



Differential Diagnosis of Iron Deficiency Anemia

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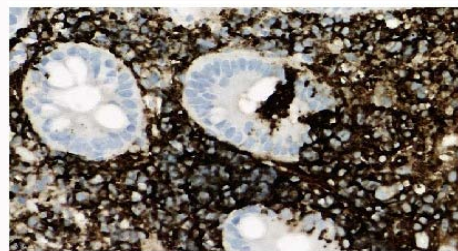
Clinical Image

Gastrointestinal lymphoma is extremely uncommon clinical condition and accounts for 1% to 4% of all gastrointestinal cancers [1]. Appendiceal lymphomas constitute 0.015% of all gastrointestinal lymphomas; can be found in anywhere in gastrointestinal tract [1]. This heterogenous group of disease can present with atypical symptoms at first and mimic other gastrointestinal entities. Since the diagnosis is challenging, accurate diagnosis can be delayed [1,2].

A 71-year-old man presented with rectal bleeding and iron deficiency anemia. Physical examination showed nothing abnormal except hemorrhoids. Laboratory examination revealed hemoglobin count of 9.1 g/dL. The patient underwent colonoscopy, which revealed rough glandular structures at the base of the cecum that completely encircles the appendiceal orifice (Figure 1). Histopathologic examination of biopsy specimen revealed monoclonal plasma cells found in superficial mucosa and B lymphoid cells which infiltrate lymphoid follicles and glandular structures (Figure 2). These findings were compatible with extranodal marginal zone lymphoma (MALT lymphoma) [3].



Figure 1: Appendiceal orifice.



CD20

Figure 2: B lymphoid cells stained with CD20.

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