AN ADRENAL GLAND NODULE PRESENTING AS AN EARLY SIGN OF METASTATIC SPREAD FROM COLORECTAL CANCER: REPORT OF TWO CASES

Gerardo Rosati¹, Giuseppe Tramutola², Nicola D'Alessandro², Rosistella Chiacchio³, Giulia Vita³, Franco Scutari², and Luigi Manzione¹

¹Medical Oncology Unit, ²Department of Surgery, ³Department of Histopathology, S. Carlo Hospital, Potenza, Italy

The presence of an adrenal gland nodule may be an early or late sign of metastatic spread from colorectal cancer. It usually appears when the internal malignancy is widely disseminated and has been previously diagnosed. Adrenal insufficiency can be compatible with bilateral and diffuse involvement of

this uncommon site of disease. Although a surgical approach can be proposed in some circumstances, chemotherapy is usually the only therapeutic option. We present 2 cases that document examples of both events, so as to illustrate the most relevant aspects of this condition.

Key words: adrenal gland metastases, chemotherapy, colorectal cancer.