DEVELOPMENT OF PREOPERATIVE ENDOSCOPIC ULTRASOUND-GUIDED GALLBLADDER DRAINAGE KIT FOR ACUTE CHOLECYSTITIS

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A novel EUS-guided gallbladder drainage kit with anchors was tested in 38 live pigs, with successful laparoscopic cholecystectomy performed in six animals 2-9 weeks after drainage without conversion or complications.

KEY POINTS

- The drainage kit consists of anchors to fix between the gallbladder and stomach walls and a drainage tube, designed for preoperative gallbladder drainage rather than the traditional duodenal approach.
- Between May 2019 and March 2023, EUS-GBD with the novel kit was performed on 38 live pigs, with laparoscopic cholecystectomy attempted in six of them.
- All six laparoscopic cholecystectomies were successful with no conversions to open surgery and no complications; in four cases the kit was removed endoscopically before surgery, while in two cases the gallbladder was removed with the fistula including part of the stomach.
- The authors conclude the approach is feasible in live pigs and plan future clinical trials in humans.

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