A 39-year-old man was diagnosed with an 8-mm neuroendocrine tumor (NET) in the rectum (Fig. 1a). Endoscopic ultrasonography indicated that the lesion was confined to the submucosa. In order to get an en bloc resection, we developed an underwater endoscopic mucosal resection (EMR) technique assisted by an additional working channel (AWC) that we made ourselves.

A nasal oxygen tube about 30 cm in length was taped to the outside of the endoscope to become an AWC. The snare could move back and forth and rotate freely through the tube (Video 1). After the snare was placed around the lesion through our self-made AWC, the lesion was grasped underwater with a reenable clip (Fig. 1b). The clip was pulled back in the water and the snare was tightened so the NET became an artificial protrusion for resection. No residual lesion was observed in the wound, and there was no bleeding or perforation. The fresh specimen was stretched and fixed. The histological appearance of the resected specimen showed a grade 1 NET with negative vertical and horizontal margins.

Video 1 Underwater endoscopic mucosal resection to remove a rectal neuroendocrine tumor with the assistance of a self-made additional working channel.

Fig. 1 The process of underwater endoscopic mucosal resection assisted by a self-made additional working channel. a An 8-mm neuroendocrine tumor (NET) was located in the rectum of a 39-year-old man. After the snare was placed around the lesion, a reenable clip grasped the lesion in the water. c The clip was pulled back in the water so the NET became an artificial protrusion for resection. d No residual lesion was observed in the wound, and there was no bleeding or perforation. e The fresh specimen was stretched and fixed. f The histological appearance of the resected specimen showed a grade 1 NET with negative vertical and horizontal margins.
tended to perform resection with an Endo-cut Q (effect 3, cut duration 2, cut interval 4) (Fig. 1 c). The wound was clean and without bleeding or perforation (Fig. 1 d). Finally, the fresh specimen was stretched and fixed on a foam plate with the mucosal surface facing downward (Fig. 1 e). Histological examination showed a grade 1 NET with negative vertical and horizontal margins (Fig. 1 f).

Edris Wedi et al. reported that a commercially available system called EMR+ was a practical method of overcoming the limitations of classical EMR [1]. We believe that our self-made AWC using a nasal oxygen tube, which is a very easily accessible thing, can achieve the same effect. Combined with the advantages of underwater EMR, this technique can be successfully and inexpensively applied to deal with gastrointestinal NETs, most of which are in the submucosa.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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