

Early Gastric Gancer Diagnosis Management

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DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE







Last hospital in northern Gaza halts operation 6 Dec 2023



Estimated number of new cases in 2020, World, both sexes, all ages



Estimated number of deaths in 2020, World, both sexes, all ages



Age standardized (World) incidence rates, stomach, males, all ages



Age standardized (World) incidence rates, stomach, females, all ages



Graph production: IARC (http://gco.iarc.fr/today) World Health Organization World Health Organization ID International Agency for Research on Cancer 2018

Number of new cases in 2020, both sexes, all ages





Age-standardized (World) incidence and mortality rates, top 10 cancers



Journal of Gastrointestinal Cancer https://doi.org/10.1007/s12029-021-00722-x

ORIGINAL RESEARCH



Incidence Trends of Gastric Cancer in Southern Iran: Adenocarcinoma and Non-cardia Gastric Cancer Are More Rising Among Younger Ages

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Overall Survival After Diagnosis NCI International EBV-Gastric Cancer Consortium



NIH) NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE



Incidence, both sexes



Population	Number
Asia	769 728
Europe	133 133
*Latin America and the Caribbean	67 058
Africa	31 148
North America	29 275
Oceania	3 359
Total	1 033 701

Mortality, both sexes



	Population	Number
	Asia	584 375
	Europe	102 167
*Latin America an	d the Caribbean	51 914
	Africa	28 707
	North America	13 403
	Oceania	2 119
	Total	782 685



Five-year age-standardised net survival (%)

Back

Prognosis of Gastric Cancer is related to stage of diagnosis!





Faculty of Medicine

Importance of early Diagnosis of GC

- In localized distal gastric cancer>50% of patients can be cured.
- Early-stage disease accounts for only 10% to 20% of all cases
- Even with apparent localized disease, the 5-year survival rate of patients with proximal gastric cancer is only 10% to 15%.
- Although the treatment of patients with disseminated gastric cancer may result in palliation of symptoms and some prolongation of survival, long remissions are uncommon.

Diagnosis of EGC

Endoscopy

- Endoscopy & photofluorography
- Magnification chromoendoscopy
- Image-enhanced endoscopy technology
- Artificial intelligence

Pepsinogen ,H. Pylori Ab
Low PG I:PG II ratio

Serum

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- Circulating tumor cells
- Non coding RNA
 - microRNA
 - Circular RNA
- Exosomes

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Cell free DNA

Missed Lesions

The rate of missed lesions as high as 10% in the 3 years

- Guidelines on the performance measures in upper GI endoscopy : at least total seven minutes and 3-4 minutes observation in stomach
- The reasons why lesions are missed:
 - Some stomach areas (blind areas) are difficult to observe by endoscopy (error in observation).
 - Although a lesion is observed, it is not recognized as a lesion (error in detection).
 - A lesion is recognized but wrongly diagnosed (error in characterization or diagnosis).



9-mm adenocarcinoma.

MASTERS OF ENDOSCOPY

How I inspect the stomach

Hisao Tajiri, MD,¹ Mário Dinis-Ribeiro, MD²

Tokyo, Japan; Porto, Portugal

GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY Volume 89, No. 6 : 2019

How to eliminate blind areas

1. Gastric angle, posterior wall, and greater curvature of the gastric corpus.

- Frontal view, wherever possible, by adjusting the left and right angles and the amount of air.
- 2. The lesser curvature in the cardia
- up-angle and right-angle turns during retroflex examination
- **3.** Avoid adherence of mucus to the gastric mucosa

Images should be captured before specific areas, such as the greater curvature of the angularis and the pyloric ring, are passed, to avoid confounding by endoscope-induced abrasion/erythema.

The rugae of the greater curvature of the gastric corpus should be adequately stretched by insufflation to inspect between the rugae.











How to eliminate detection errors

Factors affecting detection :

- The direction of endoscopy (front and tangential observations)
- The distance (distant and near views)
- The amount of insufflation (the degree of extension of the gastric wall)
- The light intensity.

The same site and the same lesion should be carefully observed in multiple ways

If focal lesion found still observe the entire stomach first to avoid missing any other lesions and then observe the lesion site.

How to eliminate errors in diagnosis

 It is necessary to enhance the ability of endoscopic diagnosis by observing many lesions to accumulate experience in diagnosis.

