

ENDOSCOPIC MANAGEMENT OF BILIARY COMPLICATIONS AFTER LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

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Poster

Hepatobiliary

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Endoscopic management of post-liver transplantation biliary complications achieved 77.5% clinical success with 4.8% procedure-related complications in a single-center retrospective study of 64 patients.

KEY POINTS

- 166 ERCPs were performed in 64 adult liver transplant patients between July 2020 and December 2022, with anastomotic biliary stenosis being the most common complication (75%), followed by bile leakage (14%), non-anastomotic stenosis (5%), and choledocholithiasis (5%).
- Technical success rate was 97% with 100% successful biliary cannulation, using plastic stents in 62% and fully covered self-expandable metal stents in 5% of procedures.
- Complete endoscopic resolution was achieved in 77.5% of evaluable patients (31/40) within a median of 196 days and 3.2 ERCPs, with success rates varying by diagnosis: 100% for isolated choledocholithiasis, 79% for anastomotic stenosis, 67% for bile leaks, and 50% for non-anastomotic stenosis.
- Procedure-related complications occurred in 4.8% of cases, including intraprocedural bleeding, post-ERCP cholangitis, mild pancreatitis, and delayed bleeding, with no procedure-related deaths.
- Among treatment failures (22.5%), seven required surgical reintervention and four died of biliary-related complications, yielding a 10% mortality rate in the evaluable cohort.

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