Closure of full-thickness perforations in porcine stomach using 20-mm re-openable clips

It is difficult to close perforations that are large and full thickness in the gastrointestinal tract using conventional clips. Closure methods using special devices, including the over-the-scope (OTS) clip (Ovesco, Tübingen, Germany), have therefore been devised [1–3]. However, the OTS clip cannot be re-gripped and cannot be used unless the endoscope is pulled out for the clip to be attached [4]. Therefore, a device that can reliably close a perforation under endoscopic visibility is desired. We introduce a re-openable clip, which has a large width of 20 mm, and demonstrate its ability to close large gastric perforations in a porcine model.

The re-openable clip (LOCKADO hemostasis clip; 20 mm; Micro-Tech (Nanjing) Co., Ltd., Nanjing, China) has large teeth with an opening width of 20 mm (Fig. 1). It is possible to re-grip and reposition the re-openable clip after it is opened. The clip has small teeth on both sides that are distinct from the tips of the teeth to prevent the gripped tissue from slipping.

A full-thickness perforation of approximately 15 mm was made in a porcine stomach (Fig. 2; Video 1). The perforation was then gradually closed using 20-mm re-openable clips placed from one end of the perforation to the other. Three 20-mm re-openable clips were used to achieve complete closure. Because of the greater width of the clips, the muscles and mucosa were inverted toward the stomach lumen, and no air leakage was observed outside the stomach. Next, a full-thickness perforation of 25 mm was...
created. Similarly, the perforation was closed from one end to the other. The clips are repositionable, so they can be grasped and changed to the appropriate position as required. For this larger perforation, an additional 11-mm reopenable clip was added; as a result, the full-layer perforation was completely closed without any air leak.

The 20-mm reopenable clip has the potential to close large full-thickness perforations.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AQ_2AG

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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References


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