466 Resection or Enucleation for Extremely Giant Hepatic Haemangiomata? A Case Report and Review of The Literature

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Background: Cavernous hepatic haemangiomas are benign liver tumours and although common when small, giant haemangiomas (usually accepted as being greater than 10cm) are infrequent. Treatment is indicated in patients who are symptomatic or if diagnosis is unclear, although with giant haemangiomas, many support expectant management of asymptomatic lesions due to the risk of major complications. Traditionally hepatic resection has been the primary treatment option for these lesions, but a variety of other techniques, including enucleation, have been described as safe and effective alternatives. There remains equipoise in respect of the best management of giant haemangiomas above 10cm. Cases of such size are rare and so there is a paucity of data available.

Case presentation: We present a case of a 65-year-old male who underwent successful anatomical liver resection for a 5kg giant cavernous haemangioma of 26cm diameter following its incidental identification during an ultrasound scan. We also discuss and compare the role of resection and enucleation for the treatment of haemangiomata greater than 20cm in diameter.

Conclusions: This case demonstrates successful resection of an unusually giant haemangioma which, in contrast to the majority of literature, provides a valuable addition to the limited evidence base for management of this condition by anatomical resection.