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Title: A CASE REPORT OF Bleeding From A Duodenal
Varix: Rare CAUSE of Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding

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MANUSCRIPT FOR IJS

TITLE: A CASE REPORT OF BLEEDING FROM A DUODENAL VARIX: RARE CAUSE OF UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL BLEEDING

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Highlights (for review):

- Duodenal varices are rare but important cause of upper gastrointestinal bleeding, especially in cirrhotic patients with portal hypertension.
- It should be considered when patient presents with severe recurrent gastrointestinal bleeding but no identifiable bleeding source can be found with conventional endoscopy and imaging studies.
- Endoscopic injection sclerotherapy should be the first-line therapy. Interventional radiology and surgery are both appropriate options if endoscopic therapy fails.

ABSTRACT:

INTRODUCTION: Ectopic bleeding varix is uncommon, accounts for 2 – 5% of variceal bleeding, of which 17% is in duodenum.

PRESENTATION OF CASE: 62-year-old lady with newly diagnosed liver cirrhosis on admission, presented with severe upper gastrointestinal bleeding (UGIB), was ultimately diagnosed with bleeding duodenal varices with single-balloon enteroscopy, after multiple oesophagogastroduodenoscopies (OGDs) and CT scans which failed to identify the varices. She was treated successfully with duodenectomy.

DISCUSSION: Endoscopy and CT angiography remain the diagnostic modalities of choice. However, diagnosis can be difficult as evidenced by three OGDs and two CTMAs yielding negative findings in this case. Endoscopic diagnosis is challenging and often delayed due to its rarity and unusual location.

CONCLUSION: Ectopic bleeding varix is a rare but important cause of UGIB. Diagnosis is challenging and management of this condition should take a multidisciplinary approach, involving experienced gastroenterologists, interventional radiologists and surgeons. Endoscopic ligation or sclerotherapy is the first-line of treatment.

Abbreviations:

- UGIB = upper gastrointestinal bleeding

Keywords: case report, upper gastrointestinal bleeding, duodenal varix

INTRODUCTION:

Ectopic bleeding varix is an uncommon but potentially life threatening cause of upper gastrointestinal bleeding. It accounts for 2 – 5% of variceal bleeding, of which 17% occurs in the duodenum.¹ Diagnosis can be difficult and often delayed due to lack of awareness and the unusual serosal or submucosal location of duodenal varices. It is important that the clinicians aware of ectopic bleeding varices as a

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