



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA



Scuola di Specializzazione
in Malattie dell'Apparato
Digerente

UNA STENOSI INUSUALE

Dott.ssa *Costanza Orlando*



F ♀
65 y.o.

GI EVALUATION

16
NOV
17

Dysphagia to solids, not liquids (1 year), rigurgitis:

COMORBIDITIES

- *Scleroderma*
- *Multinodular goiter in euthyroidism*
- *Vitiligo*
- *Left DVT*

IN THERAPY WITH

- *Nifedipine*
- *Antiacids*
- *IPP*

Familiarity for CRC (1° grade: mother)

1°

GI EVALUATION

16
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17

BARIUM SWALLOW TEST 05 JUL 2017

Esofago pervio sino in sede sottocarenale, ampio il suo calibro con aspetti di ipotonia e ipocinesia.

Subito a valle si evidenzia riduzione di calibro con pernietà però conservata e con aspetti discinetici con alternanza di tratti di calibro ridotto e tratti di calibro aumentato. Abbondante il reflusso di bario a monte. Piloro pervio.

Lo stomaco forma ernia transjatale, in corrispondenza le pliche mucose appaiono più rilevate e disordinate.

Stomaco ad uncino, un po' ipotonico ed ipocinetico, si svuota lentamente.

Bulbo duodenale discinetico con prevalenza di ipertonia.

1°

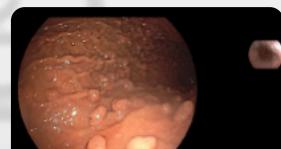
GI EVALUATION

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EGDS 10 OCT 2017

ESOFAGO

Regolare per calibro e rilievo mucoso fino a 25 cm dall'AD da dove dipartono erosioni longitudinali anche di 10mm. Cardias a 29 cm dalla AD, ipertonuso, rivestito da mucosa iperemica ed edematosa, congesta e facilmente sanguinante al contatto con lo strumento, valicabile con strumento standard con scatto (biopsie). Dal cardias partono lingule di mucosa arancione che si estendono fino a 27 cm dall'AD (biopsie). Impronta dei pilastri diaframmatici a 35 cm dall'AD. Si eseguono biopsie a 33 cm dall'AD (giunzione esofago-gastrica).



STOMACO

Ben distensibile, contiene normale quantità di succo gastrico limpido.

La mucosa gastrica si solleva in pliche regolari.

Fondo e corpo appaiono rivestiti da mucosa edematosa e livemente iperemica, presentando numerosi polipi anche di 8-10 mm rivestiti da mucosa translucida (biopsie). Antro iperemico. Piloro regolare.

In retroversione si conferma voluminosa ernia jatale. Eseguite biopsie ad antro, angulus e corpo (biopsie totali n. 5).

DUODENO

Bulbo rivestito da mucosa regolare. Non si riesce a visualizzare seconda porzione duodenale per brusca angolazione del viscere.

CONCLUSIONI

Esofagite di grado B sec Los Angeles

Voluminosa ernia jatale

Sospetto esofago di Barrett

Cardias ipertonuso con substenosi

Gastropatia diffusa non erosiva

Polipi dello stomaco (verosimilmente ossintici)

Esame istologico in corso

1°

GI EVALUATION

16
NOV
17

HISTOLOGICAL EXAM

DIAGNOSI

Gastrite (+++) non-atrofica dell'area di transizione ossintico-antrale con iperplasia delle foveole (1).

Campioni di mucosa gastrica ossintica con minima flogosi linfomonocitaria, anche di tipo nodulare, della lamina propria (2,3).

Polipo della mucosa ossintica (3).

Campione di mucosa gastrica cardiale con flogosi linfomonocitaria di basso grado della lamina propria ed estesa alla *muscularis mucosae* (4).

Campioni superficiali di mucosa della giunzione squamo-colonnare con erosione dell'epitelio di superficie associata a flogosi linfomonocitaria/granulocitaria e a tessuto di granulazione infiammatorio della lamina propria, reperto focale di metaplasia intestinale delle ghiandole e con iperparacheratosi ed esocitosi leucocitaria dell'epitelio pavimentoso (5).

Campione di mucosa di tipo gastrico con angiectasie e flogosi linfomonocitaria/granulocitaria della lamina propria (6).

Non sono stati istologicamente documentati (colorazione Giemsa-modificata) batteri con morfologia compatibile con *Helicobacter pylori*.

Stadiazione della gastrite: A=0; C=0: Stadio 0 (*OLGA system, 2005*);

Caratterizzazione etiologica: *Hp*-vo.

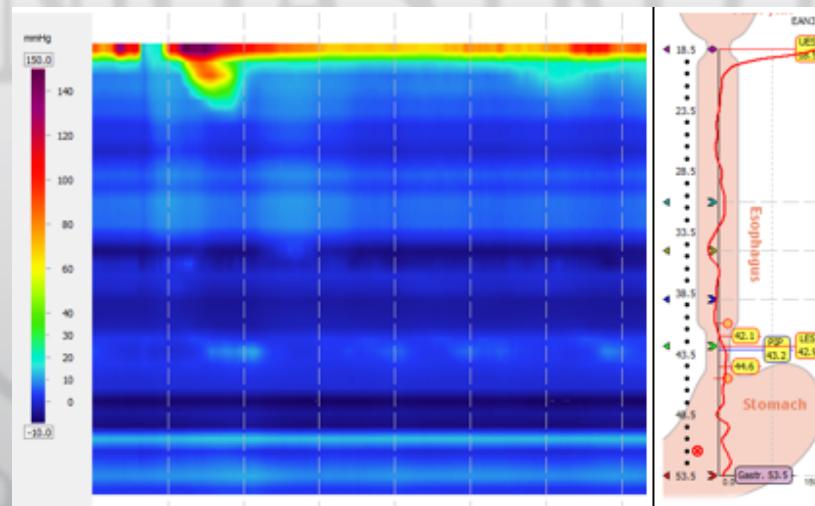
2°

GI EVALUATION

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MAR
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MANOMETRY 20 DEC 2017

Sfintere esofageo inferiore ipotonico, normorilasciantesi, di lunghezza ridotta; assenza di onde peristaltiche nel 100% delle degluzioni liquide; SES liev. ipertonico.



