

## Stricture after Endoscopic Intraluminal Drainage for the Treatment of Phlegmonous Esophagitis

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**Introduction:** Acute phlegmonous esophagogastritis is a life-threatening disease that may be combined with serious complications. therefore, appropriate antibiotic therapy and drainage are critical. Recently, an internal drainage are reported as less invasive treatment option. We report a case in which patient diagnosed as phlegmonous esophagitis were treated with endoscopic drainage and esophageal stricture occurred as a sequelae of treatment.

**Case report:** A 62 year old man was transferred to tertiary hospital for an uncontrolled abscess with esophageal mucosa defect. Initial vital sign were stable, and the initial laboratory tests showed mild elevation of C-reactive protein (2.05 mg/dL). A chest computed tomography scan revealed diffuse esophageal wall thickening (Fig.1). Endoscopy showed long esophageal mucosal defect forming pseudo-lumen filled with purulent pus (Fig.2). Endoscopic internal drainage as less invasive treatment was considered because of his stable condition. An endoscopic mucosal incision was performed from IT 20 to 40 cm (Fig.3). Follow-up endoscopy after one week showed esophageal mucosal healing with erythematous change (Fig.4). Patient was discharged on hospital day 20. However, he suffered from dysphagia when he visited out-patient clinic after discharge. Endoscopic finding was an esophageal luminal narrowing due to stricture (Fig.5). Esophageal stent placement after failure of 2nd times balloon dilatation was performed. Stent placement for 1 month also did not improve the stricture. Finally, patient had received 11 times of bougie dilatations during 9 months (Fig.6).

**Discussion:** A phlegmonous esophagitis is a rare disease, which shows a fatal course. Internal drainage with mucosal incision introduced as a treatment option, but the complication was not mentioned yet. In this case, after endoscopic mucosal incision, the patient suffered continuous stricture of esophagus. The endoscopic mucosal incision has processed on whole esophagus (IT 20~40cm) in this case. The extent of endoscopic mucosal incision should be considered on the function of internal drainage and complication.

### Clinical course

