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Adult Pancreatoblastoma: A Case Report With Difficult Diagnosis

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Background : Adult pancreatoblastoma is very rare and preoperative diagnosis is difficult due to its heterogenous, variable cellular differentiation and atypical clinical features.

Methods : We describe here our recent adult case in a 78-year-old man, who underwent surgical biopsy and was diagnosed as pancreatoblastoma.

Results : A 78-year-old man, who underwent right radical nephrectomy due to renal cell carcinoma 2 years ago, was found on follow up abdominal computed tomography scan to have a pancreatic body mass with superior mesenteric vein invasion. For differential diagnosis between metastatic renal cell carcinoma and primary pancreatic malignancy, endoscopic biopsy was attempted for pathologic confimation, but failed. Finally, tissue was obtained by laparoscopy. As a final biopsy result with immunohistochemical stain, pancreatoblastoma was reported and chemotherapy was planned.

Conclusions : Adult pancreatoblastoma is very rare and preoperative diagnosis is difficult due to its heterogenous, variable cellular differentiation and atypical clinical features. Despite the rarity, awareness of pancreatoblasoma is necessary for specific cases, like our patient. Similar to other pancreatic malignancies, in patients with pancreatoblastoma, early detection and curative resection is the only way to achieve good long-term survival.

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