Colonoscopy-assisted percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy to avoid a gastrocolocutaneous fistula of the transverse colon

An 80-year-old woman with a nasogastric tube in situ for cerebral infarction sequelae was referred for percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG). The abdominal computed tomography scan on admission showed that the transverse colon was interposed between the anterior abdominal wall and the stomach (Fig. 1). The usual PEG placement posed a high risk of piercing the transverse colon. A fluoroscopy-assisted colonoscopy was performed, which showed that the transverse colon was present in the upper abdomen (Fig. 2a). While maintaining the tip of the colonoscope at the hepatic flexure, the transverse colon was moved toward the pelvis under fluoroscopic guidance by using a twisting maneuver of the scope shaft. While the colonoscope was in situ, the esophagogastrroduodenoscope was inserted (Fig. 2b). The stomach was expanded as usual to perform the PEG. PEG feeding was initiated as usual without problems. When the PEG button was replaced with a new one 6 months later, no specific abnormalities were observed.

A gastrocolocutaneous fistula is a rare complication of PEG [1, 2]. It results from the interposition of the colon between the anterior abdominal and gastric walls, so the PEG tube inadvertently passes through the colon into the stomach, resulting in the development of an iatrogenic fistula. The risk of this complication increases in cases of megacolon, subphrenic transposition of the colon, a history of abdominal surgery, or overinflation of the stomach [1, 2].

Colonoscopy-assisted PEG insertion is slightly different from conventional endoscopic methods in terms of its approach. To the best of our knowledge, only one study used both a colonoscope and an esophagogastrroduodenoscope for PEG placement [3]. In that report, Tominaga et al. used fluoroscopy to detect sigmoid interposition between the abdominal wall and the stomach; subsequent evacuation of gas from the sigmoid using colonoscopy resulted in successful PEG placement. In the present case, colonoscopy was used to move the transverse colon toward the pelvis under fluoroscopic guidance. Serious complications can be prevented using this method.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_TTT_1AO_2AK

Competing interests: None

Yosho Fukita, Yoshiki Katakura, Seitaro Adachi, Ikuma Yasuda, Tsutoshi Asaki, Michifumi Toyomizu, Hiroyuki Ishibashi
Department of Gastroenterology, Seirei Yokohama Hospital, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan

References
3 Tominaga K, Saigusa Y, Ito S et al. Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy with the aid of a colonoscope to avoid gastrocolic fistula formation. Endoscopy 2007; 39 (Suppl. 01): E112–113

Bibliography
DOI http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0033-1359162
Endoscopy 2014; 46: E60 © Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart · New York
ISSN 0013-726X

Corresponding author
Yosho Fukita, MD, PhD
Department of Gastroenterology
Seirei Yokohama Hospital
215 Iwai-cho, Hodogaya-ku
Yokohama, Kanagawa 240-8521
Japan
Fax: +81-45-7153387
yfukita@sis.seirei.or.jp

Fukita Yosho et al. Colonoscopy-assisted PEG to avoid gastrocolocutaneous fistula... Endoscopy 2014; 46: E60