

INTRODUCTION

- Bleeding in Gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) portends a poor prognosis and is more likely in larger tumors with higher mitotic rates.³
- Hemostatic powder is a new modality to control gastrointestinal hemorrhage.
- Imatinib is a tyrosine kinase inhibitor used in adjuvant/neoadjuvant treatment of GIST.
- This case highlights the benefit of imatinib and hemostatic powder in gastrointestinal hemorrhage secondary to a GIST.

CASE REPORT

- 50-year-old female with presented with hematemesis and hemoglobin of 6.5g/dL. CT scan showed a 3cm mass on the lesser curve of the stomach.
- Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) revealed an actively oozing, ulcerated subepithelial mass close to the gastroesophageal junction (Figure 1). Hemostatic powder temporized the oozing.
- Biopsy via endoscopic ultrasound-guided-fine-needle aspiration showed spindle cells with positive immunohistochemical staining for c-KIT and DOG-1, consistent with GIST (Figure 3). Mitotic rate was 1/20hpf.
- Ongoing melena and transfusion requirement prompted repeat EGD, showing continued oozing. After failed endoscopic clipping, hemostasis was achieved with hemostatic powder (Figure 2).
- She was started on imatinib 600mg per day with cessation of bleeding. Definitive surgical therapy is pending response to imatinib.

