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Intrahepatic bile duct stone treatment combining electrohydraulic lithotripsy and peroral cholangioscopy through a choledochoduodenal fistula



▶ Fig.1 Computed tomography reveals intrahepatic bile duct stones in a 62-year-old woman with cholangitis symptoms.

A 62-year-old woman with intrahepatic bile duct stones (> Fig. 1) and cholangitis symptoms was admitted to the hospital. She had undergone cholecystectomy 12 years previously for cholelithiasis. We performed endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) to relieve her symptoms and reduce inflammation. Duodenoscopy showed an approximately 2-mm fistula in the duodenal bulb; guidewire placement and radiography confirmed a choledochoduodenal fistula. We performed balloon dilation of the choledochoduodenal fistula using a 6-mm balloon catheter (REN; Kaneka Medical Products, Tokyo, Japan). A single-operator fiberoptic cholangioscope direct visualization device (SpyGlass DS; Boston Scientific Corporation, Marlborough, Massachusetts, USA) was inserted over the guidewire into the intrahepatic bile duct under radiographic guidance, and all intrahepatic bile duct stones and debris were crushed via electrohydraulic lithotripsy (EHL). Finally, a 7-Fr plastic stent was inserted into the choledochoduodenal fistula (▶ Fig. 2 and ▶ Fig. 3; ▶ Video 1). Postoperative recovery was quick.

Peroral cholangioscopy has been used to diagnose and treat biliary diseases since the 1970s [1]. The SpyGlass system has been available since 2005 [2], and the



Fig.2 a Choledochoduodenal fistula in the interior wall of the duodenal bulb. b Guidewire placement into the choledochoduodenal fistula using a duodenoscope. c Balloon dilation of the fistula. d Insertion of a SpyGlass DS device into the intrahepatic bile duct. e Placement of a plastic stent into the choledochoduodenal fistula using a duodenoscope.



Fig.3 Cholangiography images with duodenoscope. **a** A choledochoduodenal fistula. **b** Intrahepatic bile duct stones. **c** Balloon dilation of the choledochoduodenal fistula. **d** Insertion of a SpyGlass DS into the intrahepatic bile duct. **e** Crushing stones and debris with electrohydraulic lithotripsy (EHL). **f** Intrahepatic bile duct stones have been cleared using a SpyGlass DS with EHL.



Video 1 Intrahepatic bile duct stones and debris are crushed using electrohydraulic lithotripsy and SpyGlass DS.

second-generation SpyGlass DS, with better images, ergonomics, stability, and accessory exposure, and a larger working channel and clinical utility for diagnosis and therapy in biliary diseases, was introduced in 2014 [3,4]. This case highlights the benefits of using SpyGlass DS with EHL in patients with a choledochoduodenal fistula and complicated cholelithiasis.

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Competing interests

None

The authors

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