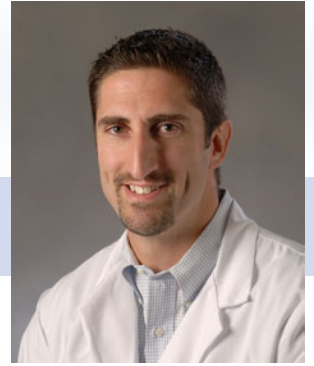


ERCP biliary sampling

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Procedures:

ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography) with indications for biliary sampling.

Indications:

A total of 23 procedures were performed on bile duct strictures of suspected cancerous origin

- 15 of these procedures were suspected to be cancerous (pancreatic tumor or cholangiocarcinoma)
- 8 of the procedures were performed to monitor primary sclerosing cholangitis

Description:

The Infinity™ sampling device was used to gather specimens from the targeted strictures. Using a therapeutic side-viewing scope, the device was passed over either an 0.025 or 0.035 guidewire. Positioning alongside of the targeted stricture was confirmed through fluoroscopy. Samples were gathered. The cellular matter was then prepared following the institutional guidelines. The device tip was cut and placed into a fixative material. In all of the cases, salvage cytology (flushing of the catheter) was utilized to collect additional specimens from the catheter.



1. Infinity™ sampling device design



2. Flushing capability for salvage cytology

Discussion:

Functionally, the nurse was able to move the brush back and forth through the strictures with ease and the device displayed very well under fluoroscopy. In regard to design, there are a couple novel features that give it greater potential for a superior sample. The variable stiffness bristle design, to abrade the tissue and collect the sample, is a very nice concept. The gaps between the bristle segments offer the ability to capture more tissue in between those segments.

“Based on visual inspection we are getting more cellularity with this larger brush. We are currently conducting research to show its effectiveness in diagnosing a malignancy and feel this is likely.”

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