2°

GI EVALUATION

05
MAR
18

EGDS 27 FEB 2018

ESOFAGO

Calibro aumentato e decorso distorto, con aspetto dilatato soprattutto in sede distale. A partire da circa 26 cm dall'a.d. presenza di lingua ectopica che si estende fino alla verosimile regione cardiale (29 cm): si inizia mappaggio biotico interrotto per intolleranza della paziente. Linea Z non bene visualizzabile apparentemente a 29 cm.

La regione cardiale appare substenotica, ma ben valicabile, con mucosa eritematosa ectopica e gettone di mucosa rilevata ectopica (multiple biopsie). Dalla regione cardiale si assiste ad erniazione di mucosa gastrica. L'esofago è verniciato da residui liquidi di ingesti.

STOMACO

Ben distensibile, contiene normale quantità di succo gastrico limpido.

La mucosa gastrica si solleva in pliche regolari.

Fondo, corpo ed antro appaiono rivestiti da mucosa eritematosa. Presente qualche rilevatezza polipoide.

Piloro regolare.

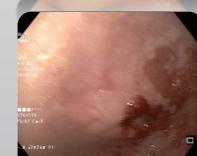
In retroversione evidente ampia ernia jatale.

DUODENO

Bulbo rivestito da mucosa regolare. Seconda porzione duodenale con normale rappresentazione plicale e dei villi.

CONCLUSIONI

- Dilatazione dell'esofago
- Quadro macroscopico compatibile con esofago di Barrett
- Substenosi del cardias (MM?)
- Ernia jatale
- Polipi del corpo gastrico



2°

GI EVALUATION

05
MAR
18

HISTOLOGICAL EXAM

Materiale inviato in esame come:

- 1) n. 2 campioni biotecnici della mucosa dell'esofago (prelievo operato a cm 26 dall'arcata dentaria)
- 2) n. 3 campioni biotecnici della mucosa dell'esofago (prelievo operato a cm 29 dall'arcata dentaria).

Informazioni cliniche (come segnalate in richiesta):

- Odinocefalia e disfagia persistente in sclerodermia e recente diagnosi di esofago di Barrett.
- Reperto endoscopico: Esophago di Barrett. Substenosi del cardias, Ernia iatale.

DIAGNOSI

Campioni di mucosa di tipo gastrico con minima flogosi linfocitaria e edema della lamina propria (1).

Campione di mucosa del tipo della giunzione squamo-colonnare con iperparakeratosi, flogosi linfocitaria (+--; anche eosinofila) della lamina propria e intraepiteliale e con reperto focale di metaplasia intestinale delle ghiandole (MI +++) (1).

Campioni di mucosa della giunzione squamo-colonnare e di tipo gastrico-cardiale (polipoide) con spongiosi e angiectasie interpapillari dell'epitelio pavimentoso e con minima flogosi linfocitaria e angiectasie della lamina propria, iperplasia delle foveole e reperto plurifocale di metaplasia intestinale delle ghiandole (MI +++) (2).

2°

GI EVALUATION

05
MAR
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CHIATORRELLA DE 20017

Campi polmonari bene espansi.

Più accentuato l'interstizio polmonare bilateralmente più evidente alle basi, su fondo enfisematoso.

Ombre ilari, cuore nei limiti. Aortosclerosi.

Emidiaframmi liberi.

otta;
liev.

HRTC 12 JAN 2018

*Esofago toracico distonico e dilatato sin dall'origine (calibro assiale massimo del tratto preterminale: 50 x 35 mm), pieno di ingesti, compatibilmente con acalasia inveterata. Concomitante ernia transiatale toracica da scivolamento di parte dello stomaco (diametri assiali: 46 x 39 mm).

Splenulo di 15 mm in prossimità dell'ilo splenico.

2°

GI EVALUATION

05
MAR
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REUMATOLOGICAL EVALUATION 11 JAN 2018

Conclusioni: sclerodermia con impegno esofageo e polmonare; per completare la stadiazione della paziente è necessario eseguire un eco cuore con studio della pressione polmonare.

F ♀
65 y.o.

TO SUM UP

SUM
MA
RY

Systemic sclerosis with gastrointestinal and pulmonary involvement

- Esophagitis
- Barrett's esophagus
- Cardial substenosis

Focus

SCLERODERMA DISORDERS

Heterogeneous group of conditions linked by the presence of thickened, sclerotic skin lesions.

LOCALIZED

- Linear scleroderma
- Localized and generalized morphea

SYSTEMIC FORMS (SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS, SSc):

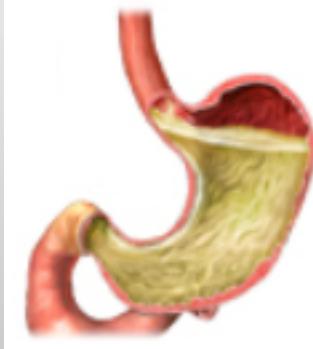
a multisystem disease characterized by widespread vascular dysfunction and progressive fibrosis of the skin and internal organ.

- Diffuse cutaneous SSc
- Limited cutaneous SSc (CREST)
- SSc sine scleroderma
- Environmentally induced- scleroderma
- Overlap syndromes

Focus

CREST

- Calcinosis: calcium deposits in the skin
- Raynaud's phenomenon
- Esophageal dysmotility
- Sclerodactyly: thickening and tightening of the skin on the fingers and hands
- Telangiectasias: dilatation of capillaries causing red marks on surface of the skin



Focus

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Prevalence from 50 to 300 cases per 1 million persons

