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EVALUATION OF GLP-2 RECEPTOR EXPRESSION IN GASTROINTESTINAL NEUROENDOCRINE TUMORS

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Background & Aim: The objective is to evalaute the relation between gastro-entero-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (GEP-NET) and glucagon like peptide-2 (GLP-2) & GLP-2 R.

Material and Methods: The patients, who were pathologically diagnosed with GEP-NET between 2006 and 2009, were included in the study. There were 47 patients (27 F, 20 M, average age: 54±15.5) in the study. There were also 46 control group patients (25 F, 21 M, average age: 57.5±14.8). Pathological tissue blocks prepared on poly-L-lysine microscope slides were stained by GLP-2 Receptor Antibody (1:100-1:200, 1 mg/ml) immunohistochemical stain

Results: GLP-2R positivity of colon neuroendocrine tumour (NET) group was 30 % (4/13)) and of colon control group was 100%. GLP-2R positivity of pancreas NET group was 25% (3/12) while it was 100 % in pancreas control group. The comparison of colon NET and control group showed significant difference (p: 0.003). The comparison of pancreas NET and control group also showed statistically significant difference (p<0.001). The comparison of gastric NET with the control yielded comparable results (p: 0.22).

Conclusion: Neuroendocrine tumours (NETs) consist of a heterogeneous group of malignancies with slow growth rates and they are rare tumours. Although there is a hypothesis that carcinoid tumours arising from intestinal endocrine cells might also exhibit GLP-2R immunopositivity, and it can be used in diagnosis and treatment of these tumours; this study didn't show an obvious GLP2 R expression in GEP-NET's. We concluded that GLP2R cannot be as useful as somatostatin receptors in diagnosis and treatment of these tumours. More studies are needed on this subject with different methods

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