Obscure Gastrointestinal bleeding in the setting of Blue Rubber Bleb Nevus Syndrome with extensive small bowel involvement

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CASE DESCRIPTION

- An 85-year-old man was admitted in the ER for melena. The patient was under apixaban due to a recent ischemic stroke. Dorsal hemangiomas were identified at physical examination.

DIAGNOSTIC MANAGEMENT

- At admission, he presented **hemoglobin of 7.6g/dl**.
- **Esophagogastroduodenoscopy** was performed and had negative findings.
- **Colonoscopy**, revealed 4 vinous colored polypoid formations as well as blood clots in all segments, including the terminal ileum.

Due to **overt obscure GI bleeding (OGIB)** small bowel evaluation through capsule endoscopy was subsequently performed.

Figure 1 - Capsule endoscopy revealed multiple, bluish, nodular hemangiomas in the proximal jejunum.. Distally active bleeding was apparent.

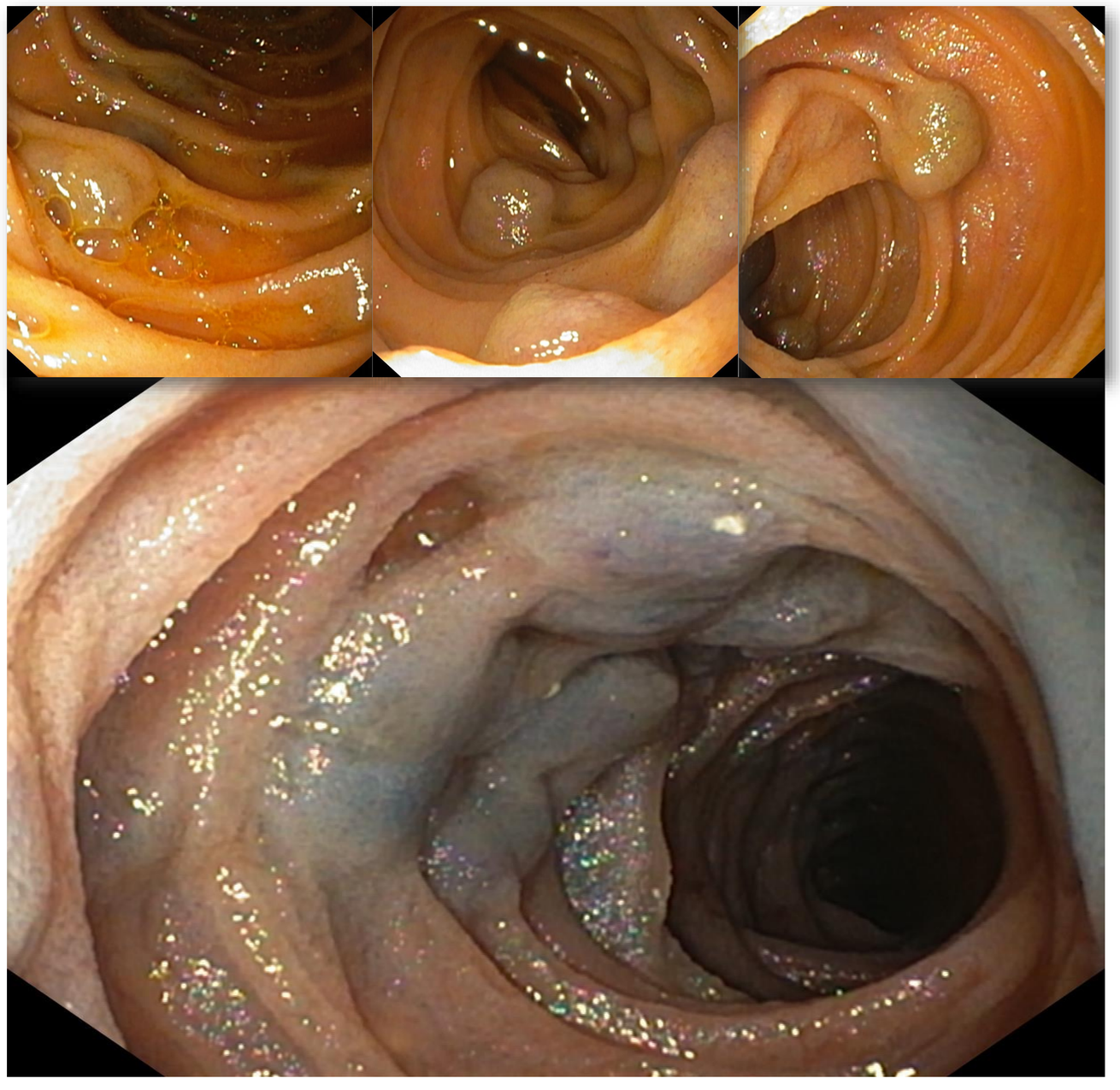

Figure 2- Balloon-assisted enteroscopy (BAE) allowed the identification of multiple hemangioma-like purplish blue lesions in jejunum and ileum.

Based on clinical, imaging and endoscopic findings, diagnosis of BRBNS was made.

Considering the extent of the lesions and patient's comorbidities supportive treatment was decided.

CONCLUSION

Blue rubber bleb nevus syndrome, is a rare disorder characterized by multiple vascular malformations of gastrointestinal tract, skin, and less frequently solid organs. Treatment depends on site, size, and number of lesions.

REFERENCES

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