Background
* Gastrointestinal stromal tumors are rare tumors of the gastrointestinal tract that arise from primary mesenchymal cells.
* In patients with type 1 neurofibromatosis (NF-1), GISTs have been reported to occur with increased tendency.
* NF-1 is a neurocutaneous disorder that involves neuroectodermal and mesenchymal derivatives, and it is associated with GISTs of the small bowel.
* Clinical behaviors of GIST include abdominal pain, intestinal obstruction, and acute or occult gastrointestinal bleeding.
* We herein report a case of a patient with NF-1 with acute gastrointestinal bleeding from multiple GISTs of the small bowel.

Case Report
* A 57 year-old male with known NF-1 presented with melena and anemia.
* On presentation, he had evidence of neurofibromas on his face and upper extremities. He denied any abdominal pain.
* Laboratory analysis showed severe anemia with a hemoglobin of 9 g/dl.
* EGD revealed a non-bleeding mass in the second to third portion of the duodenum.
* Biopsy of the duodenal mass demonstrated a spindle-cell neoplasm with positive c-kit protein, suggestive of a GIST.
* Computed tomography revealed multiple masses as large as 3 x 4 cm in the small bowel.
* Exploratory laparatomy found multiple duodenal and jejunal tumors with biopsies that were consistent with GIST of low risk (<2/50 HPF mitotic index).
* The patient received a prepyloric-preserving Whipple resection.
* The rest of his hospital course was uneventful. He was discharged.

Discussion
* GISTs of the small bowel are very rare and may present with massive bleeding.
* Particularly in patients with type 1 neurofibromatosis with gastrointestinal bleeding, it should be considered as part of the differential.