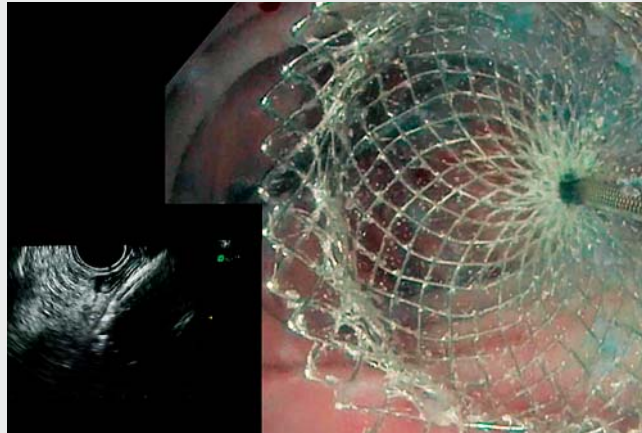


Double-scope rendezvous technique: a safe way to perform an endoscopic ultrasound-guided ileorectal anastomosis after complete stenosis

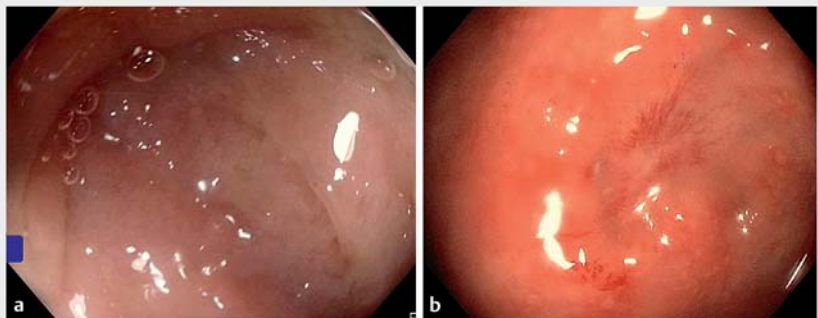
A 56-year-old man underwent subtotal colectomy for sigmoid volvulus with colonic necrosis. Despite a surgical reintervention to redo the ileorectal anastomosis with protective ileostomy, he presented again a complete stenosis without any persistent lumen on computed tomography (CT) and endoscopic evaluation. Therefore, no guidewire could be placed through the stenosis to perform dilation or stenting. With concern about a significant risk of complication of a third surgical intervention and after a multidisciplinary discussion, an endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) recanalization was planned. To assure the procedure, a rendezvous technique was preferred (► **Video 1**).

Under general anesthesia, a colonoscope was inserted through the ileostomy and pushed to the ileal side of the complete stenosis (► **Fig. 1 a**). A linear echoendoscope was inserted in the rectum (► **Fig. 1 b**). A saline solution with carmine was instilled through the water-jet channel to fill the ileum allowing excellent visualization in the transrectal EUS view. After puncture with a 19-gauge needle and guidewire insertion with a transileal view confirming the right positioning, a 20-mm diameter electrocautery-enhanced lumen-apposing metal stent (LAMS) (Boston Scientific, Marlborough, Massachusetts, USA) was placed. Two months later, ileostomy was closed using a local approach after initial endoscopic control (► **Fig. 2**). After stoma removal, the LAMS spontaneously migrated, and the anastomosis was large and permeable at the 6-month follow-up (► **Fig. 3**).

Although stenosis of ileorectal anastomosis apart from Crohn's disease is a rare complication, complete stenosis can be very bothersome [1]. Reoperation may require resecting even more of the rectum or even making an ileoanal anastomosis with more complications and the poorest functional outcomes. EUS-guided LAMS placement has been described



► **Video 1** Double-scope rendezvous technique: a safe way to perform an endoscopic ultrasound-guided ileorectal anastomosis after complete stenosis.



► **Fig. 1 a** Ileal side of the stenotic anastomosis. **b** Rectal side of the stenotic anastomosis.



► **Fig. 2** Endoscopic control before stoma removal showing permeability of the lumen-apposing metal stent.



► **Fig. 3** Large and permeable anastomosis after stoma removal and migration of the lumen-apposing metal stent.

for colorectal stenosis [2–4]. However, ileorectal anastomosis can be more challenging owing to the disparity in lumen size and thickness between the ileum and rectum. The rendezvous technique with direct filling and visualization of the ileal side of the stenosis can ensure safety throughout the procedure.

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Competing interests

Jean-Baptiste Chevaux & Jérémie Jacques have been speaker for Boston Scientific.

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