



POEMS - When are they indicated, & How are they performed?

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Disclosures

Boston scientific, consulting

Conmed, consulting

Eli Lilly, consulting

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The Waltons



The BRADY BUNCH



Little House on the Prairie



Family Ties



FAMILY MATTERS



modern family



3RD ROCK FROM THE SUN SEASON 3

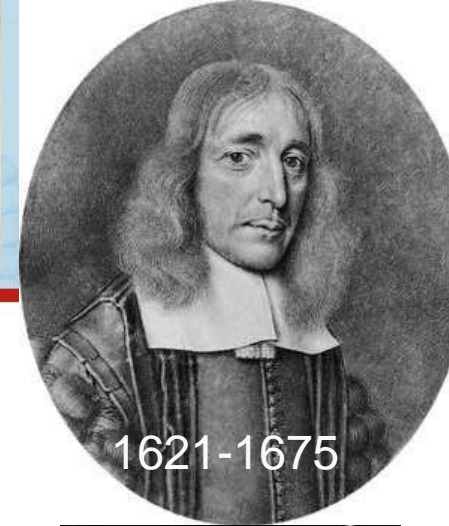


POEM Family



Z or C-POEM	(Zenker's)
E-POEM	(Achalasia)
G-POEM	(Gastroparesis)
B-POEM	(Biliary Sphincterotomy)
P-POEM	(Pancreatic Sphincterotomy)
S-POEM	(Sleeve gastrectomy)
D-POEM?	(Diverticular disease)
PREM	(Hirschsprung's disease)

Achalasia - history



- *Gr: a (no) – chalasis (slackening, relaxation)*
- Sir Thomas Willis 1672 described ‘cardiospasm’
– dilated w whalebone
- Ernst Heller first esophagomyotomy 1913
- FC Lendrum changed name to achalasia 1937
[Arch Int Med 1937;59:474-451]
- First LHM 1991
[Shimi S et al Laparoscopic cardiomyotomy for achalasia. J R Coll Surg Edinb 1991;36: 152-4]



