Padlock clip-assisted endoscopic full-thickness resection of a duodenal neuroendocrine tumour: a safe alternative to endoscopic submucosal dissection

Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) results in higher numbers of complications when used in the duodenum compared with other locations owing to a variety of factors [1]. Here, we demonstrate endoscopic full-thickness resection (EFTR) using the Padlock clip defect closure system as an alternative technique for en bloc resection of a duodenal neuroendocrine tumour (NET) of <1.5 cm. Most of the previous literature has reported the use of the Ovesco over-the-scope clip system or the new full-thickness resection device for resection of NETs within the duodenum [2–4]. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first case to be reported in which the padlock system was used for EFTR of a NET >10 mm in size.

A 56-year-old man presented with mild upper abdominal pain for 6 months. An upper gastrointestinal endoscopy showed a 1.5-cm subepithelial lesion in the duodenal bulb (Fig. 1). Narrowband imaging (NBI) showed a normal mucosal pattern. Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) examination showed a homogeneous hypoechoic mass of 1.2×0.6 cm arising from layer 3, suggestive of a NET (Fig. 2). We decided to perform EFTR of the mass. The lesion edges were marked with argon plasma coagulation (APC). Subsequently, the Padlock over-the-scope clip system (16-mm diameter) was accurately deployed at the base of the lesion, after it had been totally suctioned into the cap (Fig. 3; Video 1). A 20-mm polypectomy snare was then used to grasp and resect the lesion at its base, just above the Padlock clip. The cut surface was observed, with the Padlock clip in situ, and the cut edges were free of any macroscopically visible tumor tissue, with no evidence of bleeding. The patient was kept in hospital for overnight observation and was discharged the next day on a normal diet. Histopathology subsequently showed a well differentiated NET with uninvolved margins (Fig. 4).

EFTR can be a safe, less cumbersome, and less time-consuming alternative to ESD for subepithelial lesions in the duodenum. It can be safely performed in centers with less experience in duodenal ESD.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.
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Endoscopy
DOI 10.1055/a-1546-9958
ISSN 0013-726X
published online 2021 © 2021, Thieme. All rights reserved.
Georg Thieme Verlag KG, Rüdigerstraße 14, 70469 Stuttgart, Germany

Video 1 Video demonstrating accurate delineation of a duodenal neuroendocrine tumor and use of the Padlock clip defect closure system for endoscopic full-thickness resection of the lesion.

Fig. 4 Histopathology images showing: a, b a well differentiated neuroendocrine tumor with uninvolved margin, suggestive of an R0 resection; c immunohistochemical staining with positivity for chromogranin and synaptophysin; d a Ki67 index of 1%, suggestive of favorable histology.