 Because normal endoscopy has a limitation in qualitative diagnosis, it is helpful to effectively use magnifying/near-focus endoscopy with virtual chromoendoscopy, making optical biopsy possible.

Pay attention to subtle changes of mucosal color and morphology.

Clues:

- Mucosal discoloration (erythema or pallor)
 - Morphologic changes of the mucosal surface (protruding, elevated, or depressed)
- Tapered or interrupted mucosal folds
- Spontaneous bleeding
 - Localized opacity of the mucosa (abrupt change in background vascular/ mucosal pattern)
- Loss of mucosal glossiness.
















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British Society of Gastroenterology guidelines on the diagnosis and management of patients at risk of gastric adenocarcinoma

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ABSTRACT

Gastric adenocarcinoma carries a poor prognosis, in part due to the late stage of diagnosis. Risk factors include *Helicobacter pylori* infection, family history of gastric cancer—in particular, hereditary diffuse gastric cancer and pernicious anaemia. The stages in the progression to cancer include chronic gastritis, gastric atrophy (GA), gastric intestinal metaplasia (GIM) and dysplasia. The key to early detection of cancer and improved survival is to non-invasively identify those at risk before endoscopy. However, although biomarkers may help in the detection of patients with chronic atrophic gastritis, there is insufficient evidence to support their use for population screening. High-quality endoscopy with full mucosal visualisation is an important part of improving early detection. greatest risk and intervene with recognised efficacious treatments, including endoscopic resection,before cancer is established. The British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) endoscopy committee agreed to create a guideline to provide statements and recommendations on the prevalence, risks, diagnosis, treatment, surveillance and screening of gastric premalignant and early gastric malignant lesions. The principal patient group are those found to have GA, GIM, gastric epithelial dysplasia or early gastric adenocarcinoma limited to the mucosal or superficial submucosal layers. The target users include gastroenterologists, GI surgeons, pathologists, endoscopists and general practitioners. We followed the Appraisal of Guidelines for Research Endoscopic appearances on White Light Endoscopy of gastric dysplasia and early gastric cancer (differences in color, loss of vascularity, slight elevation or depression, nodularity, thickening, and abnormal convergence or flattening of folds) require escalation to Image Enhanced Endoscopy and, where available, magnification endoscopy (evidence level: low quality; grade of recommendation: strong; level of agreement: 100%).

 IEE as the best imaging modality to accurately diagnose and stage gastric dysplasia and early gastric cancer (evidence level: moderate quality; grade of recommendation: strong; level of agreement: 100%).













Diagnosis of early gastric cancer

- Difficult to recognize upon ordinary endoscopy
 - Subtle changes in microstructural and microvascular patterns
 - Uncommonly present as a polypoid growth (except in colon)
- Developed from a background of premalignant changes (eg Gastric IM)
 - Sometimes difficult to diagnose



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Algorithm for the systematic examination of the upper gastrointestinal tract

Evidence: Experts' opinion

INVITED REVIEW

Annals of Gastroenterology (2013) 26, 11-22

The endoscopic diagnosis of early gastric cancer

Kenshi Yao Fukuoka University Chikushi Hospital, Japan



Minimum total gastroscopy procedure time 8 min



Higher Rates of EGC in SE Asia

- The longstanding screening programs
- EGC diagnostic expertise
- Quality of endoscopy
- Difference in the interpretation of gastric histology in Eastern versus non-Asian centers

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Classification



Paris Classification

Type I vs Type II a

- Type I lesions extend above the mucosa more than 2.5 mm (the width of the closed cups of a biopsy forceps).
- Pathologically, the height of the lesion is more than double the thickness of the adjacent mucosa.

Type IIc and type III

- Type IIc lesions are slightly depressed with a normal epithelial layer or superficial erosions.
- Type III lesions are characterized by ulceration, with loss of the mucosa and possibly submucosa.

