Endoscopic submucosal dissection for severe fibrosis using a combined water pressure and circumferential-inversion method

Use of the water pressure method during endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) has been reported to shorten procedure times for colorectal lesions with fibrosis [1, 2]; however, ESD for cases with severe fibrosis remains extremely challenging [3]. We recently reported a novel traction method called the circumferential-inversion method (CIM), which involves inverting the lesion circumferentially [4]. In this report, we describe the effectiveness of ESD using a novel approach that combines the water pressure method and CIM (WP-CIM) for lesions with severe fibrosis (Video 1).

The case involved a 69-year-old woman with a 30-mm 0-IIa tumor on the scar created by a previous endoscopic submucosal resection in the sigmoid colon (Fig. 1a). Local injection at the scar site did not result in any elevation (Fig. 1b). We attempted ESD using the water pressure method; however, it was challenging to approach the submucosal layer at the scar site (Fig. 1c, d). After performing a complete circumferential incision and trimming, we grasped the specimen by applying an orthodontic rubber band (inner diameter, 8 mm) and clips (SureClip 8 mm; Micro-Tech, Nanjing, China) from five directions (Fig. 2a). The combination of the water pressure method and CIM enabled us to access the submucosal layer effectively (Fig. 2b). Further dissection from the left and right sides allowed us to recognize the dissection line at the scar site (Fig. 2c). The dissection was completed without any complications, resulting in an R0 resection (Fig. 2d).

Because CIM is inversion traction, it enhances the effectiveness of the water pressure method in an airless environment. Additionally, CIM improves the visibility of the dissection line at the scar site by promoting dissection not only from the front but also from the left and right sides. We propose that WP-CIM facilitates ESD for lesions with severe fibrosis.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.
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Fig. 2. Endoscopic views during endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) using a novel approach that combines the water pressure method and the circumferential-inversion method (CIM; WP-CIM) showing: a the specimen grasped from five directions with an orthodontic rubber band and clips after complete circumferential incision and trimming had been performed; b WP-CIM being used, which allowed effective access to the submucosal layer; c further dissection from the left and right sides allowing recognition of the dissection line at the scar site; d R0 resection completed without complications using CIM-enhanced buoyancy and the water pressure effect.

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