

HHS Public Access

Author manuscript *Am J Surg Pathol.* Author manuscript; available in PMC 2024 November 01.

Published in final edited form as:

Am J Surg Pathol. 2023 November 01; 47(11): 1230–1242. doi:10.1097/PAS.00000000002108.

SOLITARY FIBROUS TUMOR OF THE PANCREAS: ANALYSIS OF 9 CASES WITH LITERATURE REVIEW

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Abstract

Solitary fibrous tumor (SFT) has been increasingly reported in various anatomic sites. However, it is still extremely rare in the pancreas. Herein, we present the first series of primary pancreatic SFTs. Nine cases of primary pancreatic SFTs were analyzed. The mean age was 60 years (36-76) with no sex predilection. Six tumors were in the head, three were in the tail. On imaging studies, tumors were described as a hypervascular mass, two revealed cystic areas, and three were favored to be neuroendocrine tumors. On biopsy, two cases were diagnosed as atypical spindle cell tumor; one was misdiagnosed as suspicious for sarcoma, and another case as metastatic renal cell carcinoma. Two were diagnosed as low-grade sarcoma and low-grade stromal tumor on frozen sections. Grossly, tumors were well-demarcated with a median size of 4 cm (0.9-15). Microscopically, they were composed of ovoid to spindle tumor cells with no significant mitotic activity and were arranged in alternating hypercellular and hypocellular areas. Staghorn-like vessels and entrapped pancreatic parenchyma were also detected within all tumors. Tumor cells revealed diffuse/strong nuclear STAT6 expression in seven of eight, CD34 in seven of nine, and bcl-2 in four of four tested cases. One tested tumor harbored NAB2-STAT6 fusion. Eight patients with available follow up data were free of disease at a mean follow-up of 76 months (3-189). SFT should be considered in the differential diagnoses of mesenchymal neoplasms of

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Conflict of interest: None declared.

This study was presented in part at the annual meeting of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology in Los Angeles, CA, in March 2020.

the pancreas. Immunohistochemical nuclear STAT6 expression is a characteristic feature of SFT. Primary pancreatic SFTs seem to have favorable biological behavior in our series.

Keywords

Solitary fibrous tumor; pancreas; pancreatic; mesenchymal tumor

INTRODUCTION

Solitary fibrous tumor (SFT) is a rare mesenchymal neoplasm with variable histology and biological behavior. Even though pleura is the most site of common origin, SFT may arise in any anatomic site including abdominal organs. Extra-pleural SFTs occur in adults without sex predilection. They are either discovered incidentally or present with non-specific symptoms (1, 2). Rarely, they cause *paraneoplastic hypoinsulinaemic hypoglycemia* due to insulin-like growth factor production (Doege-Potter syndrome) (3– 8). Macroscopically, these tumors are often well circumscribed, multinodular, and firm. Morphologically, they are characterized with patternless distribution of ovoid to spindleshaped tumor cells, stromal hyalinization and hemangiopericytoma-like vessels (1, 2). They harbor *NAB2-STAT6* gene fusion (9, 10), which leads to highly specific nuclear STAT6 expression by immunohistochemical staining (11). Although the vast majority of SFTs have a benign prognosis, about 10% may behave aggressively with local recurrences or distant metastasis. As per the current (2019) WHO, features related with aggressive behavior include older patient age, larger tumor size, high cellularity, cytological atypia, >4 mitosis/2 mm², hemorrhage, necrosis and sarcomatous transformation (2).

Pancreas is an exceedingly rare localization for SFT. The first primary pancreatic SFT case was described in 1999 by Lüttges et al (12). Since then, only single case reports have been described in the literature (12–44). In this study, we present the first series of primary pancreatic SFTs, with the aim of further defining their clinicopathologic features and challenging differential diagnoses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Surgical pathology databases of the authors' institutions were searched for cases with a diagnosis of primary pancreatic solitary fibrous tumor. Available gross photographs, descriptions and histologic sections were reevaluated to confirm the diagnosis and further characterize the morphologic and immunohistochemical findings. Available medical records including radiology reports were reviewed to obtain clinical data including age, sex, presenting symptoms, tumor location, presence of prior biopsy or frozen section, surgical procedure type and outcome.

For all cases, the following histopathological information was recorded: tumor size; lymph node status; surgical margin status; growth pattern (as infiltrative or expansile); degree of cellularity (as low, moderate, high) and pleomorphism (as low, moderate, high); mitotic rate (by counting 10 field at x400 on an Olympus microscope=0.45mm²); presence of necrosis, hemorrhage, myxoid changes and entrapped pancreatic parenchyma. Prognostic

risk stratifications were determined by applying three different classification system: WHO 2019 criteria, Pasquali's recurrence risk model (Supplemental Table 1) and Demicco's modified four-variable risk stratification model for development of metastasis (Supplemental Table 2) (2, 45, 46).

A representative formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue section of the cases, for which a paraffin block was available, was immunolabeled using the standard avidin-biotin peroxidase method with STAT6 (EP325, Cell Marque) antibody and nuclear staining was accepted as positive result. Results of other immunohistochemical and as well as electron microscopy studies were recorded from the original pathology reports.

One case, for which additional material was available, was subjected to a custom targeted, RNA-based panel (MSK-Fusion) that utilizes Archer Anchored Multiplex PCR technology and next-generation sequencing to detect gene fusions in 62 genes (including *NAB2* and *STAT6*) known to be involved in chromosomal rearrangements (47–49). This custom assay has been validated and approved for the clinical use at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center by the New York State Department of Health Clinical Laboratory Evaluation Program.

RESULTS

We identified nine cases all of which were surgical resections.

Clinical Features

The mean patient age was 60 years (range, 36-76). Five patients were male and four were female. Four patients presented with abdominal pain, one of these patients also had weight loss, and another patient presented with back pain. The other three tumors were detected incidentally during work-up for other conditions. None of the patients presented with hypoglycemia. One patient had experienced acute pancreatitis 6 years before diagnosis of SFT.

An incidental intestinal phenotype ampullary adenocarcinoma (1 cm in greatest dimension, pT1) was found synchronously in one patient. Another patient had two separate incidental well differentiated WHO 2019-Grade 1 pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (2 cm and 0.8 cm in greatest dimensions), and a neuroendocrine microadenoma (0.2 cm). Three patients had history of other neoplastic conditions including meningioma, renal cell carcinoma, breast carcinoma and cutaneous basal cell carcinoma.

Two of the eight tumors with available imaging results were described as a cystic lesion, while the others were described as a well circumscribed solid mass. Tumors were described as a hypervascular mass showing persistent enhancement on delayed phase imaging of dynamic CT or MRI studies (Figure 1). Three were favored to be neuroendocrine tumors. Other radiologic differential diagnoses included solid pseudopapillary neoplasm, inflammatory conditions, and cystic malignancies.

One case had a biopsy diagnosis of "atypical spindle cell tumor, suspicious for sarcoma" and it was diagnosed as "spindle cell proliferation, favor low grade sarcoma" on frozen

section. Another case was favored to be "low grade stromal tumor" on frozen section. Fine needle aspiration of another case was interpreted as metastatic renal carcinoma based on immunohistochemical PAX8 expression and patient's history of renal cell carcinoma.

None of the patients received neoadjuvant chemotherapy. All patients underwent surgical resection (six pancreaticoduodenectomy, three distal pancreatectomy).

Clinical features of the patients are summarized in Table 1.

Pathologic Features

Six tumors were in the head of the pancreas, and three were in the tail. Grossly, tumor size varied from 0.9 to 15 cm (median, 4 cm). Tumors were described as well-demarcated, firm, solid lesions with white-tan cut surfaces. Three tumors revealed cystic degeneration (Figure 2).

Microscopically, sections revealed relatively well circumscribed tumors with lobular appearance and expansile borders (Figure 3), although, in some areas, extension to adjacent pancreatic parenchyma was noted. Moreover, on close examination entrapped pancreatic parenchyma was seen both at the periphery and within the tumor in all cases (Figure 4). In general, the tumors were characterized by so-called patternless pattern and staghorn-like vessels (Figure 5). Some areas were extremely hypocellular, others were hypercellular and abrupt transition between these hypocellular and hypercellular areas were common (Figure 6). Loose stroma and myxoid change were seen in all cases. One case had histiocyte accumulations in degenerative areas. Only one case (Case #8) revealed focal necrosis. On high magnification, the tumors were composed of cytologically bland, ovoid to spindle shaped tumor cells (Figure 7). Significant cytologic atypia was not identified in any of the cases and none of the tumors were mitotically very active (no mitosis or 3 mitotic figures per 10 HPFs in 9 or 9 cases).

Surgical margins were free of the tumor in all cases. No lymph node metastasis was detected, although the case with synchronous ampullary adenocarcinoma revealed metastatic ampullary adenocarcinoma in one of five lymph nodes (pN1).

Immunohistochemically, seven of eight tested tumors revealed nuclear STAT6 expression (Figure 8a); in the 8th case, STAT6 staining was non-contributory as the tumor was no longer present on the immunohistochemistry slide. However, the tumor had classic morphological features of SFT and labeled with bcl-2 and CD34, and was negative for AE1/AE3, CD117, DOG1, smooth muscle actin, desmin, S100, and CD99. Seven (7/9, 78%) tumors were positive for CD34 (Figure 8b) and four (4/4, 100%) tumors were positive for bcl-2.

Electron microscopy reported to demonstrate fusiform and spindle shaped fibroblast-like tumor cells, with a moderately developed rough endoplasmic reticulum, surrounded by collagen fibers in the only tumor tested (Case #1), supporting the diagnosis of SFT.

MSK-Fusion assay revealed *NAB2-STAT6* fusion (*NAB2* exon 4 [NM_005967] and *STAT6* exon 2 [NM_001178078]) in the only tumor tested (Case #3).

Pathologic features of the tumors are summarized in Table 1.

Risk Stratification

None of the cases were considered as malignant:

- 1. Based on the current (2019) WHO criteria, the tumors are not expected to behave aggressively as none revealed high cellularity, cytological atypia, >4 mitosis/2 mm², hemorrhage, or sarcomatous transformation. Only one case (Case #8) revealed focal necrosis (2).
- 2. As per Pasquali's SFT recurrence risk model (Supplemental Table 1), seven cases are classified as having very low risk for recurrence, and two (Case #2 and case #8) were classified as having low risk due to moderate cellularity (45).
- 3. As per Demicco's modified four-variable risk stratification model (Supplemental Table 2), eight cases are classified as having low risk of metastasis, and one case (Case #8) is classified as having intermediate risk due to 55 age and 15 cm tumor size (46).

Clinical Outcomes

Follow-up information was available for eight patients (89%). None of the patients received adjuvant therapy and all patients with available survival data are alive with no evidence of disease, with a mean follow-up of 76 months (median, 55 months; range, 3 to 189 months).

Literature Analysis

When all the cases in the literature are combined with our cohort (n=44), the following clinicopathologic characteristics are elucidated: All patients were adults except for one pediatric patient who was diagnosed at the age of 14 months. Mean age was 55 years (range, 14 months - 82 years). There was no sex predilection (F/M=1). Most of the patients were asymptomatic (n=19, 44%) or presented with abdominal pain (n=15, 35%); other symptoms/findings include jaundice (n=4, 9%), abdominal discomfort (n=3, 7%), back pain (n=2, 5%), weight loss (n=2, 5%), and hypoglycemia (n=1, 2%). The tumor sizes ranged from 0.9 cm to 18.5 cm (median, 4 cm). Tumors involved head/neck/uncinate process of the pancreas (n=25, 57%) more frequently than body/tail (n=19, 43%). Due to their demarcated round nature, radiologically, the first differential diagnosis was of nonductal tumors, especially pancreatic well differentiated neuroendocrine tumor, followed by solid pseudopapillary neoplasm and less likely gastrointestinal stromal tumor. All but one patient were surgically treated with different procedures based on tumor location, including enucleation, pancreaticoduodenectomy, or distal pancreatectomy. For one patient, surgery was not possible due to co-morbidities. The clinicopathologic features of all reported cases are summarized in Tables 2 and 3.

DISCUSSION

Even though primary mesenchymal tumors of the pancreas are rare, various mesenchymal tumor types arising from pancreatic stromal tissue have been reported, including inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor, desmoid tumor, GIST, lymphangioma,

cavernous hemangioma, angiomyolipoma, schwannoma, ganglioneuroma, leiomyosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, liposarcoma, angiosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma/PNET, undifferentiated/ unclassified sarcoma (28, 34, 50). However, experience with solitary fibrous tumor (SFT) is very limited. Our current understanding of this tumor is mainly based on individual case reports (12–44). In this study we analyzed nine cases.

Our findings, in combination with the previously published cases, reveal that most primary pancreatic SFTs occur in older adults (mean age, 55 years) without any sex predilection. The patients are either asymptomatic or present with non-specific findings such as abdominal pain or back pain. Jaundice is rare. The tumors are usually located in the head/neck with a median size of 4 cm. Due to their well circumscribed nature, clinically they are frequently diagnosed as pancreatic well differentiated neuroendocrine tumors.

Gross appearance of mesenchymal tumors is not distinctive either and mimic not only non-ductal epithelial tumors but also each other. Microscopically, SFTs may have variable histology. Therefore, distinguishing SFT from the other mesenchymal tumors, which show spindle-cell morphology could be even more challenging. Main microscopic differential diagnoses include desmoid tumor/fibromatosis, inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor, schwannoma, gastrointestinal stromal tumor, and leiomyoma. Needless to mention, melanoma should always be considered in the differential diagnoses of spindle cell lesions (2). Of note, although pancreatic well differentiated neuroendocrine tumor is considered as the main presurgical differential of SFT, microscopically they are usually easier to distinguish due to their more cellular epithelial nature and unique chromatin pattern. When in doubt, immunohistochemical staining with neuroendocrine markers such as chromogranin A and synaptophysin would be helpful (51).

In contrast to well circumscribed nature of the SFTs, desmoid tumors are infiltrative and are characterized with long fascicles of spindle or stellate cells. Although prominent vasculature is present, there are no staghorn-like vessels. Similarly, inflammatory myofibroblastic tumors are composed of loose fascicles of uniform, plump spindle cells. There is also inflammatory infiltrate, predominantly composed of lymphocytes and plasma cells, a feature not common in SFTs. Schwannomas reveal loose fascicles of spindle cells with eosinophilic cytoplasm and tapering nuclei. When present, characteristic Antoni A and B areas are helpful for establishing the right diagnosis. Gastrointestinal stromal tumors seen in the pancreas are usually spindle cell type, closely mimicking SFTs. Similarly, leiomyomas are characterized with long intersecting fascicles of spindle cells.

Fortunately, immunohistochemical studies are helpful for tumor classification. Although, bcl-2, CD34, and CD99 antibodies have been widely used for SFT diagnosis, these non-specific stains are not only positive in other tumors but can also be negative in SFTs. In our series, while bcl-2 expression was observed in all stained cases, CD34 was negative in 22%. However, after the discovery of *NAB2-STAT6* fusion as the hallmark of SFTs (9, 10), subsequent studies have demonstrated that STAT6 is a reliable immunohistochemical marker for detecting this genetic alteration with very high sensitivity and specificity regardless of anatomic site and morphological features (52–56). Like these studies, all our cases revealed nuclear STAT6 expression, including the two CD34 negative cases. Of course it should be

kept in mind that STAT6 may be positive in a small subset of dedifferentiated liposarcomas, most likely due to close location of *STAT6* and *MDM2* on chromosome 12 (52, 54). However, presence of well differentiated liposarcoma component and positive MDM2 and CDK4 staining can be helpful to distinct dedifferentiated liposarcoma from SFT.

In contrast to SFTs, desmoid tumors are characterized with nuclear β-catenin expression due to *CTNNB1* gene activating mutations and may reveal SMA and/or desmin labeling (57). Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumors harbor *ALK* or *ROS1* fusions and are characterized with corresponding ALK or ROS1 expression (58). They are also usually positive for SMA, desmin and less frequently keratin. Although schwannomas may express CD34, unlike SFTs, they are also positive for S100, GFAP and nestin (59). Similarly, GISTs may express CD34. However, since most GISTs harbor activating mutations of *KIT* or *PDGFR*, they also label with CD117 and/or DOG1 (60). Leiomyomas are positive for S100, HMB-45, Melan-A and SOX10 (62).

In addition to these well-known entities, the most challenging differential diagnosis in the pancreas is sclerosing epithelioid mesenchymal tumor, a recently described novel entity specific to the pancreas (63). Similar to SFTs, these tumors are also well circumscribed and solid, and the density of neoplastic cells is significantly different throughout the tumor. The neoplastic cells also exhibit variable morphology. Spindle cells with irregular, hyperchromatic nuclei closely mimic SFT. However, presence of epithelioid cells containing scant cytoplasm and round to oval nuclei with open chromatin and lack of staghorn-like vessels are helpful features. More importantly, sclerosing epithelioid mesenchymal tumors are only positive for vimentin, CD99, keratin (CK18) and extensive molecular testing failed to identify any specific mutation or fusion in these tumors, although they have a distinct methylation profile (63).

While most of SFTs have favorable course, about 10% of the cases reported to act aggressively with local recurrence or distant metastasis (1, 2). Although various risk stratification models have been proposed to predict the behavior of SFTs, there is still uncertainty for the most useful assessment method in daily practice. The most used parameters include patient's age, anatomical site, tumor size, mitotic count, cellularity, pleomorphism, hemorrhage/necrosis, surgical margins status and presence of sarcomatous transformation/dedifferentiation, (45, 46, 64–71). Subjectivity, lack of reproducibility and absence of absolute cut-off values for the assessment of cellularity, cellular atypia, and necrosis cause difficulties to determine malignancy potential of tumor. Also, tumors originated from different anatomic sites and the use of different outcome measures have led to inconsistencies between studies (3, 45, 46, 72, 73). In the current (2019) WHO Classification, older patient age, larger tumor size, presence of hypercellularity, cytologic atypia, mitotic count >4 per 2 mm², hemorrhage, necrosis and sarcomatous transformation are described as the features related with aggressive behavior (2). In the largest study including 243 extra-pleural and non-meningeal SFTs, Pasquali et al. reported that mitotic activity, hypercellularity and pleomorphism correlate with recurrence and interestingly, larger tumor size is a better prognostic feature (45). Based on these, they developed a SFT recurrence scoring system that has very low-, low-, intermediate- and high-risk categories

(with 100%, 88.9%, 65.9% and 52.6% disease-free survival rates at 5 years, respectively) (45). Subsequently, Demicco et al. by scoring patient age, tumor size, mitotic count and tumor necrosis but not cellularity and pleomorphism, categorized non-meningeal SFTs as having low-risk, intermediate-risk and high-risk (with no metastasis at 10 years, 10% risk of metastasis at 10 years and 73% risk of metastasis at 5 years, respectively) (46). None of our nine SFTs were considered malignant based on WHO malignancy criteria, while eight revealed low-risk and one (Case #8) revealed intermediate-risk for metastasis as per Demicco's model. The patient with intermediate-risk SFT is alive with no evidence of disease at 62 months follow-up. However, among previously published primary pancreatic SFTs, there are seven cases that were reported as a malignant SFT (25, 31, 34, 36, 41–43). These tumors were characterized with marked cellularity (reported in 5 out of 7 cases), nuclear pleomorphism and/or atypia (reported in 4 of 7 cases), necrosis (reported in 5 out of 7 cases) and frequent (up to 25 per 10 HPF) mitoses (reported in all 7 cases). Only one of these patients developed multiple metastases within 6 months and succumbed to the disease 10 months after surgery. However, this patient's tumor is reported to be positive for CD34 and CD117 (34). Therefore, the diagnosis appears to be questionable. One patient presented with multiple liver and bone metastases at diagnosis and is alive with disease at 6 months follow up (41); another one with intra-pancreatic metastases at the time of the diagnosis developed local recurrence after postoperative 21 months is alive at 32 months follow up (25). The other four patients, including one with sarcomatous component in the tumor, are alive with no evidence of disease at 1, 4, 12 and 40 months follow up (31, 36, 42, 43).

The clinicopathologic features of all reported cases are summarized in Tables 2 and 3.

Of note, recently, it has been suggested that hypoglycemia is also a high risk for unfavorable prognosis (3). In our study, none of the cases were found hypoglycemic. However, one of the known primary pancreatic SFTs presented with recurrent incidences of hypoglycemia without history of any endocrine disease (41). As mentioned above, the patient was eventually diagnosed with a malignant SFT of the pancreas with metastases to the liver and bone as well as Doege-Potter syndrome.

In addition, recent studies suggest that presence of *TERT* promoter mutation and/or *P53* mutation in SFTs may be associated with malignant behavior (74–77). Demicco et al. also reported that *TERT* promoter mutations correlate with older age, larger tumor size, presence of necrosis and development of metastasis, but they have no impact on overall survival and disease-specific survival. As such, *TERT* promoter mutation status provides no additional information to predict of tumor behavior in low- and high-risk tumors. However, they may be used to identify the cases that have higher risk of metastasis in intermediate-risk group (78). At any rate, there is no TERT mutation studies in primary pancreatic SFTs in the literature.

In conclusion, SFTs form demarcated round tumors in the pancreas creating the impression of non-ductal tumors, especially well differentiated neuroendocrine tumors radiologically. Microscopically, SFT should be considered in the differential diagnosis of spindle cell neoplasms identified in the pancreas. The alternating cellularity, staghorn-like vessels, the intermixing of tumor cells with entrapped pancreatic parenchyma, and

characteristic immunophenotype (nuclear STAT6 expression) are helpful features. Although primary pancreatic SFTs tend to have a favorable prognosis, marked cellularity, nuclear pleomorphism, necrosis and high mitotic activity are risk factors for aggressive behavior.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

Source of funding:

This work was funded in part by the Melamed Family Foundation and by the Cancer Center Support Grant of the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute under award number P30CA008748. Jiaqi Shi is supported in part by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health under award number R37CA262209.

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Figure 1:

Coronal MRI of Case #3 demonstrated a hypointense solid mass (arrow) centered in the head of the pancreas. No dilatation of the main pancreatic duct was noted. A neuroendocrine tumor was favored (A). Coronal CT image of Case #4 revealed a heterogeneous cystic lesion (arrow) with central solid component in the pancreatic head, with biliary ductal dilatation. The lesion was reported as "consistent with a cystic malignancy" (B).

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Figure 2:

The tumors were well-circumscribed, white/tan, solid nodules (A), one of the reasons why these tumors were diagnosed as NETs or SPN on imaging. Two tumors also showed cystic degeneration (B).



Figure 3:

The tumors are relatively well circumscribed with lobular appearance and expansile borders.



Figure 4:

Although solitary fibrous tumor has expansile borders, there is entrapped pancreatic parenchyma both at the periphery of the tumor and within the tumor.



Figure 5: Solitary fibrous tumors reveal so-called patternles pattern and staghorn-like vessels.



Figure 6:

Some foci are extremely hypocellular, others are hypercellular and abrupt transition between thesehypocellular and hypercellular areas is common.



Figure 7:

On high magnification, the tumors are composed of cytologically bland, ovoid to spindle shaped cells.



Figure 8: Immunohistochemically, all tumors revealed STAT6 (nuclear) (A) and CD34 (B) expression.

Clinic	copatholog	gic Features of 1	Our Cases					
Case	Age, Sex	Symptom(s)	Radiologic Findings / Differential Diagnosis	Location	Size (cm)	Cellularity, Pleomorphism, Necrosis, Mitotic Count	Immunohistochemical Findings	Outcomes, Follow up (months)
1	72, M	Abdominal pain	Solid hypervascular mass / PanNET, focal pancreatitis	Head	S	Low, low, no, 3/10 HPF	Positive: STAT6, bd-2, vimentin <u>Negative:</u> CD34, CD117, ALK, SMA, CMA, desmin, S100, AE1/AE3, CAM5.2, ER, PR, inhibin	NED, 17
7	76, F	Back pain	Solid hypervascular mass / PanNET, less likely a thrombosed splenic artery aneurysm	Tail	4	Moderate, low, no, 0/10 HPF	<u>Positive:</u> STAT6, bcl-2, focal SMA, focal CMA, focal ER, focal inhibin <u>Negative:</u> CD34, desmin, PR	NED, 138
3	65, F	Incidental	Solid hypervascular mass / PanNET	Head	4	Low, low, no, 0/10 HPF	Positive: STAT6, CD34 <u>Negative:</u> SMA, desmin, S100, ERG, CD31, CDK4, MDM2, pan cytokeratin	NED, 42
4	56, M	Incidental	Cystic mass with solid component / Cystic malignancies	Head	3.7	Low, low, no, 0/10 HPF	Positive: STAT6, CD34 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, CDK4, MDM2, ER, PR	NED, 47
S	36, F	Abdominal pain	Complex cystic mass / Inflammatory conditions, SPN, mucinous neoplasms	Tail	2.7	Low, low, no, 0/10 HPF	<u>Positive:</u> STAT6, CD34, SMA <u>Negative:</u> Desmin, S100	NED, 189
9	55, F	Abdominal pain	Solid hypervascular mass / Non-ductal neoplasms	Head	з	Low, low, no, 0/10 HPF	Positive: STAT6, CD34, calponin <u>Negative:</u> CD117, DOG1, ALK, SMA, MSA, desmin, S100	NED, 107
٢	57, M	Incidental	Solid hypervascular mass / N/A	Head	0.0	Low, low, no, 0/10 HPF	<u>Positive:</u> CD34, PAX8, PAX2 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, DOG1, S100, pan cytokeratin, synaptophysin, chromogranin A	NED, 3
8	56, M	Abdominal pain, weight loss	Solid hypervascular mass / N/A	Head	15	Moderate, low, focal, 1/10 HPF	Positive: CD34, bcl-2 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, DOG1, SMA, CMA, desmin, S100, CD99, AE1/AE3 Non-contributory: STAT6	NED, 62
6	70, M	N/A	N/A	Tail	13	Low, low, no, <1/10 HPF	Positive: STAT6, CD34, bcl-2, CD99 Negative: CD117, DOG1, SMA, desmin, S100, HMB45, CD31, ERG, EMA, Claudin, MUC4, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, ER, inhibin, WT1, calretinin	N/A
* PanNE Commo	T: Pancreatic n muscle acti	c neuroendocrine tun in. FR: Estrogen rece	nor, SPN: Solid pseudopapillar antor. PR: Progesterone recento	y tumor, PD: yr, MSA: Mu	Pancreati scle sneci	coduodenectomy/Whipple proc fic actin EMA-Enithelial mem	sedure, DP: Distal pancreatectomy, SMA: Smooth muscle ac herne antioen NFD: No evidence of disease m: months N/	ttin, CMA: 'A• Not available.

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Table 1:

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Table 2:

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Summary

Author, year	Age, Sex	Symptom(s)	Radiologic/clinic differential diagnoses	Location, procedure	Size (cm)	Reported malignancy criteria	Reported diagnosis	Immunohistochemical findings	Outcomes, Follow up (months)
Lüttges, 1999 [12]	50, F	Incidental	PanNET	Body, DP	5.5	Moderate pleomorphism, no mitosis or necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99, vimentin <u>Negative:</u> SMA, S100, NSE, cytokeratin, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, insulin, p53	Alive, RF, 20
Chatti, 2006 [13]	41, M	Abdominal pain	PanNET	Body, Enucleation	13	Necrosis, no atypia or mitosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, focal CD99, focal CD117, focal SMA, vimentin <u>Negative</u> : S100, cytokeratin, EMA	Death on postoperative 3 rd day due to complications
Gardini, 2007 [14]	62, F	Abdominal pain	PanNET	Head, PD	3	N/A	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99, focal SMA, vimentin <u>Negative:</u> CD117, desmin, S100	Alive, RF, 16
Miyamoto, 2007 [15]	41, F	Abdominal pain	PanNET	Neck, Enucleation	7	No atypia, mitosis, or necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2 Negative: CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, AE1/AE3, CAM5.2	Alive, RF, 7
Kwon, 2008 [16]	54, M	Incidental	PanNET, SPN, GIST, neurogenic tumor	Body, Median segmentectomy	7.6	No atypia	SFT	Positive: CD34, CD99, vimentin Negative: CD117, S100, cytokeratin	Alive, RF, 88
Srinivasan, 2008 [17]	78, F	Back pain, weight loss	PanNET	Body, DP	ى ب	No atypia or necrosis, <1/10 HPF mitosis	SFT	Positive: focal CD34, bcl-2, CD99, vimentin Negative: CD117, CD10, SMA, desmin, S100, CAM5.2, synaptophysin, chromogramin A	Alive, RF, 7
Chetty, 2009 [18]	67, F	Incidental	PanNET	Uncinate process, PD	2.6	No atypia, mitosis, or necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99 Negative: CD117, SMA, desmin, MSA, S100, AE1/AE3, CAM5.2, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, beta-catenin	Alive, RF, 6
Ishiwatari, 2009 [19]	58, F	Incidental	PanNET with cystic changes	Head, PD	ю	Atypia (low), 0/10 HPF mitosis, focal necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2 <u>Negative</u> : CD99, CD117, SMA, S100, AE1/AE3, EMA, synaptophysin, chromogranin A	Alive, RF, 42
Sugawara, 2010 [20]	55, F	Incidental	A/A	Head, PD	7	N/A	SFT	<u>Positive:</u> CD34 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, SMA, S100, ALK, cytokeratin	N/A
Azadi, 2012 [21]	57, M	Incidental	N/A	Tail, DP	3.1	No atypia or necrosis, low mitotic index	SFT	<u>Positive</u> : CD34, bcl-2 <u>Negative</u> : CD117, desmin, myogenin, AE1/AE3	N/A

Author, year	Age, Sex	Symptom(s)	Radiologic/clinic differential diagnoses	Location, procedure	Size (cm)	Reported malignancy criteria	Reported diagnosis	Immunohistochemical findings	Outcomes, Follow up (months)
dos Santos, 2012 [22]	40, F	Incidental	N/A	Body, Partial pancreatectomy	3	No atypia, mitosis, or necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, beta-catenin <u>Negative</u> : CD117, SMA, desmin, S100 cytokeratin, EMA	N/A
Tasdemir, 2012 [23]	24, F	Epigastric pain	Mesenchymal tumor	Head, Enucleation	18.5	1-2/10 HPF mitoses	SFT	Positive: CD34, focal bcl-2, vimentin, beta-catenin <u>Negative</u> : Desmin, S100, cytokeratin	Alive, RF, 3
van der Vorst, 2012 [24]	67, F	Abdominal pain	PanNET	Uncinate process, Enucleation	2.8	No atypia, mitosis, or necrosis	SFT	<u>Positive</u> : CD34, bcl-2, CD99 <u>Negative</u> : CD117, beta-catenin	N/A
Yamanashi, 2012 [25]	50, M	Incidental	PanNEC	Tail, DP	10, 3.5, 3	Intrapancreatic metastases, mild atypia, >2/HPF mitoses, necrosis, hypercellularity	Malignant SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, vimentin Negative: CD117, cytokeratin, synaptophysin, chromogranin A	Alive, Local recurrence after postoperative 21 months, 32
Chen, 2013 [26]	49, F	Abdominal pain, distension	PanNET, SPN	Head, PD	13	Necrosis	SFT	<u>Positive:</u> CD34, bcl-2, CD68, MSA <u>Negative:</u> CD117, CD99, SMA, desmin, S100, cytokeratin	Alive, RF, 30
Hwang, 2014 [27]	53, F	Incidental	PanNET, SPN	Head, Partial head resection	5.2	N/A	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99, CD10, SMA, ER, PR Negative: CD117, DOG1, caldesmon, desmin, S100, AE1/ AE3, EMA	Alive, RF, 6
Kim, 2014 [28]	52, F	Incidental	PanNET, SPN, pancreatic cancer	Tail, DP	2	No atypia	SFT	<u>Positive:</u> Focal CD34, bcl-2 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, SMA, desmin, S100	Alive, RF, 12
Han, 2015 [29]	77, F	Jaundice	PanNET	Head, Any surgery was not performed due to patient's surgical history	1.5	No atypia, mitosis, or necrosis	SFT	<u>Positive:</u> CD34, CD99 <u>Negative</u> : CD117, S100	Alive, PF with residual tumor, 10
Baxter, 2015 [30]	58, F	Abdominal pain	PanNET, GIST, sarcoma, SPN, SFT, mass forming pancreatitis	Head, PD	3.5	No mitosis or necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, focal beta- catenin, focal CD99 Negative: CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, Melan-A, HMB45, AE1/AE3, CAM5,2, EMA, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, CD56, PR	Alive, RF, 24
Estrella, 2015 [31]	52, F	Jaundice	PanNET	Head, PD	15	Sarcomatous component, nuclear pleomorphism, marked cellularity,	Malignant SFT	<u>Positive:</u> CD34, bcl-2, and p53 and p16 in malignant areas <u>Negative:</u> CD117, CD99, synaptophysin, chromogranin A	Alive, RF, 40

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Author, year	Age, Sex	Symptom(s)	Radiologic/clinic differential diagnoses	Location, procedure	Size (cm)	Reported malignancy criteria	Reported diagnosis	Immunohistochemical findings	Outcomes, Follow up (months)
						up to 17/10 HPF mitoses, necrosis			
Murakami, 2016 [32]	82, M	Hypertension, hypercortisolism, hypokalemia, edema	PanNET with ectopic secretion of ACTH	Tail, DP	6	N/A	SFT	Positive: STAT6, CD34, bcl-2, focal NSE, focal ACTH, focal POMC <u>Negative:</u> synaptophysin, chromogranin A	Death after postoperative 4 th month due to sepsis
Spasevska, 2016 [33]	47, M	Epigastric pain, jaundice	Cystadenocarcinoma	Head, PD	3.5	Minimal pleomorphism and atypia, 1-2/10 HPF mitoses, no necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99, vimentin, focal beta-catenin, focal actin <u>Negative:</u> CD117, caldesmon, desmin, S100, cytokeratin, EMA	Death after postoperative 1 st week due to complications
Zhang, 2016 [34]	63, M	Incidental	PanNET	Body/tail, DP	ς.	Marked focal atypia, necrosis, obvious mitosis, hypercellularity	Malignant SFT	Positive: CD34, CD99, CD117, SMA, NSE, vimentin. Ki67 index >30%. Negative: F-VII, AE1/ AE3, EMA, synaptophysin, chromogratin A, gastrin, VIP, somatostatin	Multiple metastases within postoperative 6 months, Death after postoperative 10th month
	46, M	Abdominal pain	Chronic pancreatitis	Body/tail, DP	4	N/A	SFT	Positive: CD34, bcl-2, CD99, SMA, focal CD68 Negative: CD117, DOG1, caldesmon, desmin, S100, ALK, CD31, CD21, CD35, AE1/AE3	Alive, RF, N/A
	43, M	Abdominal discomfort	Castleman's disease	Body/tail, Excision	4	N/A	SFT	<u>Positive</u> : Focal CD34 <u>Negative</u> : CD117, SMA, desmin, S100	Alive, RF, N/A
Paramythiotis, 2016 [35]	55, M	Incidental	PanNET, SPN, GIST, SFT	Body, Resection	3.6	Rare mitosis, necrosis	SFT	Positive: CD34, CD99, Bcl-2, vimentin, focal S100 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, SMA, desmin, cytokeratin, EMA	Alive, RF, 12
<b>Clare, 2017</b> [36]	39, F	Incidental	PanNET, SPN	Head, PD	2.2	6/10 HPF mitoses, no necrosis	Malignant SFT	Positive: STAT6, CD34, bcl-2, variable expression of AE1/AE3, CAM5.2 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, MNF116, CK7, CK20, CDX2, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, ER	Alive, RF, 1
D'Amico, 2017 [37]	52, M	Incidental	PanNET	Body, Enucleation	2	1/10 HPF mitosis	SFT	Positive: STAT6, CD34 <u>Negative</u> : N/A	Alive, RF, 24
<b>Oana, 2017</b> [38]	73, M	Abdominal discomfort	PanNET, GIST, ACC	Head, Partial pancreatectomy	6.5	No mitosis or necrosis	SFT	<u>Positive:</u> CD34, bcl-2 <u>Negative</u> : CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, cytokeratin	Alive, RF, 36