- Conventional endoscopy (white light)

Image-enhanced endoscopy

Digital method Optical-digital method Chromoendoscopy method

Magnifying endoscopy

Optical method

L Digital method

- Microscopic endoscopy

- Optical method

Confocal method

Tomographic endoscopy

Endoscopic ultrasonography

- OCT (Optical Coherence Tomography)

Contrast method
Lineation-enhanced method
Auto-fluorescence method
Narrow band light method
Infrared ray method
Stain method
Contrast method

e.g.: FICE/i-scan e.g.: Structure enhancement e.g.: AFI/SAFE e.g.: NBI/BLI/LCI/i-scan OE e.g.: IRI e.g.: Lugol e.g.: Indigocarmine e.g.: Optical zoom endoscopy e.g.: Digital zoom e.g.: Endo-cytoscopy e.g.: Endomicroscopy

Endoscopic imaging



NBI simplified classification for gastric pathology

GE Port J Gastroenterol 2022;29:299-310

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Α.							
Atrophy score		Corpus					
		No atrophy (Score 0)	Mild atrophy (Score 1)	Moderate atrophy (Score 2)	Severe atrophy (Score 3)		
Antrum (Including incisura angularis)	No atrophy (Score 0)	Stage 0	Stage I	Stage II	Stage II		
	Mild atrophy (Score 1)	Stage I	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III		
	Moderate atrophy (Score 2)	Stage II	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV		
	Severe atrophy (Score 3)	Stage III	Stage III	Stage IV	Stage IV		
B. IM score		Corpus					
		No IM (Score 0)	Mild IM (Score 1)	Moderate IM (Score 2)	Severe IM (Score 3)		
Antrum (Including	No IM (Score 0)	Stage 0	Stage I	Stage II	Stage II		
incisura angularis)	Mild IM (Score 1)	Stage I	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III		
	Moderate IM (Score 2)	Stage II	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV		
	Severe IM (Score 3)	Stage III	Stage III	Stage IV	Stage IV		

Operative link on gastritis assessment staging system (A) and operative link on gastric intestinal metaplasia assessment (B) staging system. IM, intestinal metaplasia; OLGA, Operative link on gastric intestinal metaplasia assessment (B) staging system. IM, intestinal metaplasia; OLGA, Operative link on gastric intestinal metaplasia assessment.

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Adapted from Weng CY et al. (27)

Higher intensity of colour means higher risk of Early Gastric Cancer.

ISGE

Endoscopic Grading of Gastric Intestinal Metaplasia (EGGIM) scale

	Antrum		Incisura	Corpus		
	lesser curvature	greater curvature		lesser curvature	greater curvature	
No intestinal metaplasia	0	0	0	0	0	
Focal (≤30% intestinal metaplasia)	1	1	1	1	1	
Diffuse (>30% intestinal metaplasia)	2	2	2	2	2	
Intestinal metaplasia score for the area	0-4		0–2	0–4		
Total EGGIM score and management	0–10 No IM: 0 poin Low-risk IM: 1 High-risk IM:) points – no surveillance k IM: 1–4 points – surveillance only if additional risk factors sk IM: ≥5 points – endoscopic surveillance				

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Kimura-Takemoto Classification of Endoscopic Gastric Mucosal Atrophy





M-NBI findings of IM

Light blue crest at the edge of mariginal crypt epithelium

Defined as fine, blue white line on the crest of the epithelial surface/gyri.

Highly predictive of histological intestinal metaplasia

Risk Stratification

C1:0%C2: 0.25%

- C3: 0.71%
- 01: 1.32%

02:3.70%03: 5.33%

Digestion (2015) 91:30-6.

H.pylori eradication , no IM :

 Cumulative 5-year incidence of gastric cancer 1.5%

H.pylori eradication, antral IM:

• Cumulative 5-year incidence of gastric cancer 5.3%

H.pylori eradication, corpus IM:

 Cumulative 5-year incidence of gastric cancer 9.8%

Gastrointest Endosc. 2016, Oct; 84(4):618-24

Risk Stratification

- IM at a single location has a higher risk of gastric cancer but because of prevalence of up to 33% surveillance is not justified.
- Advanced stages of atrophic gastritis and those with a family history of gastric cancer may benefit from a more intensive follow-up (e.g., every 1–2 years after diagnosis)
- Patients with advanced stages of atrophic gastritis (severe atrophic changes or intestinal metaplasia in both antrum and corpus, OLGA/OLGIM III/IV, EGGIM scores 5–10 have increased the risk of gastric cancer and should be followed up with a high quality endoscopy every 3 years

