Gastrointestinal leakage after surgery is not amenable to several forms of conservative management, and reoperation strategies increase the risk for morbidity and mortality [1]. We report a case of successful endoscopic closure of a gastrocutaneous fistula with polyglycolic acid (PGA) sheets (Neoveil; Gunze Medical Division, Kyoto, Japan) and fibrin glue (Beriplast P Combi-Set; CSL Behring Pharma, Tokyo, Japan).

A 68-year-old man who had pancreatic cancer (T4N1M0, stage IVa) underwent neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy followed by pancreaticoduodenectomy with major arterial resection in the department of surgical oncology of our hospital. Following surgery, gastric juice was observed around a drainage tube just above the gastrojejunal anastomosis. Gastric and subcutaneous pooling of contrast agents and a gastrocutaneous leak were diagnosed radiographically (Fig. 1).

Conservative treatment, including the application of cyanoacrylate glue through...
the skin into the fistula, was ineffective, and leakage with pus continued for 3 months. Therefore, we attempted endoscopic closure with PGA sheets and fibrin glue. First, argon plasma coagulation was used to ablate the mucosa around the fistula, which was located at the lesser curvature of the antrum near the anastomosis (Fig. 2a, Fig. 2b; Video 1). Subsequently, the PGA sheet was cut into small (15 × 8-mm) pieces, and a biopsy forceps through the scope channel was used to fill the fistula with 10 of these pieces (Fig. 2c). Fibrin glue was applied to the PGA sheets, and endoclips were used to gather mucosa around the fistula.

This procedure was repeated 1 week later because the fistula had persisted. At 14 days after the first procedure, the gastrocutaneous leakage had disappeared (Fig. 3a), and the fistula had improved (Fig. 3b). The patient was discharged 1 month after the first procedure.

PGA sheets with fibrin glue have previously been used to close perforations and fistulas [2–5]. This case suggests that endoscopic closure with PGA sheets and fibrin glue can be used to treat gastrointestinal leakage.

References

Competing interests: None

Yasuaki Nagami1, Masatsugu Shiba1, Kazunari Tominaga1, Sadaaki Yamazoe2, Ryosuke Amano2, Yasuhiro Fujiwara1, Tetsuo Arakawa1

1 Department of Gastroenterology, Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan
2 Department of Surgical Oncology, Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan

Bibliography
Endoscopy 2015; 47: E455–E456
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart · New York ISSN 0013-726X

Corresponding author
Kazunari Tominaga, MD
Department of Gastroenterology
Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine
1-4-3, Asahimachi Abeno-ku
Osaka, 545-8585
Japan
Fax: +81-6-6645-3813
tomy@med.osaka-cu.ac.jp

Nagami Yasuaki et al. Endoscopic closure of gastrocutaneous leakage with PGA sheets... Endoscopy 2015; 47: E455–E456