

Fenestration of a covered metal stent during cystoduodenostomy using argon plasma coagulation

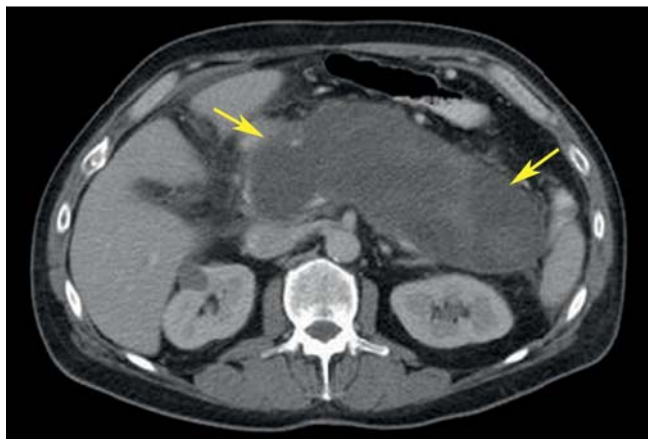


Fig. 1 Axial computed tomography (CT) scan showing a large heterogeneous peripancreatic fluid collection lying along the entire pancreas, measuring approximately 18×8×13 cm (yellow arrows).

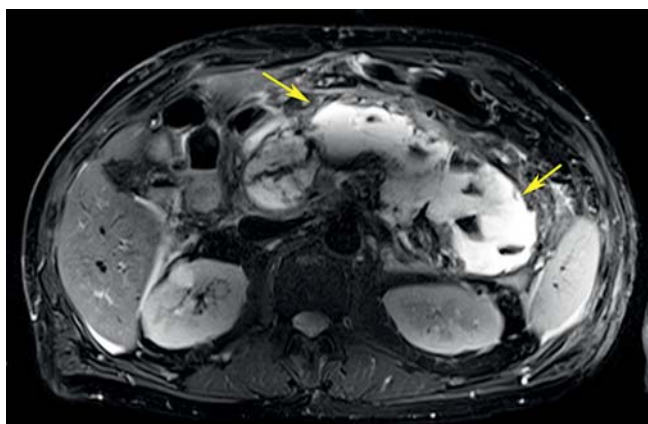


Fig. 2 T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan showing a large fluid collection, measuring approximately 18 cm in cross-section, with at least 70% of the fluid containing hemorrhagic and partially necrotic debris (yellow arrows).



Fig. 3 Fluoroscopic image of the fully covered self-expandable metal stent (FCSEMS) placed across the cystoduodenostomy (red arrow).

The current endoscopic methods for the treatment of walled-off pancreatic necrosis (WOPN) include endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided cystenterostomy with placement of a fully covered self-expandable metal stent (FCSEMS). Studies have shown that FCSEMSs designed specifically for drainage of pancreatic fluid col-

lections have high technical success rates; however, these stents are not commercially available in the USA [1]. Esophageal FCSEMSs can also be used for the same purpose [2]. Technical success rates can be limited by the availability of appropriate endoscopic accessories and stents.

A 54 year-old man who had undergone prior esophagectomy and gastric pull-up was admitted with symptomatic WOPN. Abdominal imaging revealed an area of WOPN of 18×13×8 cm that was causing an extrinsic mass effect on the gastrointestinal tract (● Fig. 1 and ● Fig. 2). EUS-guided drainage was performed. The altered anatomy mandated a cystoduodenostomy. A 19G needle was used to puncture the walled-off area and a 0.035-inch guidewire was coiled within the necrotic area. The tract was dilated to 10 mm. An 18×60-mm, through-the-scope FCSEMS (TaeWoong Medical, Seoul, Korea) was placed across the cystoduodenostomy (● Fig. 3).

