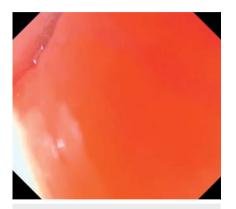
Rescuing the impacted endoscopic suturing device during endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty

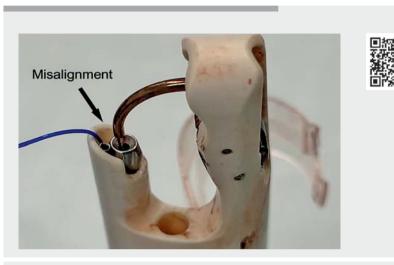




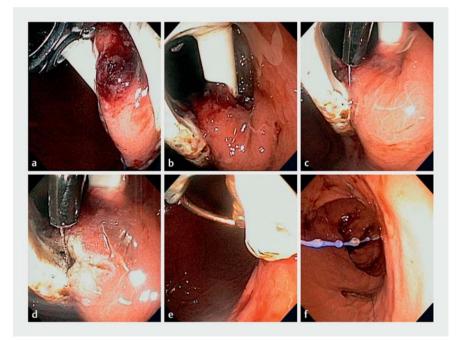
▶ Fig. 1 Obscured endoscopic views (redout) following the second bite with the endoscopic suturing device, despite manipulation of the gastroscope and endoscopic suturing device.

A 57-year-old woman underwent endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty using an endoscopic suturing device attached to a single-channel adult gastroscope. During the second bite, both the needle driver opening function and anchor exchange mechanism failed. This resulted in impaction of the device in the gastric wall and a "red-out" that obscured the visual field. An ultra-slim gastroscope was inserted transorally, enabling visualization of the impacted device (► Fig. 1, ► Video 1). A needle knife was passed through the channel port of the endoscopic suturing system and used to transect through the entrapped gastric tissue. Mini-forceps inserted through the ultra-slim gastroscope were used by a second endoscopist to manipulate the needle-knife catheter to extend the incision laterally and down to the level of the needle driver, thereby releasing the impacted device from the gastric wall (► Fig. 2).

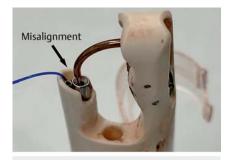
Ex-vivo examination revealed that the suture needle had become embedded between the anchor exchange catheter and the channel of the endoscopic suturing device (\triangleright Fig. 3). This caused a misalignment between the needle driver



Video 1 Rescue of an impacted endoscopic suturing device during endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty.



▶ Fig. 2 a, b View of the impacted endoscopic suturing device from an ultra-slim gastroscope inserted beside the adult gastroscope. c-e Needle knife inserted through the channel of the endoscopic suturing device, used to resect through entrapped gastric tissue under direct visualization from an ultra-slim gastroscope. f Trailing suture, which was cut with argon plasma coagulation, thereby freeing the entire endoscopic suturing mechanism from the gastric wall.



► Fig. 3 Ex-vivo examination of the endoscopic suturing device, revealing that the suture needle had wedged between the channel of the endoscopic suturing device and anchor exchange catheter. This resulted in a misalignment between the anchor exchange catheter and needle driver.

and anchor exchange. Although misalignment occurs in 8.4% of cases [2], it can be salvaged by retracting the anchor exchange a few centimeters before re-engaging the needle driver. In our case, the lodged suture needle created a fixed misalignment that could not be rectified. We show that a needle knife can be used safely to free an impacted device under direct endoscopic visualization, preventing the need for emergency surgical intervention.

Endoscopy_UCTN_Code_CPL_1AH_2AK

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Bibliography

Endoscopy 2022; 54: E927–E928 DOI 10.1055/a-1858-4499 ISSN 0013-726X published online 5.7.2022 © 2022. The Author(s).

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