

Treatment of suspected neoplastic stricture in the right hepatic duct with WallFlex™ Biliary RX 6mm diameter stents

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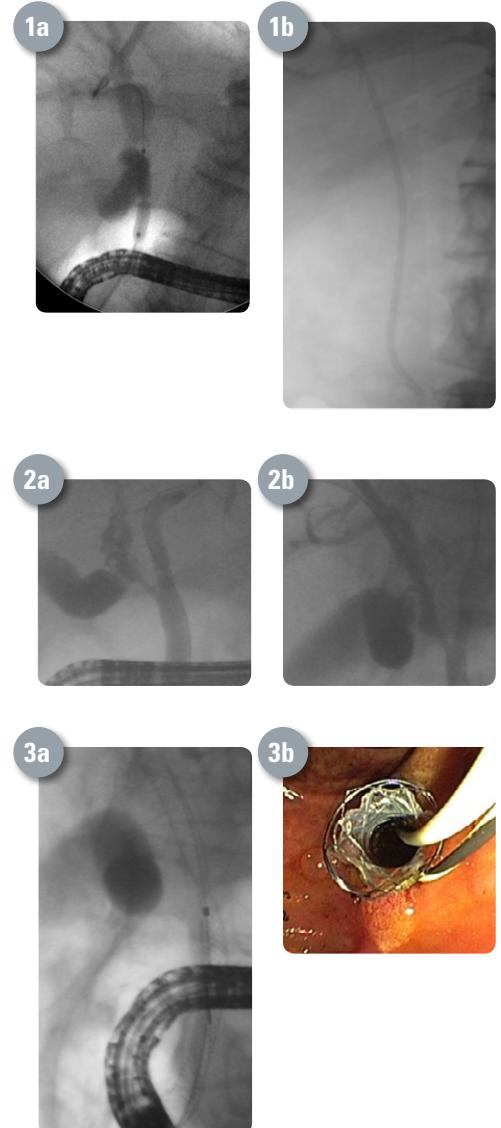
technique spotlight

Patient History

A 77-year-old man with hypertension was admitted acutely and operated on due to a ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm. Recovery was very slow and was hampered by additional abscesses which required drainage procedures. One month later, the patient developed jaundice. CT and ERCP demonstrated a short stricture in the right hepatic duct. Neoplastic origin could not be ruled out. The stricture was dilated using a Hurricane™ 6mm balloon and bridged by a 8.5F (2.83mm) Advanix™ Biliary Plastic Stent (Fig. 1a/1b). Brush cytology was inconclusive. Due to poor response on cholestasis, a repeat ERCP was performed two weeks later.

Procedure

After cannulation using a Hydratome™ RX, two Hydra Jagwire™ were inserted in the left and right hepatic ducts respectively (Fig. 2a/2b). New brushings using RX Cytology Brushes were taken and I decided to remove the Advanix Biliary Plastic Stent and replace it with two WallFlex Biliary RX 6mm diameter and 80mm length fully covered self-expandable metal stents to provide drainage. The first stent was placed on the right hepatic duct (Fig. 3a/3b) and the second one was positioned in the left hepatic duct (Fig. 4a/4b). Deployment process of both stents was smooth and easy.



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4a



4b

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Outcome

The origin of the stricture is still unclear. The brushings following the second ERCP showed atypic cells but FISH (Fluorescence in situ hybridization) did not indicate aneuploidia. Bilirubin levels have been normalized. The patient is still recovering from his initial surgery.

Conclusion

Due to the small diameter of the biliary duct, a WallFlex Biliary RX 6mm stent was chosen to provide drainage. In addition, in the European Union (and certain regions outside of the US), the WallFlex Biliary RX Fully Covered Stent may be used in the treatment of benign strictures. The stent may be removed from benign strictures following indwell of up to 12 months.*

* Use of the stent in the treatment of benign strictures has not been cleared by the US FDA. Check with your local sales representative for more information and availability.

Results from case studies are not predictive of results in other cases. Results in other cases may vary.

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Indications, Contraindications, Warnings and Instructions for Use can be found in the product labeling supplied with each device.

Warning: The safety and effectiveness of this device for use in the vascular system has not been established.

CAUTION: Federal (USA) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.

CAUTION: The law restricts these devices to sale by or on the order of a physician. Information for the use only in countries with applicable health authority product registrations.

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