Opinion Article

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Clinical Implications of Intraoperative Transesophageal Echocardiography

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Description

Well-differentiated Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) that originate in the digestive tract, lungs, or occasionally the kidneys and ovaries have traditionally been referred to as carcinoid. Vasoactive hormones and peptides are well-known to be released by active carcinoid tumors. They can introduce in more than one way, including carcinoid condition, which comprises of the runs and flushing, impacts of cancer development like stomach torment or hepatomegaly, or as a coincidental tracking down on radiographic examinations. A 50-year-old woman with no significant medical history presented to an outside emergency department with new chest pain with orthopnea, bilateral pedal edema and a history of increasing shortness of breath and fatigue for several weeks. She was given diuretics immediately after being diagnosed with acute right heart failure and an outpatient evaluation by a community cardiologist followed. Transthoracic echocardiography that followed, which was carried out at an outside facility.

Carcinoid tumors

Neoplasms that originate from cells of the nervous and endocrine (hormonal) systems are known as Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs). Carcinoid tumors are the most common name for them, but they can also be found in the pancreas, lung, and other parts of the body. Even though there are many different kinds of NETs, they are treated as a group of tissues because the cells of these neoplasms often produce biogenic amines and polypeptide hormones and have similar histological appearances, special secretory granules and similar secretory functions. NETs include medullary carcinoma of the parafollicular cells of the thyroid, certain thymus and lung tumors, certain tumors of the gastrointestinal tract and of the pancreatic islet cells and others. Sometimes, tumors in the pituitary, parathyroid and adrenomedullary glands with similar cellular characteristics are included or excluded. There are many different kinds of tumors that fall under the broad category of neuroendocrine tumors, but only a small portion of the tumors or cancers that occur in the majority of these tissues. The cardiac manifestations of carcinoid syndrome were most consistent with these TEE findings. The cardiac surgeon, cardiac anesthesiologist, and members of the operating room staff discussed the patient's options prior to any surgical incisions because two heart valves were affected. A hard mass in the right upper quadrant below the liver edge was discovered during a subsequent physical examination of the patient's abdomen while he was under anesthesia.

Clinical implications

Carcinoid tumors are a type of Neuroendocrine Tumor (NET) that typically arise in the Gastrointestinal (GI) tract, lungs, appendix, or pancreas. Understanding the nature of carcinoid tumors, their symptoms, diagnostic procedures and treatment options is crucial for managing this rare condition effectively. Carcinoid tumors originate from neuroendocrine cells, which are found throughout the body. Carcinoid tumors are a subset of neuroendocrine tumors and are most commonly found in the GI tract, particularly the small intestine, rectum and stomach, but they can also develop in the lungs and other organs. Diagnosing carcinoid tumors can be challenging due to their slow-growing nature and nonspecific symptoms. A combination of imaging studies, laboratory tests and biopsies is typically used to confirm the presence of a carcinoid tumor. The prognosis for patients with carcinoid tumors depends on various factors, including the tumor's location, size and whether it has metastasized. Generally, carcinoid tumors are slow-growing and many patients can live for years with proper management. Regular follow-up is essential to monitor for tumor recurrence or progression and manage any ongoing symptoms. Carcinoid tumors, though rare, require careful attention to diagnosis and management. Early detection and a personalized treatment approach can significantly improve the quality of life and outcomes for patients. As research advances, new therapies and improved diagnostic techniques continue to enhance our ability to effectively treat this complex condition. If you experience symptoms associated with carcinoid tumors or have a family history of neuroendocrine tumors, consulting with a healthcare professional is crucial for early intervention and management.