Gastric peroral endoscopic myotomy for the resection of a predominantly extraluminal submucosal tumor in the duodenal bulb

A 53-year-old man was admitted with a duodenal submucosal tumor (Fig. 1a, b) that had been detected on a regular physical examination. Because the tumor was located on the posterior wall of the duodenal bulb near the pylorus and had predominantly extraluminal growth, it would have been difficult to perform endoscopic full-thickness resection and close the wound. Therefore, we proposed performing a gastric peroral endoscopic myotomy (G-POEM), which allowed the tumor to be removed using the tunnel technique, while maintaining the integrity of the duodenal mucosa (Video 1). After the submucosal injection had been performed, a 2-cm mucosal incision was made on the posterior wall 3 cm above of pylorus (Fig. 1c). The submucosal tunnel was created, extending to the pyloric ring (Fig. 1d). After the pyloric ring had been identified, partial pyloromyotomy was performed on the circular muscle (Fig. 1e) to expand the visual field and explore the tumor. The tunnel was extended to the duodenal bulb and we observed that the tumor originated from the deep layer of the muscularis propria with extraluminal growth (Fig. 1f). The tumor was gradually separated with an IT knife combined with a hook knife, then the tumor was removed en bloc with a snare. After hemostasis had been achieved with hot biopsy forceps (Fig. 1g), the mucosal entry point in the stomach was closed with clips (Fig. 1h). The size of tumor was 1.8 × 1.5 cm (Fig. 1i) and postoperative pathology showed a gastrointestinal stromal tumor. The patient recovered uneventfully and was discharged on postoperative day 3. Postoperative endoscopy and a computed tomography scan showed no recurrence 3 months after surgery.

G-POEM was traditionally a treatment for gastroparesis [1, 2]. We recommend a novel application of G-POEM for the resection of a submucosal tumor in the duodenal bulb, which allowed the tumor to be resected using the tunnel technique and maintained the integrity of the duodenal mucosa.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Funding

National Natural Science Foundation of China
http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/50110000180982000507
Youth Foundation of Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University 2020ZQN16
Yangfan Program of Shanghai Municipal Science and Technology Committee S2020-016
National Key R&D Program of China 2019YFC1315800

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Fig. 1 Images during the resection of a duodenal submucosal tumor situated close to the pylorus showing: 

- a the submucosal tumor in the duodenal bulb (arrow) on endoscopic ultrasound; 
- b the tumor appearance with well-defined borders on endoscopy; 
- c a 2-cm mucosal incision that was made on the posterior wall 3 cm above the pylorus; 
- d the submucosal tunnel that was created to the pyloric ring (arrow); 
- e partial pyloromyotomy of the circular muscle (arrow); 
- f the tumor (arrow), which originated from the deep layer of the muscularis propria with extraluminal growth; 
- g the resection site after hemostasis had been achieved with hot biopsy forceps; 
- h clip closure of the mucosal entry site in the stomach. 

i Macroscopic appearance of the tumor specimen, which was 1.8 × 1.5 cm in size.