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Routine histopathology examination of the sleeved stomach after sleeve gastrectomy - significance and comparison with preoperative endoscopy

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Background: Sleeve gastrectomy (SG) is one of the most commonly performed bariatric procedures. However, the available literature on histological examination of the resected sleeved stomachs is widely inconsistent. This study aimed at assessing the histopathological findings after SG performed in our center compared to the routinely performed preoperative esophagogastroduodenoscopy (OGD) and the intraoperative findings.

Material and methods: We conducted a retrospective cohort study using the bariatric unit database of all patients who had SG procedures from June 2007 to December 2019.

Results: Out of the 620 SG performed, there were 219 patients with complete data, including preoperative OGD reports, operative notes, and postoperative histopathology reports. We found normal specimens in 43.83% ($n = 96$) and evidence of inflammation in 50.68% ($n = 111$) of cases. There were 10 (4.56%) specimens with evidence of inflammation and other lesions and two (0.91%) specimens with lesions only. Twenty-five patients had inflammation, and 10 had lesions on preoperative OGD with negative histopathology reports.

Conclusion: Routine histopathology examination after SG does not change the management, and preoperative OGD can detect inflammatory changes and lesions, which could have been missed with histology analysis only.