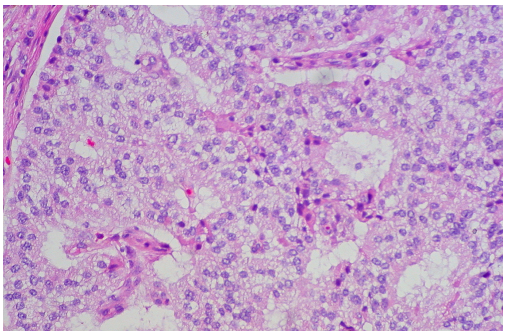
Yale Gastrointestinal Expert Identifies Malignancy Initially Misdiagnosed as Benign

Case reviewed by Professor Dhanpat Jain, MD, Department of Pathology, Yale School of Medicine, Yale University

Abstract:

A 70-year-old male patient with a history of renal cell carcinoma presented with a mass in his pancreas. A biopsy was obtained and analyzed by a commercial pathology laboratory that diagnosed the mass as benign. Due to the patient's history, the physician ordered a second opinion from Precipio to confirm the diagnosis. The consultation was assigned to Dr. Dhanpat Jain, an expert in gastrointestinal and liver pathology. Dr. Jain ordered four additional stains, which allowed him to overturn the primary diagnosis and conclude the patient had a well-differentiated neuroendocrine tumor.

Methods:



Neuroendocrine Tumor

Precipio received the biopsy and immunostained slides from the commercial pathology laboratory that conducted the initial diagnosis. Dr. Dhanpat Jain, Director of the Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology Program at Yale, identified the tests previously performed were insufficient and requested four additional immunostains which included synaptophysin and chromogranin, which came back positive.

This additional workup allowed Dr. Jain to conclude a diagnosis of a well-differentiated neuroendocrine cell tumor.

Key Highlights:

- Previous facility provided insufficient workup, failing to identify the malignancy
- Precipio second opinion expert pathologist identified and ordered additional tests
- Critical immunohistochemical stains highlighted the malignant cells, confirming neuroendocrine tumor presenting the pancreas
- Absent the second opinion service provided by Precipio, the patient's tumor would be have been left untreated

Clinical Implications:

Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors are treatable when caught early. Absent the second opinion service provided by Precipio, the patient's tumor would be have been left untreated and allowed to progress to potentially life threatening outcomes.

Professional Services Provided By
Yale SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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