Conversion of endoscopic ultrasound-guided hepaticogastrostomy to transpapillary drainage by anterograde intervention via dedicated biliary metal stent for benign biliary stenosis

An 80-year-old woman with obstructive jaundice caused by distal biliary stenosis secondary to chronic pancreatitis was referred for biliary drainage. After failed endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography, endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided biliary drainage was proposed. Portal cavernomatosis prevented an extrahepatic route and EUS-hepaticogastrostomy (HGS) was considered.

Using a linear echoendoscope, the left biliary duct was accessed with a 19-gauge needle. The tract diameter was increased using a 6-Fr cystotome and 4-mm balloon catheter. A partially covered biliary self-expandable metal stent (SEMS; 8 × 80 mm Niti-S Giobor stent; Taewoong Medical, Goyang-si, South Korea) was placed (► Fig. 1).

Endoscopic anterograde transhepatic intervention was attempted 6 weeks later through the mature EUS-HGS fistula. Anterograde cholangioscopy using a pediatric scope through the transhepatic SEMS showed tissue ingrowth at the uncovered end (2.4 cm), occluding the distal stent lumen. The Giobor stent was

► **Fig. 1** Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided hepaticogastrostomy. **a** Dilation of the transmural fistula under fluoroscopic guidance. **b** Endosonography image of intrahepatic duct and guidewire. **c, d** Placement of dedicated biliary metal stent (8 × 80 mm; 70 % covered, 30 % bare; Niti-S Giobor Biliary stent; Taewoong Medical, Goyang-si, South Korea) by fluoroscopic (**c**) and EUS (**d**) guidance.

► **Fig. 2** Maximal intrastent dilation up to 8 and 10 mm of the distal bare portion (Giobor stent) by fluoroscopic guidance. **a, c** Fluoroscopic images; **b** endoscopic image.

► **Fig. 3** Endoscopic transhepatic antegrade intervention. **a** Balloon catheter and plastic stent within the mature hepaticogastrostomy fistula. **b** Antegrade dilation of extrahepatic distal biliary stenosis up to 8 mm, guided by fluoroscopy.

► **Video 1** Conversion of endoscopic ultrasound-guided hepaticogastrostomy to transpapillary drainage by antegrade intervention using a dedicated biliary metal stent in a benign distal biliary stenosis.

removed using a grasping forceps after maximal intrastent balloon dilation (► **Fig. 2**). The fistula tract was explored by antegrade cholangioscopy, identifying intrahepatic ducts close to the gastric wall. Scope exchange to a therapeutic scope allowed cholangiography using an impacted balloon extractor, and a biliary roadmap was captured. Next, a plastic stent (8.5 Fr×9 cm) was placed across the HGS fistula to secure guidewire passage in the desired antegrade transpa-

pillary direction. The extrahepatic duct was then successfully cannulated using the wire-guided fluoroscopy technique, and a sphincterotome was advanced across the distal stenosis to the duodenal lumen. Finally, biliary dilation up to 8 mm and antegrade stenting (fully covered SEMS; 10×80 mm Wallflex; Boston Scientific Corp., Marlborough, Massachusetts, USA) guided by fluoroscopy was performed (► **Fig. 3**, ► **Video 1**).

The Giobor stent is a dedicated biliary stent for HGS and has been reported for use in malignant diseases but not as a temporary stent [1–5]. The recent change in covered design (70%:30%) enables its use in a biliary benign scenario as a temporary stent to create a transhepatic mature fistula, allowing subsequent antegrade stenting.

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Competing interests

JBG is a consultant for Boston Scientific.

The authors

Antonio Martinez-Ortega^{1,2}, Albert Garcia-Sumalla¹, Sergio Bazaga¹, Julio G. Velasquez-Rodriguez¹, Sandra Maisterra¹, Joan B. Gornals^{1,3}

- 1 Endoscopy Unit, Department of Digestive Diseases, Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge, Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBELL), University of Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain
- 2 Endoscopy Unit, Department of Digestive Diseases, Hospital Universitario Ramon y Cajal, Madrid
- 3 Faculty of Health Sciences, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

Corresponding author

Joan B. Gornals, MD, PhD

Endoscopy Unit, Department of Digestive Diseases, Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge – IDIBELL (Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute), Feixa Llarga s/n, 08907 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain
jgornals@bellvitgehospital.cat

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