Endoscopic treatment of a giant pedunculated angiolipofibroma of the distal duodenum

Dual antiplatelet therapy (with clopidogrel and aspirin) may be complicated by severe gastrointestinal bleeding [1]. It may unmask an underlying pathology that has been silent so far. Small intestinal bleeding is the most frequent indication for double-balloon enteroscopy (DBE), both for diagnosis and treatment [2,3]. DBE is feasible even for polypectomy of large small-intestinal polyps (e.g. hamartomas) [4]. We present an unusual case of successful endoscopic removal of a giant angiolipofibroma.

A 73-year-old man on dual antiaggregation therapy was investigated because of recurrent gastrointestinal bleeding requiring repeated blood transfusions (8 units over 3 months). The patient underwent gastroscopy and colonoscopy elsewhere with normal findings, and capsule enteroscopy with suspicion of small-bowel arteriovenous malformations (AVMs). He was subsequently referred to our department for DBE. However, no AVMs were revealed at DBE. Surprisingly, a finger-like giant polyp growing from the distal part of the duodenum reaching the proximal jejunum was found. The length of the polyp was 12 cm and its diameter 2 cm. Because of the patient’s serious comorbidity, we decided to remove the polyp endoscopically (Video 1).

The polyp was extracted for histology (Fig. 3). The final diagnosis was angiolipofibroma. There were no complications after the procedure (Fig. 4) and subsequent follow-up was uneventful.

Angiolipofibroma of the gastrointestinal tract is extremely rare. We found only one similar case in the available literature [5]. A giant pedunculated angiolipofibroma of the esophagus in a 62-year-old patient caused slowly deteriorating dysphagia but did not bleed. This was diagnosed by computed tomography and resolved by surgery [5].

Endoscopic polypectomy of giant small-intestinal polyps is a possible alternative to surgery in polymorbid patients. An experienced endoscopist, a safe design of the procedure, and preventive measures (availability of appropriate urgent surgery in case of complications) are necessary conditions.

Video 1

An Endoloop was put over the polyp and secured by two clips. Pure coagulation current was used for cutting. Polypectomy took 8 minutes. Mild bleeding was controlled by another two Endoloops placed on the base and additional argon plasma coagulation.
Acknowledgements

The work was supported by research project MZO 00179906 from the Ministry of Health, Czech Republic.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CCL_1AB_2AZ_3AC

Competing interests: None

J. Bartova¹, J. Bures¹, M. Podhola², S. Rejchrt¹, I. Tacheci¹, M. Kopacova¹
¹ Second Department of Medicine, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Medicine at Hradec Králové, University Teaching Hospital, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
² The Fingerland Department of Pathology, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Medicine at Hradec Králové, University Teaching Hospital, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic

References

5 Koischwitz D. Computertomographische Diagnose eines monströsen gestielten Angiolipofibroms des Ösophagus. [Computed tomographic diagnosis of a monstrous pedunculated angiolipofibroma of the esophagus.] Fortschr Röntgenstr 1988; 149: 105–107

Bibliography

Endoscopy 2011; 43: E96–E97
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart · New York · ISSN 0013-726X

Corresponding author
M. Kopacova, MD, PhD
Second Department of Medicine
Charles University Teaching Hospital
Sokolska 581
500 05 Hradec Králové
Czech Republic
Fax: +420-495-834785
kopaemar@fnhk.cz