

# CheckRare

Rare and Genetic Disease Network

## CME

# Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) Abstract

## Highlights from ENDO 2020

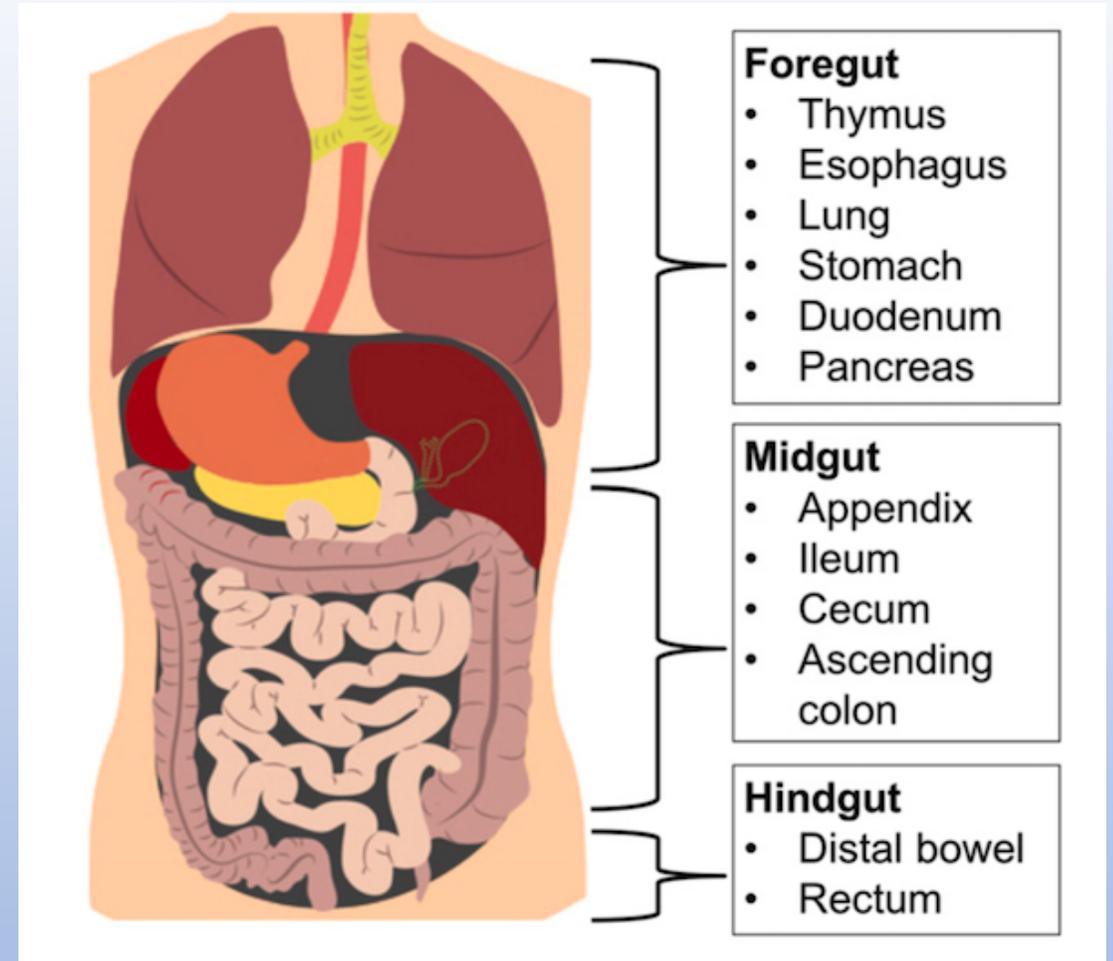
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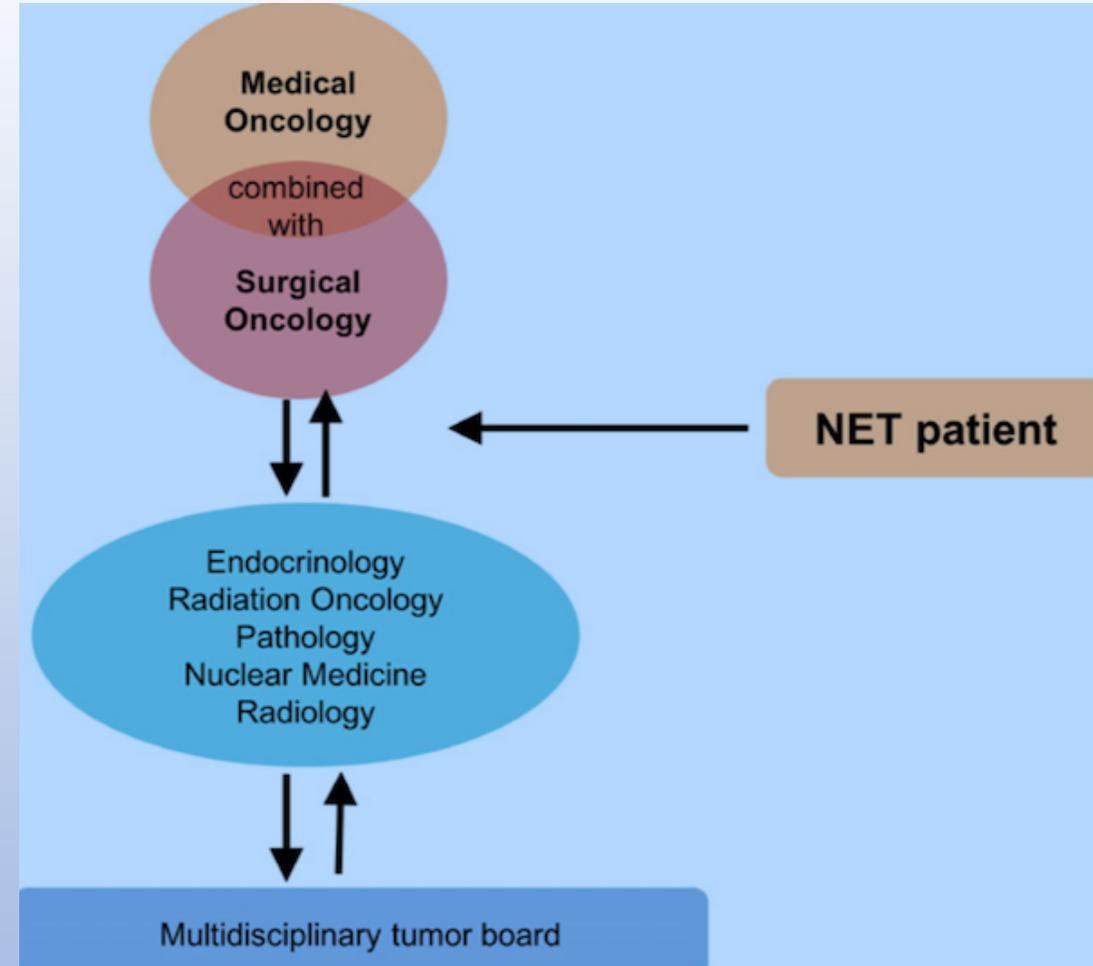
# What are NETs?

