Submucosal tunneling endoscopic resection in retroflexion for gastric gastrointestinal stromal tumor of the fundus

Endoscopic resection of gastrointestinal stromal tumors of the fundus is challenging due to the need for full-thickness resection and the difficulties of defect closure. Submucosal tunneling under direct view through the esophagus can be carried out for esophageal tumors and gastric tumors of the cardia near the gastroesophageal junction. However, for tumors located at the fundus this is not feasible. In this video (▶ Video 1), we present the resection strategy for a gastric gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) located at the fundus (▶ Fig. 1), utilizing submucosal tunneling endoscopic resection (STER) in retroflexion combined with clip-and-band traction, together with clip-and-loop closure of the mucosal defect. Initially, a horizontal incision was made 2 cm distal to the lesion in retroflexion with Flush Knife BTs 1.5 (Fujifilm, Tokyo, Japan). Then, a short pocket was created. In order to keep the mucosa away from the dissection field, a clip-and-band complex was applied (▶ Fig. 2) as previously described [1]. Cautious enucleation of the tumor was continued in retroflexion. Myotomy and detachment of the tumor from the muscle layer was performed using a Hook Knife (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) (▶ Fig. 3). The presence of adipose tissue was visible at the end of the resection (▶ Fig. 4). After retrieval of the lesion, an endoloop was advanced over the scope and fixed in an open position with clips over the edges of the mucosal defect. Closure of the loop resulted in tight sealing of the mucosal defect (▶ Fig. 5). Next day a CT scan with oral contrast confirmed the absence of leakage. The patient was discharged 48 h after the operation and followed a soft diet for 7 days. Histology showed a GIST with low mitotic index. At 1 year of follow-up the patient has no symptoms or signs of recurrence.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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