A 56-year-old woman presented to our department with a 1-day history of hematemesis and a 2-year history of eating persimmons. After the patient had received an injection of proton pump inhibitor, we found a giant phytobezoar (about 6 × 4 cm) in her stomach on gastroscopy (► Fig. 1 a). The phytobezoar was turned into an upright position with the endoscope in the inverted position (► Video 1). A large snare (4 cm in diameter) was used to trap the phytobezoar (► Fig. 1 b); however, it was hard to crush the phytobezoar when tightening the snare. Therefore, the tightened snare was pulled into the cap to cold-cut the phytobezoar using cap assistance. After repeated snare-trapping and cap-assisted cold-cutting, the phytobezoar was finally cut into several pieces. The larger pieces were pulled out using the snare (► Fig. 2); the leftover small pieces were washed out of the body using oral polyethylene glycol. A subsequent gastroscopy, 2 days after the cap-assisted cold-cutting snare removal procedure, revealed a clear stomach (► Fig. 3).

Gastric bezoars can be removed by drinking coca-cola, or the use of forceps, snare, or DualKnife [1,2]; however, a giant gastric bezoar is difficult to remove. A previous report described cap-assisted cold snare removal of a small cyanoacrylate glue bezoar [3]. Herein, we show that a cap-assisted cold snare technique can also be used to easily remove giant phytobezoars with large diameters.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AO_2AL

Funding

the Bureau of Science & Technology Nanchong City No. 185XH20466

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

The authors

Zhang Tao, Wenfeng Pu, Liang Sun, Xiaoqing Zhou, Yan Zhang, Zhonghan Du, Ji Wu
Department of Gastroenterology, Nanchong Central Hospital, Nanchong City, Sichuan, China

Corresponding author

Ji Wu, MD
Department of Gastroenterology, Nanchong Central Hospital, Nanchong City, Sichuan, 637000, China
wuji2168@sina.com

References


Fig. 1 Endoscopic views showing: a a giant phytobezoar (about 6 × 4 cm) in the stomach; b a large cold snare being used to trap the phytobezoar.

Fig. 2 Photograph of the some of the larger pieces of the phytobezoar that were removed with the snare.

Fig. 3 Image from a repeat endoscopy 2 days after the cold snare excision showing a clear stomach.
Video 1 A giant phytobezoar is removed using a repeated cap-assisted large cold snare technique to fragment the bezoar, with the larger pieces being removed with the snare, leaving the stomach clear after flushing with oral polyethylene glycol.