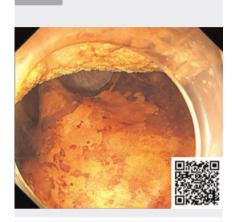
# Endoscopic submucosal dissection for a soft-palate lesion with use of a small-bore tracheal tube combined with floss traction





**Video 1** An area of intraepithelial neoplasia of the soft palate is marked by Lugol's iodine staining, and endoscopic submucosal dissection of the lesion is performed with use of a small-bore tracheal tube combined with floss traction.

Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) of the middle pharynx is rarely reported, with just one case previously reported by Chen et al. [1]. Several articles have reported that transoral forceps [2] and transnasal endoscopy [3] are convenient for pharyngeal ESD; however, the former method requires two endoscopes, and the ultrathin endoscope has a poor field of view, and small working-channel and scope diameters, which are not conducive to operation.

Here, we present a successful case of ESD performed on the soft palate (▶ Video 1). A 56-year-old man, with a history chemoradiotherapy for multiple synchronous advanced esophageal and hypopharyngeal squamous cell carcinomas, was found to have a lesion extending from the right soft palate to the oral side of the uvula and underwent follow-up endoscopy. The patient was a long-time heavy smoker and drinker. The lesion was a 2.5 × 2.0-cm superficial flat lesion (0-IIb). It appeared bloodshot and rough, with a clear boundary and turned



▶ Fig. 1 Endoscopic images of the lesion showing: **a** on white-light endoscopy, a 2.5×2.0-cm superficial flat lesion (0-IIb) that appeared bloodshot and rough, with a clear boundary; **b** the appearance on narrow-band imaging (NBI); **c** on magnified NBI, a type B1 intrapapillary capillary loop pattern; **d** on 0.75% Lugol chromoendoscopy, the clearly visible edge of the lesion.

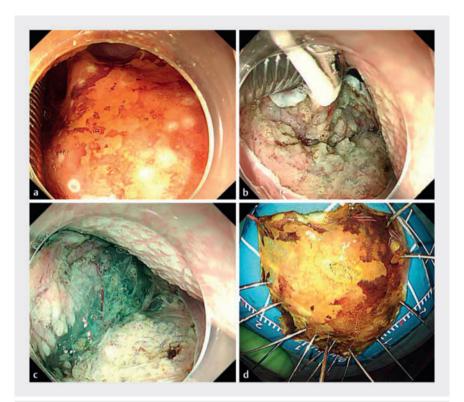
brown on narrow-band imaging mode (**Fig.1**). Histopathologic examination identified the lesion as being high grade intraepithelial neoplasia (HGIN).

An endotracheal tube with a 6.0-mm diameter was selected. The lesion was marked circumferentially after it had been stained with 0.75% Lugol's iodine, and a circumferential mucosal incision was made. A Sureclip (Micro-Tech Co., Ltd., Nanjing) with attached floss was placed to provide floss traction during ongoing dissection. The lesion was resected en bloc within 40 minutes, without any adverse events occurring (Fig. 2). The uvula was protected to preserve its function. The patient's postoperative pain was relieved by the use of

lidocaine for 2 weeks. HGIN was confirmed pathologically in the excised specimen (> Fig. 3).

The middle pharynx is short and narrow, and surrounded by bony structures. The use of a small-bore tracheal tube combined with floss traction when performing ESD in this area is simple and convenient; it helped us to accurately identify the boundary of the lesion and improved the efficiency of dissection, in order to achieve en bloc resection. This technique has the potential to be a safe and effective treatment option for such cancers.

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▶ Fig. 2 Images of the endoscopic submucosal dissection procedure with use of a small-bore tracheal tube combined with floss traction showing: a circumferential marking of the lesion; b circumferential incision of the lesion, with the help of a small-bore endotracheal tube and dental floss traction to continue submucosal dissection; c dissection of the subepithelial layer; d the macroscopic appearance of the specimen containing the lesion, which was resected en bloc with the assistance of floss traction.

#### Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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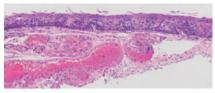
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▶ Fig. 3 Histopathologic appearance of the specimen showing high grade squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (hematoxylin and eosin [H&E] stained; magnification×200).

#### **Bibliography**

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