Summary

Tumors of digestive tract are among the most common neoplasms worldwide. Morphologically and clinically, they represent a heterogenous group of lesions, in which the tumors of epithelial origin occupy a leading position. Due to their rarity, tumors of non-epithelial, mainly mesenchymal origin remain hidden in the shade cast by the huge category of epithelial tumors. Thanks to the current diagnostic opportunities, the pathogenesis and molecular genetics of many of these lesions have been revealed. New data has influenced not only the differential diagnosis algorithms, but also has contributed to the development of targeted therapy, which leads to prolongation of survival and improvement of quality of life of affected patients.

The aim of the study was to elucidate the molecular genetic background and associated differential diagnostic signs of selected mesenchymal tumors of the digestive tract. Material for the study was retrieved from the archives of Šikl's Department of Pathology of Medical Faculty of Charles University in Pilsen and the Tumor Registry of the Head of Šikl's Department of Pathology, Professor Michal Michal, M.D..

The doctoral thesis is divided into two parts. The first part introduces the issue of rare tumors of the gastrointestinal system, with particular attention to the gastrointestinal stromal tumor. The second part summarizes the results of the work in the form of five commented articles.