Exposed endoscopic full-thickness resection with reopenable clip-over-the-line method for a duodenal neuroendocrine tumor

The nonexposed endoscopic full-thickness resection (EFTR) device is available for endoscopic removal of duodenal subepithelial tumors, but the large application cap may make it difficult to resect lesions located in complex areas of the duodenum. Moreover, to insert the device into the duodenum, balloon dilation is often required, thus resection of a lesion behind the pyloric ring is difficult. Exposed EFTR can remove lesions in difficult sites; however, a secure closure method for the full-thickness wound is necessary for the success of the procedure. We report a case of exposed EFTR and full-thickness wound closure by reopenable clip-over-the-line method [1] for duodenal neuroendocrine tumor (NET).

An 80-year-old woman was diagnosed with a 7-mm subepithelial lesion just behind the pyloric ring (▶ Fig. 1a). Biopsy showed duodenal NET and she was referred to our hospital. At the time of endoscopic inspection before treatment, only a biopsy scar was identified by white-light endoscopy. However, mini-probe endoscopic ultrasound revealed a hypoechoic mass, measuring 3.9×1.8mm, in the deep submucosa (▶ Fig. 1b). We decided to perform exposed EFTR, rather than endoscopic submucosal dissection, because there was no space between the lesion and the muscularis propria on endoscopic ultrasound. Moreover, with the nonexposed EFTR device, complete resection of the lesion would be difficult due to the limited working space of the duodenal bulb near the pyloric ring.

Exposed EFTR was performed using a single-channel endoscope (GIF-H290T; Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) with transparent hood and a Flush knife BT 2.0 (Fujifilm, Tokyo, Japan) under general anesthesia. Clip-and-line traction (3–0 polyester suture line) was used to facilitate muscle incision and submucosal dissection. After en bloc resection of the tumor, the muscle defect was closed by reopenable clip-over-the-line method using a 4–0 nylon suture line (▶ Fig. 1c,d, ▶ Video 1). The total procedure time was 60 minutes. The patient was discharged uneventfully.

Histological examination confirmed a NET G1 with submucosal invasion (800 μm) (▶ Fig. 2). The vertical and horizontal margins were negative, with no lymphovascular involvement.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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▶ Fig. 1 Exposed endoscopic full-thickness resection and full-thickness wound closure for a duodenal neuroendocrine tumor. a Endoscopic detection of the lesion at a previous hospital. b Mini-probe endoscopic ultrasound image showing a hypoechoic lesion in the deep submucosa. c The full-thickness resection wound. d Wound closure by the reopenable clip-over-the-line method.

▶ Video 1 Exposed endoscopic full-thickness resection with reopenable clip-over-the-line method for a duodenal neuroendocrine tumor.
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