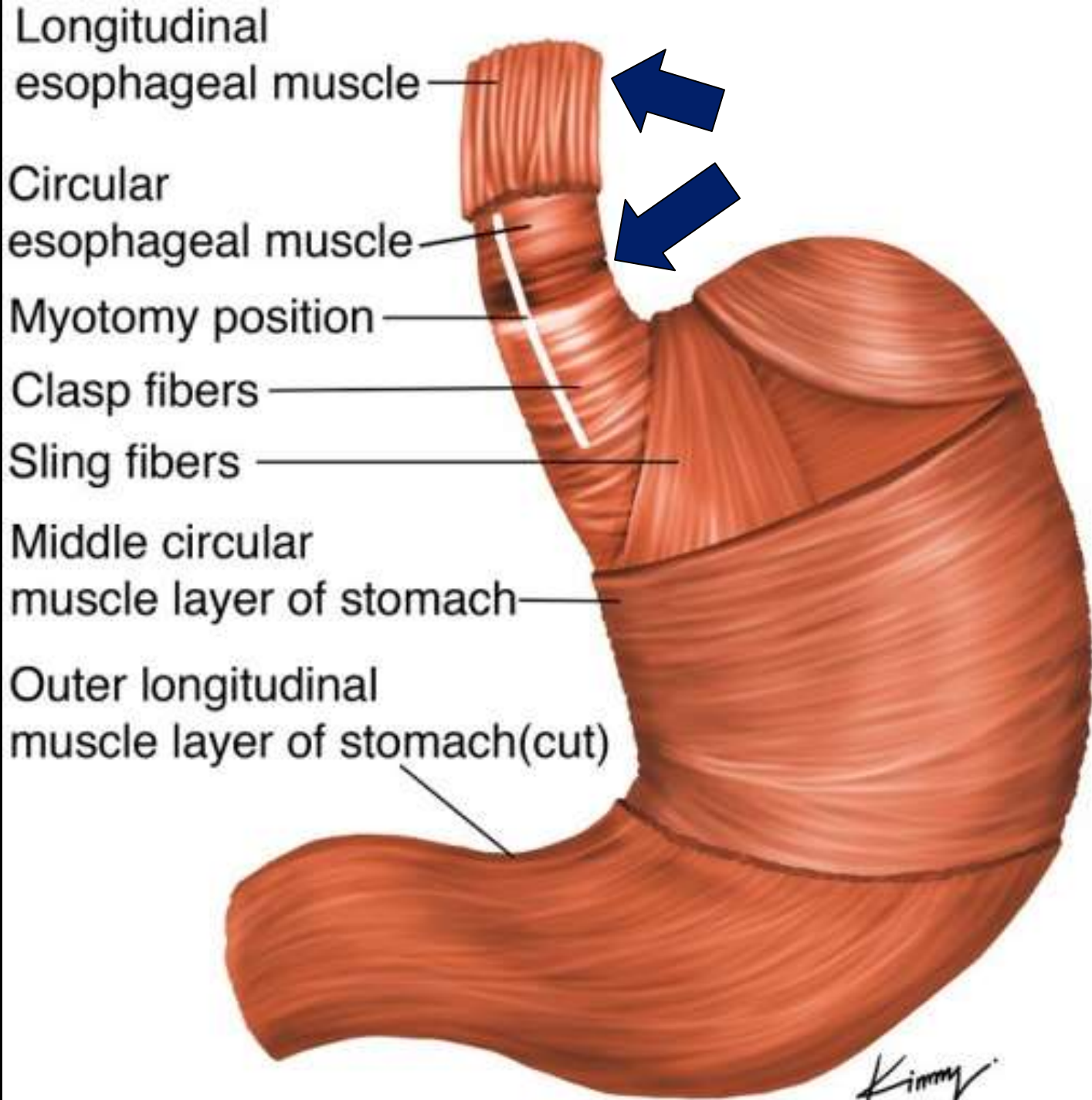
Epidemiology



- Mean incidence:
 - 0.3-1.63/100,000 adults per year
 - 0.18/100,000 in children <16y per year
- Mean prevalence 10/100,000
- Equal frequency in men/women all races
- Incidence increases with age
 - Mean age at diagnosis = 50y
- Mean incidence in adults >80y = 17/100,000

Boeckxstaens et al. *Lancet* 383.9911 (2014):83-93

Singapore - 600 cases?



Longitudinal esophageal muscle

Circular esophageal muscle

Myotomy position

Clasp fibers

Sling fibers

Middle circular muscle layer of stomach

Outer longitudinal muscle layer of stomach(cut)

Kimmy

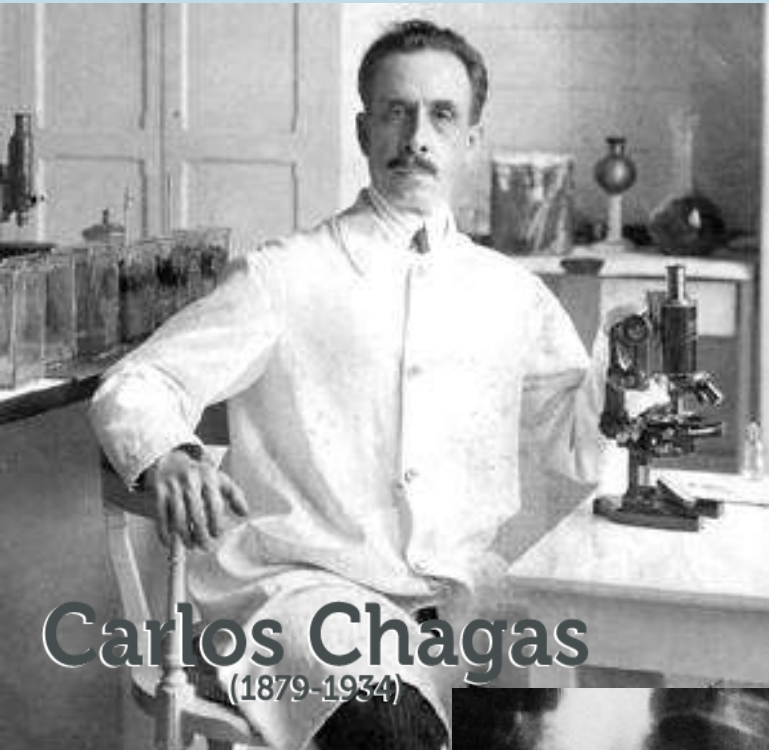
Etiology

- **Idiopathic (most common)**
- Pseudoachalasia (2-4%)
 - Neoplastic infiltration
- Chagas disease
 - T. Cruzi infection
- Allgrove syndrome
(Achalasia-Addisonianism-Alacrima)

