Successful closure of esophagomediastinal fistula with endoclips and an endoloop after endoscopic submucosal dissection

► Fig. 1 Esophagomediastinal fistula following endoscopic submucosal dissection. **a** Esophagography with a water-soluble contrast agent suggested the presence of an esophagomediastinal fistula. **b** The orifice of the fistula. **c** An open endoloop was placed around the orifice of the fistula and anchored into the margin by endoclips. **d** The endoloop was tightened and the esophagomediastinal fistula was closed.

Perforation, bleeding, mediastinal emphysema, and postoperative stricture are the most common complications associated with esophageal endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) [1]. However, though rare, esophagobronchial fistula or esophagomediastinal fistula can also

develop after ESD. Conventional treatments of esophageal fistula include surgery, esophageal covered stent implantation, and other endoscopic methods involving the use of endoclips or fibrin glue [2–5].

A 65-year-old man with esophageal high grade intraepithelial neoplasia underwent ESD at our hospital. Following submucosal dissection, multiple-site damage of the muscular layer was found at the mucosal defect. Endoclips (ROCC-D-26-195; Micro-Tech [Nanjing] Co., Ltd.,

▶ **Video 1** Endoscopic treatment for esophagomediastinal fistula with endoclips and an endoloop after endoscopic submucosal dissection.

▶ **Fig. 2** Esophagogastroduodenoscopy revealed complete healing of the fistula, with residual endoclips and endoloop and formation of granulation tissue.

Nanjing, China) were used to close the defective muscularis. The patient developed cough with sputum and chest pain on the day after ESD. Esophagography using a water-soluble contrast agent suggested the presence of a large esophagomediastinal fistula (24×16 mm) (▶ **Fig. 1 a**). The patient's symptoms were controlled after ambrosia and use of a broad-spectrum antibiotic. A repeat esophagography 4 days later revealed that the fistula had not significantly decreased in size. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) indicated the presence of a fistula (10×8 mm) on the oral side of the ESD lesion (▶ **Fig. 1 b**). A 30-mm open endoloop (MAJ-254; Olympus Medical Co., Tokyo, Japan) was placed around the fistula orifice and anchored using five endoclips (▶ **Fig. 1 c**). Subsequently, the endoloop was tightened and then released (▶ **Fig. 1 d**, ▶ **Video 1**). Following this successful closure of the esophagomediastinal fistula, a jejunal tube was placed.

Esophagographic examination 2 days after the endoscopic fistula closure showed no extravasation of contrast. EGD performed 2 months later indicated complete healing of the fistula, with residual endoclips and endoloop and formation of granulation tissue (▶ **Fig. 2**). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of an esophagomediastinal fistula after ESD closed by tightening an endoloop anchored by endoclips. Further studies will be necessary to demonstrate the general applicability of this method to other segments of the gastrointestinal tract.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CPL_1AH_2AG

Competing interests

None

The authors

Chao-jun Zhu^{1,*}, Xiao-bei Luo^{1,*}, Eliza Li Shan Fong², Zhen Wang¹, Yang Bai¹, Ze-long Han¹, Side Liu¹

- 1 Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Gastroenterology, Department of Gastroenterology, Nanfang Hospital, Southern Medical University, Guangzhou, China
- 2 Department of Biomedical Engineering, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Corresponding author

Ze-long Han, MD

Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Gastroenterology, Department of Gastroenterology, Nanfang Hospital, Southern Medical University, Guangzhou 510515, China
Fax: +86-020-87280770
hzl198886@163.com

* These authors contributed equally to this work.

References

- [1] Repici A, Hassan C, Carlino A et al. Endoscopic submucosal dissection in patients with early esophageal squamous cell carcinoma: results from a prospective Western series. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2010; 71: 715–721
- [2] Abe S, Oda I, Mori G et al. Complete endoscopic closure of a large gastric defect with endoloop and endoclips after complex endoscopic submucosal dissection. *Endoscopy* 2015; 47 (Suppl. 01): E374–E375
- [3] Ahn JY, Jung HY, Choi JY et al. Benign bronchoesophageal fistula in adults: endoscopic closure as primary treatment. *Gut Liver* 2010; 4: 508–513
- [4] Ivekovic H, Rustemovic N, Brkic T et al. The esophagus as a working channel: successful closure of a large Mallory–Weiss tear with clips and an endoloop. *Endoscopy* 2011; 43 (Suppl. 02): E170
- [5] Ogunmola N, Wyllie R, McDowell K et al. Endoscopic closure of esophagobronchial fistula with fibrin glue. *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr* 2004; 38: 539–541

Bibliography

DOI <https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0043-124181>
 Published online: 8.2.2018
Endoscopy 2018; 50: E92–E94
 © Georg Thieme Verlag KG
 Stuttgart · New York
 ISSN 0013-726X

ENDOSCOPY E-VIDEOS

<https://eref.thieme.de/e-videos>

Endoscopy E-Videos is a free access online section, reporting on interesting cases and new

techniques in gastroenterological endoscopy. All papers include a high quality video and all contributions are freely accessible online.

This section has its own submission website at

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/e-videos>