Thieme

Surveillance endoscopy after ureterosigmoidostomy

A 37-year-old woman who underwent a bilateral ureterosigmoidostomy (USS) as a child for bladder exstrophy was scheduled for a surveillance sigmoidoscopy. At 17 cm from the anal verge, a sharply delineated hyperemic mucosal segment with small dilated vessels was seen (> Fig. 1). Within this segment, an orifice was present where the ureter had been implanted during previous surgery; a pulsatile outflow of clear urine was visi-



▶ Fig. 1 Endoscopic image of the sigmoid colon showing a sharply delineated hyperemic mucosal segment with small dilated vessels at 17 cm from the anal verge. Within this segment, an orifice was present where the ureter had been implanted during previous surgery.

ble (**Video 1**). Targeted biopsies revealed colonic type mucosa with mild fibrosis and an inflammatory infiltrate, but no dysplasia.

USS has long been the most common form of urinary diversion. Colorectal cancer (CRC) risk has been reported to be increased following USS, with a reported incidence as high as 2% - 15%. The average latency period is 20-26 years [1]. Cancer usually develops at close proximity to the anastomosis, possibly related to carcinogenic nitrosamine compounds produced by the interaction between urine and native colon flora [2]. Adenomatous changes precede carcinoma development, thus enabling surveillance. Tumors usually display similar immunohistochemical markers as sporadic CRC, but more often show poor differentiation and thus aggressive behavior [3]. Periodic surveillance sigmoidoscopy with random and targeted biopsies is advised to detect early neoplastic changes [4].

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▶ Video 1 Ureterosigmoidostomy with the urethral orifice showing pulsatile outflow of urine into the sigmoid colon.

Competing interests

None

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