

ESOPHAGEAL INTRAMURAL PSEUDODIVERTICULOSIS-ASSOCIATED WITH SEVERE IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA

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Purpose: Esophageal intramural pseudodiverticulosis is a rare condition. Although this is strongly associated with gastroesophageal reflux disease, hiatal hernia and esophageal strictures, severe iron deficiency anaemia secondary to esophageal intramural esophageal diverticulosis has not been reported previously.

Methods: A 76 year old hispanic male was found to be severely anemic on routine physical examination. He denied any history of dysphagia, dyspepsia, anorexia or weight loss. There was no recent change in bowel habits and no known significant past medical or surgical history. He denies use of NSAIDS. The physical exam was negative for lymphadenopathy and organomegaly. The rectal exam revealed strongly positive Haemo-ccult stool test. The hematocrit was 24, with hypochromic and microcytic indices. The upper endoscopy revealed multiple flask-shaped diverticuli in the distal esophagus with mucosal erosion, superficial ulcerations with mild oozing. The microscopic examination did not support Barrett's esophagus. The colonoscopy was negative up to the caecum. An esophagogram showed multiple distal esophageal diverticuli. The small bowel series was reported normal.

Conclusions: Although chronic esophagitis per se can cause anemia, esophageal intramural pseudodiverticulosis, has never been associated with severe iron deficiency anemia.