Interesting case conference

10/1/12
Clinical Data:

• 35-year-old woman undergoing evaluation for multiple GI symptoms (vague epigastric pain, intermittent back pain, daily nausea and emesis)

• Underwent EGD and colonoscopy, was found to have H. pylori gastritis and tubular adenoma of colon, otherwise unremarkable

• subsequent abd/pelvis CT scan identified a 2 cm incidental pancreatic head mass

• Comprehensive metabolic panel, amylase and lipase, CEA level, VIP and somatostatin all within normal limits

• FNA of pancreas mass with on-site pathologic assessment performed
PRELIMINARY ON-SITE DIAGNOSIS:

Positive for neoplasm, favor pancreatic endocrine neoplasm vs. solid pseudopapillary tumor
FINAL CYTOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

Solid-pseudopapillary neoplasm, see COMMENT.

COMMENT: The aspirate smears show numerous tumor cells occurring singly or associated with rare fibrovascular cores. The tumor cells have moderate eccentric cytoplasm and bland-appearing nuclei with pale chromatin, inconspicuous nucleoli, and occasional nuclear grooves. Immunohistochemistry performed on the cell block demonstrates that the tumor cells express nuclear beta-catenin, cytoplasmic CD-10, CD-56, and do not express chromogranin A or synaptophysin. This profile along with cytologic features confirm the above diagnosis.
SURGICAL FOLLOWUP
SOLID-PSEUDOPAPILLARY NEOPLASM

- Young women (mean 35 yrs), no site predilection in pancreas
- Uncertain malignant potential, most benign and treated successfully by conservative resection
- Differential diagnosis includes pancreatic endocrine neoplasms and acinar cell carcinomas.
- Nuclear reactivity for beta catenin in over 95% of tumors. Can be positive for CD56 and less often synaptophysin, but not chromogranin.
SOLID-PSEUDOPAPILLARY NEOPLASM

• Single or multiple layers of cells around vascular structures thickened by hyaline or myxoid material (very helpful diagnostic clue but not always appreciated).

• Monotonous cuboidal cells with granular cytoplasm, round or oval nuclei with finely dispersed chromatin and indistinct nucleoli

• May have nuclear grooves.