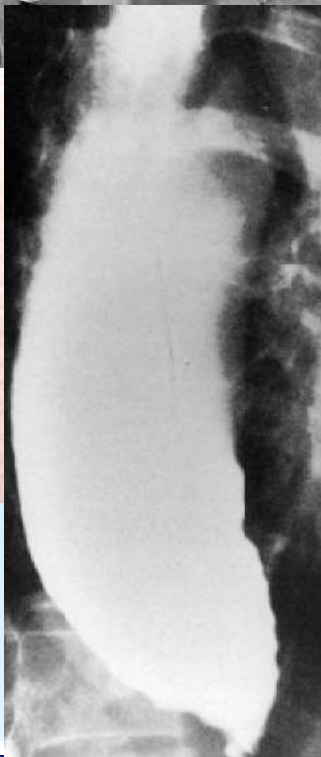
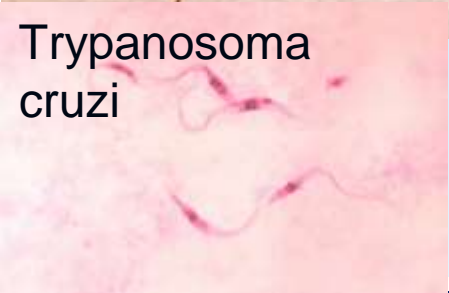


Diaphragm
STOMACH, LIVER AND
Large
intestines

ANAL
RES



Carlos Chagas
(1879-1934)

