

Pyloric gland adenoma: a histologic, immunohistochemical and molecular genetic study of 23 cases

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SUMMARY

Pyloric gland adenoma is a rare neoplasm with a gastric epithelial differentiation. We report 23 cases of pyloric gland adenoma in older persons, with a mean age of 74 years (range 52 - 87 years). They occurred in the esophagus (3 cases), corporal gastric mucosa (7 cases), duodenum (10 cases), gallbladder (2 cases), and choledochus (one case). Histologically, they were characterized by closely packed pyloric gland-type tubules with a monolayer of cuboidal to low columnar epithelial cells containing basally located round nuclei, and a superficial layer of tall, columnar, foveolar-type epithelium. Immunohistochemically, most tumor glands expressed pyloric gland mucin MUC6, whereas MUC5AC was positive in superficial gastric foveolar epithelium, and in a minority of glands. In addition, scattered neuroendocrine cells positive for chromogranin A and/or synaptophysin were seen in all cases. In 3 cases (two cases in the gallbladder and one case in the esophagus), areas of intestinal metaplasia with CK20, CDX2, and MUC2 positivity were found. Focal low-grade dysplasia was found in five cases (21.7%), and diffuse high-grade dysplasia was seen in one adenoma (4.4%), i.e., 6 of 23 PGAs (26.1%) showed dysplastic features. In one esophageal case, an invasive adenocarcinoma was diagnosed. Scattered p53 positive cells were found in all cases. Their number was higher in lesions with low-grade dysplasia and it was substantially increased in adenoma with high-grade dysplasia and in adenocarcinoma. Our molecular genetic results indicate that pyloric gland adenoma's neoplastic nature is associated with p53 accumulation, mutations in oncogenes GNAS, KRAS, CTTNB1 and tumor suppressor genes SMAD4, and TP53. Pyloric gland adenoma can evolve into dysplasia and adenocarcinoma.

Keywords: pyloric gland adenoma – gastric mucins – gastric metaplasia and heterotopia – dysplasia – adenocarcinoma – mutation

Adenom pylorických žlázelek: histologické, imunohistochemické a molekulárne genetické zhodnocení 23 nádorov

SOUHRN

Adenom pylorických žlázelek je vzácný nádor charakterizovaný gastrickou diferenciací nádorových buněk. Prezentujeme sestavu 23 týchto adenom, ktoré sa vyskytovaly v jíncu (3 prípady), korporálnej slizničnej žaludku (7 prípadov), duodenu (10 prípadov), žlučníku (dvakrát) a v choledochu (jednou) starších osôb (průměrný věk 74,5 let). Histologicky tvorily prevážnou časť léz husté uspořádané tubulární žlázy vystlané kubickým nebo nízce cylindrickým epitelem s bazálně uloženými jádry. Povrch bol krytý vysokým cylindrickým epitelem foveolárného typu. Imunohistochemicky vykazovala většina žláze pozitivitu hlenu pylorických žlázelek MUC6, zatímco povrchový epitel a některé žlázy exprimovaly foveolární hlen MUC5AC. Ve všechných nádorech se vyskytovaly disperzní neuroendokrinní buňky. Ve třech případech (dvakrát ve žlučníku a jednou v jíncu) byla prokázána ložisková intestinální metaplasie, která se vyznačovala pozitivitou CK20, CDX2 a MUC2. Ložisková low-grade dysplazie byla nalezena v 5 adenomech (21,7 %) a high-grade dysplazie v jednom adenomu jíncu (4,4 %), tj. celkem se dysplazie vyskytovala v 6 z 23 adenomů (26,1 %). V dalším nádoru jíncu byl diagnostikován invazívní adenokarcinom. Disperzní p53 pozitívni buňky se vyskytovaly ve všech nádorech. Jejich počet byl výrazně zvýšen v low-grade dysplazii a zvláště v high-grade dysplazii a v adenokarcinomu. Molekulárne genetické výsledky potvrdily nádorovou povahu týchto léz s nejistým biologickým chováním, charakterizovanou akumulácií p53, mutacemi v onkogenech GNAS, KRAS, CTTNB1, tumor supresorových genech SMAD4 a TP53.

Klíčová slova: adenom pylorických žlázelek – žaludeční hleny – gastrická metaplasie a heterotopie – dysplazie – adenokarcinom – mutace

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Pyloric gland adenoma (PGA) is a recently described lesion of the digestive system. It occurs in the esophagus, stomach,

duodenum, pancreatobiliary system including the gallbladder, and in the rectum (1-12). PGA occurs predominantly in old patients, more frequently in women than in men. Endoscopically, it appears usually as a small nodular or papillary lesion, but rarely, it can reach a size of several centimeters (3). Histologically, the tumor is composed of closely packed tubular glands resembling pyloric glands, with a superficial layer of apical gastric epithelium. The main importance of diagnosis of PGA is in an uncertain behavior of this lesion, with observed malignant transformation in 12-30% of cases (2,3,5,8,10,11). It is suggested that PGA deve-

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