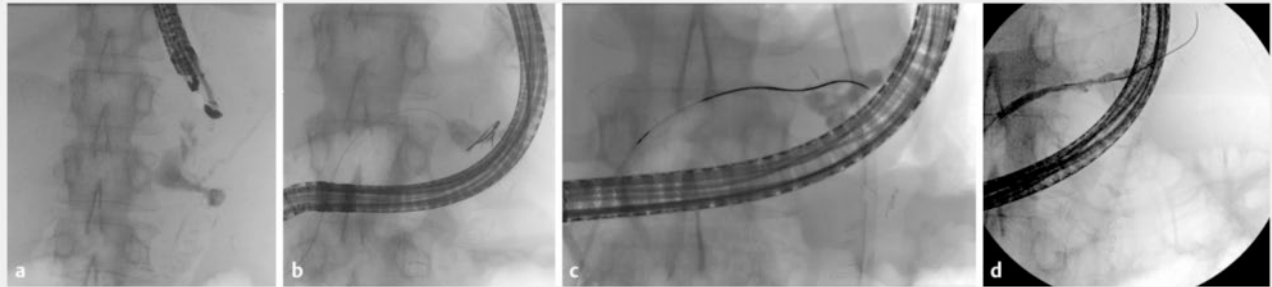


Endoscopic ultrasound-directed transgastric ERCP for disconnected pancreatic duct syndrome: finding the edge to bridge the gap

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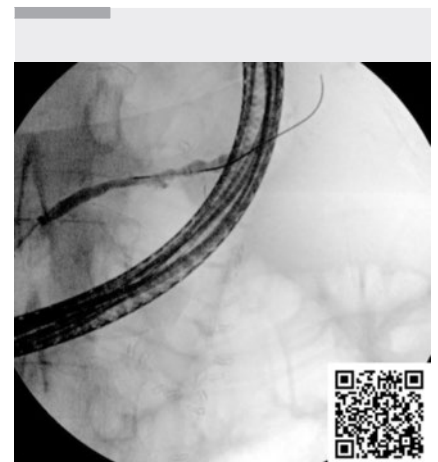
► Fig. 1 **a** Fluoroscopic images of pancreatic fluid collection with leak and pancreatic duct disruption. **b** Inability to pass the wire into the tail of the pancreatic duct. **c** Pancreatic duct healing after 6 weeks stent dwell time. **d** Complete healing after stent removal at 22 weeks.

Altered anatomy from Roux-en-Y gastric bypass makes access to the papilla difficult. Solutions such as balloon-assisted and laparoscopy-assisted endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) are complicated by sub-optimal technical success and adverse event rates [1]. EUS-directed transgastric ERCP (EDGE) is a promising solution with high technical and clinical success rates [2] and provides ease of access if multiple procedures are required.

A 60-year-old woman with a previous Roux-en-Y gastric bypass for obesity 8 years before admission presented with severe necrotizing acute pancreatitis. She developed infected pancreatic fluid collections and septic shock secondary to disconnected pancreatic duct syndrome. She underwent multiple percutaneous drainages and laparotomies with washouts over a period of 3 months. She was deemed unsuitable for a distal pancreatectomy. Given the Roux-en-Y anatomy, she was offered EDGE to bridge the disconnected duct.

A linear echoendoscope (EG38-J10UT; Pentax Medical, Tokyo, Japan) was advanced to the Roux anastomosis (► **Video 1**). Assessment at the 49-cm mark from the incisors in the remnant stomach pouch showed a collapsed structure and 19G needle was used to

distend this structure to reveal the excluded stomach on fluoroscopy. Direct puncture was performed into the excluded stomach, and a gastro-gastric anastomosis was created using a 20×10-mm lumen-apposing stent system (Axios; Boston Scientific, Marlborough, Massachusetts, USA). We dilated the stent further using a 20-mm balloon dilator. To facilitate successful ERCP and prevent stent migration during the procedure, we sutured the proximal stent to the bowel wall at two sites using the OverStitch device (Apollo Endosurgery, Austin, Texas, USA). We advanced a duodenoscope (ED34-i10T2; Pentax Medical) through the stent, and the pancreatogram showed partial disruption of the duct at the tail of the pancreas leading into a collection (► **Fig. 1 a**). We performed a pancreatic sphincterotomy, and our attempts to pass a wire across the disconnected duct were unsuccessful (► **Fig. 1 b**). We then deployed a 5Fr×12-cm single-pigtail pancreatic stent with its tip located within the collection. A follow-up pancreatogram at 6 weeks showed healing of the disconnected duct, allowing passage of a guidewire (► **Fig. 1 c**). We deployed a 5Fr×15-cm single-pigtail stent across the disconnected duct. Further imaging showed resolution of the collection and improvement



► Video 1 EUS-directed transgastric ERCP (EDGE) procedure allowing passage of the standard duodenoscope through the lumen-apposing metal stent to facilitate pancreatic duct cannulation and subsequent stenting for disconnected pancreatic duct syndrome.

in patient status. The pancreatic stent was removed 22 weeks later, and it showed no further leak (► **Fig. 1 d**). A progress computed tomography scan shows resolution of the collection. To our knowledge this is the first case of EDGE for disconnected pancreatic duct syndrome. This syndrome occurs in

about 50% of patients with acute necrotizing pancreatitis, and pancreatic stenting has been utilized to bridge the disrupted duct to the viable pancreas upstream [3]. Given the complex clinical presentation, ease of access for multiple procedures and stent insertion permitted healing of the disconnected duct. A particular adverse event of EDGE has been demonstrated to be stent migration [4]. This has been addressed by utilization of a larger lumen-apposing metal stent (LAMS), i. e., 20-mm stent and fixation with endoscopic sutures, which we utilized in this patient. In contrast to established techniques, EDGE provided a solution to a complex clinical problem that required multiple interventions to achieve clinical resolution.

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Conflict of Interest

Ravishankar Asokkumar: Apollo Endosurgery. Christopher J. Khor: Boston Scientific, ERBE, FujiFilm. Damien Meng Yew Tan: Boston Scientific, Pentax Medical.

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