Incidence from 2.3 to 22.8 cases per 1 million persons per year

Ratio Women- Men = 3-4:1

A increased susceptibility among blacks

60% Limited cutaneous SSc

35% Diffuse cutaneous SSc

5% SSc sine scleroderma

Focus

LIMITED VS DIFFUSE

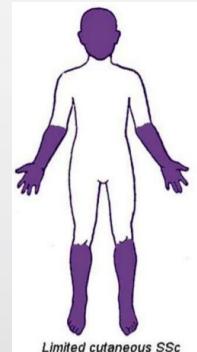
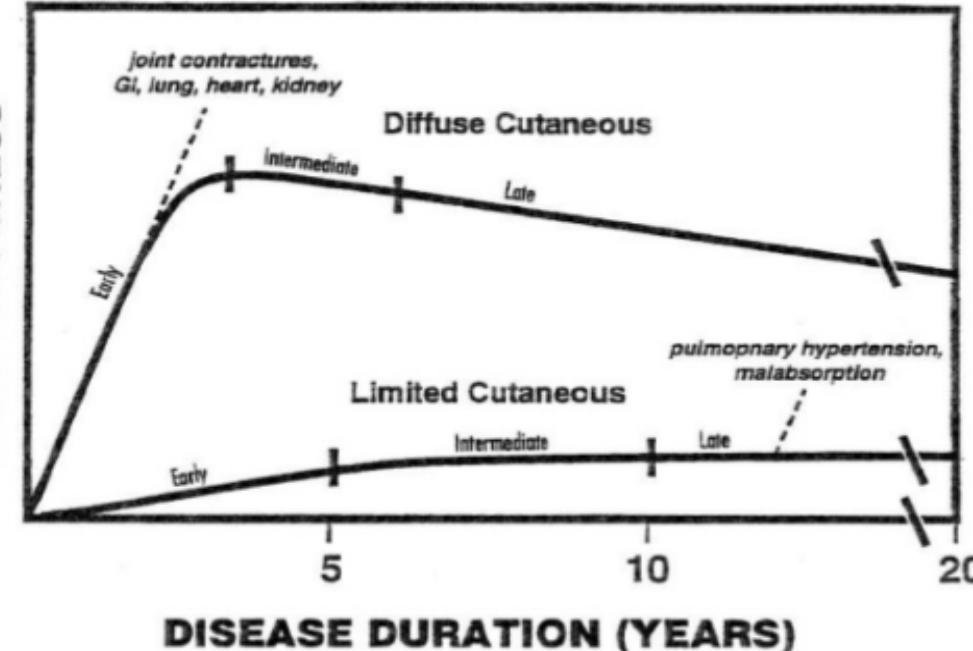
LSSc

- Raynaud's
- Skin thickening
- Dilated esophagus
- Aortitis
- Renal disease
- Antiphospholipid antibodies

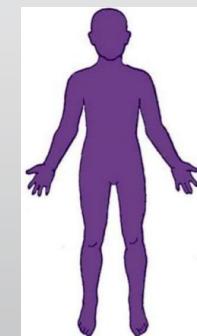
DSSc

- Raynaud's
- True digital ulcers
- Nailfold telangiectasias
- Early esophageal dysmotility
- Antiphospholipid antibodies

SKIN THICKNESS



Limited cutaneous SSc



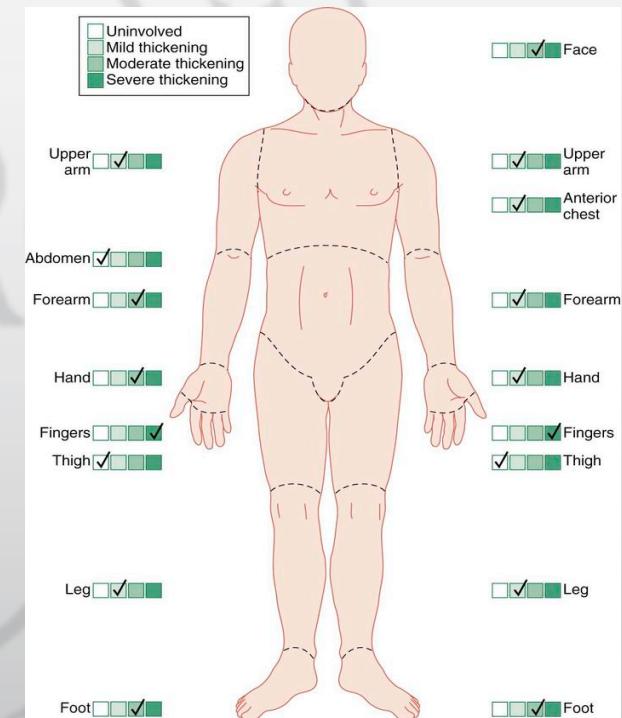
Diffuse cutaneous SSc

Focus

SKIN THICKENING IN SSC

Modified Rodnan Skin Score

- Validated measure of skin thickening in clinical trials
- Correlates with internal organ involvement and survival in diffuse patients
- Thickening assessed in 17 body areas: face/neck, anterior chest, abdomen, bilateral fingers,, dorsal hands, forearms, upper arms, feet, lower legs and thighs
- Each area scored and summed for total score (0-51):
 - **0 = normal;**
 - **1 = mild thickening,**
 - **2 = moderate thickening, unable to move**
 - **3 = hidebound, unable to pinch**



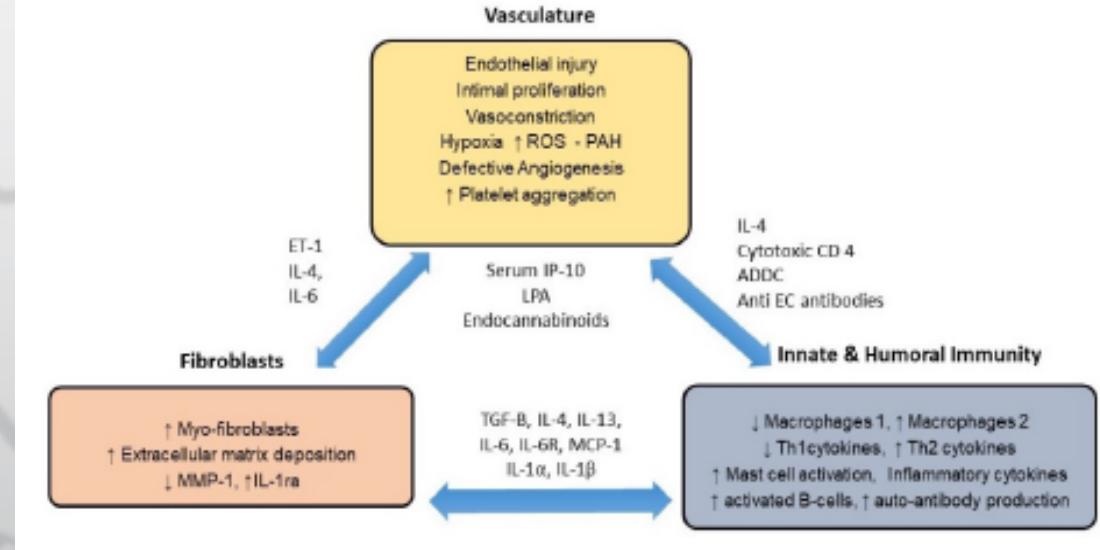
Focus

PATHOGENESIS

Scleroderma Pathogenesis

Permissive genetic background

Triggers: Exogenous & Endogenous



Focus

AUTOANTIBODIES

Antinuclear antibody (ANA)

