

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Endoscopic biopsy: Duodenal ulcer penetrating into liver

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TO THE EDITOR

We have read with interest the recent report by E Kayacetin and S Kayacetin of "Gastric ulcer penetrating to liver diagnosed by endoscopic biopsy"^[1] since we diagnosed the duodenal ulcer which penetrated into liver similarly. This is a rather unusual case because of the fifth case in the literature and responding to medical therapy.

Eighty-five-year-old female was admitted with 1-mo history of periumbilical pain, weight loss, 1-wk vomiting provoked with food and no history of GI bleeding. On physical examination, there was periumbilical tenderness.

Laboratory evaluation showed Hb: 11.5 gr/dL, WBC: 11 000/mm³ MCV: 92 fl, Plt: 415 000/mm³, normal liver chemistries, and tumor markers. Grade IV esophagitis and discolored atypical giant ulcer that stemmed from anterior wall of bulbus duodeni were detected in gastroduodenoscopy. However, it could not be passed through the second part of duodenum due to the presence of edema. Endoscopic biopsy of the ulcer revealed muscular layer without mucosa and exudate on the surface of the liver fragments and macrovesicular degeneration, pseudoacinar transformation and perisinusoidal fibrosis in the liver tissue. Furthermore, CT showed fibrofatty in the level of hepatic flexura adjacent to bulbus in the liver (Figure 1).

After 10-d decompression of stomach and intravenous

PPI treatment, diminished edema was seen and was easily passed through the second part of the duodenum in the second EGD.

To summarize, in significant part of the patients with abdominal pain without bleeding, penetration peptic ulcer into the liver is diagnosed falsely negative. For this reason, suspicion criteria of penetration of peptic ulcer into the liver should be reviewed and also be developed reliable, cheap diagnostic methods.

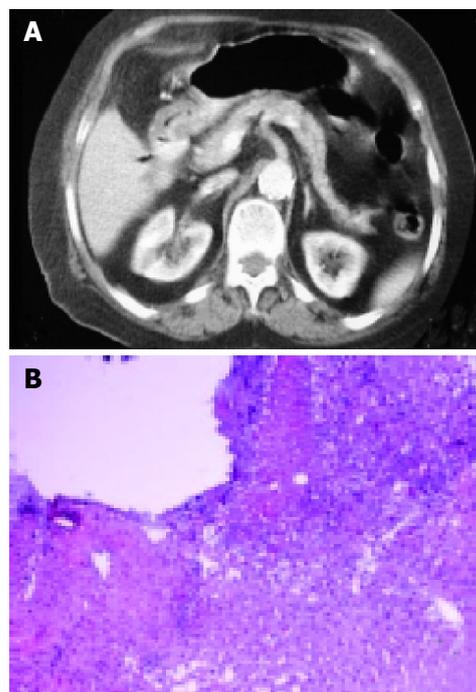


Figure 1 A: CT demonstrates fibrofatty in the liver next to liver; B: Endoscopic biopsy material shows deep ulceration of mucosa of duodenum and attaching liver tissue (hematoxylin-eosin $\times 200$).

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- 1 Kayacetin E, Kayacetin S. Gastric ulcer penetrating to liver diagnosed by endoscopic biopsy. *World J Gastroenterol* 2004; 10: 1838-1840

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