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Abstract: A case is presented of a patient with an insulinoma and a co-incident lesion in the liver. Cross-sectional imaging and somatostatin receptor imaging were unsuccessful in identifying the location of the insulinoma. GLP-1 receptor imaging identified the position of the tumour and was used to guide its successful surgical resection.

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1 A patient presented with spells of light-headedness, confusion and collapses, improving on
2 eating. During a supervised fast, plasma glucose dropped to 1.7 mmol/L, with inappropriately
3 high insulin, raised C-peptide and no sulphonylurea detectable, diagnostic of an insulinoma
4 [1].

5
6 CT, MRI and abdominal ultrasound scanning failed to find any evidence of a lesion in the
7 pancreas and all showed a liver lesion (a: black arrow). Somatostatin subtype 2 (sst₂) receptor
8 imaging with ⁶⁸Ga-DOTATATE PET/CT was normal (b). The white arrow shows the body of
9 pancreas in each panel.

10
11
12 Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor SPECT/CT was performed. This showed strong
13 focal uptake posteriorly within the pancreatic body (c: white arrow). Notably, the liver lesion
14 did not show any uptake. The pancreatic lesion was enucleated and the liver lesion was
15 excised. Histopathology showed a well differentiated insulinoma in the pancreas. The liver
16 lesion proved to be a metastasis from a salivary gland-type lung tumour, previously resected
17 in 2008. The insulinoma was found on autoradiography *in vitro* to express GLP-1 receptors
18 but not sst₂ receptors.

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20
21
22 GLP-1 is a gut hormone that stimulates insulin release from beta cells and represses glucagon
23 release from alpha cells. ¹¹¹In-labeled exendin-4 is a GLP-1 analogue, and can be used to
24 image tissues that express GLP-1 receptors in high density [2-4]. In a prospective study, GLP-
25 1 receptor imaging correctly located all six insulinomas preoperatively [2]. This new imaging
26 modality may therefore be useful in locating small and occult tumours to guide surgery and to
27 distinguish them from co-incident lesions.

28 29 30 31 **References**

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