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A study on GIST in Babylon

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Background: GIST is a type of soft tissue sarcoma arising from interstitial cell of Cajal in GIT. It is important to note that all GISTs can be cancerous. Disease-free survival rates (refer only to the percentage of people who experience a complete remission after finishing treatment) can be fulfilled by early surgery & therapy using tyrosine kinase inhibitor

Aim: To study the behavior of this uncommon GIT tumor in our patients and the overall survival rate following medical treatment

Method: 32 patients with GIST were studied in Merjan Teaching hospital, their diagnosis made on OGD & histopathology & Immunohistochemistry. The period of the study started during the year 2013 to end of January 2015, the clinical manifestation and presentation and the main methods of treatment are studied

Results: From these 32 patients with GIST, their age range from 22years to 88 years with mean of 41, 14 are male and 18 are female making slight female preponderance. The main method of diagnosis is by OGD and two patients present with abdominal mass and anemia and the diagnosis of GIST was made after laparotomy and histopathology and immunohistochemistry using KIT & CD 34 tests. The most common clinical presentations include anemia, upper GIT bleeding and dyspepsia. All the patients were treated by Imatinib (30) and Sunitinib (2). Two patients died during the course of treatment making mortality rate of 6.3%. The overall prognosis & survival were determined by site, size and spread of tumor and 26 patients continue to receive CT during the year 2014. In conclusion GIST is a kind of tumor that has a wide spectrum of malignant potential and there is no clear risk factor was identified.

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