

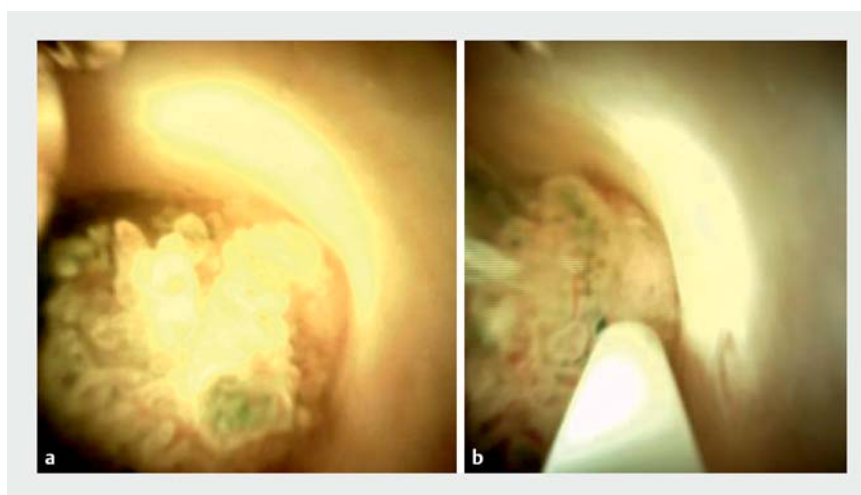
Use of a cholangioscopy-guided retrieval snare for the macrobiopsy of a choledochal polyp

A 65-year-old man with a 1-year history of recurrent episodes of right upper quadrant colicky pain presented with this complaint to our outpatient clinic. The patient's past medical history included hypertension. He underwent a transabdominal ultrasound scan, which showed a hypoechoic nodular lesion of 12 mm in the proximal common bile duct (CBD), without evidence of distension of the intrahepatic biliary ducts. Therefore, an endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) was scheduled and performed. The EUS examination confirmed the presence of a hypoechoic nodular lesion of 13×12 mm in the proximal CBD, along with a slight biliary stricture. Given the suspicion of cholangiocarcinoma, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) was indicated. After informed consent for the procedure and appropriate sedation had been given, ERCP was performed.

Cholangiography showed a slight biliary stricture in the proximal CBD. After sphincterotomy had been performed, we proceeded to peroral intraductal cholangioscopy (IDC) using the Spyglass DS system. IDC showed a polypoid lesion, with a papillary pattern and an irregular undilated vessel (F3-V2) [1], of almost 13 mm in the proximal CBD without hilar involvement (► Fig. 1 a). A cholangioscopy-guided cold macrobiopsy of the choledochal polyp was successfully performed using an IDC snare (Spyglass retrieval snare) and the specimen was collected for histopathological examination (► Fig. 1 b; ► Video 1). At the end of the procedure, the resection site was clear and there was no evidence of either bleeding or biliary leakage.

Histopathological examination showed polypoid fragments with villous architecture and high grade dysplasia, with focal areas of intramucosal adenocarcinoma (► Fig. 2). The patient was therefore referred for surgical evaluation.

We, herein, describe a patient with a choledochal polyp who underwent IDC fol-



► **Fig. 1** Cholangioscopic images showing: **a** a polypoid lesion in the common bile duct; **b** cold macrobiopsy being performed with an intraductal retrieval snare.



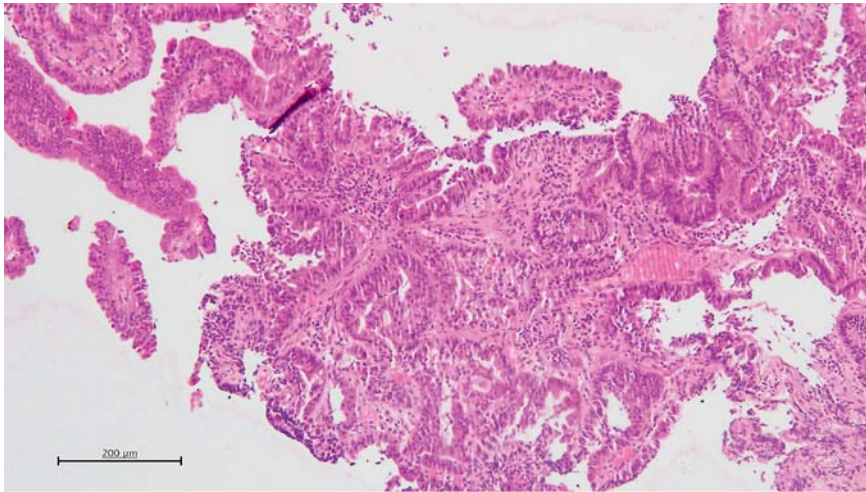
► **Video 1** Use of a cholangioscopy-guided retrieval snare for the macrobiopsy of a choledochal polyp.



lowed by macrobiopsy using an IDC retrieval snare. Although the use of an IDC-guided retrieval snare has been previously described for the removal of biliary stones and retained prostheses [2], its use for macrobiopsy of a choledochal polyp has not been previously reported. This case demonstrates the effective use

of an IDC retrieval snare as a valid alternative for the sampling of choledochal lesions to achieve a valid histological diagnosis.

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► **Fig. 2** Histopathological appearance showing polypoid fragments with villous architecture and high grade dysplasia, with focal areas of intramucosal adenocarcinoma.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

The authors

Claudio Zulli¹, Mariano Sica¹, Michele Fusco¹, Carmela Abbatiello², Antonio D'Antonio², Attilio Maurano¹, Mario Gagliardi²

- 1 Digestive Endoscopy Unit, Gaetano Fucito Hospital, Mercato San Severino, Salerno, Italy
- 2 Digestive Endoscopy Unit, San Giovanni di Dio e Ruggi d'Aragona University Hospital, Salerno, Italy

Corresponding author

Mario Gagliardi, MD

Digestive Endoscopy Unit, San Giovanni di Dio e Ruggi d'Aragona University Hospital, Via San Leonardo 84131, Salerno, Italy
mariogagliardi@outlook.com

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