Non-tip and rotatable sphincterotome for biliary cannulation in patients with Roux-en-Y gastrectomy





Video 1 A non-tip sphincterotome facilitated changing the angle along a short distance and its rotatability allowed adjustment to the direction of the bile duct.

Balloon enteroscopy-assisted endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (BE-ERCP) has become widely used for patients with Roux-en-Y gastrectomy; however, selective biliary cannulation is still challenging [1, 2]. A non-tip or rotatable sphincterotome has been reported to be beneficial in difficult cases [3–5]. A novel sphincterotome, Seeking Tome Zero (MTW Endoskopie Manufaktur, Wesel, Germany) (▶ Fig. 1, ▶ Fig. 2), combines these features. Herein, we describe two successful cases with Roux-en-Y gastrectomy (▶ Video 1).

Case 1. An 87-year-old woman who had undergone Roux-en-Y gastrectomy was admitted to our hospital because of symptomatic choledocholithiasis. We attempted BE-ERCP using short-type single-balloon enteroscopy (SIF-H290S; Olympus Medical Systems, Tokyo, Japan). As biliary cannulation using a standard ERCP catheter was difficult due to a long and bent narrow distal segment, the catheter was substituted with Seeking Tome Zero (► Fig. 3). Following guidewire insertion into the pancreatic duct, a



Fig.1 Seeking Tome Zero (MTW Endoskopie Manufaktur, Wesel, Germany) has no tip and a short angled part (**a**) compared with a normal endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography catheter (**b**). Source: Abis Inc, Hyogo, Japan.



Fig.2 Seeking Tome Zero is easily rotated from one side (**a**) to the opposite side (**b**).

double guidewire technique was adopted. The sphincterotome was bendable at a short distance from the papilla, and a guidewire was successfully advanced into the bile duct (> Fig. 4).

Case 2. A 64-year-old man who had undergone Roux-en-Y gastrectomy was admitted to our hospital because of asymptomatic choledocholithiasis. Despite the guidewire being advanced into the main pancreatic duct utilizing Seek-



Fig.3 Case 1. **a** Cholangiography showed a long and bent narrow distal segment. **b** Biliary cannulation was started close to the papilla. **c**, **d** A guidewire was inserted into the main pancreatic duct.

Fig.4 Case 1. **a**, **b** Seeking Tome Zero (MTW Endoskopie Manufaktur, Wesel, Germany) was bendable at a short distance from the papilla. **c**, **d** Biliary cannulation was achieved by gentle guidewire manipulation.

ing Tome Zero in BE-ERCP, the bile duct was oriented in the opposite direction. By rotating the handle, the sphinctero-tome was smoothly reversed in the direction of the bile duct. Following slight upward manipulation, the bile duct was aligned with the direction of the sphinc-terotome. Finally, biliary cannulation was achieved with gentle guidewire manipulation (▶ Fig. 5).

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of biliary cannulation using Seeking Tome Zero for patients with altered anatomy. A non-tip sphincterotome facilitated changing the angle along a short distance and its smooth rotatability allowed adjustment to the axis of the bile duct.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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▶ Fig. 5 Case 2. The double-guidewire technique was performed with Seeking Tome Zero (MTW Endoskopie Manufaktur, Wesel, Germany). a The bile duct was oriented in the opposite direction to the sphincterotome. b Seeking Tome Zero was smoothly rotated in the direction of the bile duct. c Cholangiography showed a long and tortuous narrow distal segment. d Biliary cannulation was achieved.

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