

Endoscopic Therapeutic Technique for the Early Gastric Cancer

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Abstract : Endoscopic therapy for gastric tumor was first introduced twenty years ago. Nowadays the developments of new devices and techniques have helped to greatly expand the indications for the endoscopic therapy for gastric tumors. Newly developed devices can be used to obtain large mucosal specimens in one fragment in order to perform a detailed histopathological examination for tumor invasion. For example, the IT (insulation tipped) knife is used for marginal cutting and an endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) in safety. We expect ESD to expand the indications to lesions which are impossible to treat using conservative technique, thereby lowering the frequency of invasion and complications. Although no analysis of the long-term outcome of such patients has yet been reported, the method of ESD is expected to become popular worldwide in the future. We herein summarize the transition from conventional surgery to endoscopic therapy.

Key words : EMR, ESD, Early gastric cancer, En bloc resection