Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) is now validated for Barrett’s neoplasia in case of visible lesions >15 mm [1,2], and tunneling dissection [3,4] is particularly effective when associated with clip-and-line traction [5]. Here we report the case of a 57-year-old man referred for a short circumferential stenosis with high grade dysplasia at 28 cm from the dental arch.

The stricture was not passable with a standard gastroscope, and we used a transnasal scope to avoid deep invasion and to confirm the distal margin of the neoplastic lesion under the stricture.

After submucosal injection, we created a circumferential incision and trimmed the superior edge 2 cm above the stricture (▶Fig. 1, ▶Video 1). Circumferential dissection allowed us to create a circumferential flap where we fixed clip-and-line traction.

We then created several submucosal tunnels, expanding them on both sides and progressively extending the circumferential flap. Thanks to the tunnel and traction, we were able to find a thin submucosal layer under the fibrotic area, which allowed us to perform submucosal dissection through the stricture circumferentially. At 32 cm from the dental arch, we created an inferior incision from the tunnel. We finished the inferior circumferential incision and the submucosal dissection. Stenosis was visible on the extracted specimen (▶Fig. 2) but disappeared in the esophageal lumen.

Pathology on the specimen showed adenocarcinoma in situ and significant thickening of the muscularis mucosae. This suggests that the circumferential stenosis was superficial and that resection is safe and feasible using clip-and-line traction and the circumferential tunneling dissection technique with a progressive strategy from the upper to the lower edge of the stricture. Stricture did not recur at 3 months’ follow up.

Endoscopic submucosal dissection of Barrett’s neoplasia into a stenosis: circumferential tunneling strategy with clip-and-line traction
Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Fig. 2 End of endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) procedure on the stricture. a Tunnel ESD in the stenosis area. b Tunnel exit under the stricture area. c Specimen with visible stricture. d Aspect of the esophagus after the procedure.

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