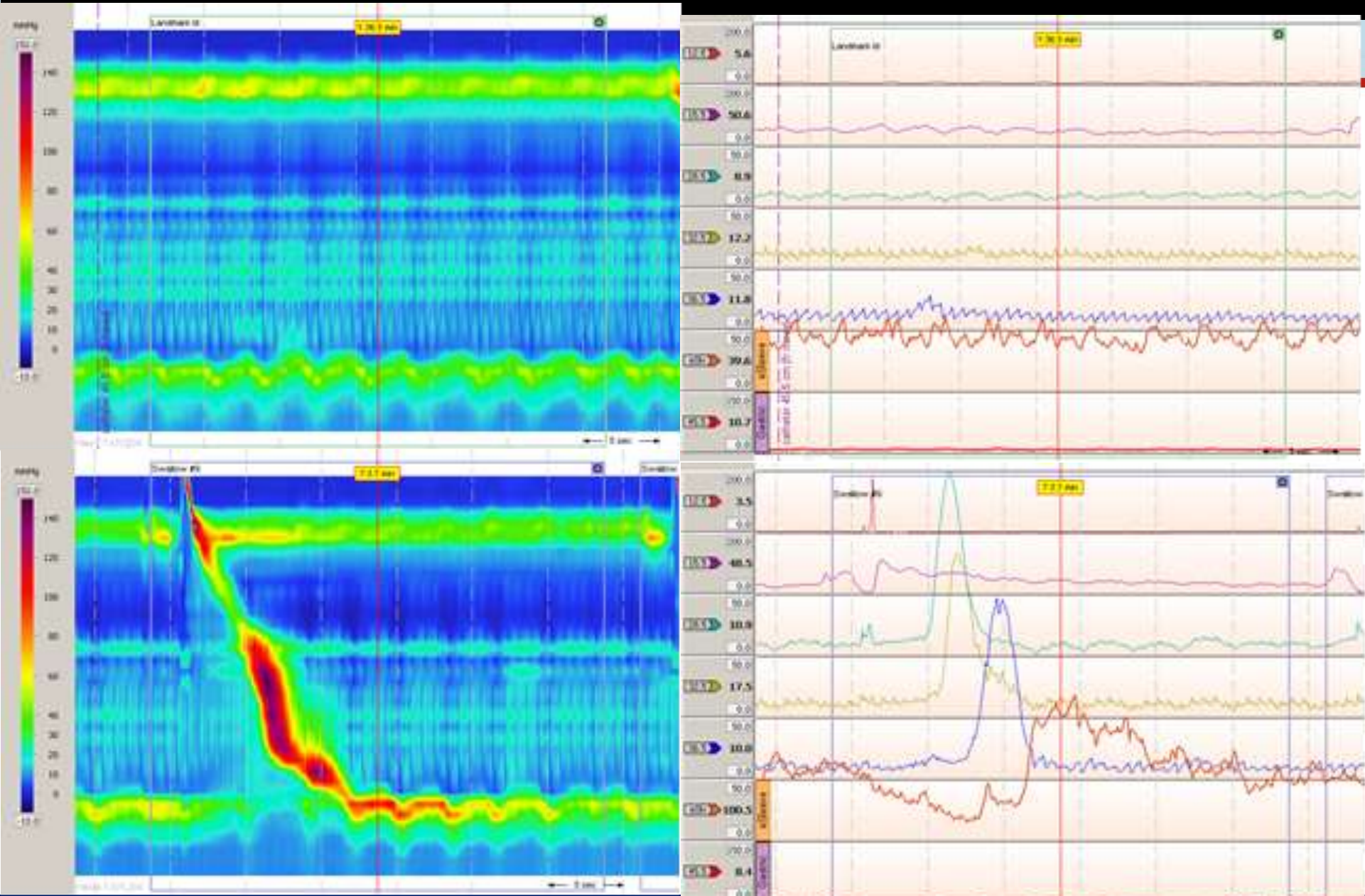


ESTINAL CANAL
Small Intestines

Normal HRM

ESTINAL CANAL