- Tumors that can lead a variety of symptoms
- 125,000 people current living with carcinoid or NETs in the U.S.
- Often difficult to diagnose and treat.
- Many examples of complex nature of Nets will be presented here



# Managing NETs?

- Team approach to care
  - Oncologists
  - Radiologists
  - Pathologists
  - Family Practice
  - Gastroenterologists
  - Endocrinologists
  - Pulmonologists/Thoracic surgeons
  - Cardiologists/Cardiac surgeons



# What is ENDO 2020?

## ENDO Annual Meeting

- Scheduled for March 28-31, 2020 in San Francisco, CA
- Live event cancelled due to COVID-19
- However, abstracts published in *Journal of the Endocrine Society*



# Cushing Syndrome from NET

## ***Nektaria Papadopoulou-Marketou et al. Periodic Cushing syndrome in a patient with an intestinal neuroendocrine tumor (NET). A novel case report***

- 53-year old male is the first case of ectopic Cushing disease caused by intestinal NET.
- Differential diagnosis between pituitary and ectopic Cushing disease due to ACTH or CRH hypersecretion is complicated
- Surgical removal of neoplasm in small bowel region allowed person to return to normal
- Authors conclude that in patients with Cushing symptoms but no visible pituitary lesions on MRI, further investigation for ectopic ACTH-driven Cushing syndrome is suggested

## ***Jian Zhang et al. Ectopic Cushing syndrome due to metastatic neuroendocrine tumor to the breast***

- 38-yr old female presented with ACTH-dependent Cushing syndrome. Pituitary MRI normal
- DOTATATE scan showed 0.8 cm area uptake in right breast and mediastinal lymphadenopathy
- Chemotherapy and lumpectomy performed but Cushing symptoms worsened. Chemotherapy halted and follow-up scans showed uptake in mediastinal lymph nodes
- Bilateral adrenalectomy performed plus 10 cycles of chemotherapy. Patient doing well