- Positive in 95% of patients with SSc

Antitopoisomerase I (anti Scl-70) antibody

- Associated with diffuse cutaneous SSc
- Higher risk of severe interstitial lung disease

Anticentromere antibody (ACA)

- Usually associated with limited cutaneous SSc
- Only 5% of patients with dcSSc

Anti RNA polymerase III antibody

- In patients with dcSSc
- Associated with rapidly progressive skin involvement and an increased risk for scleroderma renal crisis

Anti Scl 70, ACA, anti RNA polymerase III are highly specific (>99.5%) but are moderately sensitive (20 to 50%).

The autoantibodies are almost always mutually exclusive.

Focus

CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA

Reference	SSc classification criteria
ARA criteria 1980 [2]	1 major criterion: proximal scleroderma defined as tightening, thickening, and non-pitting induration proximal to the metacarpophalangeal or metatarsophalangeal joints or 2 or more minor criteria: (1) sclerodactyly, (2) digital pitting scars of the fingertips or loss of the substance of the distal pad, (3) bilateral basilar pulmonary fibrosis
Nadashkevich et al. 2004 [4, 5]	Any 3 of ABCDCREST: (1) autoantibodies to: centromere proteins, ScL-70 (topoisomerase-1, fibrillin), (2) bibasilar pulmonary fibrosis, (3) contractures of the digital joints or prayer sign, (4) dermal thickening proximal to the wrists, (5) calcinosis cutis, (6) Raynaud's phenomenon, (7) esophageal distal hypomotility or reflux esophagitis, (8) sclerodactyly or non-pitting digital edema, (9) telangiectasia
LeRoy and Medsger 2001 [6]	Limited SSc (lSSc) (1) Raynaud's phenomenon And (2) abnormal wide-field nailfold capillaroscopy or (3) SSc selective autoantibodies; limited cutaneous (lcSSc); Criteria for lSSc and cutaneous changes distal to the elbow, knees, and clavicles; Diffuse cutaneous (dcSSc); Criteria for lSSc and cutaneous involvement of the arms, chest, abdomen, back, or thighs
Avouac et al. 2011, VEDOSS criteria [7]	(1) Raynaud's phenomenon, (2) puffy fingers, (3) antinuclear antibodies, and (4) capillaroscopy or (5) SSc-specific antibodies

Focus

NEW ACR EULAR CRITERIA 2013

Item	Sub-items(s)	Weight/score †
Skin thickening of the fingers of both hands extending proximal to the metacarpophalangeal joints (<i>sufficient criterion</i>)	-	9
Skin thickening of the fingers (<i>only count the higher score</i>)	Puffy fingers Sclerodactyly of the fingers (distal to the metacarpophalangeal joints but proximal to the proximal interphalangeal joints)	2 4
Fingertip lesions (<i>only count the higher score</i>)	Digital tip ulcers Fingertip pitting scars	2 3
Telangiectasia	-	2
Abnormal nailfold capillaries	-	2
Pulmonary arterial hypertension and/or interstitial lung disease (<i>maximum score is 2</i>)	Pulmonary arterial hypertension Interstitial lung disease	2 2
Raynaud's phenomenon	-	3
SSc-related autoantibodies (anticentromere, anti-topoisomerase I [anti-Scl-70], anti-RNA polymerase III) (<i>maximum score is 3</i>)	Anticentromere 3 Anti-topoisomerase I Anti-RNA polymerase III	3

* The criteria are not applicable to patients with skin thickening sparing the fingers or to patients who have a scleroderma-like disorder that better explains their manifestations (e.g., nephrogenic sclerosing fibrosis, generalized morphea, eosinophilic fascitis, scleredema diabetorum, scleromyxedema, erythromyalgia, porphyria, lichen sclerosis, graft-versus-host disease, diabetic cheiroarthropathy).

† The total score is determined by adding the maximum weight (score) in each category.
Patients with a total score of ≥ 9 are classified as having definite scleroderma.

Sensitivity 91% Specificity 92%

- 1980**
 - SE 0.75
 - SP 0.72
- 2001**
 - SE 0.75
 - SP 0.78
- 2013**
 - SE 0.91
 - SP 0.92

Focus

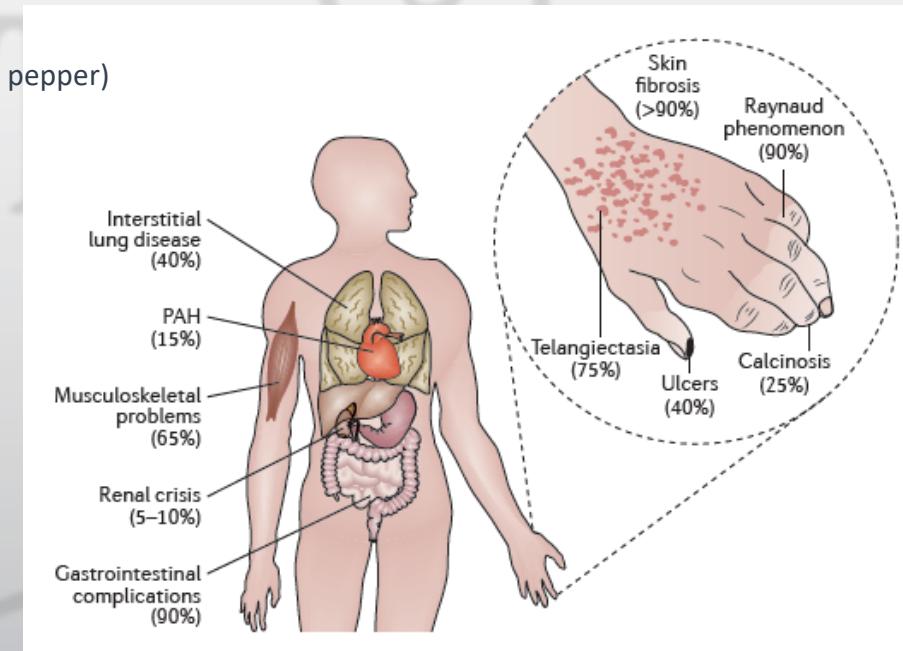
CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS

