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Walled off pancreatic necrosis. Endoscopic approach by EUS and apposition lumen metallic stents. Incidences in 4 cases

Francesc Vida, Pau Sort, Sonia Fernandez, Anna Gimenez, Ignasi Puig, Rosario Haya, Jordina LLao, Francesc Porta Cristina Lao Carmen Martinez. Pere Esquiús. Carles Yanguas
Althaia Xarxa Assistencial Universitaria Manresa

Walled off pancreatic necrosis (WOPN) is a well-defined collection of fluids, pancreatic and peripancreatic necrotic tissues. Pain, food intolerance, anemia, fever, sepsis appear when the collection compresses neighbor, bleeds or infection occur. WOPN has a high rate of morbidity and mortality.

Treatment is medical with fluid, pain, nutritional and antibiotics support, but sometimes the collection needs to be drained. Surgery and US/CTscan assisted pig-tail drainages have both been used but with conflicting results: The former is effective but carries high morbidity and mortality rates and often requires re-interventions that prolong and increases costs. The latter is good for liquid collections but obstructed by the semisolid, necrotic debris, requiring multiple replacements.

Endoscopic approach combines feasibility in liquid and semisolid collections with lesser morbidity and mortality if the collection is accessible and large bore stents are used. The newer stents Hot Axios (Boston Scientific). (HA) Combine large bore, luminal apposition and one-step introduction. Simplifies, reduce time and costs of the overall process. However, the endoscopist must be aware of tricks to perform and difficulties to maximize his/her performance.

Results: Four cases of WOPN we have treated by means of EUS-guided drainage with HA. The difficulties found, the tricks used and the outcome of the patients are described. Difficult visualization because two pig-tail in place failed. Tow Migration of HA15 and HA10 to the cavity during deployment.

None of the 4 procedures were complicated with bleeding, pain or infection. No other intervention but endoscopic necrosectomy was performed. All patients were discharged after initial drainage, and managed on an ambulatory basis.

Conclusions: EUS-assisted treatment of WOPN with HA seems to be feasible, safe and useful; a thorough knowledge of the difficulties expected during drainage and their solutions is granted for those who are willing to implement this technique.