ERCP maneuvers for situs inversus totalis

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Situs inversus totalis is a rare autosomal recessive congenital anomaly, with an estimated incidence of 1 case per 10,000 births^(1,2). Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) is a challenging procedure in this condition⁽³⁻⁶⁾.

We present the case of a 55-year-old woman with a previous diagnosis of *situs inversus totalis* (FIGURE 1) and history of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasm (IPMN) in the head of the pancreas who progressed to malignant degeneration and obstructive jaundice in July 2019. She was submitted to ERCP in an external service when the diagnosis was made and biliary drainage was performed for later palliative chemotherapy. In July 2020, the patient presented clinical worsening and jaundice (total bilirubin =20mg/dL, predominantly direct hyperbilirubinemia), being referred for another ERCP.

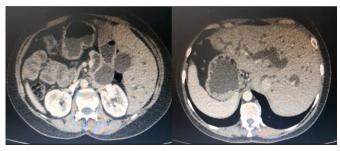


FIGURE 1. Computed tomography of the abdomen highlighting the altered anatomy in the patient with *situs inversus totalis*.

In this procedure, we highlight the technical difficulty, both initially and during the exam, as the endoscopist's movement is completely opposite to the usual (FIGURE 2), as well as the interpretation of the images in radioscopy (FIGURE 3) (E-VIDEO*).

The procedure was performed with the patient in ventral position. A tumor infiltration in the papilla was observed causing tissue retraction with friable mucosa. With surgical precision, the cannulation was performed in a single attempt, and after widening the previous biliary sphincterotomy there was an abundant



FIGURE 2. Due to anatomical changes, the endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) maneuvers are completely reversed. The passage of the duodenoscope to the second duodenal portion is demonstrated.

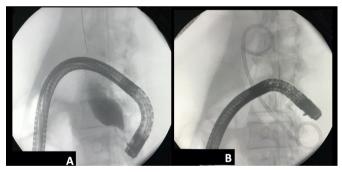


FIGURE 3. Radioscopy highlighting the altered anatomy in the patient with *situs inversus totalis*. A. Beginning of the procedure. B. Final aspect.

drainage of frankly purulent content demonstrating suppurative cholangitis. Then, a 10 Fr x 6 cm double pigtail plastic biliary stent was placed, with good drainage of the purulent contents. The patient received antibiotics during the procedure and up to 7 days afterward.

She progressed well and was discharged 2 days after the procedure, with a drop in total bilirubin levels to 2.3 mg/dL. Currently, she has an outpatient follow-up and is still under palliative chemotherapy.

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*E-VIDEO: https://youtu.be/8Y68R_hTDr0

Authors' contribution

Funari MP: study concept and design, acquisition of data, did the video editing. Ribeiro IB: performed the procedure, study concept and design, acquisition of data, data interpretation, critical revisions. Hirsch BS: assisted in editing the video, data interpretation, critical revisions. Santos MEL: data interpretation, critical revisions. de Moura EGH: data interpretation, critical revisions.

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