presence of gastric duplication cyst was considered in differential diagnosis of a 5-year-old girl whose clinical and radiological findings were similar to our case (2). These pathologies are more frequent at etiology of vomiting in the pediatric age group (1-5). A misdiagnosis may lead to a delay in the excision of the mass and pathological diagnosis. USG or CT of all the reported cases showed cystic or heterogenous in-

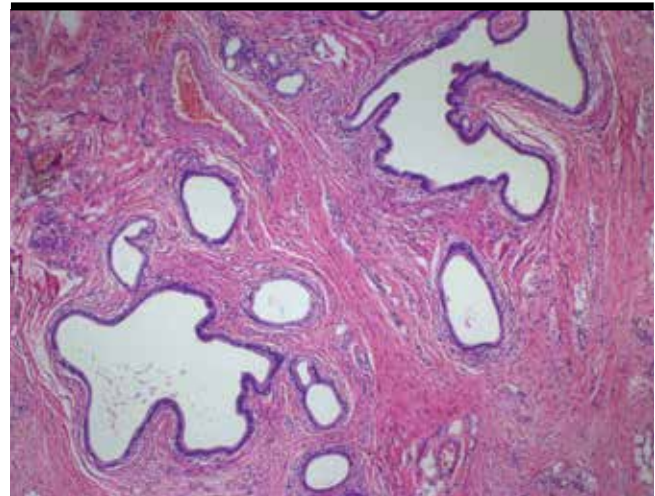


Figure 4. Pathological section from adenomyoma (glandular structures in the muscularis propria)

tramural masses, and surgical exploration and excision of the mass led to a definitive pathological diagnosis of gastric adenomyoma (1-5).

Gastric adenomyoma should be considered a differential diagnosis of hypertrophic pyloric stenosis and gastric duplication in children admitted with vomiting. As it resembles abscess formation, a differential diagnosis of gastric adenomyoma should also be considered when a cystic mass is found in the stomach.

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