SKIN INVOLVEMENT

- Pruritus
- Edema
- Skin hyperpigmentation or depigmentation (salt and pepper)
- Loss of appendicular hair
- Sclerodactyly
- Digital ulcers
- Pitting at the fingertips
- Telangiectasia
- Calcinosis cutis

VASCULAR DISEASE

- Raynaud phenomenon
- Thromboembolic disease



Focus

CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS

PULMONARY INVOLVEMENT

- Interstitial lung disease
- Pulmonary vascular disease (PAH)

RENAL DISEASE

- Scleroderma renal crisis

CARDIAC DISEASE

- Pericarditis; pericardial effusion
- Myocardial fibrosis, myocarditis
- Heart failure
- Myocardial infarction
- Conduction disturbances/ arrhythmias

MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASE

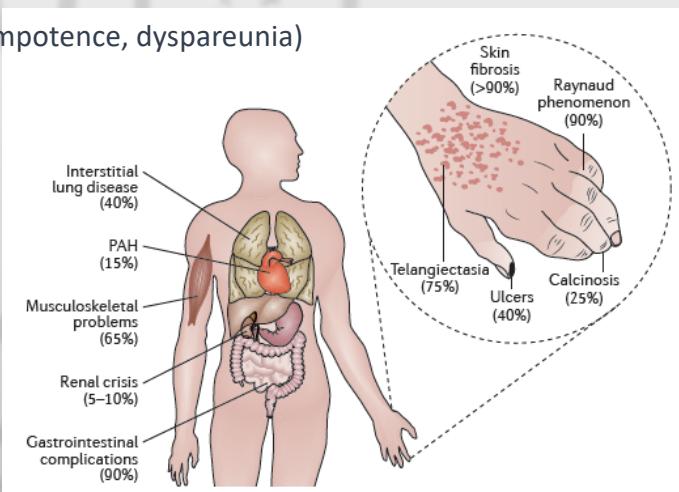
- Swelling of the hands, arthralgia, myalgia, fatigue

NEUROMUSCULAR INVOLVEMENT

- Cranial, entrapment, peripheral cutaneous and autonomic neurophathies
- Myopathy and inflammatory myositis
- Headache, seizures, stroke, radiculopathy, myelopathy

GENITOURINARY

- Sexual Dysfunction (impotence, dyspareunia)



Focus

GASTROINTESTINAL MANIFESTATIONS

- 90% of patients with SSc have some degree of GI involvement (Schmeiser et al. 98.9%)
- One half are symptomatic
- Equal frequency among patients with the diffuse and limited subtypes of SSc
- Any part of the GI tract may be involved (Esophagus +++)

SJOGREN THEORY: SSc affects GI tract by an orderly series of steps that result in progressive dysfunction

1. Neural dysfunction, a consequence of collagen deposits causing vascular derangement, compression of the nerves, or autoimmune-mediated injury
2. Smooth muscle atrophy (most patients present with symptoms at this stage)
3. Muscle fibrosis, the muscle is unable of responding to stimuli and pharmacologic restoration of function is no longer possible

GI HISTOPATHOLOGY:

1. *Smooth muscle atrophy*
2. *Gut wall fibrosis*

Focus

OROPHARYNGEAL INVOLVEMENT

OROPHARYNGEAL DYSPHAGIA (25%)

Involvement of the oral and perioral tissues

- Reduced oral aperture from skin thickening, rigidity and thinning of the soft palate and oral mucosa
- Resorption of alveolar bone and malalignment of teeth

May lead to

- swallowing difficulties,
- xerostomia
- sensation of residual food remaining in pharynx,
- nasal regurgitation
- coughing after swallowing
- oral leakage, retention and aspiration

