Duodenal ulcer caused by a surgical clip after laparoscopic cholecystectomy

A 56-year-old woman presented with a 1-month history of right upper quadrant abdominal pain after a laparoscopic cholecystectomy for gallstones. Her medical history included endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) performed 4 months prior to the laparoscopic cholecystectomy for the treatment of common bile duct (CBD) stones. During this procedure duodenal ulcers had also been found at the duodenal bulb and she had therefore taken proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) for 3 months.

Physical examination revealed tenderness in the right upper quadrant of her abdomen. Abdominal ultrasonography showed that the bile ducts were not dilated. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) revealed an ulcer with a wire-like object protruding from it in the duodenal bulb (Fig. 1). An abdominal computed tomography (CT) scan showed part of a surgical clip (arrow) in the lumen of the postbulbar zone of the duodenum, indicating bowel penetration.

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Competing interests: None

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