Use of MRI to detect duodenal lesion caused by eosinophilic duodenitis

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DESCRIPTION

A man in his mid-20s was admitted to the A&E department with melaena and lower abdominal pain. He had been diagnosed with dyspepsia and duodenitis 4 years back.

Haematological investigation revealed microcytic hypochromic anaemia with haemoglobin of 7.7 g/dl and a mean corpuscular volume of 75 fl while other values (including eosinophils) were within normal range. He received blood transfusion and

Figure 1 (A) MRI enterography showing irregular wall thickening and 4–5 cm constricting lesion at D1 and (B) showing complete improvement after 16 weeks.

Figure 2 (A) Oesophagogastroduodenoscopy shows a large ulcerated mass at D1 and D2 junction and (B) showing healed ulcer with scarring after 10-week steroid treatment.

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underwent oesophagoduodenoscopy (OGD) and colonoscopy which were reported normal. However, routine biopsies taken during OGD showed a mixed inflammatory infiltrate with a high eosinophil count within the lamina propria with no evidence of malignancy.

Further investigation with an MRI enterography found evidence of irregular wall thickening and a 4–5 cm stricture with an enhancing irregular wall at D1/D2 with two slightly enlarged regional lymph nodes (figure 1A). To emphasise this, a repeat OGD showed the presence of a large ulcerated mass at the D1–D2 junction (figure 2A). Biopsies taken were consistent with eosinophilic enteritis.

He was prescribed a 10-week course of reducing regimen of steroids. Following this, he had an OGD which showed a healed ulcer with scarring (figure 2B). Two months later a repeat MRI enterography showed complete resolution in appearance of his D1 and D2 segments with residual small periduodenal lymph nodes (figure 1B).

Learning points

- ▶ MRI enterography is an imaging technique for small bowel disease that is increasingly more popular than CT or barium fluoroscopic examination because of the lack of ionising radiation exposure; improved contrast of the endoluminal, mural and extramural soft tissues.¹
- ▶ MRI enterography can also be used to diagnose and monitor activity of inflammatory bowel diseases, identify neoplasms and structural abnormalities.²

Competing interests None.

Patient consent Obtained.

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