Endoscopic ultrasonography (EUS)-guided drainage of liver abscesses has recently become available. We present here a case of successful drainage of a liver abscess using a dedicated wide fully covered self-expandable metallic stent (FCSEMS) with flared ends.

An 84-year-old man was admitted to another hospital with a history of high fever and epigastric pain for 12 days. Computed tomography (CT) revealed a 10.3×6.1-cm abscess in the left lobe of the liver (Fig. 1). He was referred to our hospital because of failure of a 1-week antibiotic regimen. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy revealed a bulging mass in the stomach (Fig. 2). We attempted EUS-guided drainage through a transgastric approach. Using a 19-gauge needle, we punctured the abscess and placed a 0.025-inch guidewire (Fig. 3). A 6-Fr wire-guided diathermic dilator (Cysto-Gastro-Set; Endo-Flex, Voerde, Germany) was used to dilate the needle tract using a blended cut mode. Finally, a dedicated wide FCSEMS with flared ends (NAGI stent, 16×3 cm; Taewoong-Medical, Seoul, Korea) was placed, without any complications (Fig. 4, Fig. 5). After stone clearance from the common bile duct, the patient was discharged on postoperative day 10 without removal of the SEMS (Fig. 6).

Seven cases of EUS-guided drainage of liver abscesses, including one case of multiple abscesses, have been reported to date [1, 2]. The left lobe of the liver, the caudate lobe, and the gastrohepatic space usually lie in close proximity to the stomach or duodenum [1]. Therefore, EUS-guided liver abscess drainage might be safe and effective in the management of these areas. Single or double plastic stents were used in most of the reported cases [1]; the newly designed dedicated anchoring FCSEMS with a “yo-yo” shape was placed in only one patient [2]. It has been suggested that a dedicated FCSEMS is the ideal stent for treating liver abscesses and pancreatic fluid collection because of its antimigration feature and because it allows direct insertion of an endoscope through it [3].

Competing interests: None
Hiroshi Kawakami¹, Kazumichi Kawakubo², Masaki Kuwatani³, Yoshimasa Kubota¹, Yoko Abe¹, Shuhei Kawahata¹, Kimitoshi Kubo¹, Naoya Sakamoto²

¹Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Hokkaido University Hospital
²Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine, Sapporo, Japan
³Division of Endoscopy, Hokkaido University Hospital

References

Bibliography
DOI http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0034-1391125
Endoscopy 2014; 46: E982–E983
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG
Stuttgart · New York
ISSN 0013-726X

Corresponding author
Hiroshi Kawakami, MD, PhD
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Hokkaido University Hospital
Kita 14, Nishi 5, Kita-ku
Sapporo 060-8648
Japan
Fax: +81-11-7067867
hiropon@med.hokudai.ac.jp