

Introduction

The first mention of small bowel tumors dates back to 1655. The first clinically reported small bowel tumor was a duodenal carcinoma, described in 1746. Another early case was found in 1761 by **Morgagni**. In 1853 the first benign tumor of the duodenum was reported by **Cruveilhier**. The first small bowel leiomyoma was described by **Foerster** in 1858, and the first small bowel leiomyosarcoma in 1883. The first successful resection of a small bowel tumor was reported by **Fleiner** in 1885. (**De Vita et al ,1989**)

Lichtenstern published an early review of malignant small bowel tumors in 1876, and **Heurtaux** published a review of benign small bowel tumors in 1899. **King** reviled the entire early literature of small bowel tumors in 1917; his work provides a convenient reference for the review of early cases. **Pagtalaun** in 1964 reviewed 327 cases of small bowel tumors and identified these tumors according to cell type and location, calling attention to the difference in distribution of tumors of epithelial, connective tissue, lymphoid, and carcinoid origin. (**De Vita et al, 2001**)

Several modern major reviews have been published on the subject of small bowel tumors as well. Most of the current information about the presentation, diagnosis, management and outcome of small bowel tumors is derived either from small single-center series or larger collective reviews. (**Minardi et al, 1998**)

The aim of this essay is to review the small bowel tumors as regard recent advances in diagnosis and management.