The wide-caliber stent was chosen to allow for easy drainage of necrotic debris without risk of clogging of the stent and for repeated access to the walled-off area for direct endoscopic necrosectomy, if needed. The proximal aspect of the stent was deployed within the duodenal lumen. However, because of the limited diameter of the duodenum, the flared end and shaft of the stent occupied the entire duodenal lumen, resulting in duodenal obstruction. To overcome this mechanical obstruction, argon plasma coagulation (APC) was used at 60 Watts and 1 L/min flow to fenestrate the stent interstices (● Fig. 4; ● Video 1). The fenestrations provided a patent lumen through which food and the necrotic pancreatic contents could pass into the duodenum and onwards through the gastrointestinal tract.

The patient was restarted on an oral diet on the day following the procedure and was tolerating this well prior to discharge. He reported a rapid resolution of his symptoms, and repeat imaging at 6 weeks showed a significant reduction in the size of the WOPN (● Fig. 5).

The use of APC for trimming metal stents has been reported in a few cases [3,4]. Here we report a novel use of APC to fenestrate a metal stent and tailor it to the needs of a patient with an area of WOPN and altered gastrointestinal anatomy.

Video 1

Successful fenestration of a fully covered self-expandable metal stent (FCSEMS) during cystoduodenostomy using argon plasma coagulation (APC).

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AS_2AD

Competing interests: Mouen A. Khashab is a consultant for Boston Scientific and Olympus America and has received research support from Cook Medical.

Payal Saxena has received consulting fees from Boston Scientific and research support from Cook Medical.

Anthony Kalloo is a founding member, equity holder, and consultant for Apollo Endosurgery.

Vikesh K. Singh is a consultant for Abbvie, Santarus, D-Pharm, and Boston Scientific. Anne Marie Lennon is a consultant for Boston Scientific.

The remaining authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

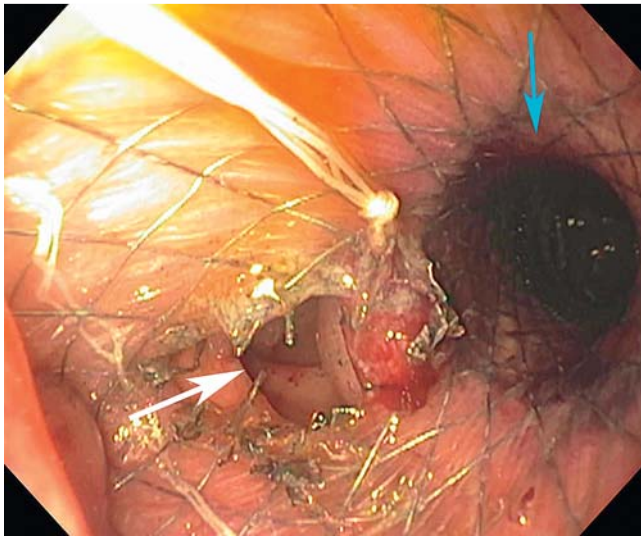
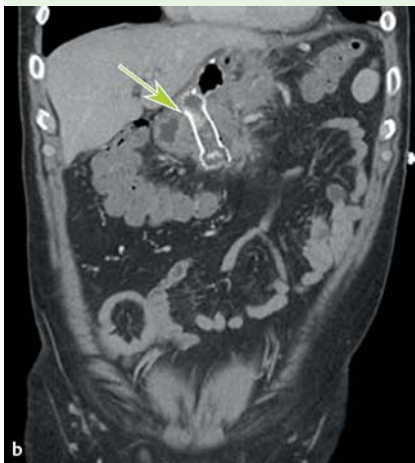


Fig. 4 Endoscopic image of the fully covered self-expandable metal stent (FCSEMS) placed across the cystenterostomy (blue arrow), with the partially obstructed duodenal lumen visible through the fenestrated stent interstices (white arrow).



Fig. 5 Computed tomography (CT) scan images 6 weeks after fully covered, self-expandable metal stent (FCSEMS) placement showing: **a** (in axial view) a significant reduction in the size of the walled-off area of pancreatic necrosis (yellow arrow); **b** (in coronal view) the FCSEMS in position between the duodenum and the walled-off area (green arrow).



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