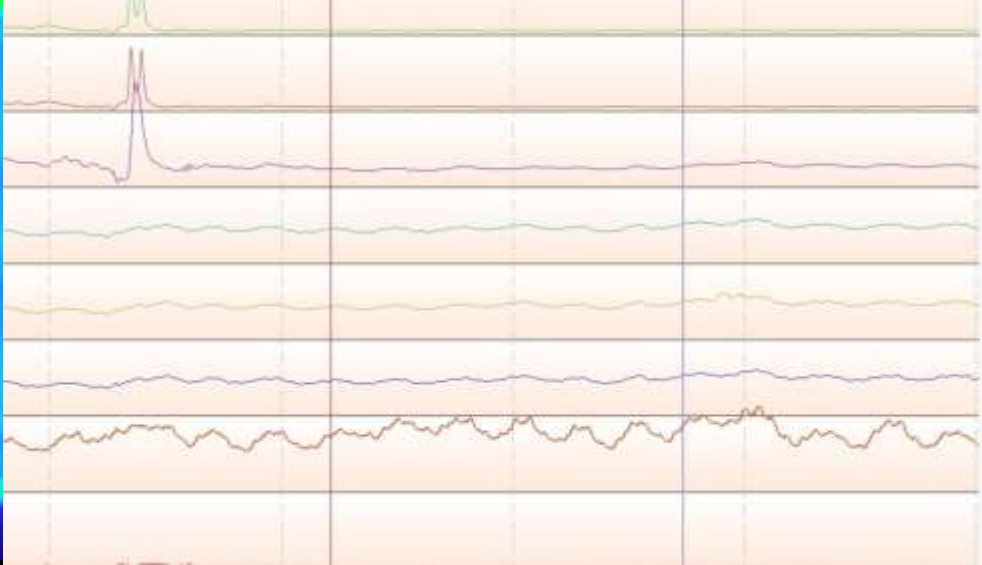
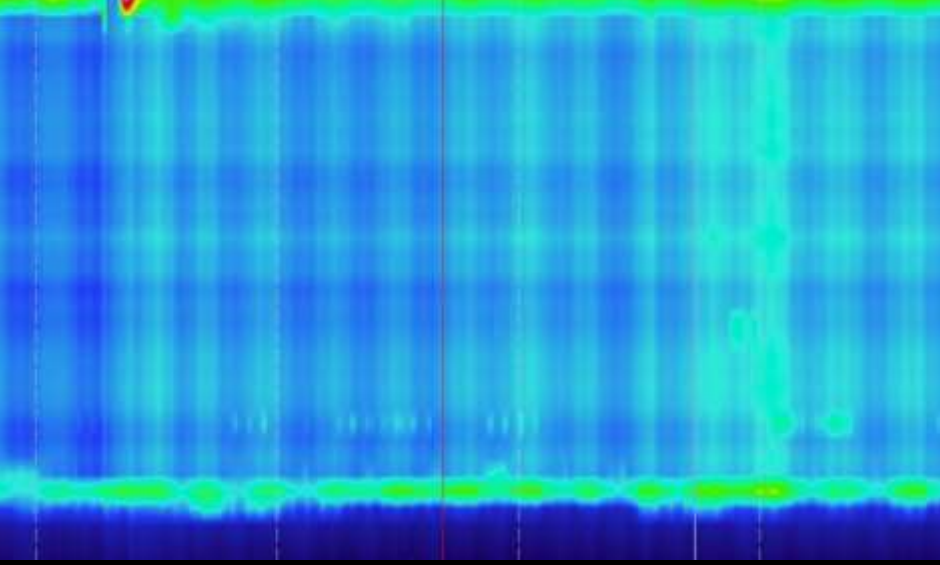
Small Intestines

