



A Rare Metastatic Lesion In The Pancreas With Biliary Obstruction

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INTRODUCTION

- Pancreatic malignancies can originate from either endocrine or non-endocrine cells of the pancreas.
- Ductal carcinoma is the most common type of non-endocrine tumor, of which adenocarcinomas constitute the most common pancreatic malignancy. Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) is the other ductal tumor that is very rare as the pancreas is generally devoid of squamous cells.
- Primary SCC of the pancreas is thought to arise from the squamous metaplasia of the ductules secondary to chronic inflammatory conditions, however, metastasis remains the most common etiology.
- We present a patient with history of recurrent poorly differentiated SCC of the cervix complicated by pancreatic head metastasis and biliary obstruction.

CASE DESCRIPTION

- A 46-year-old female diagnosed with poorly differentiated SCC of the cervix stage IIB, status post multiple rounds of chemotherapy over a period of 4 years, was started on a new medication – Tisotumab.
- Four months following the initiation of this medication, patient experienced abdominal pain and was noted to have a lipase level of 1160 U/L. She was diagnosed with acute pancreatitis and treated accordingly.
- Subsequent labs showed continued up trending of her liver chemistry, with alkaline phosphatase of 520 U/L and total bilirubin of 9.7 mg/dl.

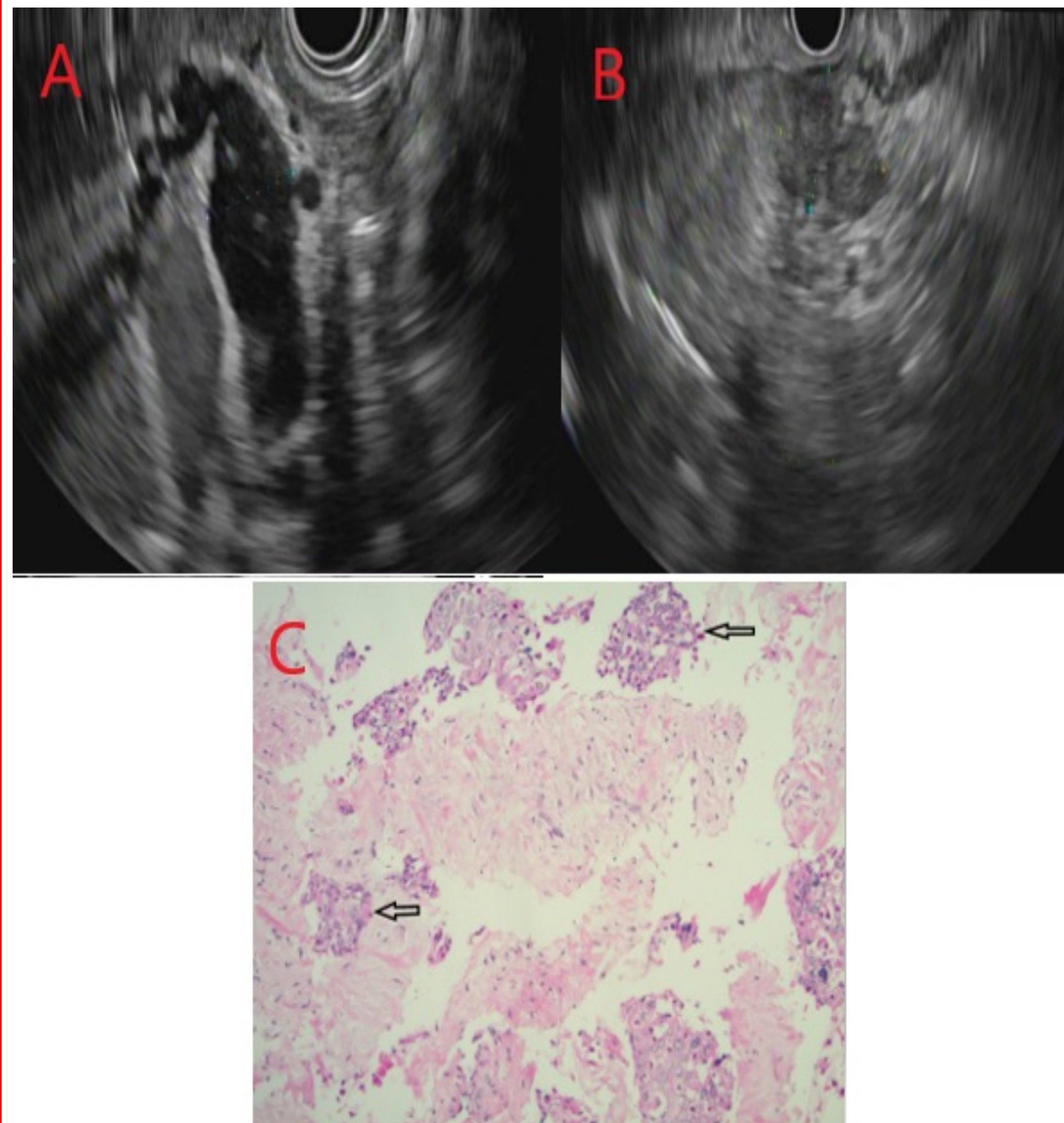


Image 1: A - EUS image showing dilated CBD measuring up to x 18 mm. B – EUS image demonstrating a 3 x 2 cm hypoechoic pancreatic head mass. C– H&E stain showing neoplastic clusters (black arrows) of metastatic SCC.

- A CT abdomen performed revealed dilation of both common bile duct (CBD) and pancreatic duct (PD) with subtle hypo-dense area in the head of pancreas.
- Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) was performed which revealed a 3 cm x 2 cm ill-defined hypoechoic and heterogeneous mass in the pancreas head.
- Fine needle biopsy of the lesion revealed SCC, most likely metastatic from the cervix. ERCP was performed and a 10mm x 8cm fully covered metal CBD stent was placed with normalization of liver enzymes.
- Palliative immunotherapy with Keytruda is currently being pursued.

DISCUSSION

- Metastasis to the pancreas is an uncommon clinical condition and accounts for 0.5-5% of all pancreatic malignancies. Because of the rarity, primary sources should always be excluded.
- Only a handful of reports of uterine and cervical cancer metastasis to pancreas have been reported, most of them being adenocarcinoma.
- We report a very rare case of SCC cervix metastasizing to the pancreas. Unfortunately, curative surgery is not an option with metastatic disease, and chemoradiation can be used palliatively.
- The median survival is generally poor with median rates of 4.8% and 1% at 1-yr and 5-yrs, respectively.