INTRODUCTION: This rare entity of gastric epitheliomesenchymal biphasic tumour was first reported by Miettinen in 2009. Only nine cases have been reported since then and all described cases arising in the stomachs of young adults. The etiopathogenesis, malignant potential and appropriate treatment for the gastroblastoma remains unknown. We report the first case of gastroblastoma in adult people.

HISTÓRICA CLÍNICA (Objectivos, Material e Métodos e Resultados):

A 53-year-old woman was sent to our hospital by the medical assistant with complaints of heartburn and dyspepsia. The patient brought an upper digestive endoscopy and a computed tomography revealing the presence of a submucosal lesion that appeared to protrude from the great curvature near the gastric antrum. We asked for a endoultrasonography that showed a hypoechoogenic lesion, apparent in continuity with muscle, with growth into the peritoneal cavity and without perilesional adenopathies. It was made needle puncture and evaluated by anatomopathologist that diagnosed as a gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST). She underwent laparoscopic atypical partial gastrectomy and the tumor was completely resected. On gross inspection, the partial gastrectomy specimen consisted of portion of distal stomach with a well-circumscribed tumor. On the cut surface, the tumor was multinodular and microscopically the tumor was centered in the muscular layer and had solid proliferation of variable cellularity, with biphasic well-demarcated areas, one area with oval to spindle cells correspondent to the mesenchymal component and other with moderate pleomorphism relative to the epithelial component. There was no evidence of lymphovascular or perineural tumor invasion. Reviewing the final anatomopathological information, the diagnosis was corrected for gastroblastoma and confirmed in an independent pathology service. The patient is still alive without evidence of recurrence and metastasis 18 months after surgery.

DISCUSSÃO: Our case presents clinical and morphological features similar to epithelio-mesenchymal tumors of the stomach first described in 2009. These first cases occurred in young adults and were proposed to call these tumors gastroblastomas. Other features were also reported like relatively large tumor size, multinodular shape, two components with low-grade features and relatively low-mitotic activity, low overall atypia, absence of conspicuous nuclear pleomorphism, and low malignant potential as disease limited to the stomach, without metastatic potential or recurrence after curative resection. Some differences had been already reported, as one case with regional nodal and distant metastases at diagnoses, and other one described with loco-regional recurrence and local and distant lymph node metastases. Our case have brought some differences too, contrary to the postulate that gastroblastoma as been a disease reported in young people, usually between the ages of 9-30, mean age of 22 years, our patient is the first reported with 53 years. In addiction, is the fourth patient female in a predominantly male disease population. Before our case, the tumors were relatively large by the time of diagnosis, ranging from 3.5cm to 15cm in the largest dimension (mean size 7.9cm), different from ours that appears with 2.3cm. CONCLUSÃO: GISTs are the most common mesenchymal tumors of the gastrointestinal tract and most frequently occur in the stomach, but typically not occur in young people. As gastric teratomas, inflammatory
myofibroblastic tumors, synovial sarcomas and sarcomatoid carcinomas all may be differential diagnoses. However, using a biopsy specimen for diagnosing a gastroblastoma is probably impossible based on their different histological characteristics, so diagnostic confirmation is only possible with resection specimen and histopathological examination. In adult population the use of endoscopic exams is more permissive what may justify the earlier diagnosis and the smaller size of the tumor find in our patient. Surgical resection with clear margins has been the preferred treatment of choice and laparoscopic approach is useful for small tumors less than 5cm located in the anterior surface of the stomach away from the gastroesophageal junction. However, no standard therapy has been established for this tumor. Gastroblastoma seem to have low malignant potential, but findings in literature of metastatic disease suggest that at least some gastroblastomas are malignant. Our case is the first report of gastroblastoma described in adult patient, leading to the conclusion that being a rare and more frequent disease in young people is not exclusive to this population.