

Biliary stent migration presenting as a recurrent pilonidal abscess with underlying rectocutaneous fistula

A 53-year-old patient was admitted to the gastroenterology department for the management of a benign biliary stricture secondary to chronic alcoholic pancreatitis. He underwent sphincterotomy and placement of a 10Fr×10cm plastic biliary stent. Endoscopic follow-up 2 months later revealed spontaneous migration of the stent and no further intervention was performed.

The patient was admitted to the general surgery outpatient clinic 7 years later for the management of a recurrent pilonidal abscess. Excision of the abscess revealed a long fistulous track towards the coccyx with a plastic stent inside it (► Fig. 1 a, b); the findings indicated a rectocutaneous fistula secondary to biliary stent migration. In addition, computed tomography scan showed a 1-cm defect of the sacrococcygeal junction in contact with the rectum (► Fig. 2). Postoperatively, the patient was treated with antibiotics and vacuum-assisted closure therapy and went on to make an excellent recovery. His follow-up over 4 years was unremarkable.

Complications of stent placement are well known and include migration with fistula formation between a variety of organs, such as: duodenocolic fistula [1], duodenoscrotal fistula [2], enterosplenic fistula [3], enterocutaneous fistula [4], and colovaginal fistula [5]. However, to the best of our knowledge recurrent abscess secondary to a rectocutaneous fistula has not been described previously.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CPL_1AK_2AI

Competing interests: None

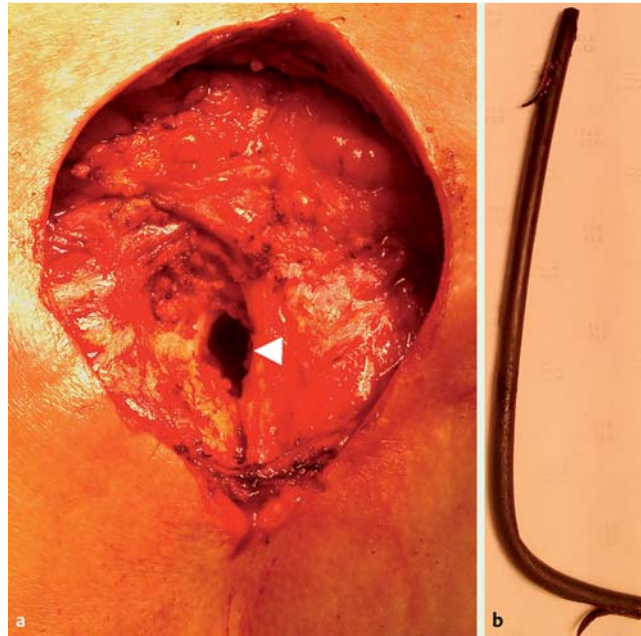


Fig. 1 The patient was admitted for management of a recurrent pilonidal abscess. **a** Excision of the pilonidal abscess revealed a fistulous track (arrowhead). **b** A 10Fr×10cm plastic biliary stent was retrieved from the fistula.

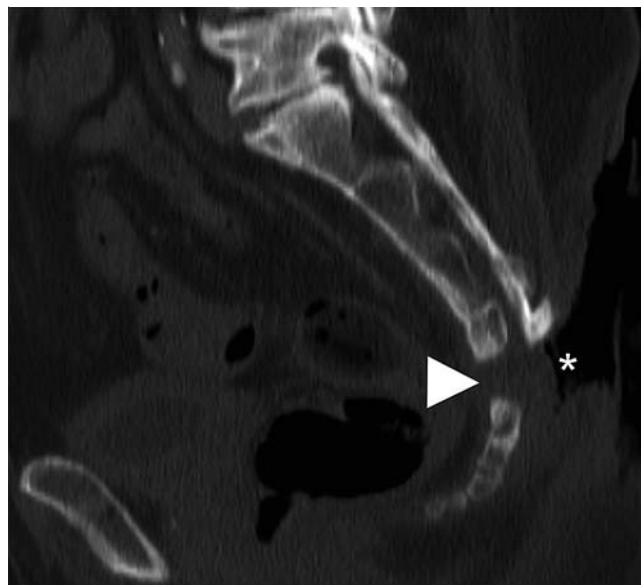


Fig. 2 Postoperative computed tomography scan disclosed a 1-cm bone defect of the sacrococcygeal junction (arrowhead) in contact with the posterior wall of the rectum. The asterisk indicates the site of excision of the abscess.

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DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0033-1344413>
Endoscopy 2013; 45: E301–E302
 © Georg Thieme Verlag KG
 Stuttgart · New York
 ISSN 0013-726X

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