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Morphological Spectrum of Variations in Liver: A Comprehensive Observation into Accessory Lobe and Fissures

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A definite clinical knowledge variation in the external morphology of liver anatomy is required during radiological investigations and in both open and laparoscopic surgery. There are only a few studies which have dealt with the surface variations of the liver. The aim of the present study is to determine the gross anatomical variations of the liver in the South Indian population. Accessory liver lobes (ALL) are anatomical variations involving supernumerary lobes in the liver. Although their origin is not entirely understood, hypotheses for the embryological processes resulting in an ALL include hyperplastic anomaly during embryological development or formation because of increased intra-abdominal tension from trauma or surgery. In most cases, the accessory lobe is located inferior to the liver. In this report, we presented the case of an elderly female cadaver who showed an atypical ALL left variant attached through an accessory ligament. Therefore, we discuss the gross morphology, clinical and surgical implications to improve future patient outcomes. Gross variations like presence of accessory liver fissures (ALF), grooves on the surface of the livers, conical shaped right lobe (RL), notched border, bilobed caudate lobe, fissure in the quadrate lobe, and presence of accessory lobe were observed in the study. The fissure was present on the right lobe and quadrate lobe. Other than that, we noticed conical shape right lobe.

Keywords: Liver morphology, Accessory liver lobe, Anatomical variations

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