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Summary

OVER-THE-SCOPE CLIP AS RESCUE THERAPY FOR MASSIVE ESOPHAGEAL VARICEAL BLEEDING

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Hepatobiliary

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Over-the-scope clip successfully achieved hemostasis as rescue therapy for massive esophageal variceal bleeding when standard endoscopic band ligation failed and TIPS was unavailable.

KEY POINTS

- A 45-year-old male with decompensated cirrhosis and prior variceal ligation presented with large volume hematemesis and hemodynamic instability from active bleeding at a large esophageal variceal ulcer just above the gastroesophageal junction
- Esophageal variceal ligation was unsuccessfully attempted twice due to the disproportionately large size of the variceal ulcer compared to the band device
- Emergency TIPS and dedicated esophageal stents for varices were not available at the time in the unit
- OTSC was successfully applied to the variceal ulcer bed achieving immediate hemostasis with no clip-related adverse events; the patient remained stable with no further bleeding and TIPS was planned for the following day
- This case may inform clinicians managing massive variceal bleeding when standard rescue therapies are unavailable

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