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Kyoto classification score



Kyoto classification	Score				
Atrophy					
None, C1	0				
C2 and C3	1				
01-03	2				
Intestinal metaplasia					
None	0				
Antrum	1				
Corpus and antrum	2				
Enlarged folds					
Absence	0				
Presence	1				
Nodularity					
Absence	0				
Presence	1				
Diffuse redness					
None	0				
Mild (with RAC)	1				
Severe	2				
Kvoto score	0-8				



Risk Stratification

The Kyoto classification score in patients without a history of H.
 pylori eradication of 0, 1, and ≥2 was found to be associated with
 H. pylori infection rates of 1.5, 45, and 82%, respectively

 Kyoto classification scores of ≥4 may be associated with increased gastric cancer risk

 A modified Kyoto classification, which included open-type endoscopic atrophy, invisible regular arrangement of collecting venules at the incisura, virtual CE detecting intestinal metaplasia in >30% of the corpus and map-like redness in the corpus, performs better in determining EGC risk than the original Kyoto classification.





Figure 10 VS classification. Arrows show demarcation lines



EGC on endoscopy





Risk Stratification

Atrophy, intestinal metaplasia, nodularity, enlarged fold, and gastric xanthoma are endoscopic findings related to the risk of gastric cancer.

Guidelines for endoscopic diagnosis of early gastric cancer. Digestive Endoscopy, 32: 663-698.



Endoscopy

- The GC endoscopy false negative rate can be as high as 25 percent
- Most centers 10% in three yrs

How to avoid ?

- A minimum duration of seven minutes
 Minimal inspection time of the stomach 3 min
- Station-based protocols (with 22 pictures)
- Adequate gas insufflation
- Mucosal cleaning as needed
 Use of mucolytic before endoscopy
- Image-enhanced endoscopy
- Sedation/anticholinergic/glucagon



Pre Endoscopy

a) 30 min before EGD, 100 mL of water mixed with 2 mL of acetylcysteine (200 mg/mL), and 0.5 mL activated dimethicone (40 mg/mL)

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b) Just before EGD, 200 ml of water with 160 mg (4 drops) of simethicone .

Steps of high-quality upper endoscopy

Pre-procedure

- Patient' assessment
- History review
- Physical examination
- UGI cancer risk factors
- Informed consent
- Premedication
- Sedation
- Defoaming agents
- Antispasmodics

Intra-procedure

- Procedural time
 - Minimum 7 minutes*
- Photo-documentation
- Minimum 10 images*
- Image-enhancing techniques
- Lugol solution
- Acetic acid
- Narrow-spectrum imaging (NBI / BLI)
- Biopsy protocols
 - Eosinophilic esophagitis
 - Barrett's esophagus (Seattle protocol)
 - Atrophic gastritis (Sydney protocol)
 - Celiac disease

Post-procedure

- Registration of complications
- Patient satisfaction data
- Appropriate follow-up for high-risk conditions

*European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) performance measures for upper gastrointestinal endoscopy (2016) 1/26/2024 68

Endoscopic diagnosis of EGC



Endoscopic diagnosis of EGC



DEN Open, Volume: 4, Issue: 1, First published: 04 November 2023)



AI


Spectroscopy



Spectroscopy



Diagnosis of EGC

Endoscopy

- Endoscopy & photofluorography
- Magnification chromoendoscopy
- Image-enhanced endoscopy technology
- Artificial intelligence

Pepsinogen ,H. Pylori Ab
Low PG I:PG II ratio

Serum

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- Circulating tumor cells
- Non coding RNA
 - microRNA
 - Circular RNA
- Exosomes

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Cell free DNA



Liquid biopsy markers for gastric cancer. Primary gastric tumor sheds circulating tumor cells (CTCs) into the bloodstream. Some of the CTCs undergo apoptosis which allows for the release of the cell's genetic material, including circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) and non-coding RNAs.

ctDNA

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Risk factors	OR	95% CI
Clinical variables		
Male sex	1.25	1.03-1.52
Cardiopathy	1.54	1.05-2.25
Antithrombotics	1.63	1.30-2.03
Cirrhosis	1.76	1.14-2.73
Chronic kidney disease	3.38	2.31-4.97
Lesion characteristics		
Flat/depressed morphology	1.43	1.12–1.84
Carcinoma (vs. dysplasia)	1.46	1.12–1.91
Ulceration	1.64	1.21-2.21
Localization in the lesser curvature	1.74	1.10-2.73
Tumour size >20 mm	2.70	1.44-5.06
Procedural/pharmacological variables		
Procedure duration >60 min	2.05	1.19-3.55
H_2RA (vs. PPI)	2.13	1.21-3.74
Resected size >30 mm	2.85	1.40-5.77

