

Metastasis of Renal Cell Carcinoma to Pancreatic Bile Duct



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Objective

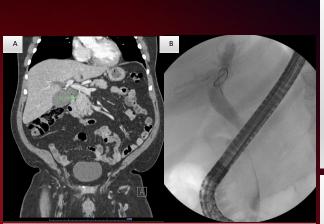
To present a rare interesting case of metastatic renal cell carcinoma to the pancreatic bile duct causing obstructive jaundice.

<u>Introduction</u>

Secondary pancreatic neoplasms account for less than 5% of all pancreatic malignancies, with renal cell carcinoma (RCC) being one of the most common primary tumors. These lesions often present with obstructive jaundice, and early detection is crucial for prompt intervention.

Case Description

A 61-year-old male patient with history of RCC s/p radical nephrectomy, presented to the Emergency Department with symptoms of jaundice, choluria, acholic stools and pruritus of two weeks duration. Laboratory values were remarkable for hyperbilirubinemia. A MRCP revealed an obstructed CBD segment with biliary ductal dilation. Patient subsequently underwent an ERCP revealing a mass at the CBD, causing a long filling defect. Hepatobiliary Surgery was then consulted, after which a pancreaticoduodenectomy was performed. Pathology revealed metastatic RCC, clear cell type, involving the intrapancreatic portion of common bile duct, ampulla of Vater, and pancreatic parenchyma, as well as four peripancreatic and periduodenal lymph nodes.



(A) CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis showed intrahepatic and extrahepatic ductal dilation with multiple filling defects at the CBD. The obstructed segment measured approximately 3.8cm long. The CBD measured up to 1.4cm in diameter. (B) ERCP showed a long fusiform/soft large filling defect from the distal CBD to the CHD.

Discussion

- Metastatic RCC has a poor overall survival and is often associated with widespread systemic disease.
- Unlike other malignancies affecting the pancreas secondarily, RCC may manifest as an isolated metastatic lesion amenable for surgical resection.
- While our case involves a symptomatic patient, 55% of patients with secondary pancreatic involvement by RCC are asymptomatic and are often discovered incidentally.
- Several case reports describe localized pancreatic involvement by RCC, however, isolated metastasis involving specifically the pancreatic bile duct remains a rare entity.

References

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