

11TH GLOBAL GASTROENTEROLOGISTS MEETING

June 12-13, 2017 Rome, Italy

Transabdominal sonography of the stomach and duodenum

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Transabdominal sonography of the stomach and duodenum can reveal following diseases: Gastritis and duodenitis; acid gastritis; an ulcer, whether it is superficial, deep with risk of impending perforation, perforated, sealed perforation, chronic ulcer and post-healing fibrosis and stricture; polyps & diverticulum; benign intra-mural tumors; intra-mural haematoma; duodenal outlet obstruction due to annular pancreas; gastro-duodenal ascariasis; pancreatic or biliary stents; foreign body; necrotizing gastro-duodenitis; tuberculosis and; lesions of ampulla of vater like prolapsed, benign & infiltrating mass lesions. Neoplastic lesion is usually a segment involvement and shows irregularly thickened, hypochoic and aperistaltic wall with loss of normal layering pattern. It is usually a solitary stricture and has eccentric irregular luminal narrowing. It shows loss of normal gut signature. Enlargement of the involved segment is seen. Shouldering effect at the ends of stricture is most common feature. Enlarged lymph nodes around may be seen. Primary arising from wall itself and secondary are invasion from peri-ampullary malignancy or distant metastasis. All these cases are compared and proved with gold standards like surgery and endoscopy. Some extra efforts taken during all routine or emergent ultrasonography examinations can be an effective non-invasive method to diagnose primarily hitherto unsuspected benign and malignant gastrointestinal tract lesions.

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