Examples of Malignant Liver Tumours

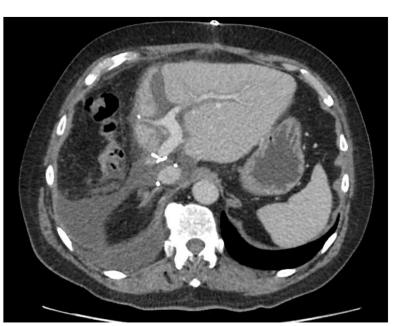


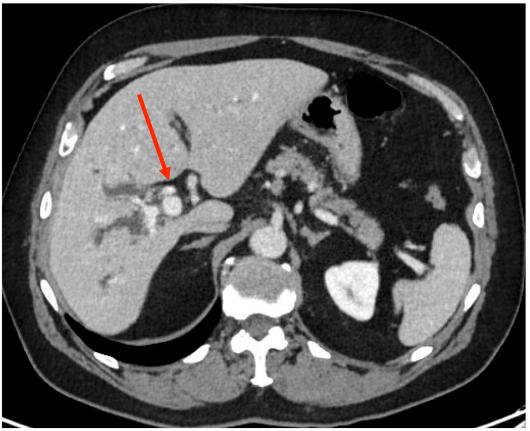


Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma

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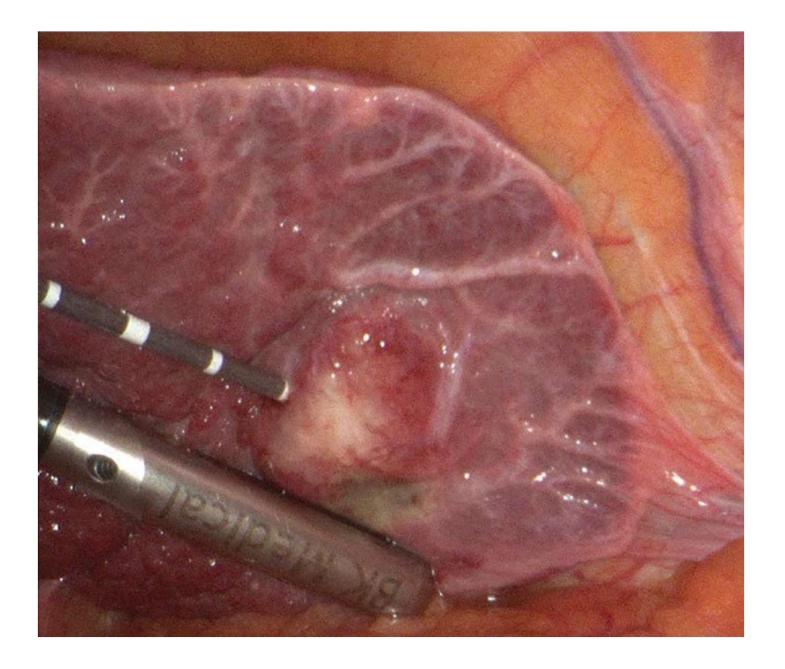


Hilar cholangiocarcinoma (Klatskin)

Range of treatment options for liver tumours

Liver directed

- Surgical resection
- Ablation destruction of part of liver using energy techniques eg. microwave. Can be done percutaneously (by radiologists), open, or laparoscopic
- TAE/TACE direct infusion of chemo drugs into liver arteries
- SIRT direct infusion of radiotherapy beads into liver arteries
- Radiotherapy
- Transplantation few indications in cancer, limited by organ availability



Laparoscopic microwave ablation

Range of treatment options for liver tumours

Systemic

- Traditional chemotherapy
 - Single to quad-agent chemotherapy
 - IV or oral
- Targeted therapy against specific cellular pathways in some cancers eg. cetuximab, Herceptin
- Immunotherapy eg. pembrolizumab (Keytruda) new option

Patient selection for liver resection

- Only a minority of patients with cancer in the liver (primary or secondary) are eligible for resection
 - Extent and distribution of cancer
 - Extrahepatic disease
 - Prognostic factors eg. stage of primary cancer, time course of development of liver mets, specific genetic mutations
 - Response to chemotherapy (progression while on chemo is bad)
 - Age and fitness

Challenges of liver surgery

- Access
- Important structures are buried in the liver
- Bleeding
- Adequate liver remnant
- Background liver disease

Open liver resection





Hockey stick or "reverse L" incision Chevron or "Mercedes" incision