Application of radiofrequency ablation in duodenal mucosal reconstruct

A 63-year-old woman was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes 8 months ago and was scheduled for duodenal mucosal reconstruction. The patient took metformin orally to control blood sugar. Before the operation, fasting blood glucose was 7.0 mmol/L (15.7 mmol/L 2 hours after a meal), and glycosylated hemoglobin was 7.1%. A single-channel flexible endoscope (EVIS GIF-N170; Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) was introduced into the horizontal part of the duodenum, and the Endoscopic Catheter (Barrx Channel; Medtronic, Minneapolis, USA) was inserted into the biopsy channel of the endoscope (> Fig. 1). Radiofrequency ablation of the duodenal mucosa was performed, starting from the horizontal part of the duodenum, while the endoscope was gradually withdrawn (> Fig. 2). By rotating the endoscope and the catheter, all four quadrants of the duodenal mucosa were ablated (> Fig. 3). Overall, a 13-cm length of duodenal mucosa was ablated without bleeding or perforation (> Fig. 4, Video 1).

The key points of this operation were: 1) the planned radiofrequency ablation sessions targeted the descending and horizontal parts of the duodenum; 2) the power used was 12 J/cm², 48 W; 3) possible adverse events were hemorrhage and perforation; 4) the sedation was general anesthesia (tracheal intubation); 5) the duration of the procedure was 92 minutes.

During the follow-up period of 1 month, the patient stopped taking hypoglycemic drugs, fasting blood glucose decreased to 6.0 mmol/L (11.8 mmol/L 2 hours after a meal), and glycosylated hemoglobin was 6.2%. The patient did not experience any discomfort.

Duodenal mucosal reconstruction is a catheter-based endoscopic procedure designed to lower blood sugar by altering the surface of the duodenal mucosa [1,2]. The characteristics of the radiofrequency ablation system are: 1) precise



► Fig. 1 The endoscopic catheter was inserted into the biopsy channel of the endoscope.



► Fig. 2 Radiofrequency ablation of the duodenal mucosa was performed from the horizontal part of the duodenum.



▶ Fig. 3 By rotating the endoscope and the catheter, all four quadrants of the duodenal mucosa were ablated.



▶ Fig. 4 A 13-cm length of duodenal mucosa was ablated without bleeding or perforation.



Video 1 Application of radiofrequency ablation in duodenal mucosa reconstruction.

ablation control, which effectively reduces the risk of complications; 2) prediction of treatment effect, which limits damage to normal tissues [3, 4]. We therefore applied this system to the duodenum to achieve a surgical effect similar to that of duodenal mucosal reconstruction.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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