

## C6

### Incidental Diagnosis of Pancreatic Neuroendocrine tumors

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**Background:** Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors are often discovered incidentally during radiologic or endoscopic examinations. The incidence of incidental detection is unknown. It is also unclear whether patients with incidentally discovered, asymptomatic tumors should be treated similarly to patients who present with tumor-related symptoms.

**Methods:** A database of 425 patients with pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors treated at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center was developed. Patient charts were reviewed to assess whether their diagnosis was incidental or prompted by tumor-related symptoms such as pain, jaundice or neuroendocrine hormone secretion. The frequency of "incidentalomas" was categorized by TNM stage (AJCC, 7<sup>th</sup> edition). Overall survival was stratified by "incidental" vs. "symptomatic" diagnosis.

**Results:** Amongst 425 patients with histologically proven pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, 112 patients (26%) had tumors which were discovered incidentally. The majority of stage I tumors (55%) were incidentally discovered. Amongst patients with stage IV tumors, 20% were detected incidentally (table 1). Median survival of patients with incidentally discovered tumors was 103 months versus 84 months in patients who were symptomatic at diagnosis.

**Conclusions:** A sizeable fraction of patients with pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors are diagnosed incidentally during evaluations for other conditions or unrelated symptoms. The majority of patients with stage I tumors are incidentally diagnosed. The increased incidence of pancreatic neuroendocrine "incidentaloms" may be contributing to improving survival rates in this disease. This study highlights the necessity of developing guidelines for management of patients with incidentally discovered, early stage tumors.

Table 1: Frequency of incidental discovery of pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, stratified by AJCC stage

<b>TNM Stage</b>	<b>Stage I</b>	<b>Stage II</b>	<b>Stage III</b>	<b>Stage IV</b>
<b>Incidental Diagnosis</b>	55%	20%	11%	20%