

Removal of a Submucosal Migrated Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy with Arthroscopic Support

Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) is a commonly used method for enteral tube feeding. One of its complications is submucosal migration (1,2), so several methods to remove a migrated PEG have been described (3,4). Here we present another method.

A 49-year-old woman, with Huntington chorea, had been fed for two years by PEG, until one day it suddenly blocked. Conservative measures were tried without benefit, so replacement of the Compat Sandoz® PEG 15 Fr was suggested. Gastroscopic removal of the PEG was impossible, as the button had migrated submucosally. We could not pass a flexible guidewire past the feeding tube.

An arthroscope (Storz®) with a diameter of 2.7 mm was placed into the feeding part, the inner diameter of which was 3.0 mm. The PEG was then easily found by gastroscopy: the position was indicated by the light of the arthroscope. Under gastroscopic view the arthroscope was pushed through the mucosa into the stomach. The arthroscope and fixed PEG were then carefully but firmly pushed into the lumen of the stomach. The feeding tube was caught by a polypectomy snare, removed and replaced with a new PEG. The whole procedure lasted 15 minutes and there were no complications.

Despite the fact that we have used this for only one case, the method is probably an

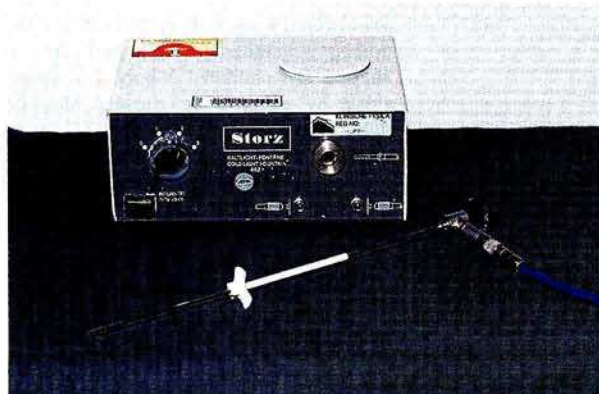


Figure 1: An arthroscope (Storz®) placed inside the Compat Sandoz® PEG was used to find our way back into the stomach.

easy, safe and fast way to remove a submucosally migrated PEG.

*H. P. Kaldewaij, M. Kortenhorst,
H. Quartel, C. J. J. Mulder*
Dept. of Gastroenterology and
Clinical Physics, Rijnstate Hospital,
Arnhem, The Netherlands

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Corresponding Author

C. J. J. Mulder, M.D.
Dept. of Hepatogastroenterology
Rijnstate Hospital Arnhem
PO Box 9555
Arnhem 6800 TA
The Netherlands
Fax: + 31-26-3786737
E-mail: cjmulder@worldonline.nl