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## **Endoscopic submucosal dissection with an SB Knife® for the treatment of subcardial gastric leiomyoma**

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Dear Editor,

Surgery has been considered the main treatment for submucosal tumors (SMTs). However, endoscopic resection is currently accepted for gastric SMTs smaller than 3 cm (1). Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) is considered the technique of choice, and submucosal tunneling endoscopic resection has successful results with low complication

rates according to the recent meta-analysis by Cao et al. (2). The major limitation of these methods is the technical difficulty associated with certain anatomic locations (3,4).

## **CASE REPORT**

A 48-year-old female was incidentally diagnosed with a 3-cm subcardial submucosal tumor (SMT). Endoscopic ultrasound evaluation confirmed the existence of a well-defined, hypoechoic, submucosal lesion. After fine-needle aspiration the histopathological diagnosis was compatible with leiomyoma.

ESD was performed using a therapeutic gastroscope (Olympus GIF-1TQ160®) with a distal attachment cap (Reveal™, US Endoscopy®) and access in a retroflexed view. Ten percent glycerin, diluted adrenaline (1/100,000) and indigo carmine were injected into the submucosa to raise the lesion. After resection of the upper mucosa with a polypectomy snare (Sensation™, Boston Scientific®) ESD was performed using an SB Knife™/Junior (Sumitomo®) with 60-W forced coagulation (effect 2), achieving en-bloc resection. Visible vessels were coagulated with a hemostatic grasper (Coagrasper™, Olympus®) and a solution of hemostatic synthetic peptides (PuraStat®) was placed on the scar, which was closed with an Endoloop™ (Olympus®) and 8 clips using a “tobacco pouch” suture. No signs of perforation were detected (Fig. 1).

The clinical course was favorable and imaging studies revealed pneumomediastinum and retropneumoperitoneum with no clinical significance.

## **DISCUSSION**

The use of an SB Knife® has several advantages. It allows the application of traction and targeted resection, facilitates the approach to tumors in difficult-to-access locations, and applies cut with coagulation for hemostasis. We consider that ESD with an SB Knife® can be recommended for SMTs in difficult locations due to its reliability and relatively easy application. It allows a safe resection and avoids the need for major surgery.

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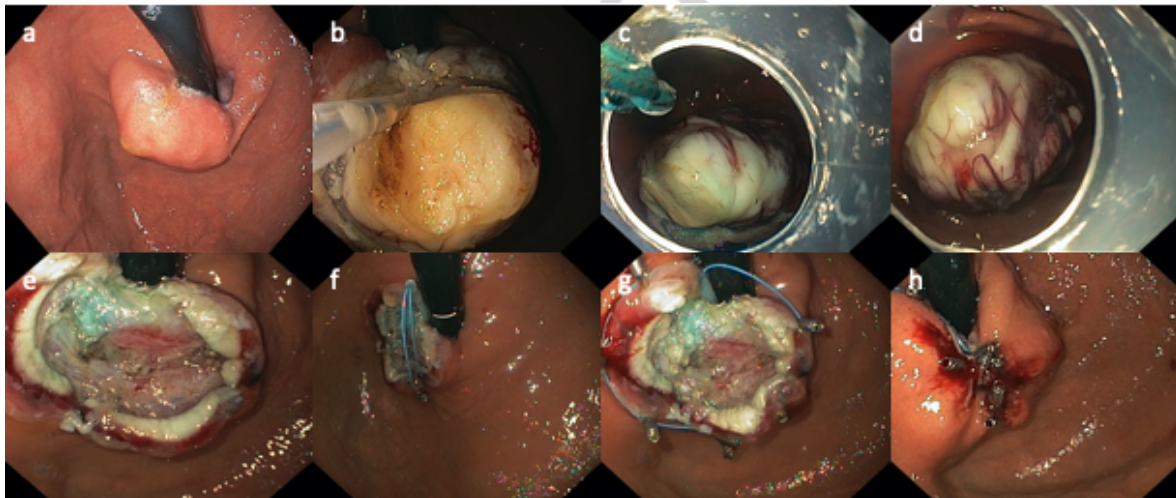


Fig. 1. A) A 3-cm subcardial submucosal tumor detected by retroflexion. B) Resection of the upper mucosa with a polypectomy snare. C and D) En-bloc resection by ESD using an SB Knife™. E) Scar after resection. F and G) Endoloop™ and clips around the scar. H) Closure with a “tobacco pouch” suture.