Clip-anchoring technique: a fast, cheap, and efficient way to close a gastric peroral endoscopic pyloromyotomy tunnel

Gastric peroral endoscopic pyloromyotomy (G-POEM) is a treatment option for refractory gastroparesis [1]. The technique is similar to the esophageal peroral endoscopic myotomy [2]. However, tunnel closure may be difficult because of the gastric mucosa stretching at the end of the procedure.

We report here the case of a 38-year-old woman suffering from severe diabetic gastroparesis. She had already undergone unsuccessful pyloric botulinum toxin injections. The gastric emptying time was 146 minutes at preoperative scintigraphy.

We decided to perform a G-POEM (Video 1). After the submucosal injection, a 1-cm incision was made using an Endocut I effect 2 current, 5 cm above the pylorus. Immediately after, the same current was used to make three small incisions on each side of the tunnel entrance (Fig. 1) to allow clip anchoring at the end of the procedure. The rest of the procedure was a standard G-POEM: after the submucosal trimming inside the tunnel to the pyloric arch, a deep pyloromyotomy was made. The previously made incisions were used to place three clips to ease the tunnel closure (clip anchoring technique, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 4). The overall procedure lasted 25 minutes and the tunnel closing lasted 3 minutes. There were no complications after the procedure, except an early dumping syndrome the day after the procedure, which is a common adverse event after a G-POEM [3]. To our knowledge, this is the first ever case report showing the clip-anchoring technique to close a G-POEM tunnel. This technique is effective and easy. It is also cheaper than the use of over-the-scope clips recently described [4].

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AO_2AN

Gastric peroral endoscopic pyloromyotomy with clip-anchoring technique to ease the tunnel closure.

Fig. 1 Incisions for clip placement made at the beginning of the procedure.

Fig. 2 Incisions used to anchor a clip.

Fig. 3 Clip in position.

Fig. 4 Full closure of tunnel with three clips.

Video 1 Gastric peroral endoscopic pyloromyotomy with clip-anchoring technique to ease the tunnel closure.
Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Endoscopy
DOI 10.1055/a-1706-0574
ISSN 0013-726X
published online 2021
© 2021. Thieme. All rights reserved.
Georg Thieme Verlag KG, Rüdigerstraße 14, 70469 Stuttgart, Germany

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