Revisionary antireflux metal stent placement for stent occlusion after endoscopic ultrasound-guided hepaticojejunostomy

Endoscopic ultrasound-guided biliary drainage (EUS-BD) has been recently recognized as a new treatment option for obstructive jaundice with a surgically altered anatomy [1]. However, stent occlusion has been reported to occur in 10.7%–25% of cases following EUS-BD [2,3]. Reflux of food residue from the gastrointestinal tract into the stent is thought to be causing stent occlusion; therefore, a stent that can prevent food reflux needs to be developed to ensure longer-lasting stent patency. We report the first case in which revisionary placement of an antireflux metal stent was useful for stent occlusion following EUS-BD (► **Video 1**).

An 85-year-old man who had undergone distal gastrectomy with Billroth II reconstruction for gastric cancer presented with biliary obstruction due to lymph node metastasis. For biliary drainage, EUS-guided hepaticojejunostomy (HJS) was performed via the afferent limb. A dedicated 7-Fr×14-cm plastic stent (TYPE-IT stent; Gadelius Medical, Tokyo, Japan) was placed without complications (► **Fig. 1**). However, 2 months later, the patient presented with recurrence of jaundice and cholangitis. Endoscopic reintervention for stent occlusion was attempted using a forward-viewing gastroscope. A 0.025-inch guidewire was inserted into the biliary tree along the HJS stent (► **Fig. 2**); the stent was removed with grasping forceps. After cholangiography, a 10×80-mm antireflux covered metal stent (Niti-S Biliary Long-Covered ComVi Stent; Taewoong Medical, Gimpo, Korea) was placed through the HJS fistula (► **Fig. 3**). This stent has a 7-mm-long funnel-shaped antireflux valve designed to prevent food reflux [4]. The patient completely recovered within a few days; currently, at over 6 months after the procedure, he is continuing chemotherapy without stent dysfunction (► **Fig. 4**).

Antireflux biliary stents have been reported to be useful in transpapillary

drainage under ERCP [4, 5], but their usefulness in transmural drainage under EUS is unknown. The case reported here indicates that placement of an antireflux metal stent could be useful to manage stent dysfunction following EUS-BD and achieve long-term stent patency.

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Competing interests

None

► **Fig. 2** Endoscopic reintervention for the treatment of stent occlusion after endoscopic ultrasound-guided HJS. A 0.025-inch guidewire was advanced along the HJS stent into the biliary tree. **a** Endoscopic view, **b** fluoroscopic view.

► **Fig. 3** Revisionary placement of a 10×80-mm antireflux covered metal stent equipped with a 7-mm-long funnel-shaped antireflux valve (Niti-S Biliary Long-Covered ComVi Stent; Taewoong Medical, Gimpo, Korea) through a fistula. **a** Endoscopic view, **b** fluoroscopic view, **c** photograph of the stent.

► **Fig. 4** Fluoroscopic image obtained 6 months after antireflux metal stent placement shows pneumobilia (white arrowheads). No stent migration or dislocation is seen.

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