Colonic Dieulafoy lesion successfully treated by endoclips: a rare cause of lower gastrointestinal bleeding

Dieulafoy lesions account for 1%–2% of cases of acute gastrointestinal bleeding. Approximately 71% of Dieulafoy lesions are detected in the stomach, whereas only 2% are in the colon [1,2]. We encountered a patient with a colonic Dieulafoy lesion that was successfully treated by endoclips. An 83-year-old man with cirrhosis related to hepatitis C virus presented to our hospital with a 4-day history of hematochezia. At admission, his hemoglobin level was 4.9 g/dL. Contrast-enhanced computed tomography revealed the presence of extravasation in the ascending colon (Fig. 1).

Transcatheter arterial embolization (TAE) was performed for bleeding. Bleeding was successfully stopped by TAE.

At 4 days after TAE, he developed hematochezia. Abdominal angiography revealed the presence of extravasation in the ascending colon (Fig. 2). Transcatheter arterial embolization (TAE) was performed again for bleeding. The lesion was diagnosed as a Dieulafoy lesion.

Bleeding was stopped by endoclips.

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nosed as a Dieulafoy lesion and bleeding was stopped by endoclips (▶ Fig. 5, ▶ Video 1). Bleeding did not recur after the treatment.

Although colonic Dieulafoy lesions are rare, they need to be included in the differential diagnosis of hematochezia. Repeated endoscopy may be needed to establish a diagnosis because this lesion has almost no mucosal abnormality. Therapeutic endoscopy using endoclips is effective for the treatment of colonic Dieulafoy lesions.

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Competing interests

None

The authors

Takaaki Kishino, Saiyu Tanaka
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Center for Digestive and Liver Diseases, Nara City Hospital, Nara, Japan

Corresponding author

Takaaki Kishino, MD
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Center for Digestive and Liver Disease, Nara City Hospital, 1-50-1 Higashikideracho, Nara 6308305, Japan
Fax: +81-74-2222478
t-kishino@nara-jadecom.jp

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Video 1 Water immersion observation of bleeding from the colonic Dieulafoy lesion, which was successfully treated by endoclips.

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