Case Report
Linitis Plastica
(Diffuse, Infiltrating, Poorly Differentiated Adenocarcinoma)

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Introduction:
A leather bottle stomach - linitis plastica - describes a stomach that has a gastric carcinoma, which is morphologically an infiltrating carcinoma. Infiltrating carcinomas of the stomach tend to occur in younger patients and carry a poorer prognosis than other morphological types. Infiltrating carcinomas cause a leather bottle stomach as a result of spreading widely beneath the stomach mucosa and invading the muscular wall. This pattern of growth causes thickening and stiffening of the stomach wall. As a result the stomach also has a reduced capacity. The resultant stiff-walled, smaller capacity stomach is much akin to a leather bottle.

Case report: N. S. 50/F presented with retrosternal pain early satiety and vomiting for last three months. Vomitus contained undigested food matter and was more for solids. No significant weight loss was noted by the patients or attendants. She consulted local doctors who gave her some medications and advised gastroscopy which revealed non specific gastritis. Surgeon advised Barium meal which revealed shrunken stomach with irregular margins (Fig 1). Despite no true preoperative histological. Support, we decided to operate upon the patient and procedure planned was palliative gastrectomy and Roux-en-Y esphagojejunostomy. After opening abdomen via midline incision, operative findings noted, resectability of tumor was assessed. Major vessels of stomach were tied. Spleen and stomach were taken out. (Fig 2). Duodenal stump was closed. Continuity was restored by bringing the roux loop of jejunum and anastomosing it end to side with abdominal esophagus using nasogastric tube as stent Fig 2.

Fig. 1 Barium study showing Linitis plastica

Fig. 2 Diagrammatic representation of Surgery

Fig. 3: The resected specimen

Patient showed smooth recovery from anesthesia

Fig. 4: Post-op Barium meal
The specimen was sent for histopathology which revealed adenocarcinoma.

Result:
The patient was referred to oncology ward for chemotherapy, where she received full course of chemotherapy. She visits us regularly and is satisfied with the treatment offered.

Discussion:
The sensitivity of cytological evaluation in limitis plastica was 73.3%. Lesions were classified in all cases of limitis plastica type as poorly differentiated carcinomas including signet ring cells.

References: