Introduction
The ampulla is a poorly defined region, both anatomically and histologically, affected by malignancies arising in the duodenum, distal common bile duct, head of the pancreas and those centered around the ampulla. These tumours are collectively considered as ampullary carcinomas.

Objective
To describe the clinicopathological features of malignancies arising in the ampullary region.

Method
• Type of study - Retrospective study
• Setting - Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya
• Study period - Four years.
• Clinical data and pathological features of 42 histopathology reports of resection specimens of malignant tumours in the ampullary region were analyzed.
  • This included,
    ❖ Pancreatic tumours - 11
    ❖ Biliary tumours - 5
    ❖ Ampulla of vater tumours - 18
    ❖ Duodenal tumours - 8

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male : Female ratio</th>
<th>8 : 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median age</td>
<td>57 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average duration of symptoms</td>
<td>2.8 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clinical features

- Abdominal pain: 2.38% (1/42)
- Jaundice: 19.05% (8/42)
- Other: 35.71% (15/42)
- Multiple symptoms: 38.09% (16/42)
- History not mentioned in request form: 4.76% (2/42)

Histological types

- Adenocarcinoma: 8.09% (15/184)
- Neuroendocrine tumour: 2.38% (1/42)
- GIST: 11.90% (5/42)
- Pseudopapillary neoplasm of the pancreas: 8.09% (15/184)
- Acinar cell carcinoma head of the pancreas: 2.38% (1/42)

Histological features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perineural invasion</th>
<th>Lymphovascular invasion</th>
<th>Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biliary tumours (n=5)</td>
<td>Duodenal tumours (n=5)</td>
<td>Ampullary tumours (n=16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>3/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/5</td>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>5/16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Histological Features

- Well differentiated adenocarcinoma: 69.05%
- Moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma: 21.43%
- Poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma: 7.14%

Conclusion

- Ampullary malignancies were more common among females.
- Median age - 57 years
- Majority - Moderately differentiated adenocarcinomas with lymphovascular and perineural invasion
- The commonest stage at presentation – IIB.