

EDİTÖRE MEKTUP / LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Metastatic colonic carcinoma to the Ampulla of Vater

Ampulla Vatare kolon kanseri metastazı

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Dear Editor,

Colon cancer is the third most common type of cancer, worldwide. The most common sites of colon cancer metastasis the regional lymph nodes, liver, lungs, and bone¹. We present a case of colon cancer with an unusual metastatic pattern mimicking an Ampulla of Vater neoplasm.

A 65-year-old man was admitted to the gastroenterology department of a hospital with complaints of abdominal pain, jaundice and fatigue and lost 10 kilograms in recent two months. Physical examination was also unremarkable other than jaundice. Laboratory tests showed elevated levels of ALP 480 IU/l (30–120 U/ml), GGT 300 IU/l (0–55 U/ml), total bilirubin 16.2 mg/dl (0.1–1 mg/dl), direct bilirubin 15.4 mg/dl (0.1–0.4 mg/dl) and hemoglobin 10 gr/dl(12-14 gr/dl). Computed tomography (CT) showed dilatation both common bile duct and intrahepatic ducts and cecal mass. Colonoscopic examination circumferentially surrounds the mass at the caecum was detected (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Endoscopic view of colonic carcinoma.

Biopsy from there showed adenocarcinomas. Endoscopic retrograde choledochopancreatography (ERCP) showed tumor on the ampulla of vater (Figure 2). Endoscopic papillectomy was done and biliary stenting after endoscopic papillectomy was applied. Histology of a biopsy revealed adenocarcinoma. The tumor on the ampulla of vater was diagnosed as colonic metastatic adenocarcinoma. Tumors showed similar histology and immuno histochemical findings for cytokeratin 7 , cytokeratin 20.

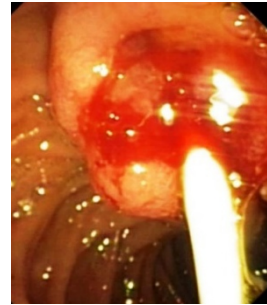


Figure 2. Endoscopic view of ampulla of vater metastasis.

Metastasis from colon cancer usually occurs in the liver and lung parenchyma¹. Metastasis from colon cancer rarely occurs in the thimic, vaginal, urethral, breast and penis^{2,3}. Ampullary cancers are 0.2% of gastrointestinal cancers⁴. Metastatic cancers of the ampulla of vater are an extremely rare occurrence⁵.

To our knowledge, this is the first case of metastatic colon cancer to the the ampulla of vater reported in the literature. Primary or metastatic ampullary

carcinomas become symptomatic relatively early due to biliary obstruction as in our case.

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