Traction method using slim biopsy forceps for prevention of stent migration during multiple biliary stent placement

Stent migration is a possible complication encountered during placement of multiple biliary stents [1]. The SpyBite Max Biopsy Forceps (Boston Scientific Endoscopy, Natick, Massachusetts, United States), which are very slim biopsy forceps, have been developed for biopsy during peroral cholangioscopy. The forceps are introduced simultaneously from the same working channel of the duodenoscope during placement of the 7-Fr or 8.5-Fr biliary stent. Herein, we present a novel traction technique using SpyBite to prevent stent migration during placement of multiple stents.

Case 1: In an 85-year-old man with obstructive jaundice owing to lymph metastasis of lung cancer, computed tomography revealed a biliary stricture extending beyond the bifurcation of the common hepatic duct, requiring multiple biliary drainages. After stent placement into B6, we attempted to add a plastic stent to B8; however, the first stent almost migrated into the bile duct. By grasping the flap of the first stent using the SpyBite, we successfully placed the second stent without migration of the first (▶ Fig. 1, ▶ Fig. 2, ▶ Video 1).

Case 2: An 84-year-old woman was admitted to the hospital for obstructive jaundice owing to a serous cystic neoplasm and underwent endoscopic ultrasonography-guided hepatogastrostomy (EUS-HGS). One month thereafter, reintervention was required because of obstructive cholangitis. We attempted to place three plastic stents. During the placement of the third stent, the first stent almost migrated into the abdominal cavity. The third stent was successfully placed when the flap of the first stent was grasped using SpyBite (▶ Fig. 3, ▶ Fig. 4, ▶ Fig. 5; ▶ Video 1).

Despite reports of troubleshooting for retrieval of a migrated stent [2–4], retrieval of the stent can be challenging once migration occurs; therefore, prevention is important. Endoscopists should be aware of the characteristics of the scopes and devices used routinely, such as the diameter of the working channel and devices, which may be helpful in troubleshooting.

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Competing interests

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The authors

Kosuke Iwano, Tsuyoshi Hayashi, Tatsuya Ishii, Kuniyuki Takahashi, Akio Katanuma
Center for Gastroenterology, Teine-Keijinkai Hospital, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan

Corresponding author

Kosuke Iwano, MD
Center for Gastroenterology, Teine-Keijinkai Hospital, 1-40, 12-chome, 1-jou, Maeda, Teine-ku, Sapporo 006-0811, Hokkaido, Japan
ksk.own@gmail.com

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