Altered anatomy: An EUS-guided placement of a lumen-apposing metal stent for successful ERCP following Whipple procedure (with video)

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Increased prevalence of surgically altered anatomy in patients with biliary obstruction presents a technical challenge to endoscopists. Novel approaches employing EUS in altered postsurgical anatomy have been described but are limited.[1] This is a case of a EUS-guided lumen-apposing metal stent (LAMS) placement for successful ERCP in a patient with recurrent cholangitis following pancreaticoduodenectomy.

The patient is a 75-year-old woman with a history of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms treated with Whipple pancreaticoduodenectomy complicated by strictures and recurrent cholangitis. Prior ERCPs were unsuccessful since the standard duodenoscope was too short to access the biliary anastomosis in the altered anatomy. We placed a EUS-guided gastrojejunal LAMS to create a direct passageway from the stomach into the afferent limb of her pancreaticoduodenectomy [Figures 2 and 3].

EUS-guided LAMS placement allows for a minimally invasive approach to circumvent surgically altered anatomy in an attempt to relieve biliary obstruction using standard duodenoscopes. While the current evidence is limited, it supports the efficacy and safety of this method. In expert centers, EUS-guided access to the pancreaticobiliary system has yielded high...
technical and clinical success rates at 94.7% and 91.7%, respectively.[2] Postprocedure complications were limited to perforation and bleeding in 2.2% and 1.1% of patients, respectively.[3] We hope that our case adds to the body of literature that supports the use of a EUS-guided placement of LAMS to enable endoscopic access for successful ERCP in surgically altered anatomy.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form, the patient has given her consent for her images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patient understands that her name and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal her identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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Conflicts of interest

Sammy Ho is an Editorial Board Member of the journal. The article was subject to the journal’s standard procedures, with peer review handled independently of this editor and his research groups.

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