

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 71161

Title: Nonfunctional pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours misdiagnosed as autoimmune pancreatitis: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03537202

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Adjunct Professor, Doctor, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Italy

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-09-19

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-09-23 07:32

Reviewer performed review: 2021-09-23 12:56

Review time: 5 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Authors reported a rare case of a 42-year-old female who had nonspecific upper abdominal pain for 4 years, with radiological abnormalities of pancreas that mimicked AIP. Finally, pancreatic biopsy was performed through EUS-guided fine needle aspiration biopsy (EUS-FNA/FNB) and non-functional PNETs was finally diagnosed.

STATUS: ACCETTABLE FOR PUBBLICATION PENDING MINOR REVISIONS

General considerations: This is a CASE REPORT article. The work is interesting and the paper is very well-written. It is certainly not the first on this topic, but it is very useful “to stress” the difficult differential diagnosis between pancreatic cancer and chronic pancreatitis. Abstract: the abstract appropriately summarize the manuscript without discrepancies between the abstract and the remainder of the manuscript. Keywords: adequate. Reference: inadequate. Please, follow my suggestions. Paper

On some aspects, the authors should address:

- 1) About the case presentation, was a fist-line ultrasound (US) examination performed? You have not reported the US images. If there are, add them.
- 2) Why did you not consider to integrate imaging evaluation with basal US examination or contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS)? Please, discuss it.
- 3) In the discussion, it would be appropriate to describe the cross-sectional findings of the NETs. Specifically, I would like you to deep-in the possibility that NETs can manifest without mass effect, that is a diffuse enlargement of the organ without any evidence of focal lesions. Are similar cases described in the literature?
- 4) I suggest to open a small discussion about the possibility of misdiagnosing a NET in presence of other alterations in the bilio-pancreatic district. In a paper of my research group, which I advise you to discuss and cite, we describe the case of a patient with non-functioning



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well-differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma of the head of the pancreas associated with extra-hepatic cholangiocarcinoma. This would also be an opportunity to mention the MPMs (multiple primary malignancies), that is the occurrence of two or more primary malignant tumors arising in the same patient. The article is the following:
-Maurea S, Corvino A, Imbriaco M, Avitabile G, Mainenti P, Camera L, Galizia G, Salvatore M. Simultaneous non-functioning neuroendocrine carcinoma of the pancreas and extra-hepatic cholangiocarcinoma. A case of early diagnosis and favorable post-surgical outcome. JOP. 2011 May 6;12(3):255-8. PMID: 21546703. Figures 1)I have not found figures of US imaging. If there are, add them. 2)In Figure 1, the triangle does not indicate the main pancreatic duct. Please, correct it.

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Reviewer's code: 05915129

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, MMed

Professional title: Surgeon

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Tanzania

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-09-19

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-09-21 04:57

Reviewer performed review: 2021-09-27 18:12

Review time: 6 Days and 13 Hours

Scientific quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Well written article and discussion is well presented