Endoscopic cutting-wave biopsy for submucosal tumors smaller than 20 mm

Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration (EUS-FNA) is widely used for pathological diagnosis of submucosal tumors; however, no diagnostic method has become established for small lesions (≤ 20 mm) [1]. Boring biopsies have been performed for a long time, but when the tumor is small and hard, the forceps often slip and sufficient tissue cannot be collected. We devised a method called endoscopic cutting-wave biopsy for submucosal tumors (E-CWBS), which resects a portion of a tumor using hot biopsy forceps and cutting waves. We report here the results of E-CWBS followed by pathological examination in 15 cases of upper gastrointestinal submucosal tumor measuring less than 20 mm (Fig. 1; Video 1).

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Endoscopic cutting-wave biopsy for submucosal tumors smaller than 20 mm is considered a safe and useful tool for collection of sufficient tissue.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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