Endoscopic submucosal dissection of gastric neoplasms with severe fibrosis using a new thin-therapeutic endoscope and a dedicated conical cap

Recently, endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) using the pocket-creation method (PCM) has been developed as a kind of third space endoscopy. PCM enables complete dissection under the lesion before making the circumferential incision [1]. Using this method, a wide submucosal space should be created with a small entrance where a small-diameter endoscope is more desirable. A few endoscopists reported ESD using ultrathin endoscopy, but disadvantages for such a procedure have been discussed. Although the accessory channels of existing ultrathin endoscopes (EG-L580NW7, Fujifilm Co., Tokyo, Japan) have a diameter of 2.4 mm, some ESD devices such as the knife and coagulation forceps cannot be inserted through the channel because of their larger diameter [2].

The EG-840TP (Fujifilm Co.) was newly developed for endoscopic treatment as a relatively thin endoscope that has an outer diameter of only 7.9 mm but an accessory channel diameter as large as 3.2 mm (Fig. 1). It also has a down angle function up to 160 degrees. A calibrated, small-caliber-tip, transparent hood (CAST hood; TOP, Tokyo, Japan) was designed to perform balloon dilation of small intestinal strictures [3]. It is transparent with a 4-mm tip diameter that can be used in ESD. PCM combined with this hood may be more effective in cases with gastric neoplasms accompanied by fibrosis [4].

We present a patient with gastric cancer with fold convergence that recurred after ESD, located in the posterior wall of the middle gastric body. ESD was performed using the PCM with the EG-840TP and a dedicated conical cap (prototype CAST hood), resulting in successful complete resection. Such a therapeutic approach is expected not only to allow precise dissection of severely fibrotic tissue but also to improve endoscopic maneuverability even in a narrow submucosal pocket with severe fibrosis (Video 1). This endoscope may be used for third space endoscopy especially in a narrow space.

Video 1 The procedure for the pocket-creation method with an EG-840TP and a dedicated conical cap for early gastric cancer.

Competing interests
Author HY has patents for ESD devices and double-balloon endoscopy produced by Fujifilm Corporation. Author HY and HO have a consultant relationship with the Fujifilm Corporation and has received honoraria, grants,
and royalties from the company. Author YM and YH have received honoraria from Fujifilm Corporation. HY and YH have a patent for the calibrated, small-caliber-tip, transparent (CAST) hood produced by the Top Corporation. Other authors have no financial conflicts of interest. The funding source had no role in this study.

The authors
Yoshimasa Miura1, Hisashi Fukuda1, Takashi Ueno1, Yoshikazu Hayashi1, Hiroki Osawa1, Alan Kawarai Lefor2, Hiroki Yamamoto1
1 Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, Jichi Medical University, Shimotsuke, Tochigi, Japan
2 Department of Surgery, Jichi Medical University, Shimotsuke, Tochigi, Japan

Corresponding author
Hironori Yamamoto, MD
Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, Jichi Medical University, 3311-1 Yakushiji, Shimotsuke, Tochigi, 329-0498, Japan
Fax: +81-285-40-6598
ireef@jichi.ac.jp

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