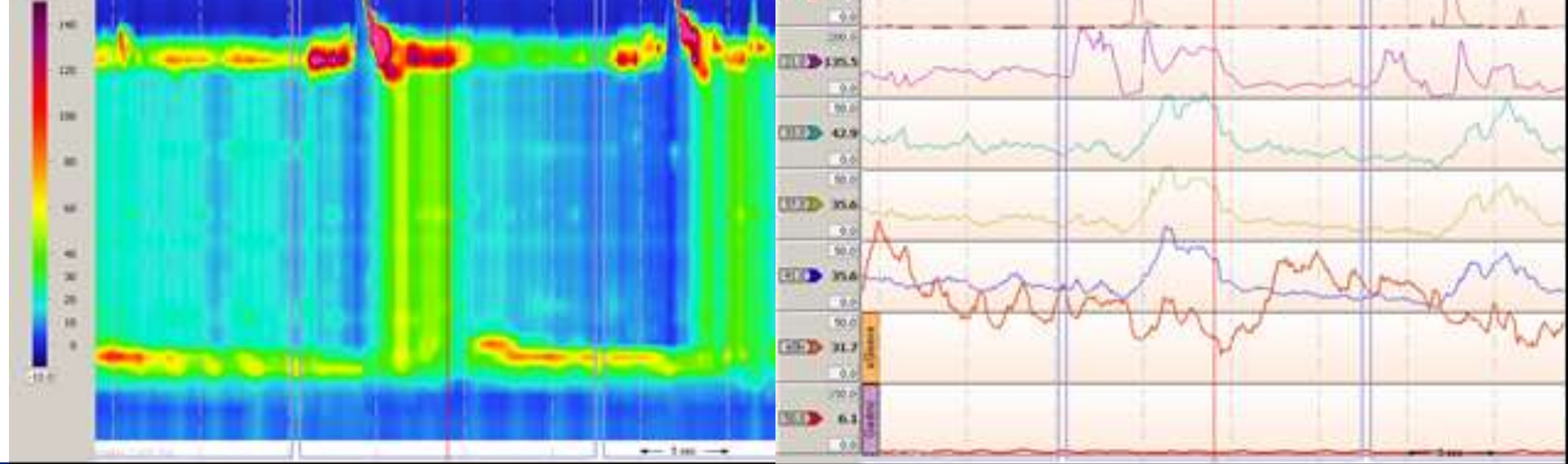
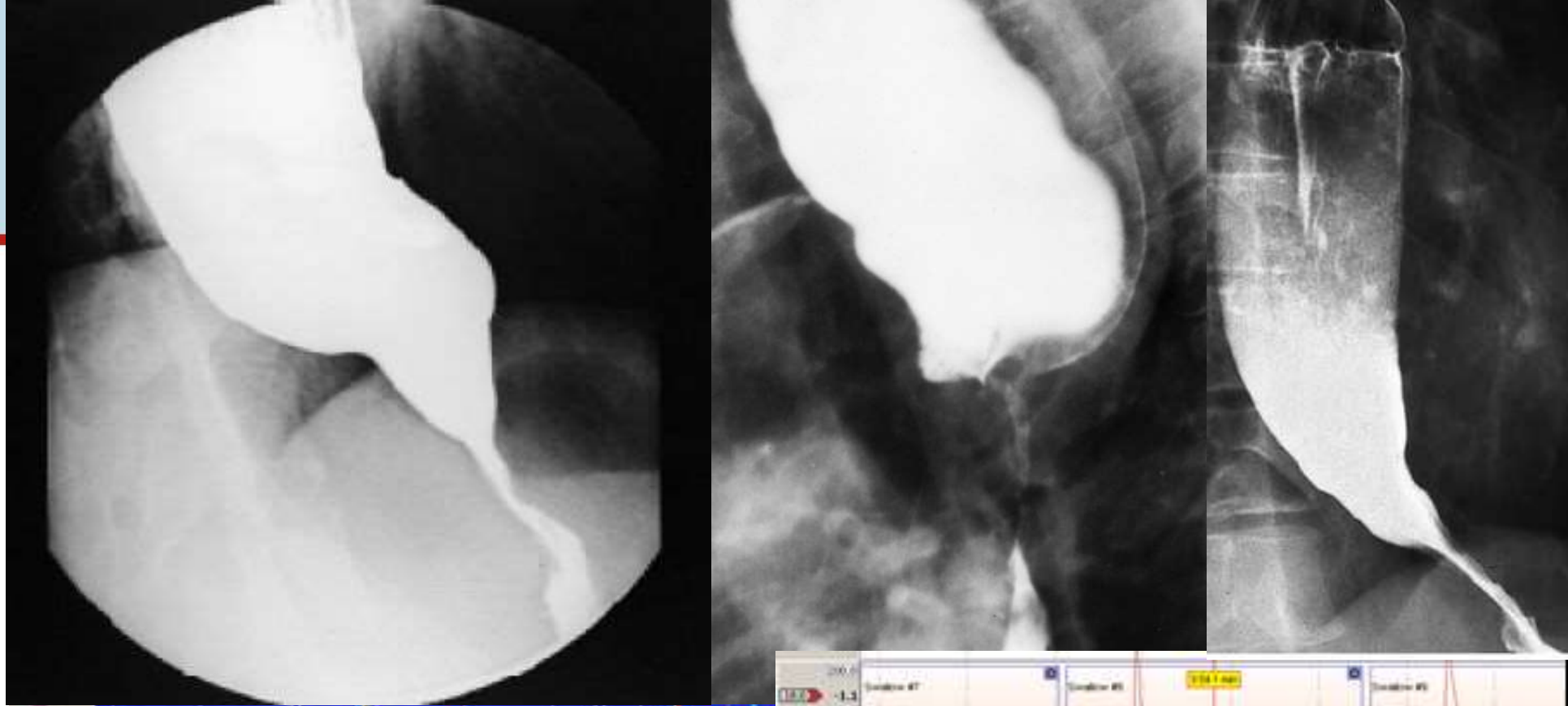


