

## Answering reviewers

*Reviewed by 01047630*

This is a retrospective study that shows the DSA features of small bowel GISTs. The authors concluded that because of some characteristic DSA features, emergency interventional DSA is both a useful imaging selection in locating and making the diagnosis and an effective treatment for small bowel GISTs in patients with bleeding.

1) This study only showed the DSA findings of small bowel GISTs. What is the difference of DSA findings from those with other pathology? In addition, are there any findings suggesting the malignant potential of GIST? 2) Please describe the correlation of known CT findings of GISTs according to the contrast phase

**Answer:** Thank you very much. This is a paper focusing on the DSA appearances/features of small bowel GISTs. We summarized its appearances based on 28 lesions less than 6cm in 25 patients and found some DSA features. To our knowledge, small bowel GISTs indeed differed from other lesions or tumors causing GI bleeding on DSA appearances. For example, small intestinal lymphoma may sometimes cause GI bleeding. However, it's a hypovascular tumor and often has a mild homogenous enhancement on DSA or enhanced-CT. Furthermore, like other hypervascular tumors, GISTs are visualized as enhancing solid masses and tumor arteries are often noted on enhanced CT images. However, few researches focus on or report its draining veins. And based on our previous work, we find some hypervascular tumors don't have these special draining veins. Therefore, once these appearances were found during DSA procedure, we should more think of or make a definite diagnosis of small bowel GIST.

In addition, our work aren't suggesting the malignant potential of GIST because its pathological characteristics.

The CT features of GISTs can vary depending on the size, location, and aggressiveness of tumor. GISTs are visualized as enhancing solid masses. Small GISTs typically appear as well-defined soft issue, low-density masses with relatively homogeneous on enhanced CT images. When the masses are large (usually, >5 cm),

they are often heterogeneous because of necrosis, hemorrhage, and myxoid degeneration. Calcification is very rare.

*Reviewed by 02544984*

This is the first article with 25 patients that I have read. Small bowel GIST is rare. I think the manuscript could be accepted with minor language polishing.

*Answer:* I modified it and re-edited it by AJE (A professional English language editing company, [www.aje.com](http://www.aje.com)) again. Thank you very much.

*Reviewed by 02941360*

This is a really fine paper which I really enjoyed to read. My opinion is that the authors did a great job.

*Answer:* Thank you very much.

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