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Summary

ENDOSCOPIC TRANSPAPILLARY GALLBLADDER DRAINAGE FOR ACUTE CHOLECYSTITIS: TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DIFFICULT INTUBATION OF THE CHOLECYSTIC DUCT

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A retrospective study of 41 patients demonstrated that endoscopic transpapillary gallbladder drainage for acute cholecystitis achieved a 95.1% technical success rate and 100% clinical success rate, with specialized cannulas helpful in overcoming intubation difficulties.

KEY POINTS

- Technical success was achieved in 39 of 41 patients (95.1%) with clinical success in all 39 cases, using endoscopic nasobiliary stenting or endoscopic nasobiliary gallbladder drainage
- Median treatment time was 30 minutes (range 11–72 minutes) in this series of patients with median age 80 years
- Among 12 patients with difficult gallbladder intubation, 7 were successfully cannulated using the SwingTip controllable-tip cannula and 2 additional cases were managed with the StarTipV long-tapered cannula
- Multivariate analysis identified common bile duct dilation greater than 10 mm as a significant factor associated with difficult gallbladder intubation
- The study suggests ETGBD can be performed relatively safely and effectively with dedicated devices even in patients with dilated common bile ducts

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