Focus

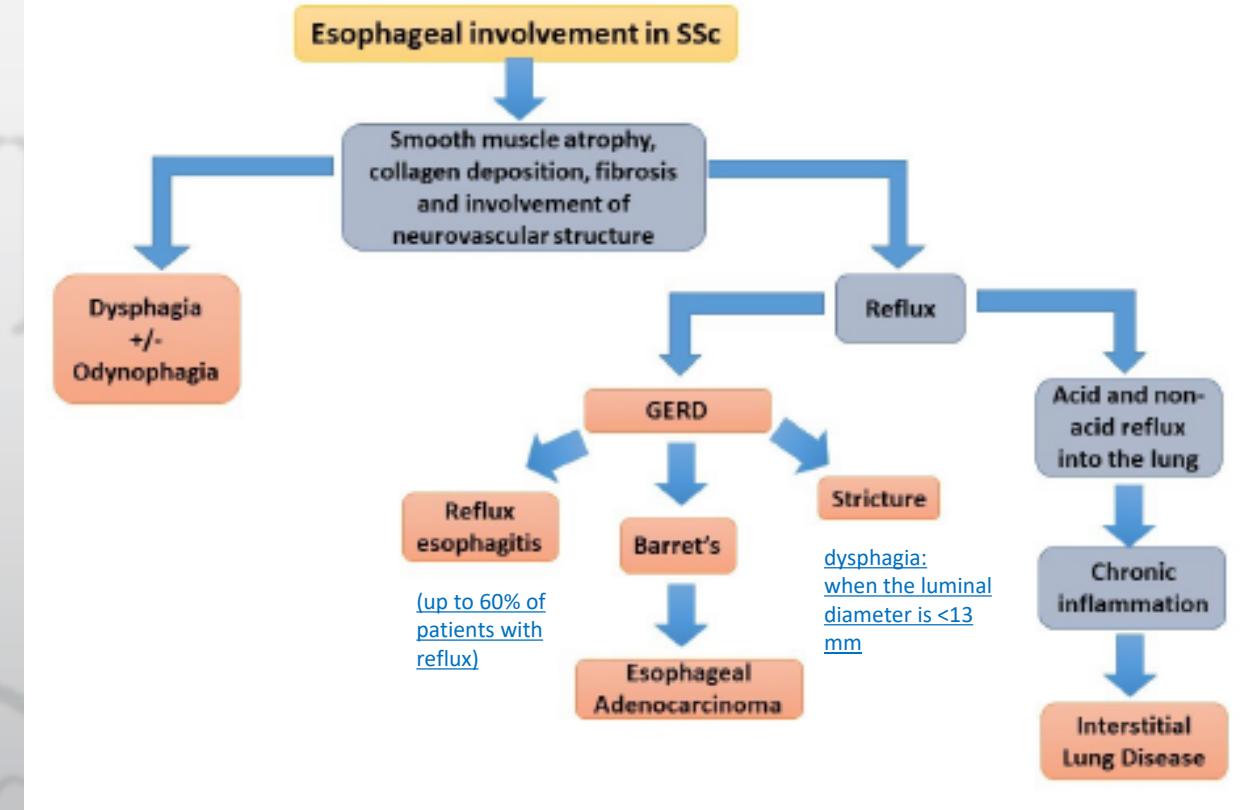
ESOPHAGEAL INVOLVEMENT

50-80% of patients with SSc; the most common target

Atrophy of the smooth muscle in the lower two-thirds of the tubular esophagus and the lower esophageal sphincter

Abnormal esophageal motility present in 70-96% (manometry); 30% of these patients are asymptomatic

GERD severity in associated with ILD



Focus

ESOPHAGEAL INVOLVEMENT

UPPER ENDOSCOPY

ESOPHAGEAL MANOMETRY

- Hypotensive lower esophageal sphincter with a low resting sphincter pressure (<10 mmHg)
- Low amplitude (<30 mmHg) contractions in the distal smooth muscle portion of the esophagus or aperistalsis
→ ineffective esophageal transit

BARIUM ESOPHAGRAM

- Air-filled esophagus on plain radiograph, impaired or absent peristalsis with dilatation of the esophagus, and a rapid flow of contrast medium in upright position

Focus

GASTRIC INVOLVEMENT

GASTROPARESIS

- Rare
- The result of chronic gastric motility alterations → delayed gastric emptying or complete gastric paralysis
- Abdominal pain, early satiety, bloating, nausea, vomiting, which may cause weight loss and nutritional deficiencies
- Delayed gastric emptying can make GERD even worse

GASTRIC ANTRAL VENOUS ECTASIA (GAVE; Watermelon stomach)

- 5.7-14%
- Diagnosis made by upper endoscopy: multiple, parallel longitudinal columns of red vessels within the gastric antrum radiating to the pylorus, resembling the stripes on a watermelon.
- Acute bleeding, low grade GI bleeding, iron deficiency anemia



Focus

SMALL INTESTINAL INVOLVEMENT

The second most common target inSSc (20-60%)

Pathophysiology: reduced peristalsis → stasis and intestinal dilatation → symptoms

SIBO (Small intestinal Bacterial overgrowth)

- 10-30%, > LcSSc
- Presence of more than 1×10^5 organisms per millimeter of duodenal aspirate fluid
- Nonspecific symptoms: bloating, flatulence or abdominal discomfort, diarrhea (stasis)
- Malabsorption

HYPOMOTILITY and INTESTINAL PSEUDO-OBTURATION

- Recurrent or chronic abdominal pain and bloating
- Acute symptoms of abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting with marked abdominal distension



Focus

SMALL INTESTINAL INVOLVEMENT

PCI (PneumatosiS cystoides intestinalis)

- Intramural gas in GI tract
- Complications: intestinal ischemia and pneumoperitoneums (rupture of air filled cysts in the bowel)

MALNUTRITION

- 15-20%, associated with a higher disease activity
- Multifactorial:
 - loss of appetite
 - physical challenges of eating
 - Gastroparesis
 - malabsorption secondary to SIBO → *bacteria overgrowth competes with the host for nutrition and causes malabsorption*
 - oral symptoms
 - drug side effects

Focus

COLON AND ANORECTAL INVOLVEMENT

10-50%

Pathophysiology: gastrocolic reflex in which ingested food leads to significant spike and contractile activity in the colon is absent early in SSc

COLONIC INERTIA

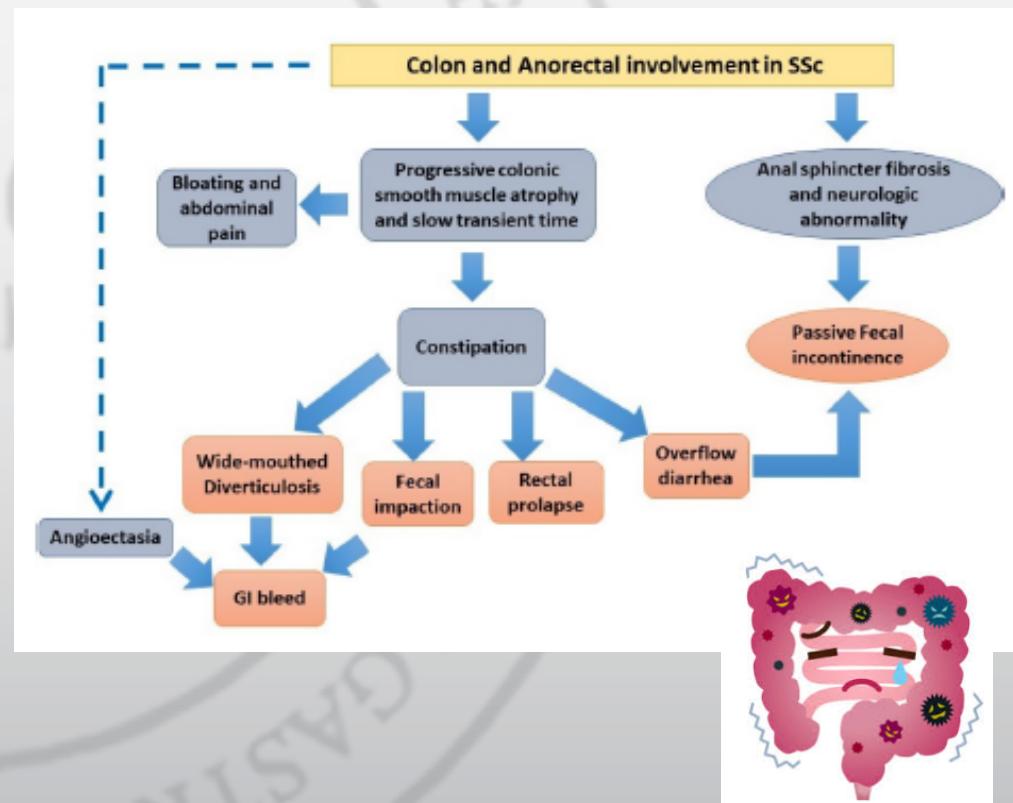
- Slow transit → constipation, bloating, abdominal pain

