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Successful R0 resection in locally advanced retroperitoneal sarcomas: A Case Series

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Background: Retroperitoneal sarcomas are rare, aggressive tumors, most commonly, they are liposarcomas and leiomyosarcomas. Most of the time, these tumors present late with nonspecific symptoms, being locally advanced, and invading adjacent structures, making surgical management highly challenging. Retroperitoneal Sarcomas comprise a challenging and rare occurrence in surgical scenarios. Stemming from this, their management, though surgical, must be personalized while also averting recurrence. Thus, we present our highly variable and difficult cases that despite severe involvement did not recur.

Case series: We are presenting a case series of three successfully resected tumors in our center at Al-Makassed hospital in Jerusalem, Palestine, all of which majorly involved or invaded adjacent structures and required a multidisciplinary approach to achieve R0 resection. Our first patient is a forty-two-year-old previously healthy female with intermittent attacks of dull aching abdominal pain. Her tumor was a leiomyosarcoma which involved major vessels and other adjacent vital structures. Ultimately, she required major highly advanced surgery necessitating the need for vascular reconstruction of IVC, as well as R0 resection. The surgery was performed by a



multidisciplinary team of highly specialized surgeons in related fields. Our second case is of a 75-year-old female patient with a well-differentiated liposarcoma invading the upper pole of the right kidney, necessitating a nephrectomy. Our third patient is a 59-year-old male with a dedifferentiated liposarcoma that involved the spleen, pancreas, and splenic flexure while engulfing the left kidney and ureter. Beyond the removal of the tumor, multiorgan resection was imperative to achieve microscopically margin-free resection. All surgeries went well, and their outcomes were promising. All patients had an uneventful course on follow-up.

Conclusion: Invasive retroperitoneal sarcomas of different histological types and clinical stages represent a technical challenge. Careful preoperative investigation and an experienced, dedicated multidisciplinary team of surgeons from related fields, including vascular, urologic, and hepatobiliary surgeons, are usually needed for a safe and successful R0 resection despite extensive tumor involvement.

Keywords: Retroperitoneal Sarcoma, IVC Graft, R0 resection, Liposarcoma, Leiomyosarcoma.