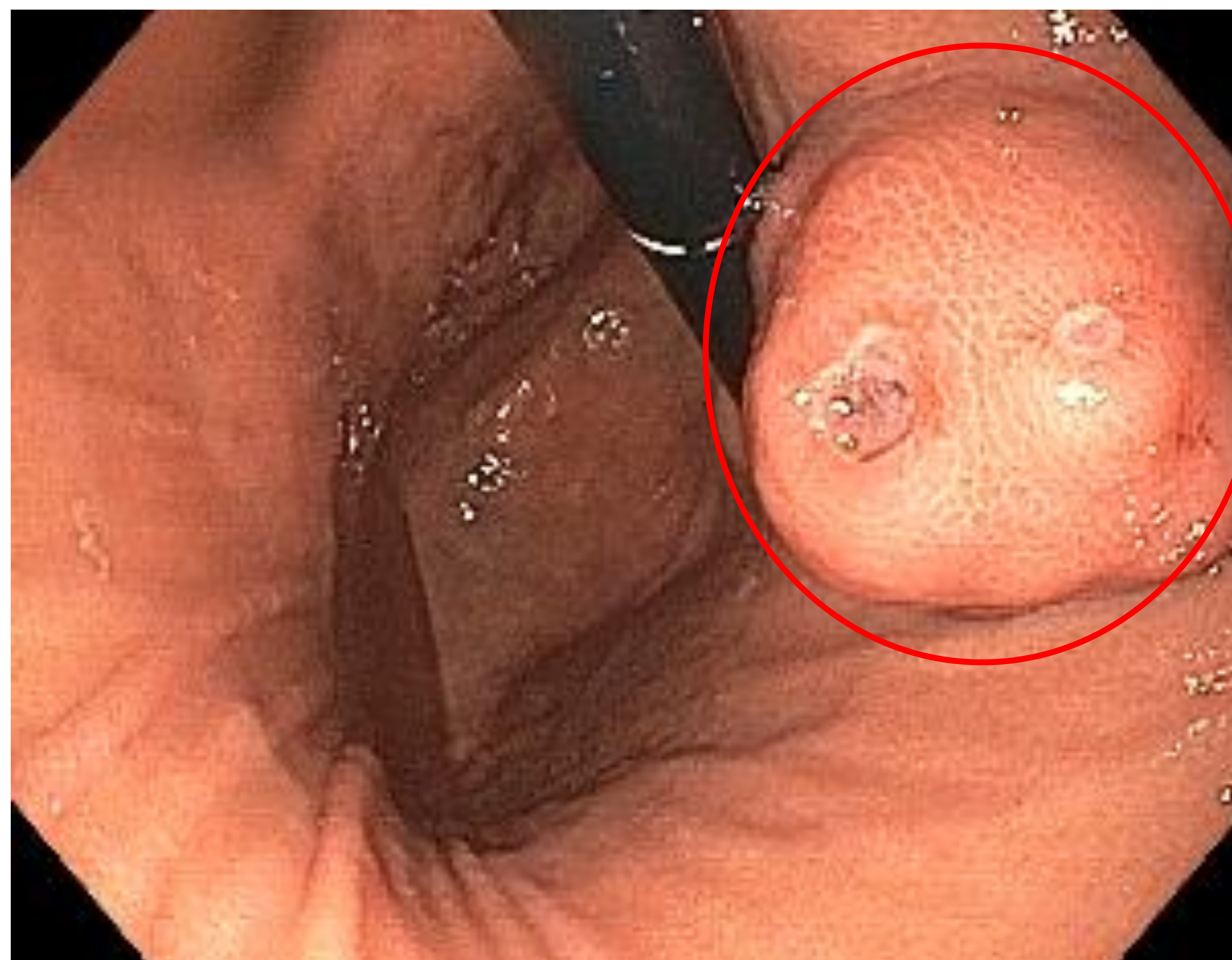


Figure 1: Ulcerated 3cm GIST viewed in retroflexion



Figure 2: Hemospray application to bleeding GIST viewed in retroflexion

DISCUSSION

- Achieving hemostasis with standard endoscopic therapies is difficult for bleeding GISTs, which are very vascular.⁴
- Hemostatic spray offers a new option to temporize the bleeding from GISTs.¹
- Imatinib is well established in neoadjuvant role to shrink tumor size or as adjuvant therapy for GIST. Use of imatinib in treatment of GIST related hemorrhage is less well established.
- This case demonstrates the potential role for imatinib in bleeding GIST, providing an alternative to more high-risk options, such as embolization or emergent surgery.

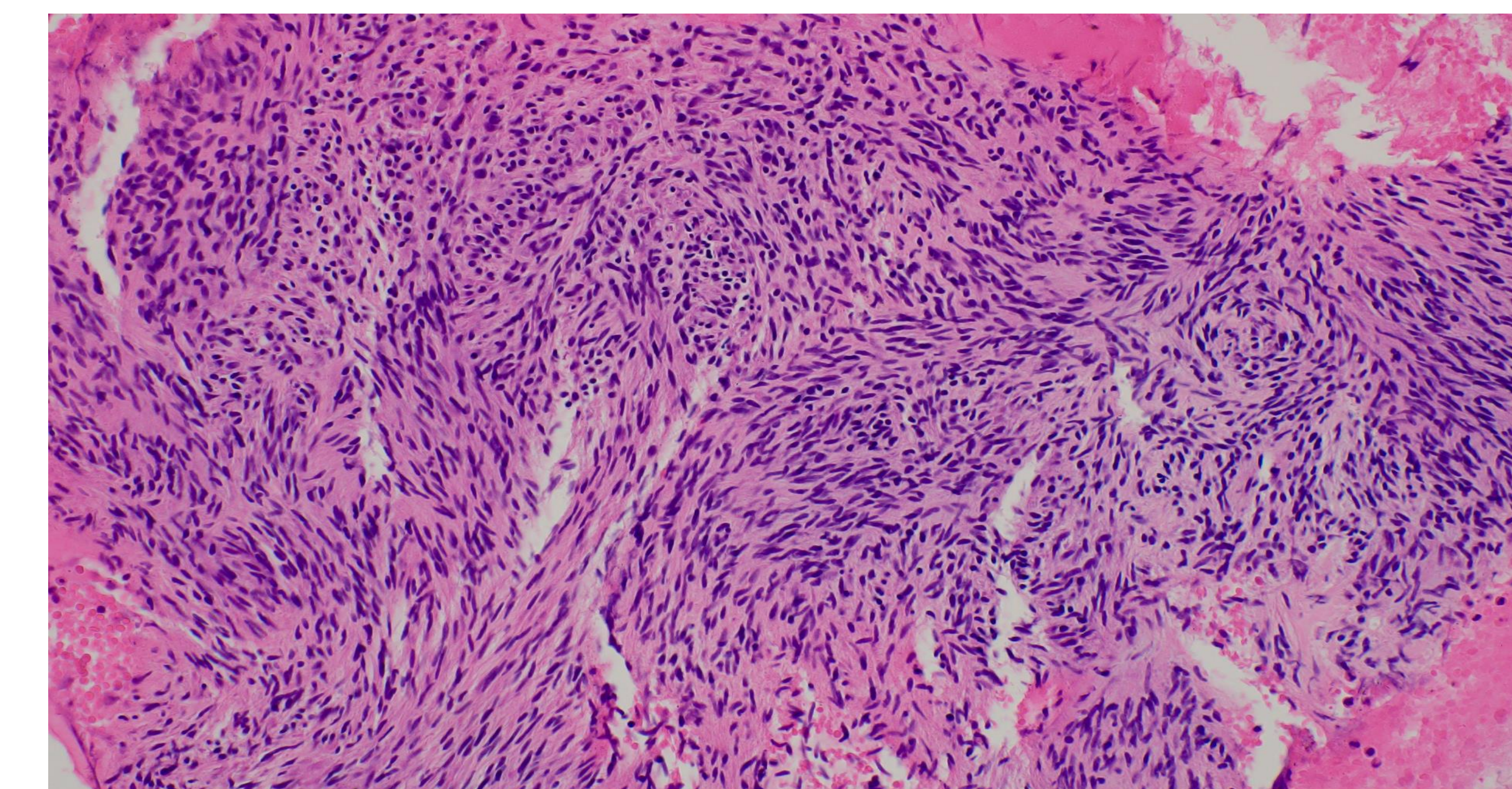


Figure 3: Spindle Cells on cytology consistent with GIST

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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