

Esophageal granular cell tumor

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A 45-year-old asymptomatic woman presented for a routine health checkup. The patient denied gastrointestinal symptoms, unintentional weight loss, and a family history of gastrointestinal malignancy. Clinical examination was unremarkable. All laboratory tests were within normal limits. Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy showed a yellow-grayish, intramural, submucosal nodule of about 8×10 mm in the distal esophagus (Fig. 1a and b). The initial biopsy did not provide a clear diagnosis. Endoscopic ultrasound showed a homogenous, well-circumscribed, hypoechogenic tumor 6 mm in diameter with a sharp border and a normal mucosa extending from the submucosal layer (Fig. 1c). Histopathologic examination confirmed subepithelial, sheet-like cell formations with intersections of smooth muscles (Fig. 1d). Immunohistochemical examination identified granular cell tumor with positivity for S100 (Fig. 1e) and SOX10 (Fig. 1f). The final diagnosis of a granular cell tumor was made. Granular cell tumors are rarely located in the esophagus. Most esophageal granular cell tumors rarely cause dysphagia and chest pain, which are commonly identified as painless masses by incidental findings on endoscopy [1-3]. After a well-informed discussion of options for interventions with her, she decided to have the tumor removed. Endoscopic snare resection was performed without complications after submucosal injection.

LEARNING POINTS

1. Gastroenterologists should bear in mind esophageal granular cell tumor whenever having a submucosal nodule.
2. Esophageal granular cell tumor may mimic leiomyoma in endoscopic findings.
3. Histopathological examination should be the first modality of investigation.

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION

Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for the publication of this case report and all associated images.

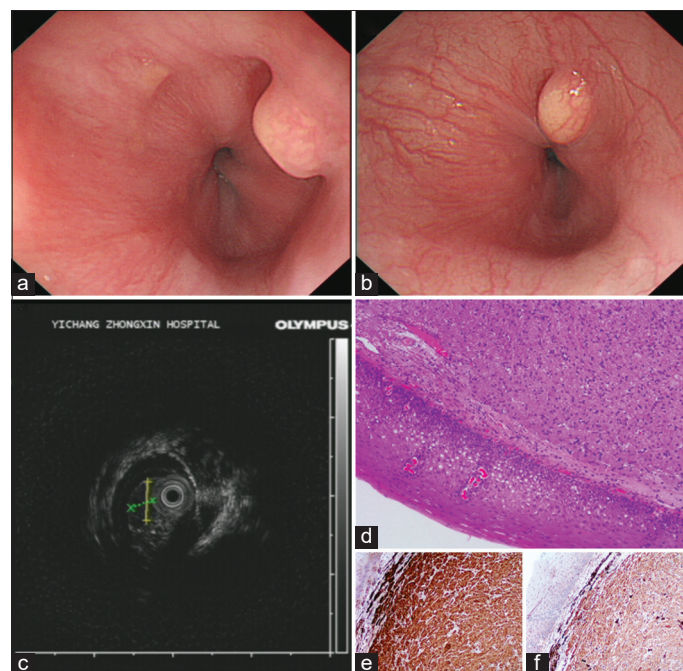


Figure 1: (a and b) Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy showed a yellow-grayish, intramural, submucosal nodule of about 8×10 mm in the distal esophagus. (c) Endoscopic ultrasound showed a homogenous, well-circumscribed, hypoechogenic tumor 6 mm in diameter with a sharp border and a normal mucosa extending from the submucosal layer. (d) Histopathologic examination confirmed subepithelial, sheet-like cell formations with intersections of smooth muscles. Immunohistochemical examination identified granular cell tumor with positivity for S100 (e) and SOX10. (f)

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors contributed to the completion of this work. The final manuscript was read and approved by all authors.

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Access this article online	
Received - 01 February 2024 Initial Review - 7 February 2024 Accepted - 12 February 2024	Quick Response code 
DOI: 10.32677/yjm.v3i1.4466	

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Funding: None; Conflicts of Interest: None Stated.

How to cite this article: Yang Y, Liu W. Esophageal granular cell tumor. *Yemen J Med*. 2024;3(1):64-65.