

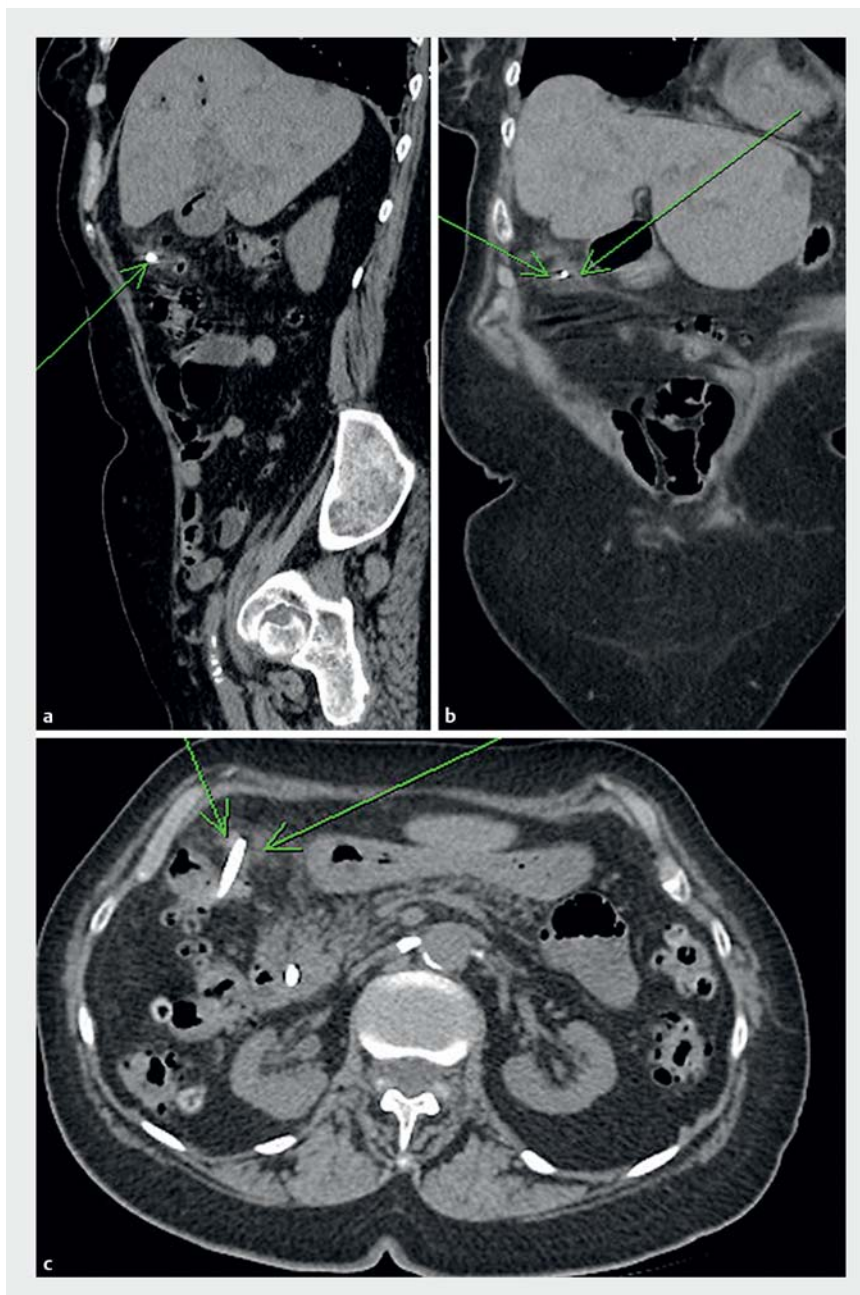
Removal of a migrated biliary stent perforating the colonic wall: a case description of endoscopic repair

Endoscopically placed biliary stents are commonly used for the treatment of pancreaticobiliary disorders. Plastic biliary stent migration is a complication that occurs in 6%–7.5% of cases [1]. Perforation of the gastrointestinal tract secondary to stent migration is a rare event, occurring in less than 1% of cases. Reported cases of this complication have required surgery for stent removal and repair. This is a case report of a migrated biliary stent causing a perforation that was managed endoscopically.

