Abstract IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 4

Abstract IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 5

points of view. Extreme urgent surgery was taken after covid antigen, otherwise RT PCR was awaited, HRCT chest was

done in all cases. Very sick patients in whom patients covid status and chest could be optimised while keeping surgery for a later time after optimization. Covid specific treatment given was mainly oxygen anticoagulants, steroids and vitamin c. GI pathologies operated were cecal amebiasis (n=2; IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 1, IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 2), abdominal abscess (n=2), multiple bowel strictures (n=1; IDDF2021-ABS-0153 IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 3), abdominal Kochs (n=1; IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Figure 4), traumatic gut gangrene (n=1; figure 5) and nonoperative management in (n=1) severe acute pancreatitis. Affected patients were having age 86-17 and had CT severity scores of 0-17 (IDDF2021-ABS-0153 Table 1). 7/8 underwent emergency surgery, no operations were performed in covid dedicated modular Operation theatre with airflow 25 per minute with all staff wearing N95 +3 ply mask or respirators (3M) and no health care worker was covid infected after operations.

Results All patients recovered well from covid as well as from gastrointestinal pathologies. Duration of stay ranged from 2-20 days. 4/8 were already vaccinated with 1 dose of covishield that may be an important factor amenable to further research. All algorithms were followed flow chart 1. All HCW were doubly vaccinated, no HCW was infected with covid. The inferences drawn here are based on a small but daring case series, in the time where most HCW was not taking covid surgeries in our state.

Conclusions Life-threatening covid illness can present with life-threatening gastrointestinal pathology. Well optimised patients can have similar results as non-covid cases.

IDDF2021-ABS-0158 SMALL EXTRACELLULAR VESICLES DERIVED FROM ESOPHAGEAL SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA PROMOTE IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE EFFECTS OF MYELOID-DERIVED SUPPRESSOR CELLS AFTER IONIZING RADIATION

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Background Radiation therapy is effective in achieving local control in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC), yet there is evidence to suggest that changes in the tumour micro-environment induced by radiation can also promote metastasis. We investigated if ionizing radiation is capable of promoting immunosuppressive effects of myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) through ESCC-derived small extracellular vesicles (sEVs).

Methods PBMCs from healthy donors were cocultured with sEVs derived from ESCC cell lines before and after radiation. The proportion of MDSCs and their immunosuppressive function were analysed. ESCC were induced by 4-nitroquinoline-1-oxide (4NQO) in C57BL/6 mice. The MDSC proportion and function of ESCC bearing mice were analyzed and RNA-seq was performed in MDSCs before and after radiation. sEVs from the plasma of ESCC-bearing mice before and after radiation was isolated and injected into healthy C57BL/6 mice to investigate their effects to MDSCs. Small RNA-seq of sEVs derived from Kyse 30 before and after radiation was performed. The function of changed microRNAs in sEVs was

verified *in vitro*, and its targeting pathways were also investigated.

Results sEVs derived from radiated cells exhibited a stronger MDSCs induction capacity and MDSCs were more suppressive of T cell proliferation. MDSCs in ESCC bearing mice after radiation increased and the suppressive effect of MDSCs was improved. RNA-seq showed up-regulated PI3K-AKT pathway activity in MDSCs in ESCC bearing mice after radiation. sEVs from the plasma of ESCC-bearing mice after radiation-induced more MDSCs and had a stronger ability to induce immunosuppressive function of MDSCs. miRNA-26b in sEVs of ESCC cell lines and plasma of tumour-bearing mice were found to be up-regulated after radiation. miRNA-26b was found to have the ability to induce MDSCs expansion and function. miRNA-26b was found to activate PI3K-AKT pathway through targeting Pten.

Conclusions sEVs from ESCC cells after ionizing radiation had a stronger ability to induce MDSCs than sEVs 0gy in both promoting cell expansion and immunosuppressive function. *In vivo* study validated the MDSC-inducing function of radiation.

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THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN EXERCISE, NUTRIENT AND FOOD HABITS WITH THE SINGAPOREAN GUT MICROBIAL COMPOSITION

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Background The impact of non-dietary lifestyle factors on the gut microbiota, such as physical activity, has not been frequently reported. Recent studies have suggested that exercise can increase the number of beneficial microbial species which enhance short-chain fatty acid synthesis and carbohydrate metabolism. Therefore, we investigated the relationship between physical activity and gut microbiome composition within a cohort of multi-ethnic healthy Singaporeans.

Methods 257 individuals completed the Global Physical Activity Questionnaire (GPAQ) (Armstrong et al. 2006) and Food Frequency Questionnaire (FFQ) (Whitton et al. 2017), to obtain quantitative measures of their physical activity, nutrition and dietary habits, respectively. They also provided paired stool samples, which underwent 16S rRNA V3-4 amplicon sequencing. Community and individual microbial features associated with physical activity were assessed using microbial ecology measures such as α -diversity and principal coordinate analysis (PCA), as well as, multivariate sparse Partial Least Squares analyses, whilst confounding for nutritional and dietary habits.

Results Using the GPAQ, 57% of the individuals were deemed to have an active lifestyle. Active individuals have increased microbial α -diversity, although not statistically significant. Unsupervised PCA analysis identified a subset of active individuals with distinct microbiome signatures, whereby these individuals, compared to those with sedentary lifestyles, have increased abundances of *Prevotella* spp., which is in keeping with their increased fibre intake. Sedentary lifestyle individuals were found to have increased abundance of *Lachnospirillum* spp., whereby phylogenetic similar microbial features (such as *Roseburia* and *Subdoligranulum* spp.) were significantly

Abstract IDDF2021-ABS-0169 Figure 1

correlated with more frequent eating out at hawker stalls and fast-food establishments (IDDF2021-ABS-0169 Figure 1. Correlation between gut microbiome with (a) nutrient intake; and (b) food habit). Studying the metabolic potential of the microbiome, active individuals had increased abundances of gene content related to energy production, whereby sedentary individuals had increased abundances of gene content related to degradation of aromatic compounds.

Conclusions Our study reaffirms that increased physical activity is associated with increased microbial diversity and beneficial microbial features. However, the differences in gut microbiota associated with physical activity may be due to differences in dietary intake and practices, rather than the exercise itself. Further studies investigating the link of gut microbiome and physical activity should control and standardize the dietary intake of participants.

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CANCER-ASSOCIATED FIBROBLASTS PROMOTE COLORECTAL CANCER PROGRESSION THROUGH IGF2-IGF1R-YAP1 AXIS

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