Two-step full-thickness resection with anchor device of a laterally spreading tumor inside a rectal recess in a patient with an ileorectal anastomosis

For a recurrent adenoma or adenocarcinoma that has arisen on an anastomotic suture, surgical management with “redo” anastomosis is usually considered the standard treatment. The reasons for this are the high risk of recurrence or incomplete excision after endoscopic mucosal resection (EMR) and the extreme difficulty of endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) owing to scar tissue. Few data have been published in the literature about the use of full-thickness resection device (FTRD)-assisted treatment of perianastomotic laterally spreading tumors. We describe the case of a 70-year-old woman who had undergone ileorectal anastomosis following colectomy and lower anterior resection for synchronous adenocarcinomas of the right colon and proximal rectum. The patient underwent a follow-up lower gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy, which showed a granular-type laterally spreading tumor (LST-G) of 3 cm, which was completely involving a recess of the remnant rectum and the suture line. Because of the difficulty of this case, we decided, during a multidisciplinary case discussion, to perform resection using an FTRD.

The procedure was performed using an FTRD with the addition of an anchor device (Ovesco, Tübingen, Germany) (Video 1). Histology showed a tubulovillous adenoma with low grade dysplasia. After 3 months, lower GI endoscopy revealed a recurrence of granular adenomatous tissue over the clip. A hot-snare procedure plus argon plasma coagulation (APC) was performed to completely resect the lesion. Histology again showed a tubulovillous adenoma. After a further 3 months, lower GI endoscopy showed complete eradication of the lesion, with the clip no longer being present.

Even if not curative with the initial procedure, treatment of perianastomotic lesions with an FTRD could represent a safe and effective strategy, particularly in the setting of former surgical patients, to avoid destructive additional surgery and, in such patients, the need for a permanent stoma. There are no data currently available to consider the use of an FTRD in a colonic or rectal remnant recess.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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