# Low-cost modified endoscopic vacuum therapy using a triple-lumen tube allows nutrition and drainage for treatment of an early post–bariatric surgery leak



► Fig. 1 Underwater endoscopic visualization of the sleeve leak.

Leaks after laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy (LSG) occur in up to 5% of patients, with mortality rates approaching 4% [1]. Among available therapies for leaks after bariatric surgery, endoscopic approaches have been shown to be safe and effective. Tissue sealants, cap-mounted clips, suturing, stents, a cardiac septal defect occluder, septotomy, endoscopic internal drainage with double pigtails, and endoscopic vacuum therapy (EVT) are the forefront of the therapeutic endoscopic arsenal [2, 3]. However, an individualized approach is needed to determine the best endoscopic treatment strategy for a given patient. In this video, we describe the successful treatment of a LSG leak using low-cost modified EVT.

A 30-year-old woman with class II obesity developed fever, nausea, and abdominal pain 14 days after LSG. Computed tomographic scan revealed a leak associated with a small contained collection adjacent to the staple line of the proximal stomach (angle of His). Underwater esophagogastroduodenoscopy was performed without air insufflation to avoid disrupting the collection (> Fig. 1). The patient was treated with modified EVT using widely available triple-lumen tubing to allow for nutrition using the jejunal tube and EVT using the fenestrated portion of the tube ( Video 1). The procedure was well tolerated and the patient





**▶ Video 1** Low-cost modified endoscopic vacuum therapy with a triple-lumen tube.



▶ Fig. 2 Fluoroscopic imaging confirmed the success of leak treatment with the low-cost modified endoscopic vacuum therapy (EVT) system and demonstrated a significant improvement in the sleeve stenosis.

remained on enteral nutrition as well as taking a liquid diet on the day following the procedure. External drainage was not required. After 15 days, imaging demonstrated resolution of the leak (> Fig. 2), and the modified EVT system was removed (> Fig. 3).

In summary, endoscopic drainage with this low-cost, modified EVT is a highly effective and safe technique for leaks [4, 5]. Furthermore, EVT obviates the need for external drainage and employs widely available materials. Ultimately, this low-cost modified EVT allows for nutrition and drainage with a single tube through the nares, enabling decreased procedure times, longer periods between EVT system exchanges, and fewer adverse events.



► Fig. 3 Complete healing of the leak after one session of the modified EVT treatment.

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# Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

#### The authors

Diogo Turiani Hourneaux de Moura<sup>1</sup> Pruno Salomão Hirsch<sup>1</sup> Mateus Bond Boghossian<sup>1</sup> Flaubert Sena de Medeiros<sup>2</sup>, Thomas R. McCarty<sup>3</sup>, Christopher C. Thompson<sup>3</sup>, Eduardo Guimarães Hourneaux de Moura<sup>1</sup>

- Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Unit,
   Gastroenterology Department, Hospital das
   Clínicas da Faculdade de Medicina da
   Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2 Surgery Division, Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte, Natal, Brazil
- 3 Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Endoscopy Division – Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

### Corresponding author

#### Bruno Salomão Hirsch, MD

Av. Dr Enéas de Carvalho Aguiar, 225, 6º andar, bloco 3, Cerqueira César, 05403-010 – São Paulo, SP, Brazil brunosalomah@hotmail.com

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