

Management of Type 2 Late Sleeve Leak by Laparoscopic Suturing and Conversion to Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass: Video Report

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Abstract

Background Laparoscopic sleeve forming gastrectomy (SFG) is a commonly performed bariatric procedure for the surgical management of morbid obesity. Staple line gastric leaks occur infrequently but are the most feared complication causing prolonged morbidity (Burgos et al., *Obes Surg* 19(12):1672–7, 2009; Márquez et al., *Obes Surg* 20(9):1306–11, 2010). Roux-en-Y diversion is an accepted management (Baltasar et al., *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 4(6):759–63, 2008). The aim of this video was to demonstrate the operative management of a late sleeve leak by laparoscopic suturing & conversion to a RYGB. **Methods** We present the case of an 18-year-old woman with a BMI of 44.68 kg/m² with hypothyroidism and polycystic ovarian disease who underwent laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy and presented with a leak on postoperative day 13. She was diagnosed to have a type 2, late leak just beyond the esophagogastric junction (Csendes et al., *Hepatogastroenterology* 37 Suppl 2:174–7, 1990)

Results In this multimedia high-definition video, we present step-by-step the operative management of a late sleeve leak by laparoscopic suturing and conversion to a RYGB. Procedure included mobilization of the gastric sleeve, identification and suturing of the

fistulous opening, creation of a gastric pouch, creation of an antecolic Roux limb, gastrojejunal anastomosis and jejuno-jejunal anastomosis. Drainage of fistula gradually decreased with absence of a leak on imaging in 12 days. This patient was diagnosed with a gastric sleeve leak on the 13th postoperative day, and the time to fistula closure from diagnosis was 1 month.

Conclusions Sleeve leak fistula repair with conversion to a RYGB aids healing by providing surgical decompression and better drainage. It may be considered as an alternative management technique in sleeve leaks.

Keywords Bariatric surgery · Gastric sleeve leak · Morbid obesity · Sleeve gastrectomy

Conflict of Interest The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Statement of Informed Consent and Compliance with Ethical Standards Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study. This study has been approved by the appropriate institutional committee.

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