



Spedali Civili di Brescia  
Azienda Ospedaliera  
3° Divisione di Chirurgia Generale



Università degli Studi di Brescia  
Clinica Chirurgica  
Direttore: Prof. N. Portolani

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Dear Sir,

We submit to Your attention the paper "INCREASED RISK OF A SECOND MALIGNANCY ASSOCIATED WITH PANCREATIC IPMNs: REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE", for possible publication in World Journal of Gastroenterology as **invited Editorial (ID 00913069)**.

The paper enter a clinical debate which has real relevance in the daily practice in the field of pancreatic cystic neoplasm, as a number of asymptomatic IPMNs are diagnosed every day by abdominal imaging, and the actual most common clinical attitude provides for a weak diagnostic pathway. However, in the light of an unanimous literature, we strongly believe that this attitude would be a while dangerous, as up to 30-40% of IPMN cases would develop a second malignancy in their life. The same should be underlined when discussing the follow-up protocols: it remains still not clear what kind of follow-up is indicated in patients with IPMN not submitted to pancreatic resection, as the likelihood of developing malignancy is very low from the available series, but the acknowledging of such an high risk of associate pancreatic and extrapancreatic malignancies would change these protocols.

In our academic hospital, a multidisciplinary team, dealing with hepatic and pancreatic malignancies, named LINEO TEAM, was established in 2005, and formally recognized in 2010, including radiologists, gastroenterologists, pathologists, oncologists and nuclear medicines. A number of papers were already published by LINEO team in the field of IPMNs.

We believe the reported results would be accepted by the clinical community, and would be frequently cited in Literature.

Many thanks in advance for Your attention.

Gian Luca Baiocchi, on behalf of all the Authors

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