DIARRHEA

- Multifactorial: SIBO, pancreatic exocrine insufficiency or overflow from constipation

FECAL INCONTINENCE

- Result from involvement of the anal sphincter
- Manometric abnormalities: absent or diminished rectoanal inhibitory reflex and decrease in internal anal resting pressure

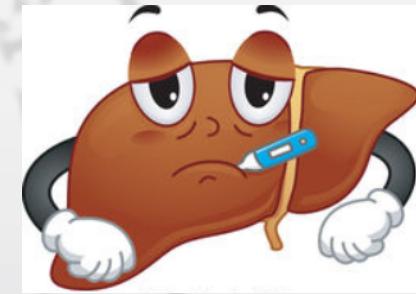


Focus

LIVER, BILIARY TREE AND PANCREATIC INVOLVEMENT

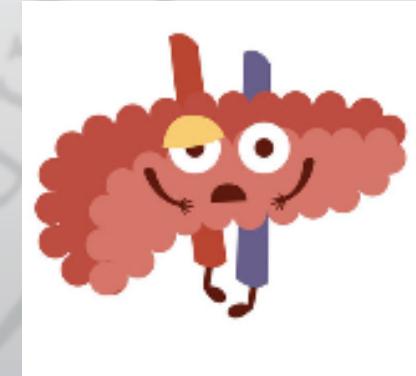
PBC

- occurs in 2-18% of patients with SSc (Lc SSc)
- patients with LcSSc tend to have a slower progression of hepatic disease compared with patients with PBC but without SSc



PANCREATIC EXOCRINE INSUFFICIENCY

- maldigestion of fat and protein leading to steatorrhea and weight loss
- steatorrhea occurs until approximately 90% of glandular function has been lost



Focus

THERAPY

Location	Features	Investigations	Complications	Treatments
Mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Limitation of opening contributes to poor dental hygiene- Atrophy of the lips and gums	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Measurement of maximal interdental and interlabial distance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dental malocclusion and dysfunction of masticator system- Dental caries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical therapyDental hygiene with application of fluorine
Salivary glands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Association with Sjögren's syndrome reducing the salivary flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Measurement of stimulated salivary flux- Scoring analysis of salivary gland scintigraphy- Salivary labial gland biopsy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dental caries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Humidification of the mouth- Chewing gum- Non-selective or selective muscarinic receptor agonist- Artificial saliva
Esophagus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gastro-esophageal reflux (GER) due to impaired esophageal clearance and reduced low esophageal sphincter pressure- Epithelial changes resulting from chronic acid GER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Endoscopy is the better examination to evaluate the presence of esophagitis or Barret's metaplasiaManometrypH metry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Esophagitis- Esophageal erosion, stenosis or bleeding- Barret's esophagus- Adenocarcinoma- Recurrent pneumonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Behavior modification (elevation of head during sleep)- Proton pump inhibitor- Prokinetic drugs (domperidone, cisapride and erythromycin)In severe and resistant GER- Surgical Nissen fundoplication or laparoscopic fundoplication

GERD

Lifestyle and dietary modification

Calcium channel blockers and anticholinergic agents can potentially worsen reflux

PPI

H2 receptor antagonist

Prokinetic agents

Surgery (?)

Esophageal motility disorders → Prokinetic agents

Stricture → endoscopic dilation

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TO SUM UP

SUM
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Distal esophageal stricture in SSc

→ Peptic stricture (GERD)?

→ Neoplastic stricture (Barrett)?

Pulmonary involvement GERD related?

Gastroesophageal Reflux and Pulmonary Fibrosis in Scleroderma

A Study Using pH-Impedance Monitoring

Edoardo Savarino¹, Marco Bazzica², Patrizia Zentilin¹, Daniel Pohl³, Andrea Parodi¹, Giuseppe Cittadini⁴, Simone Negrini², Francesco Indiveri², Radu Tutulan³, Vincenzo Savarino¹, and Massimo Ghio²

Interstitial lung disease (ILD) is reported in 57–86% of patients with SSc

GERD is a risk factor for ILD

Measurements and Main Results: Forty consecutive patients with SSc (35 female; mean age, 53 yr; range, 24–71; 15 patients with diffuse and 25 with limited SSc) were investigated; 18 (45%) patients with SSc had pulmonary fibrosis (HRCT score ≥ 7). Patients with SSc with ILD had higher ($P < 0.01$) esophageal acid exposure (10.3 [7.5–15] vs. 5.2 [1.5–11]), higher ($P < 0.01$) number of acid (41 [31–58] vs. 19 [10–23]) and nonacid (25 [20–35] vs. 17 [11–19]) reflux episodes, and higher ($P < 0.01$) number of reflux episodes reaching the proximal esophagus (42.5 [31–54] vs. 15 [8–22]) compared with patients with SSc with normal HRCT scores. Pulmonary fibrosis scores (HRCT score) correlated well with the number of reflux episodes in the distal ($r^2 = 0.637$) and proximal ($r^2 = 0.644$) esophagus.

Conclusions: Patients with SSc with ILD have more severe reflux (i.e., more reflux episodes and more reflux reaching the proximal esophagus). Whether or not the development of ILD in patients with SSc can be prevented by reflux-reducing treatments needs to be investigated.