# New Treatment Option for Cushing's Syndrome

*Elena Thampy Cherian et al. Etomidate – an under utilized but safe and efficacious drug to treat acute severe Cushing's syndrome-case reports of ectopic ACTH syndrome from neuroendocrine malignancies*

- Low dose, non-hypnotic, etomidate rapidly lowers cortisol. Is it an under utilized drug due to concerns about sedation and ICU monitoring?

## Case 1

- 44-yr old woman the HTN, diabetes, recently diagnosed pancreatic NET with liver metastases
- Elevated cortisol and ACTH
- Developed worsening psychosis (likely due to hypercortisolism)
- Given etomidate (2.5 mg/hr and titrated up)
  - Rapid drop in cortisol levels and improvement in mentation
  - Later weaned off etomidate and eventually underwent a successful bilateral adrenalectomy

## Case 2

- 51-yr old man with one month of hematochezia presented with hypertension, severe hypokalemia, metabolic alkalosis, and QTc prolongation. Cortisol and ACTH elevated.
- Imaging showed pancreatic mass and multiple hypodense liver lesions. Biopsy confirmed metastatic NET.
- Chemotherapy, ketoconazole, and metyrapone failed to lower cortisol
- Etomidate drip started (3 mg/hr), resulting in rapid drop in cortisol levels
- Attempts to wean off etomidate were unsuccessful and patient eventually underwent bilateral adrenalectomy.

# Psychiatric Symptoms from Co-secretion of Multiple Hormones by NET

## *Siti Sanaa Wan Azman et al. Debilitating neuropsychiatry symptoms in pancreatic insulinoma co-secreting serotonin and IGF-1*

- 68-yr old female presented with recurrent diaphoresis, palpitations, tremors, chest tightness
  - Symptoms associated with episodic paroxysms of flushing and diarrhea
  - Physical examination unremarkable
- Most blood chemistry within normal range except for:
  - Insulin medicated hypoglycemia observed blood sugar; 2.5 mmol/l
  - Urine 5-HIAA elevated; 2430.37 umol/day
  - IGF-1 elevated; 416 ug/L
- 2 months later, patient presents with delirium, incoherence, agitation, restlessness. Required a full time caregiver to assist her
- Focus on the pancreas
  - Gallium-68 PET CT; endoscopic ultrasound; ASVS
  - Lesion at the head of the pancreas
- Authors speculate debilitating neuropsychiatric symptoms due to pancreatic NET that secretes serotonin, insulin, and IGF-1

# Venous thromboembolic events in MEN1

## *Maya E Lee et al. Are venous thromboembolic events increased in MEN1 patients?*

- Natural history study involving 287 patients with MEN1 mutations between 1991 - 2019
- Total of 34 had VTE (13.4%)
  - Approx 2-fold higher than general population

K-M analysis	Non-VTE	VTE	P value
Survival	81.1 + 2.23 yrs	77.4 + 3.45 yrs	0.96 (NS)

- Of the patients with VTE
  - 80% had hyperparathyroidism
  - 21% had hyperprolactinemia
  - 62.5% had hypergastrinemia
  - 84.6% had pancreatic NETs

# Acromegaly from Bronchial NET

*Jasmine Bahrami et al. A Case of Acromegaly Secondary to Ectopic Growth Hormone-Releasing Hormone (GHRH) Secretion from a Bronchial Neuroendocrine Tumour*

- Case Study
  - 42-yr-old female initially suspected of having small cell lung cancer and treated with chemoradiotherapy
  - Also showed signs of acromegaly (Increased digital girth, weight gain, enlarged tongue) but showed completely normal pituitary)
  - Subsequent tests showed elevated GHRH (73 pg/ml; normal range 5 – 18 pg/ml)
  - Biopsy revealed ACTH producing pulmonary NET (not small cell lung cancer)
  - Treatment
    - Sandostatin
    - Left pneumonectomy
  - Treatment successful

# Glucagonoma Presenting with Skin Rash

*Siroj Dejhansathit et al. Undiagnosed chronic eczema as a presentation of glucagonoma in MEN1 syndrome*

