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Hepatic Neuroendocrine Tumours of Liver: A Single Centre Analysis of 13 Patients

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Introduction : Primary hepatic neuroendocrine tumours (PHNETs) are a rarity and this rarity imparts management complexities.

Methods : A retrospective analysis of prospectively maintained liver database from 2009 to 2018 was done and patients with PHNETs identified and studied for clinical, imaging and pathological features, along-with surgical outcomes, disease free and overall survival.

Results : We identified 13 patients with PHNETs. Abdominal pain was the presenting clinical feature in 5 (38%) of patients, while 3 (24%) had features of carcinoid syndrome. Multidetector computed tomography supplemented with pre-operative Ga 68 DOTANOC Positron Emission Tomography scan was done in all patients. Three patients (24%) received preoperative chemotherapy, 4 patients (50%) underwent pre-operative arterial directed therapies in resection group. Eight patients (62%) underwent hepatic resections. At the median follow up of 36 months (range 5 -114 months)in operated patients 4 patients (37%) were alive with disease and 4 (50%) without disease. Recurrence was distant in 2 patients (50%) who received systemic chemotherapy, local in 1 (25%) patients who received TACE post-operatively and nodal in 1 (25%) patient who received PRRT post-operatively. Longest disease free interval of 72 months was seen in patient with Grade I histology. Median survival was 47 months and recurrence free survival was 20 months. On survival curve analysis, separation of curves was obtained between different grades and Ki67 indices but were statistically not insignificant.

Conclusions : PHNETs are rare tumours that require multidisciplinary approach. and Liliver directed surgery centred management leads to better clinical outcomes.

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