One-step puncture and dilation with fine-gauge electrocautery dilator for endoscopic ultrasound-guided gallbladder drainage

Recently the usefulness of a novel fine-gauge electrocautery dilator (Fine 025; Medico’s Hirata Inc., Osaka, Japan) has been reported for endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided therapy [1–3]. Herein we describe a successful one-step puncture and tract dilation using this dilator during EUS-guided gallbladder drainage (EUS-GBD).

An 83-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital with recurrent gallstone cholecystitis. Considering her performance status, we decided to perform EUS-GBD.

The gallbladder was visualized using an echoendoscope from the duodenum. A shorter procedure time and fewer device exchanges may be required to reduce bile leakage; however, one-step devices, such as the Hot AXIOS (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, MA), are not yet available for EUS-GBD in Japan. Therefore, we attempted to puncture the gallbladder and dilate the tract in one step using a fine-gauge electrocautery dilator (Fine 025) with a preloaded 0.025-inch guidewire (VisiGlide 2; Olympus Medical Systems, Tokyo, Japan).

The gallbladder was successfully punctured with an electrocautery dilator and subsequent injection of contrast medium was possible under guidewire loading. After the guidewire was inserted and coiled into the gallbladder under fluoroscopic guidance, the dilator was removed. A fully covered metal stent (diameter, 10 mm; length, 6 cm) (BONA stent; Standard SciTech Inc., Seoul, Korea) was successfully placed without additional tract dilation from the gallbladder into the duodenum. Finally, a 7-Fr double-pigtail plastic stent (length, 10 cm) (Mediglobe GmbH, Rosenheim, Germany) was passed from...
the gallbladder to the duodenum through the metal stent to prevent stent migration and food impaction (▶Fig. 4, ▶Video 1).

Our experience with this case suggests that puncture and tract dilation in one step using a fine-gauge electrocautery dilator is an option for EUS-GBD. Further studies involving many cases are needed to validate the safety and efficacy of this one-step procedure.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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