Risk Factors for Post Procedural Bleeding After ESD

5.1% risk PPB

Second look endoscopy was not associated with lower PPB (ORbleeding 1.34, 95% CI 0.85– 2.12)

>50% of bleeding occur before second-look endoscopy

Prophylactic hemostasis on second-look endoscopy is not capable of significantly reducing PPB.

Gastro intest Endosc. 2016 Oct;84(4):572-86.



EUS for staging of EGC

The overall accuracy of staging

- EUS : 67.4 % (644 / 955)
- Conventional endoscopy : 73.7 % (704 / 955) (P < 0.001).
- Miniprobe EUS vs radial EUS : (79.5 % vs. 59.6 %, P < 0.001), but did not differ significantly from that of conventional endoscopy (79.0 %).

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Endoscopy . 2010 Sep;42(9):705-13

Conventional white-light endoscopy should be used for determining the depth of invasion of early gastric cancer. If this is difficult, EUS may be a useful adjunctive diagnostic tool.

<u>Guidelines for endoscopic diagnosis of early gastric cancer. Digestive Endoscopy,</u> 32: 663-698.





The "non-extension sign"

Localized increase in thickness and rigidity due to deep submucosal invasion.

Highly useful diagnostic marker, with 92 % sensitivity and 97.7 % specificity for diagnosing gastric SM-d (depth of 500 μm or more) cancer.

Can only be seen when the gastric wall is strongly distended

The area with invasion to the deep SM can be seen as a trapezoid elevation with elevation of the surrounding mucosa.

Gastric Cancer . 2017 Mar;20(2):304-313

Is this pt candidate for endoscopy Rx

T1a/ T1b , depth of invasion of cancers at least 0.5 mm

- Hypertrophy or fusion of concentrated folds
- Tumor size at least 30 mm
- Marked redness
- Irregular surface
- Marginal elevation Submucosal tumor-like raised margins
- Non-extension sign

Conventional endoscopy may be superior to EUS (73.7% vs. 67.4%, P < 0.001) in detecting deep invasion

Endoscopy . 2010 Sep;42(9):705-13.

Dig Dis . 2019;37(3):201-207



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ISGE

Main features	Low risk (curative)	High risk (noncurative)
R0, intramucosal, well to moderately differentiated	- any size without ulceration, or - \leq 30 mm with ulceration	– >30 mm with ulceration
R0, SM1, well to moderately differentiated	 – ≤30 mm and – no lymphovascular invasion and – no ulcers 	 - >30 mm or - lymphovascular invasion or - with ulceration
R0, intramucosal, poorly differentiated	 – ≤ 20 mm and – no lymphovascular invasion and – no ulcers 	 >20 mm or lymphovascular invasion or with ulceration

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Ulceration Size>30 mm Poorly differentiated



doi: 10.1111/den.13684

Guidelines

ISG

Guidelines for endoscopic diagnosis of early gastric cancer

Kenshi Yao, D Noriya Uedo, D Tomoari Kamada, Toshiaki Hirasawa, D Takashi Nagahama, Shigetaka Yoshinaga, Masashi Oka, Kazuhiko Inoue, Katsuhiro Mabe, Takashi Yao, Masahiro Yoshida, Isao Miyashiro, Kazuma Fujimoto and Hisao Tajiri

Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society, Tokyo, Japan

Gastric Cancer (2017) 20 (Suppl 1):S28–S38 DOI 10.1007/s10120-016-0680-7

REVIEW ARTICLE

Development of an e-learning system for teaching endoscopists how to diagnose early gastric cancer: basic principles for improving early detection

Kenshi Yao¹ · Noriya Uedo² · Manabu Muto³ · Hideki Ishikawa⁴



Conclusion

- GC would be a growing problem in future both in younger and elderly
- Risk stratification for FU of precancerous lesions could guide need and frequency of surveillance
- High quality endoscopy can diagnose EGC
- EGC can be treated endoscopically but there is need to avoid futile treatments