Author, year	Age, Sex	Symptom(s)	Radiologi¢clinic differential diagnoses	Location, procedure	Size (cm)	Reported malignancy criteria	<b>Reported</b> diagnosis	Immunohistochemical findings	Outcomes, Follow up (months)
Sheng, 2017 [39]	14 m, M	Obstructive jaundice	N/A	Head, PD	7	Duodenal invasion, mild to moderate pleomorphism, 2-5/10 HPF mitoses in hypercellular area, no necrosis	SFT with low grade malignancy	Positive: CD34, focal SMA, vimentin Negative: Bcl-2, CD117, CD99, desmin, myogenin, S100, ALK, cytokeratin, EMA, synaptophysin, chromogranin A, CD56	Alive, RF, 12
Afzal, 2020 [40]	43, M	Incidental	PanNET, GIST	Head/neck, PD	12.7	Moderate pleomorphism in hypercellular area, no increased mitosis, no necrosis	SFT	Positive: STAT6, focal CD34, bel-2, CD99, CD117 Negative: DOG1, SMA, desmin, S100, SOX10, ERG, CD31, pancytokeratin, synaptophysin, beta-catemin	N/A
Geng, 2020 [41]	48, M	Hypoglycemia	N/A	Body, DP, liver metastasectomy	6.5	Liver metastases, pleomorphism, 4-5/10 HPF mitoses, focal necrosis	Malignant SFT	<u>Positive:</u> STAT6, CD34, bcl-2, CD31, D2-40 <u>Negative:</u> CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, GFAP	Alive, PF with residual liver tumor, 6
Li, 2020 [42]	61, M	Abdominal pain	Pancreatic cancer, GIST	Body, DP	=	Splenic vein invasion, 25/10 HPF mitoses in hypercellular area	Malignant SFT	Positive: STAT6, CD34, focal cytokeratin, focal EMA. Ki67 index; 20%. <u>Negative:</u> CD117, DOG1, desmin, S100, TLE-1, beta- catenin, CD21, CD35, CD23	Alive, RF, 4
<b>Taguchi, 2020</b> [43]	60, M	Palpable mass	PanNEC, GIST, SFT	Head, PD	8	Venous invasion, duodenal invasion, 12/10 HPF mitoses, necrosis, hypercellularity	Malignant SFT	Positive: STAT6 (weak), CD34, bel-2, focal AE1/AE3, vimentin <u>Negative:</u> CD117, DOG1, SMA, desmin, S100, synaptophysin, chromogranin A	Alive, RF, 12
Liu, 2022 [44]	54, F	Incidental	Benign or low-grade malignant pancreatic tumor	Head, Duodenum- preserving pancreatic head resection	3.1	No atypia or necrosis, 0-2/10 HPF mitosis	SFT	Positive: STAT6, CD34, CD99 Negative: CD117, SMA, desmin, S100, EMA, cyclin-D1	Alive, RF, 6
* PanNET: Pancreatic	neuroend	ocrine tumor, SPN: So	lid pseudopapillary tumor.	; GIST: Gastrointesti	nal strom	al tumor, PanNEC: Pan	icreatic neuroen	docrine carcinoma, ACTH: Adrenoco	orticotropic

hormone, ACC: Acinar cell carcinoma, PD: Pancreaticoduodenectomy/Whipple procedure, DP: Distal pancreatectomy, SMA: Smooth muscle actin, NSE: Neuron specific enolase, MSA: Muscle specific actin, POMC: proopiomelanocortin, VIP: Vasoactive intestinal polypeptide, GFAP: Glial fibrillary acidic protein, RF: Recurrence-free, PF: Progression-free, m: months, N/A: Not available.

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Comparison of Our Series and the Literature

	Our Series	Literature
Mean age (years)	60	54
Male / Female	5/4	17 / 18
Symptoms	Abdominal pain (n=4), back pain (n=1), weight loss (n=1)	Abdominal/epigastric pain $(n=10)$ , jaundice $(n=4)$ , abdominal discomfort/distension $(n=3)$ , back pain $(n=1)$ , weight loss $(n=1)$ , palpable mass $(n=1)$
Head-neck / Body-tail	6/3	19 / 16
Median tumor size (cm)	4	4
Benign / Malignant	0 / 6	28 / 7
Mean follow-up (months)	76	17
Status	All are alive with NED	23 are alive with no evidence of disease 2 are alive with residual disease 1 is alive with local recurrence 2 died due to post-operative complications 1 died due to malignant metastatic SFT 1 died due to sepsis