Adenomas arising in a choledochocele are usually resected surgically because they are difficult to completely remove endoscopically and they are associated with a high malignancy potential [1]. We successfully performed an endoscopic snare resection for choledochocele-associated villous adenoma with high-grade dysplasia.

A 76-year-old woman was admitted complaining of epigastric pain lasting for several days. Duodenoscopy revealed a soft cystic-mass-like lesion covered with normal mucosa above the ampulla of Vater (Fig. 1). Intraductal ultrasound showed an anechoic cystic mass with diffuse wall thickening and preserved wall layer (Fig. 2). Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography showed an oval-shaped cystic mass above the ampulla of Vater. A major endoscopic sphincterotomy was conducted. Following sphincterotomy, duodenoscopy revealed mucosal nodules on the inner surface of the choledochocele (Fig. 3).

Histopathologic findings of the biopsy specimen showed an adenoma with high-grade dysplasia (Fig. 4). Because the patient wanted to undergo an endoscopic treatment, we performed a wire-guided endoscopic snare resection for the choledochocele with the adenoma (Fig. 5, Video 1).

During the 1-year follow-up duodenoscopy, no remnant or recurrence of the adenoma was found. The surgical approach may be too invasive for a choledochocele with adenoma. Itoi et al. [3] performed a balloon-catheter-assisted endoscopic snare resection using a double-channel duodenoscope for choledochocele. We attempted to perform a wire-guided endoscopic snare resection using the previously reported method for adenomas of the major papilla [4]. En bloc resection was successfully achieved without any procedure-related complications or residual tumor. In conclusion, endoscopic snare resection may be a feasible and effective solution for selected patients with choledochocele associated with a villous adenoma.
References