Cloacogenic polyp: a rare type of polyp

A cloacogenic polyp is a rare type of benign lesion that is part of mucosal prolapse syndrome [1]. Mucosal prolapse syndrome encompasses entities such as solitary rectal ulcer syndrome, gastric antral vascular ectasia, inflammatory cap polyp, prolapsing mucosal polyp, and the cloacogenic polyp [2], whose common etiology has been proposed to be mucosal prolapse [3]. Cloacogenic polyps are between 1 and 5 cm, and are usually sessile but can be pedunculated [3]. Usually located at the anorectal junction, they can be found in the colon. A cloacogenic polyp can be asymptomatic or responsible for hematochezia [4]. It is a benign lesion, but some cases of adenocarcinoma arising from cloacogenic polyps have been described [5].

Here we describe two cases of patients with cloacogenic polyps (►Video 1). The first case is a 38-year-old woman who underwent a colonoscopy for abdominal pain, hematochezia, and mucus in the stool. In the sigmoid colon, there was a pedunculated inflammatory lesion with a 20-mm head and some area of irregular pit pattern (Kudo Vn) on narrow-band imaging (►Fig. 1). It was resected en bloc with a hot snare. The second case is a 71-year-old woman with hematochezia. A similar lesion with a 30-mm red head was found in the sigmoid colon. Dilation of lymphatic vessels was present on the stalk of the polyp. Endoscopic submucosal dissection with the tip of a snare allowed en bloc resection (►Fig. 2).

For both lesions, pathology reports showed an ulcerated surface with dilated colonic glands within an inflammatory stroma and significant hemorrhagic suffusion. The glands were dilated, sometimes cystic, and filled with mucopurulent material. The mucosa adjacent to the stalk of the polyp was normal. There was no sign of malignancy or dysplasia (►Fig. 3). These observations were consistent with a cloacogenic polyp.

► **Fig. 1** A pedunculated inflammatory polyp in the sigmoid colon with a 20-mm head and some area of irregular pit pattern (Kudo Vn) on narrow band imaging.

► **Fig. 2** Endoscopic submucosal dissection with the tip of a snare of the inflammatory lesion.

► **Fig. 3** Pathology of a cloacogenic polyp. No sign of malignancy or dysplasia is detectable. **a** Ulcerated surface with dilated colonic glands (asterisks). **b** Inflammatory stroma. **c** Significant hemorrhagic suffusion (arrows). HE: hematoxylin and eosin stain.

These cases highlight a rarely described lesion of the colon that should be known by endoscopists.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Video 1 Cloacogenic polyp: a rare type of polyp.

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