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GIST- An Unusual Case of GI Bleeding

Lucy Joo DO
Rowan University SOM

Justin DeRosa DO
Rowan University SOM

Drew Chiesa DO
Rowan University SOM

Darshan Roy MD
Rowan University SOM

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Lucy Joo D.O.¹, Justin DeRosa D.O.¹, Drew Chiesa D.O.², Darshan Roy M.D.²
¹Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Department of Medicine
²Jefferson Health, Stratford, NJ

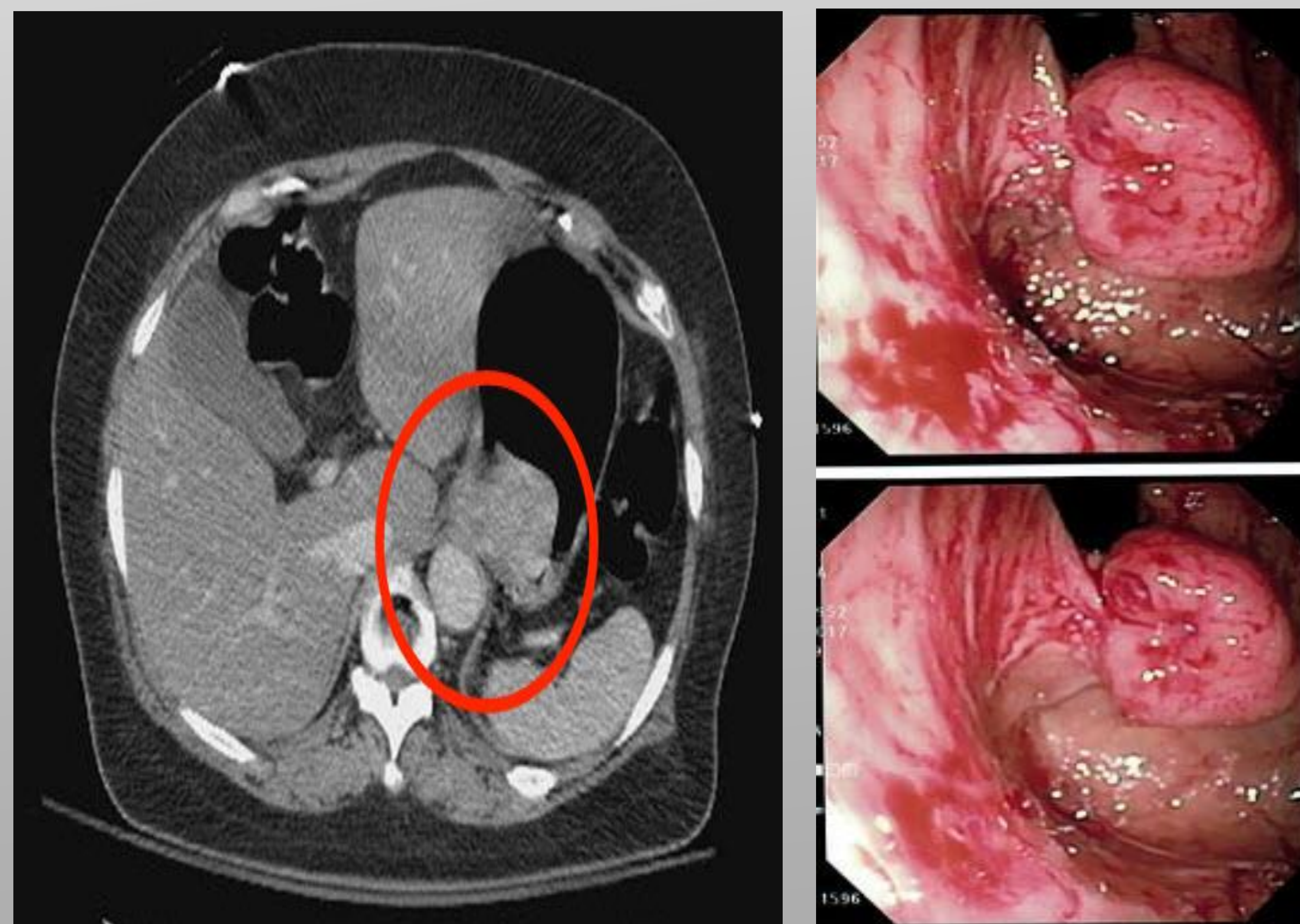
Learning Objectives

- Highlight the importance of a systematic approach in diagnosing GI bleeding
- Educate on the significance of obtaining a large differential diagnosis when working up GI bleeding
- Enlighten clinicians on this rare tumor

Introduction

- A GIST (gastrointestinal stromal tumor) is a neoplasm that arises out of the GI tract¹
- GISTs are the most common mesenchymal tumors of the GI tract²
- This case profiles a unique circumstance where a patient with a recurrent upper GI bleed, visualized on initial endoscopy, was ultimately found to have a GIST on subsequent imaging and surgical pathology

GIST on axial CT imaging and EGD



Patient Case

- HPI
 - 64 y.o. Asian female with generalized weakness and black tarry stools of 1 day duration. H/O NSAID use from chronic musculoskeletal pain
- ROS
 - Positive for rectal bleeding, diarrhea
 - Negative for abdominal pain, emesis
- PMH
 - HTN, HLD, chronic pain
- PSH
 - No prior colonoscopies or endoscopies
- Social Hx
 - No recent travel or sick contacts
- Family Hx
 - No gastroenterological disorders or cancers
- Labs
 - Hb-8.2, BUN-36, Cr-0.68
- Imaging
 - Endoscopy- 3cm vascular lesion
 - CT A/P - 4.8cm x 4.1cm lobulated mass in proximal stomach just beyond GE junction
- Hospital course
 - Sustained GI bleeding post endoscopy
 - Thoracoabdominal esophogastrectomy w/ mediastinal lymph node biopsy
- Post Hospital Course
 - Pathology – encapsulated mucosal tumor with spindle cells. Positive staining for KIT protein CD117 and CD34
 - Negative tumor margins and lymph nodes
 - Oncology - imatinib therapy initiated

References

1. Daffaud F, Meeus P, Delhorme JB, Stoeckle E, et al. Patterns of care and clinical outcomes in primary oesophageal gastrointestinal stromal tumours (GIST): A retrospective study of the French Sarcoma Group (FSG). *European Journal of Surgical Oncology* 2017;43(6):1110-1116.
2. Kubo N, Takeuchi N. Gastrointestinal stromal tumor of the stomach with axillary lymph node metastasis: A case report. *World Journal of Gastroenterology* 2017;23(9):1720-1724.
3. Miettinen M, Lasota J. Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors. *Gastroenterology Clinics of North America* 2013; 42(2): 399-415.

Discussion

- GIST Facts
 - 5% genetically inherited³
 - Can originate from any point in the GI tract but most common location is the stomach (50%)¹
 - Average age 60-65³
 - Incidence rate of 7-20 cases per million in U.S.³
 - Gold standard therapy is complete resection¹
 - 5 year survival rate is 54%³
 - Tumors express CD117 and KIT proto-oncogene³
 - High propensity for re-bleeding³

Conclusion

- GIST is a very rare GI tumor
- This case highlights the importance of obtaining a wide differential and systematic, evidence based workup for GI bleeding to insure that infrequent types of GI bleeding are not missed.

Spindle Cell Histology