- Case Study
  - 51-yr-old male with type 2 DM and hypertension presented to clinic multiple times with rash on legs and genital area
  - Topical steroids not affective. When skin lesions healed, new ones appeared
  - Rash spread to trunk and face. Weight loss and stomatitis also occurred
  - CT/scintigraphy revealed mass at the pancreatic tail and multiple nodules in liver
  - Serum glucagon = 923 pg/ml
  - Treatment – surgical removal of tumors
  - Treatment successful
  - Lesson: Glucagonomas are rare pancreatic tumors difficult to recognize but often associated with necrolytic migratory erythema

# Somatostatin Analogs: Nurses' Preference

- Somatostatin agonists used to treat carcinoid syndrome

***Daphne Adelman et al. et al. An international simulated use study (PRESTO) to evaluate nurse preferences between the lanreotide autogel new syringe and octreotide long-acting release syringe***

- PRESTO Study
  - 90 nurses invited to compare lanreotide autogel/depot syringe and octreotide long-acting release syringe
  - 97.8% expressed preference for lanreotide autogel/depot syringe
    - 85.6% strong preference; 12.2 slight preference
  - Key attributes were 'fast administration' and 'confident syringe would not clog'
  - Shorter needle may also be a factor

# Update of HSA I-131-MIBG in Metastatic Pheochromocytomas/paragangliomas

- Pheochromocytomas/paragangliomas PPGLs are rare NETs that often secrete catecholamines leading to hypertension, arrhythmias, headaches etc.
- 5 year survival rate as low as 12%
- High-specific-activity I-131 meta-iodobenzylguanidine [HSA I-131-MIBG] approved to treat pheochromocytoma/paraganglioma (PPGL) that are positive for NE transporter
- FDA approval in 2018 largely based on StudyIB12B, a multicenter, open-label, Phase 2 study
- Study published in 2019 (Pryma et al) based on 12 month data showing the radiotherapy to be safe and effective with 92% of patients showing a partial response or stable disease
- Jimenez et al published updated data from that ongoing study for ENDO 2020

# Update of HSA I-131-MIBG in Metastatic Pheochromocytomas/paragangliomas

*Camilo Jimenez et al. A multi-center, open-label, pivotal Phase 2 study of Azedra (HSA I-131-MIBG) in patients with unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic pheochromocytoma or paraganglioma: updated long-term survival and safety*

- 74 patients with advanced PPGL given HAS I-131-MIBG

	One therapeutic dose (n=68)	Two therapeutics doses (n=50)
Clinical benefit observed	71.4%	98%
Median survival time	19.3 months	49.1 months

- Overall survival 73.8% at 2 yrs, 47.5% at 4 yrs, and 41.5% at 5 yrs
- AEs: nausea, fatigue, myelosuppression
- Late radiation toxicity included 7 patients with secondary malignancies (MDS, AML, ALL, colon cancer, lung cancer). MDS, AML, and ALL were suspected of being linked to I-131 therapy.

# Temozolomide active in Metastatic Pheochromocytoma/paragangliomas (PPGLs)

*Tobias Skrebsky de Almeida et al. Successful response of temozolomide (TMZ) in two patients with metastatic pheochromocytoma/paragangliomas (PPGLs)*

## Case 1

- 14-yr old female with retroperitoneal lesion close to celiac trunk, superior mesenteric artery, renal arteries, aorta, left renal vein and vertebral bodies of T10, T11 and T12
- Chest CT showed lung metastases
- 11 months later, primary abdominal lesion and lung metastases increased
- Temozolomide started and after 11 cycles, lesions decreased in size 30% with no progressive lesions.

## Case 2

- 31-yr old female underwent right adrenalectomy and nephrectomy for pheochromocytoma
- 7 years later, lesions in liver and lung observed
- Sorafenib used for 7 months.
- 3 years later, underwent surgery to remove lesion in right lung. Refused further surgery for left lung lesion.
- 1 year later, left lung lesion increased and mediastinal and paratracheal lymphadenomegaly developed
- Temozolomide started, and after 7 cycles, a chest CT showed complete regression of lung and lymph node metastases

# Summary

- **NETS are a group of rare and diverse group of tumors**
- **Multiple hormonal syndromes can be difficult to diagnose and treat.**
- **New data at ENDO 2020 highlight:**
  - **Diagnosis of rare hormonal syndromes**
  - **Novel therapies are showing promise**
  - **Rigorous clinical trials are needed to optimize treatment of these rare diseases.**