Reviewer’s report

Title: Pancreatic hamartoma: A case report and literature review.

Version: 0 Date: 08 Sep 2015

Reviewer: Hideo Baba

Reviewer's report:

A pancreatic hamartoma is a rare benign tumor and difficult to diagnose correctly because of the absence of characteristic differential features. In this paper, the authors described the clinicopathological features of pancreatic hamartomas. This case of a pancreatic hamartoma, which has been observed long-term, is interesting. However, a major revision of manuscript is needed before it will be acceptable for BMC Gastroenterology.

Major

(1) The authors concluded that clinicopathological features of pancreatic hamartomas could be "well-demarcated solid and cystic tumor," "scattered normal acini and varied dilated duct size without atypia," "mature adipose tissue and fibrosis," and "chronological morphological changes." However, 3 of the features, "well-demarcated solid and cystic tumor," "scattered normal acini and varied dilated duct size without atypia," and "mature adipose tissue and fibrosis" have already been described in previous reports (Kawakami F, World J Gastrointest Oncol. 2012; Inoue H, Endoscopy. 2014). I consider it controversial to call "chronological morphological changes" a feature of pancreatic hamartomas on the base of only two cases (present case and reference 15). The authors should review other case reports in regard to possible "chronological morphological changes"

(2) The authors should, if possible, describe the differential point between pancreatic hamartoma and intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasm (IPMN).

Minor

Fig. 2-g: It is better to have the arrow point to the tumor.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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