Benign distal jejunal stricture treated by a partially covered esophageal stent with the use of spiral enteroscopy

Malignant strictures of the proximal to mid small bowel have been successfully managed by deploying enteral stents with the use of an overtube [1, 2]. In case reports and published series, stents have been deployed only to the ligament of Treitz and rarely into the proximal jejunum [3, 4]. We present here the case of a benign stricture in the distal jejunum managed by deploying a partially covered esophageal stent with the use of spiral enteroscopy.

A 73-year-old woman who had a history of fistulizing Crohn’s disease presented with recurrent small-bowel obstruction. Peroral spiral enteroscopy identified a tight stricture 1.5 m beyond the ligament of Treitz (Fig. 1). Balloon dilation with a through-the-scope-balloon (CRE Balloon Dilator; Boston Scientific, Natick, Massachusetts, USA) was performed (Fig. 2). Despite progressive dilation over 6 weeks, the patient had a further episode of bowel obstruction. Following a discussion of the therapeutic options, the patient declined surgery and elected endoscopic therapy with the insertion of a self-expandable metallic stent (SEMS).

The stricture was identified during peroral spiral enteroscopy. The mucosa proximal to the stricture was erythematous and ulcerated. The injection of contrast revealed that the stricture was 3 cm in length. Under fluoroscopic guidance, a 0.035-in super-stiff Jagwire (Boston Scientific) was inserted through the stricture into the more distal part of the small bowel. The enteroscope was removed, and the overtube remained in position. An 18 × 60-mm partially covered self-expandable metallic esophageal stent (Niti-S; Taewoong Medical, Seoul, South Korea) was inserted over the guidewire and deployed across the stricture (Fig. 3a). Unfortunately, the proximal 1 cm of the stent was deployed within the overtube (Fig. 3b). The spiral overtube was rotated counterclockwise as it was being withdrawn. The stent was then successfully released from the overtube and deployed in an optimal position, which was confirmed fluoroscopically and endoscopically (Fig. 4). The procedure is shown in Video 1.

The patient was discharged home on a low roughage diet. She returned for surveillance enteroscopy at 6 weeks. At that time, the stent was removed, and the stricture had markedly decreased. At 6-month follow-up, the patient has had no further episodes of small-bowel obstruction (Fig. 5).

This case demonstrates the feasibility, efficacy, and safety of using a temporarily placed, partially covered SEMS to manage a deep small-bowel stricture.
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References

Correction

The author’s name Mouen Khashab was corrected to Mouen A. Khashab.