Combined endoscopic and surgical management of small-bowel polyposis in a patient with Peutz-Jeghers syndrome

Peutz-Jeghers syndrome (PJS) is a hereditary condition characterized by hamartomatous polyps throughout the gastrointestinal tract, typically in the small bowel and colon [1, 2]. PJS carries an increased cancer risk and requires lifelong surveillance in order to detect polyps that may cause both intussusception/obstruction and cancer [1, 2].

A “clean sweep” is a combined endoscopic and surgical procedure for the management of small-bowel polyps in PJS [3]. At laparotomy, the surgeon telescopes the endoscope over the small bowel with subsequent endoscopic/surgical polypectomy, minimizing the need for bowel resection and reducing the risk of short-gut syndrome [3].

This video describes the management of significant polyp burden in a 55-year-old man with PJS (Video 1) who had undergone two previous laparotomies for small-bowel obstruction and multiple enterotomies for polypectomy. Initial colonoscopy confirmed a partially obstructing polypoid mass in the distal ileum. Endoscopic submucosal dissection of the polyp stalk was performed but further dissection revealed two feeding arteries and a thick muscular band, which prevented further dissection. Hemoclips were placed on the arteries in an attempt to necrose the lesion. Following discussion with the gastroenterology and colorectal surgery services, repeat colonoscopy was planned in the operating room. If the polyp was not necrosed, endoscopic dissection would be re-attempted, with rescue conversion to surgical resection if necessary. On endoscopy, the mass was not necrotic but the submucosal plane could not be easily identified, preventing safe endoscopic dissection.

The procedure was converted to a surgical resection, but this revealed multiple polyps more proximally throughout the small bowel. To clear the remaining small-bowel polyps, a clean sweep was performed. A pediatric colonoscope was introduced orally and advanced distally to the ileal anastomosis by plicating the bowel over the scope (Fig. 1). About 50 polypectomies were then performed using endoscopic mucosal resection (Fig. 2).

At the 3-month follow-up, magnetic resonance enterography identified no high-risk polyps in the small bowel. The combination of endoscopy and surgery allowed effective management of the obstructing ileal polyp and overall polyp burden.
Competing interests
None

The authors
Feng Li¹, Neal Mehta¹, David Liska², Beatrice Dionigi², Matthew F. Kalady², Carol A. Burke¹, Amit Bhatt¹
¹ Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio, United States
² Department of Colorectal Surgery, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio, United States

Corresponding author
Amit Bhatt, MD
Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition, Cleveland Clinic Main Campus, Mail Code A31, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44195, United States
Fax: +1-216-444-6284
Bhatta3@ccf.org

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