Triple stent-in-stent placement of novel braided metal stents with a slim delivery system via balloon-assisted enteroscopy

The placement of multiple metal stents for hilar malignant biliary obstruction (MBO) is technically challenging, especially for patients with surgically altered anatomy [1]. The laser-cut type of metal stent has been the only choice [2] until now, with the advent of a novel braided-type metal stent with a 6-Fr delivery system (Niti-S large cell SR slim delivery; TaeWoong Medical, Gyeonggi-do, Korea) [3, 4], which can be deployed via balloon enteroscopy-assisted endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP). With its improvement in pushability and trackability, multiple stent-in-stent placement may now be a feasible option for post-surgical MBO.

An 81-year-old man was admitted for the management of MBO due to an unresectable perihilar cholangiocarcinoma. He had a history of pancreaticoduodenectomy and hepaticojejunostomy with Billroth-II reconstruction for pancreatic cancer 3 years previously. A short-type double-balloon assisted-endoscope (EI-580BT; Fujifilm Corp., Tokyo, Japan), with a working channel of 3.2 mm in diameter [5], was advanced to the site of the anastomosis, which was obstructed by the tumor (▶Fig. 2; ▶Video 1). A cholangiogram revealed that three main biliary branches (the left hepatic duct, right anterior branch, and right posterior branch) were completely separated (▶Fig. 3a).

First, a novel braided uncovered metal stent was placed in the bile duct at segment 6 (B6) over a 0.025-inch guidewire (VisiGlide2; Olympus, Tokyo, Japan). The guidewire was then placed in B2 through...
the mesh of the first stent; however, an ERCP catheter (MTW Endoskopie, Wesel, Germany) designed for the 0.025-inch guidewire could not be passed through the stent mesh. Because the tip of the delivery system is well-tapered (▶Fig. 1), we then tried inserting the metal stent directly without any dilation and readily succeeded in passing this through the mesh. After a cholangiogram had been obtained by injecting contrast medium through the delivery system itself, the second stent was deployed. Finally, the third stent could also be easily advanced into B8 through the two overlapped stents (▶Fig. 3b).

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Competing interests

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The authors

Tatsuya Sato1, Hirofumi Kogure1, Yousuken Nakai1, Kazunaga Ishigaki1, Ryunosuke Hakuta1,2, Kei Saito1, Kazuhiko Koike1
1 Department of Gastroenterology, Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
2 Department of Endoscopy and Endoscopic Surgery, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

Corresponding author

Yousuke Nakai, MD, PhD
Department of Endoscopy and Endoscopic Surgery, The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8655, Japan
ynakai-tky@umin.ac.jp

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