Usefulness of the S-O clip in balloon enteroscopy-assisted endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography

A 77-year-old woman with a history of total gastrectomy with Roux-en-Y anastomosis was admitted with acute gallstone cholangitis (Fig. 1). We attempted endoscopic stone removal with a double-balloon enteroscope (DBE) (EI-580BT; Fujifilm, Osaka, Japan). A DBE with a transparent hood was inserted, and we successfully approached the ampulla. However, the ampulla faced away from the instrument, owing to a fold and periampullary diverticulum. It was difficult to cannulate the bile duct, despite attempting to reposition the ampulla to face the instrument by holding the fold using the hood. We finally used an S-O clip (Zeon Medical, Tokyo, Japan) to pull the periampullary mucosa and reposition the ampulla to face the instrument.

The S-O clip is a through-the-scope endoscopic clip with a 5-mm-long spring attached to a single 4-mm-diameter nylon loop. Once the S-O clip was deployed to the target, the nylon loop was pulled and attached to the distant mucosa, 5 cm away from the first S-O clip, using a second conventional endoscopic clip, producing “countertraction.” We visualized the orifice of the ampulla and cannulated it to access the bile duct (Fig. 2). The papilla was dilated to 13 mm using a large-balloon dilator (GIGA2; Century Medical, Tokyo, Japan), and the stone was removed safely using lithotripsy (LithoCrushV; Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) without adverse events.

Although the usefulness of the S-O clip for endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) has been reported for normal anatomy [2], it has never been reported in DBE-ERCP. Cannulation during enteroscopy-assisted ERCP is sometimes difficult in patients with surgically altered anatomy. Various methods, including the double-guidewire technique, precutting technique, and the Rendezvous approach [3,4], have been reported. Although additional cases are needed, this safe and straightforward S-O clip-assisted cannulation could be a novel and effective method of cannulation during enteroscopy-assisted ERCP.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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