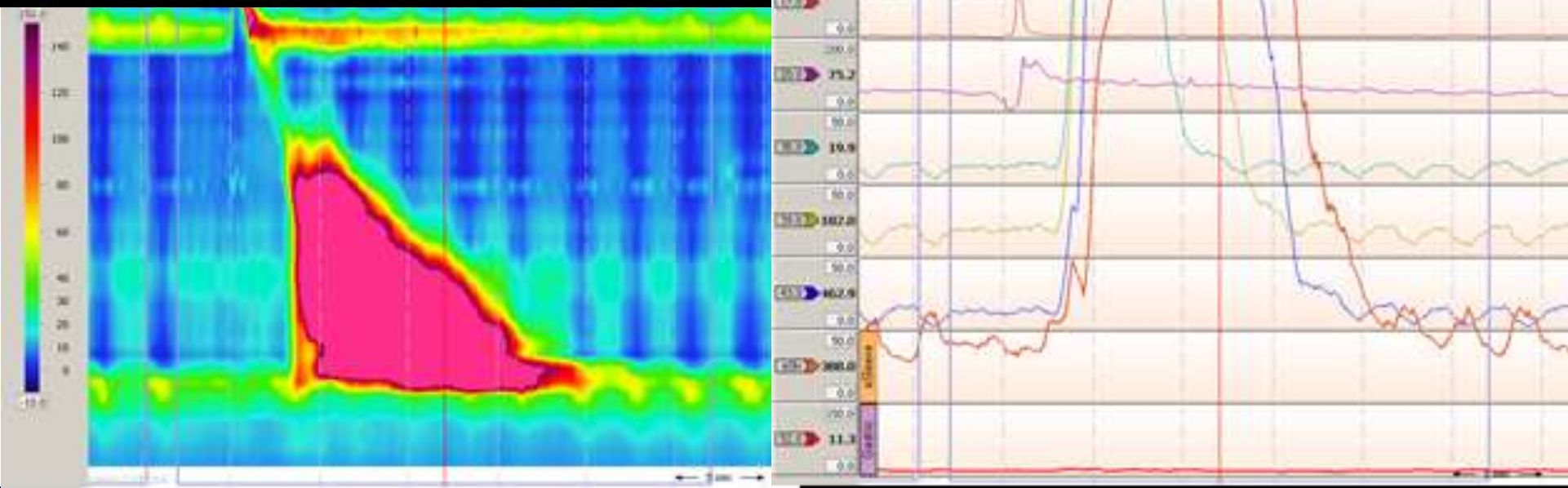


TINAL CANAL

Small Intestines







Eckardt Dysphagia Score (1997)

Score	Symptom			
	Weight loss (kg)	Dysphagia	Retrosternal pain	Regurgitation
0	None	None	None	None
1	<5	Occasional	Occasional	Occasional
2	5-10	Daily	Daily	Daily
3	>10	Each meal	Each meal	Each meal

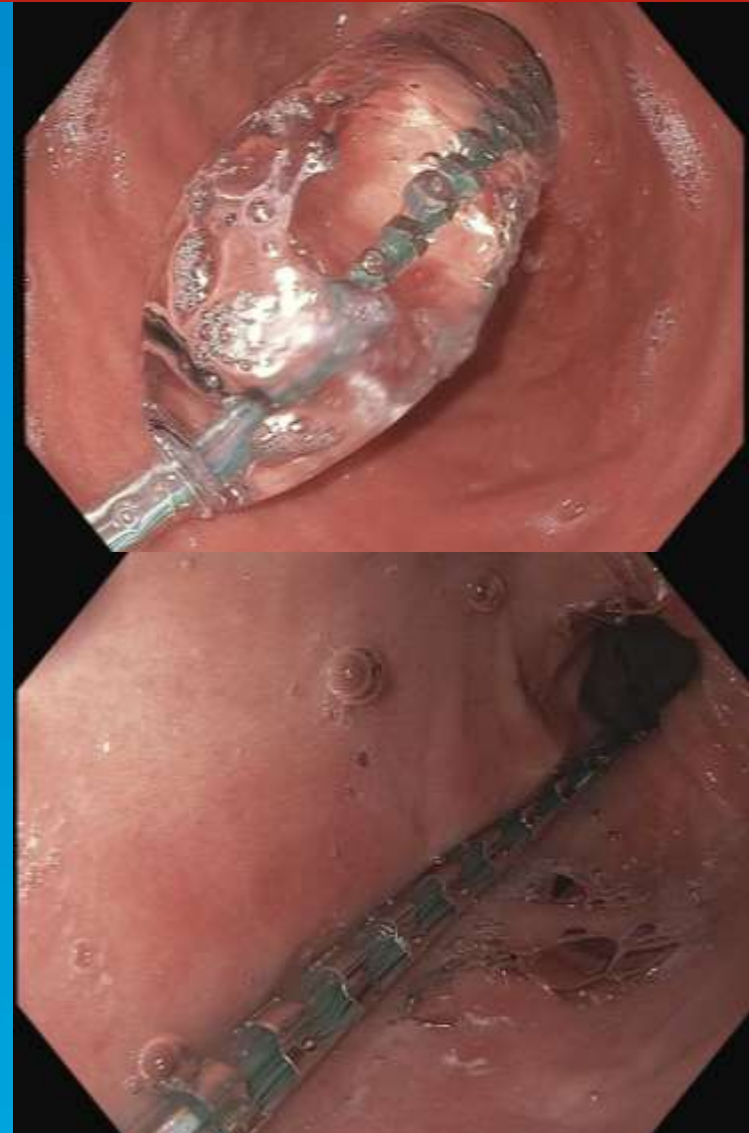
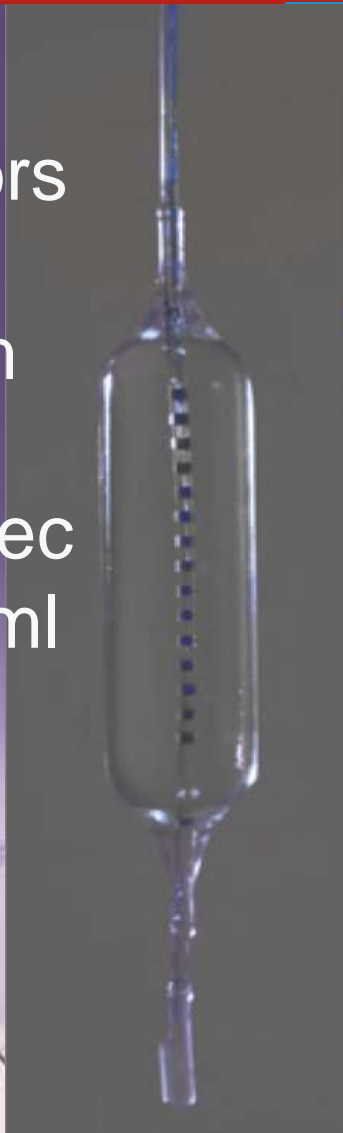
Treatment: How do we evaluate success in treating Achalasia?

