Reopenable-clip over-the-line method for closure of large perforation during esophageal endoscopic submucosal dissection

Perforation during esophageal endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) can lead to severe complications; localized muscle defects can result in large perforations during ESD that require surgery [1]. While the effectiveness of endoclips or over-the-scope clip systems (OTSC; Ovesco Endoscopy AG, Tübingen, Germany) for the closure of small perforations is well recognized, there is a limit to the size of defect they can close [2]. Moreover, OTS clips may lead to stenosis [3]. Nomura et al. [4] developed a reopenable-clip over-the-line method (ROLM) for complete closure of mucosal defects after ESD. ROLM requires reopenable endoclips with an opening in the jaw (Sure-Clip, 16 mm; ROCC-F-26–195-C; Microtech, Nanjing, China) and a nylon line (0.22 mm), which is also useful in muscular defect closure [5]. Herein, we report a case in which a large perforation that occurred during esophageal ESD was successfully closed using ROLM (▶ Fig. 4, ▶ Video 1) and the patient was treated conservatively with fasting, antibiotics, and a nasogastric tube, without the need for emergency surgery after the ESD. On postoperative day (POD) 6, repeat endoscopy revealed a healing esophageal ulcer with a deep perforation, which on POD 10 had resolved (▶ Fig. 5). An oral diet was resumed on POD 13 and the patient was discharged on POD 17. Follow-up endoscopy did not reveal stricture formation.

Localized muscle defects may be present in the esophagus and can result in unexpectedly large perforations during ESD. In such cases, ROLM may be a useful endoscopic treatment option to avoid invasive surgery.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AO_2AI

Competing interests

S. Shichijo has received honoraria for lectures from Olympus, EA Pharma, AstraZeneca, AI Medical Service, and Janssen Pharmaceutical. J.W. Li has received honoraria for lectures from Fujifilm and Boston Scientific.

N. Uedo has received honoraria for lectures from Olympus, Fujifilm, Boston Scientific Japan, Daiichi-Sankyo, Takeda Pharmaceuti-
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