A 90-year-old woman with recurrent biliary obstruction secondary to gallstones and Mirizzi's syndrome was being managed with sequential biliary stent exchanges. The patient presented to hospital with a sudden onset of severe abdominal pain, fevers, and rigors. On physical examination, her abdomen was tender in the right upper quadrant. An abdominal computed tomography (CT) scan identified a migrated biliary stent in the ascending colon, one end of which was perforating the colonic wall, with evidence of surrounding fat stranding but no intraperitoneal free air (► Fig. 1).

The patient was admitted for treatment with intravenous antibiotics and observation. In view of the patient's multiple comorbidities and her own preference, an attempt at endoscopic management was undertaken, with surgical management reserved in case of failure. The stent was successfully removed, and the defect was repaired with endoscopic clips and an endoloop (► Video 1; ► Fig. 2). The patient did well and was subsequently sent home on a course of oral antibiotics.

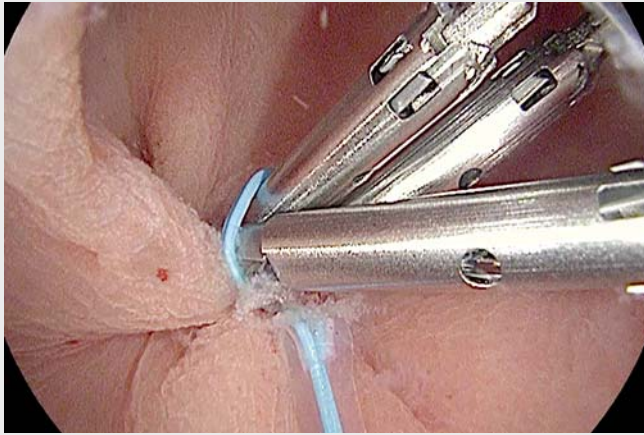
The efficacy of repair for perforations using hemostatic clips is limited by the clip size, and the amount of pressure each clip can apply across a defect [2]. As such, using an endoloop around the clips reinforces and further stabilizes the closure. The technique is analogous to a purse-string suture. This case and ac-



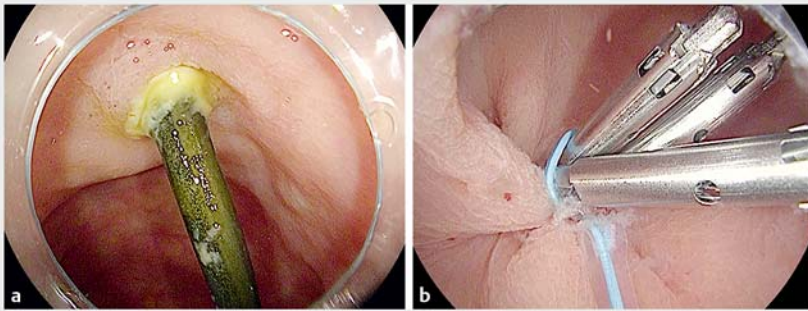
► Fig. 1 Computed tomography (CT) scan images showing a biliary stent passing through the colonic wall in the ascending colon in: a sagittal; b coronal; and c axial view.

companying video illustrate the benefits of endoscopic closure of a perforation, with avoidance of surgery and accelerated recovery.

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▶ Video 1 The stent was removed from the wall of the ascending colon using a snare. The defect was closed with three clips, and an endoloop to approximate the mucosa.



▶ Fig. 2 Endoscopic views showing: **a** the impacted biliary stent passing through the colonic wall; **b** the colonic perforation after closure using three hemostatic clips and an endoloop.

Competing interests

None

The authors

Konstantinos Hnaris, Robert Bechara
Kingston Health Sciences Center, Division of
Gastroenterology, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Corresponding author

Konstantinos Hnaris, MDCM
Kingston Health Science Center –
Gastroenterology Division, Hotel Dieu
Hospital Site, 166 Brock Street, Kingston,
Ontario, K7L 5G2, Canada
17kh6@queensu.ca

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