Percutaneous Biliary Stenting For Malignant Biliary Obstruction – Retrospective Single Center Case Series

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Objective

To assess the effectiveness of percutaneous, retrograde biliary stenting as palliative management for malignant biliary obstruction.

Method

Retrospective analysis done of the patients referred for percutaneous biliary stenting to Asiri Surgical hospital from Nov 2011 to May 2012. The procedure was done under ultrasound / fluoroscopic guidance. The duct system was accessed on the right side with left sided access only with difficult catheter navigation. 0.35 ’angled guide wire was used to bypass the stricture. Stenting was done following balloon dilatation. Type of stent selected according to the clinical situation and the affordability.

Results

During the period of 7 months 12 patients were referred for antegrade biliary stenting. 7 patients were referred following failed retrograde access of which one was done as a combined Randouz approach and 2 patients were post surgical with unsuitable anatomy for retrograde approach. 5 patients had obstruction distal to the biliary confluence and in 7 patients the obstruction was in the CBD distal to the confluence. In 8 patients the obstruction was complete. Procedure was successful in 11 patients, 2 patients having the procedure in 2 stages. The procedure failed in one patient due to tight stricture involving the confluence which could not be bypassed.

Conclusion

Percutaneous antegrade approach is successful in crossing a malignant stricture for palliative biliary stenting especially useful in failed retrograde approach or in patients with post surgical anatomy unsuitable for retrograde approach.