Focus

SSC AND CANCER

LUNG CANCER

	SIR	Number of patients	Years of follow-up
Kuo et al [25]	4.2	2,053	1996 - 2008
Hill et al [26]	5.9	441	1993 - 2000
Rosenthal et al [27]	4.9	917	1965 - 1983
Chatterjee et al [28]	1.23	538	1973 - 2004

BREAST CANCER

increased risk ($OR=2.6$), but only few studies have suggested a possible causal relationship between the two

ESOPHAGEAL ADENOCARCINOMA

Focus

ESOPHAGEAL ADENOCARCINOMA

Barrett's esophagus (due to crtonic reflux), particularly with high grade dysplasia, is the most risk factor

BE = presence of intestinal architecture in the lower esophagus displaying a villiform columnar-lined mucosa with goblet cells

Only a few studies have determined the prevalence of BE and EAC in SSc with conflicting results

Incidence of BE 6.8-12.7% in SSc (population risk of BE <1%)

Wipff 2005: Barrett's risk in SSc

- 14/110 (12.7%)
- Dysplasia 3/14

Wipff 2011: Cancer risk in SSc

- 50 individuals with BE
- 3 years of follow up

Focus

ESOPHAGEAL ADENOCARCINOMA

Outcomes of Barrett's oesophagus related to systemic sclerosis: a 3-year EULAR Scleroderma Trials and Research prospective follow-up study

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Abstract

Objective. Barrett's oesophagus (BE) is the major risk factor for oesophageal adenocarcinoma (EAC). SSc is associated with an increased risk of BE related to chronic reflux. The aim of this study is to determine the outcomes of BE and estimate the EAC risk in SSc patients over a 3-year prospective study.

Methods. SSc patients were recruited through EUSTAR network centres. Inclusion criterion was a recent histological finding of BE. The patients were then prospectively followed and, as recommended, a second oesophageal endoscopy was performed according to the presence of BE-related dysplasia at baseline.

Results. A total of 50 SSc patients with BE (40 without and 10 with dysplasia) were included and 46 completed the follow-up (138 patient-years). During the 3-year follow-up, 4 of the 46 BE patients (3% per year) were diagnosed with high-grade dysplasia/EAC, of which one developed cardial EAC. EAC incidence in the BE subgroup with dysplasia increased to 4% per year compared with the absence of EAC cases in the BE subgroup without dysplasia at baseline.

Conclusion. Our results, in accordance with previous published data suggesting an increased risk of EAC or cardial adenocarcinoma in SSc, highlight the need for accurate follow-up of BE SSc patients at risk of developing adenocarcinoma.

Incidence of EAC in SSc with BE: 0.7% per year (vs 0.45% per year in BE population)

No patients developed EAC if BE without dysplasia occurred at baseline

ESOPHAGEAL ADENOCARCINOMA

ENDOSCOPIC SURVILLANCE GUIDELINES

STATEMENT 7

Surveillance intervals for nondysplastic BE should be stratified according to the length:

i. Irregular Z-line/columnar endoscopic surveillance

ii. Maximum extent of BE ≥ 1 cm

iii. Maximum extent of BE ≥ 2 cm
Patients with BE with a maximum extent of ≥ 2 cm should be referred for surveillance at a BE expert center.

If a patient has reached 75 years of age or her last surveillance endoscopy showed evidence of dysplasia, no subsequent surveillance endoscopies should be performed.

STATEMENT 12

Patients with LGD on random biopsies confirmed by a second expert GI pathologist should be referred to a BE expert center. A surveillance endoscopy should be repeated if the second expert pathologist confirmed LGD diagnosis is not present.

i. If no dysplasia is found at the surveillance endoscopy, the surveillance interval can be broadened to 3 years. Subsequent endoscopies negative for dysplasia should be performed at 3-year intervals for patients with no dysplasia at the surveillance endoscopy.

ii. If a confirmed diagnosis of LGD is present at the surveillance endoscopy, endoscopic ablation should be deferred.

STATEMENT 13

Patients with HGD confirmed by a second expert GI pathologist should be referred to a BE expert center. In the expert center, a high-definition endoscopy should be repeated according to the following guidelines.

i. All visible abnormalities should be removed by endoscopic resection techniques for adequate histopathological staging.

ii. If no lesions suspicious for dysplasia are seen, random 4-quadrant biopsies should be taken; if these biopsies are negative for dysplasia, endoscopy should be repeated at 3 months. If these biopsies confirm the presence of HGD, endoscopic ablation is recommended, preferably with RFA.

3°

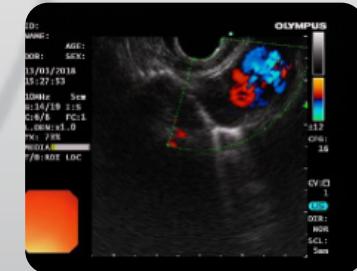
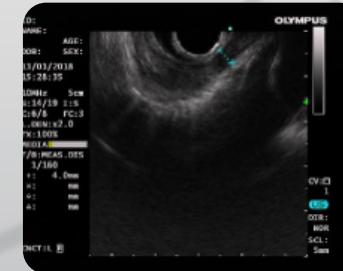
US ENDOSCOPY

**13
MAR
18**

Alla preliminare EGDS si conferma stenosi con mucosa congesta a livello di esofago inferiore al passaggio esofago-gastrico con dilatazione dell'esofago a monte ed ernia jatale sottostante (biopsie multiple con pinza).

L'esame ecoendoscopico viene condotto unicamente dal versante sovraanastomotico non consentendo la stenosi il passaggio dello strumento. A tale livello si evidenzia solo lieve ispessimento parietale (3,9 mm) a profili lisci in assenza di chiare nodulazioni. Non linfoadenopatie mediastiniche.

Conclusioni: stenosi in soggetto con sclerodermia in corso di definizione istologica.



3°

HYSTOLOGICAL EXAM

13
MAR
18

Campioni di mucosa della giunzione squamo-colonnare e di tipo gastrico con paracheratosi e iperplasia del
compartimento proliferativo basale dell'epitelio pavimentoso, flogosi linfomonocitaria (++) , edema e
angiectasie della lamina propria, associata a metaplasia intestinale delle ghiandole (MI +++).



DILATATION



THANKS
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Dott.ssa *Costanza Orlando*