Usefulness of Acetic Acid - Indigo Carmine Chromoendoscopy for Early Gastric Cancers

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Background/Aims: Endoscopic treatment such as endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) and laparoscopic gastrectomy is being increasingly used to treat a subset of patients with early gastric cancer (EGC). For successful outcome, it is very important to accurately determine the lateral extent of the tumor. This study was performed to investigate the diagnostic performance of chromoendoscopy with indigo carmine dye added to acetic acid (AI chromoendoscopy) in delineating the EGCs.

Methods: We performed a prospective study of 151 EGCs in 141 patients. All the lesions were examined by conventional endoscopy and AI chromoendoscopy. Before and after AI chromoendoscopy, the borders between the lesion and the normal mucosa were classified as distinct or indistinct.

Results: As a whole, the border of the lesions was distinct in 66.9% by conventional endoscopy and was distinct in 84.1% after AI chromoendoscopy ($p<0.001$). Compared to conventional endoscopy, AI chromoendoscopy clarified the border in a significantly higher percentage of differentiated adenocarcinomas (68.5% vs. 89.8%, respectively, $p<0.001$). But the border clarification rate for undifferentiated adenocarcinomas was not different between conventional endoscopy and AI chromoendoscopy (62.8% vs. 70.0%, respectively, $p=0.494$).

Conclusions: AI chromoendoscopy was helpful for determining the lateral extent of differentiated EGCs, but the usefulness of AI chromoendoscopy for undifferentiated EGCs was not different from that of conventional endoscopy.

References
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