A 35-year-old man complained of dull pain after food intake. His medical history and findings from physical examinations and laboratory tests were unremarkable. Standard esophagogastroduodenoscopy revealed a huge mass in the cervical esophagus. On endoscopy, the sausage-like pedunculated tumor protruded into the lumen (Fig. 1). Chest computed tomography (CT) scan showed a large mass that was well-circumscribed, intraluminal, and heterogeneous (fatty density in the upper section and parenchymal density in the lower part) (Fig. 2). The mass was located between the T1 to T8 levels and connected to the posterior wall of the esophagus.

Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) was performed successfully to treat this patient (Video 1). The submucosal injection and initial mucosal incision were done at the base of the mass, 18 cm from the incisors, using a Hybrid Knife (I-type; Erbe, Tübingen, Germany).
Germany). Then submucosal dissection was performed from the oral side to anal side after complete incision of the huge mass (▶Fig. 3c), while submucosal injections were frequently repeated to secure an appropriate lifting of the mucosal layer from the muscle layer. En bloc resection was achieved by ESD technique, then a snare (SD-230U-20, Olympus) (▶Fig. 3d), all visible exposed vessels on the wound were coagulated by hemostatic forceps (FD-410LR, Olympus) (▶Fig. 3e).

The resected tumor was 16.0 × 5.5 × 4.0 cm in size and 124 g in weight (▶Fig. 4). Pathological examination, confirmed by immunohistochemical staining, indicated the tumor was an atypical lipomatous tumor (also termed “well-differentiated liposarcoma”) (▶Fig. 5). The post-operative period was uneventful and the patient was discharged on postoperative day 2.

The patient was scheduled for the first endoscopic follow-up 3 months later (▶Fig. 3f), and annually thereafter. After 4 years, there has been no evidence of any residual tumor or recurrence. This case presents a successful attempt to treat an esophageal atypical lipomatous tumor by ESD with a 4-year disease-free and recurrence-free survival.

Endoscopy_UCTX_Code_CCL_1AB_2AC_3AB

Competing interests

There is no conflict of interest to declare for Drs. Ping-Hong Zhou, Ming-Yan Cai, and Jia-Xin Xu.
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Acknowledgment

This study was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (81470811, Dr. P.-H. Zhou), (81301760, Dr. M.-Y. Cai).

References


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Fig. 5 Pathologic evaluation of the resected tumor. a The tumor was covered by normal squamous epithelium. b Histologically, the tumor was composed of a well-differentiated lipomatous component adjacent to scattered bizarre spindle cells (hematoxylin–eosin stain).