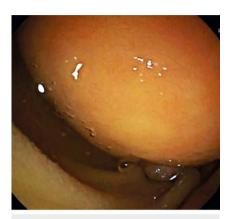
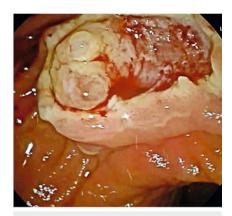
## **Endoscopic resection of a choledochocele**



► Fig. 1 Subepithelial swelling proximal to the major papilla.

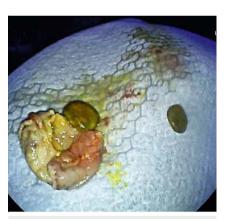


► Fig. 2 Complete en bloc resection of the lesion by hot snare papillectomy.

Choledochal cysts are uncommon congenital dilatations of the extrahepatic and/or intrahepatic biliary system. Several serious complications of choledochal cysts have been described, including malignancy. According to Todani et al., choledochal cysts are classified into five types [1]. Type III, or choledochocele, is a cystic dilatation of the intra-ampullary portion of the common bile duct (CBD). Compared with other choledochal cysts, the choledochocele has a very low rate of malignant transformation [2]. Therefore, the choledochocele can be treated with sphincterotomy or endoscopic papillectomy [3,4]. Here we report a case of a 17-year-old man admit-



▶ Video 1 Choledochocele was diagnosed by duodenoscopy and endoscopic ultrasound. A complete en bloc resection with hot snare papillectomy was performed. At the 2-month follow-up duodenoscopy, no residual lesions were seen.



► Fig. 3 Choledochocele with stones.



► **Fig. 4** 2-month follow-up duodenos-copy.

ted to our hospital with acute mild pancreatitis.

A preliminary magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography showed an isolated cystic-like dilatation of the distal portion of the CBD. Duodenoscopy revealed a 25 − 30-mm subepithelial swelling proximal to the major papilla and protruding into the duodenum (► Fig. 1). Endoscopic ultrasound confirmed cystic dilation of the intra-ampullary portion of the CBD and three biliary stones. Choledochocele

was diagnosed and the patient was referred for endoscopic treatment (> Video 1).

The lesion was resected en bloc by hot snare papillectomy (> Fig. 2) and the stones were also removed (> Fig. 3). Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography was then performed and no further biliary alterations were seen. Pancreatic and biliary sphincterotomies were performed and a plastic stent was placed in the pancreatic duct to prevent

post-procedural acute pancreatitis and papillary stenosis. Two through-the-scope clips were deployed to close the mucosal defect. No post-procedural complications were observed. Pathological examination showed hyperplasia of the biliary epithelium and inflammatory infiltration without dysplasia.

At the 2-month follow-up, duodenoscopy showed no residual lesions in the ampullary area and spontaneous pancreatic stent migration (> Fig. 4). In our opinion, this case confirms that endoscopic papillectomy may be a good option for the treatment of patients with choledochocele.

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#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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