Direct percutaneous endoscopic jejunostomy (DPEJ) is an effective method for preventing aspiration following percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) [1]. Although DPEJ provides a stable access to maintain enteral feeding, it requires an endoscope of more than 160 cm long for tube placement [2].

We attempted DPEJ using a transgastrostomic endoscope in post-PEG patients. A small-caliber endoscope (GIF XP-240 or GIF XP-260; Olympus Optical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) was inserted and advanced to the jejunum through the mature gastrocutaneous tract (Fig. 1). After conducting the jejunopexy with a double lumen gastropexy device (Create Medic Co., Ltd., Yokohama, Japan), a Seldinger needle was inserted through the abdomen toward an open snare using fluoroscopic guidance (Fig. 2). Next, a loop wire was inserted through the outer sheath of the Seldinger needle, grasped by the snare (Fig. 3), and pulled out with the endoscope through the gastrocutaneous tract. The loop wire was then grasped in the stomach by an orally inserted endoscope (Fig. 4) and pulled out through the mouth. Finally, a jejunostomy tube was placed in the jejunum by the pull-through technique (Fig. 5).

A total of 30 DPEJ procedures were attempted in 29 patients, resulting in 28 (93.3%) successful placements. One unsuccessful placement was due to jejunum migration away from the abdominal wall during the puncture. The other failure was due to a lack of transillumination. Maple et al. reported that the two major reasons for unsuccessful placement were
lack of transillumination and the inability to pass the endoscope up to the jejunum [3]. The reason for the higher rate of success in the present study is that insertion of the endoscope through a gastrostomy is easy and causes little distension of the stomach. Less distension of the stomach facilitates the placement of the jejunostomy tube. DPEJ using a transgastrostomic endoscope should be recommended in cases with previous gastrostomy.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AO_2AK

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Endoscopy 2009; 41: E36 – E37
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart · New York · ISSN 0013−726X

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Nishiwaki S et al. DPEJ with transgastrostomic endoscope in post−PEG patients … Endoscopy 2009; 41: E36 – E37