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TRANSABDOMINAL SONOGRAPHY OF THE STOMACH AND DUODENUM

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Transabdominal sonography of the stomach and duodenum can reveal following diseases: gastritis and duodenitis, acid gastritis, an ulcer whether it is superficial, deep with risk of impending perforation, perforated or sealed perforation, chronic ulcer and post-healing fibrosis, structure, polyps and diverticulum, benign intra-mural tumours, intra-mural haematoma, duodenal outlet obstruction due to annular pancreas, gastro-duodenal ascariasis, pancreatic or biliary stents, foreign body, necrotizing gastro-duodenitis, tuberculosis, lesions of ampulla of vater like prolapsed, benign and infiltrating mass lesions. Neoplastic lesion is usually a segment involvement and shows irregularly thickened, hypoechoic and aperistaltic wall with loss of normal layering pattern. It is usually a solitary stricture and has eccentric irregular luminal narrowing. It shows loss of normal gut signature. Enlargement of the involved segment was seen. Shouldering effect at the ends of stricture is most common feature. Enlarged lymphnodes around may be seen. Primary arising from wall itself and secondary are invasion from peri-ampullary malignancy or distant metastasis. All these cases are compared and proved with gold standards like surgery and endoscopy. Some extra efforts taken during all routine or emergent ultrasonography examinations can be effective non-invasive methods to diagnose primarily hitherto unsuspected benign and malignant gastro-intestinal tract lesions, so should be the investigation of choice.

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