Deep enteroscopy diagnosis of obscure overt gastrointestinal bleeding due to intravascular endothelial hyperplasia missed by capsule endoscopy

A 56-year-old woman was referred to our hospital with a 3-day history of melena. She reported a 3-year history of dull pain in the left iliac region and intermittent melena. She had no history of drug use, fever, nausea, vomiting, or weight loss. Her vital signs were stable. She appeared pale and was tender in the left iliac region, but without guarding or rebound tenderness. Rectal examination confirmed melena. Laboratory investigation showed a red cell count of 3.16 × 10^{12}/L and hemoglobin of 85.0 g/L. Other laboratory values were normal.

The results of esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) and colonoscopy were negative. Capsule endoscopy also failed to identify any blood in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. Given the possibilities of a blind spot in vision of the capsule endoscopy and intermittent bleeding of the lesion, single-balloon enteroscopy was performed when the patient presented with melena again. Enteroscopy showed a submucosal protruding lesion (approximately 0.5 × 0.5 cm) that was streaming blood, with white thrombus attached to its surface: a before the titanium clip was applied; b after the titanium clip was applied.

A preoperative abdominal computed tomography (CT) scan clearly demonstrated the lesion site marked by the titanium clip.

IPEH is a benign exuberant proliferation of endothelial cells that is associated with organizing thrombus [1] and is rare in the GI tract. Here, we performed single-balloon enteroscopy and observed IPEH real-time in vivo. A titanium clip was applied to occlude the lesion with the aim of stopping the bleeding temporarily and marking the surgical site.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CCL_1AC_2AB

Competing interests: None
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Acknowledgments

This study was funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China (grant numbers 81330012 and 81300284).

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Fig. 4 Histological appearance of the hematoxylin and eosin (H&E)-stained specimen showing an exuberant endothelial proliferation with a papillary architecture attached to the wall of a dilated vessel. The organized thrombus was entrapped by the papillae, which were covered by a single layer of flat or slightly plump endothelial cells. Original magnification: a × 20; b × 40; c × 100; d × 200.

References

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DOI http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0041-111029
Endoscopy 2016; 48: E30–E32
© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart - New York
ISSN 0013-726X

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