- Eckardt Score <3 after therapy
- Decrease in LES pressure (>50%)
- Improvement in esophageal emptying
 - Timed Barium Esophagram
- EndoFLIP (Endoluminal Functional Lumen Imaging Probe) increased GEJ diameter and cross-sectional area/distensibility

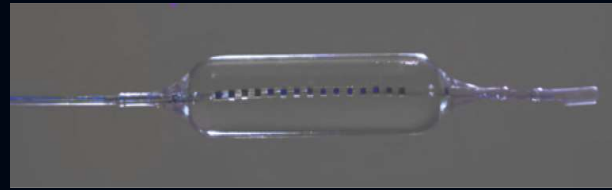
GEJ Distensibility Measurement
Endoscopic Functional Lumen Image Probe (EndoFLIP®)

Duodenum
STOMACH, LIVER AND
Large
intestines

INTESTINAL CANAL
Small Intestines



EndoFLIP before and after POEM



Before

After



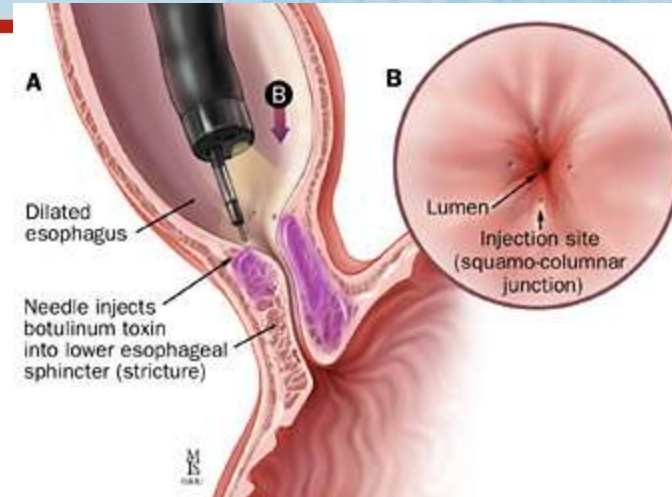
Options for Palliation



- Medical: nitrates, Ca⁺⁺ channel blockers
- Botox injection (BTI)
- Pneumatic balloon dilation (PD)
- Heller myotomy (HM) \pm fundoplication
- Esophagectomy
- PerOral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM)

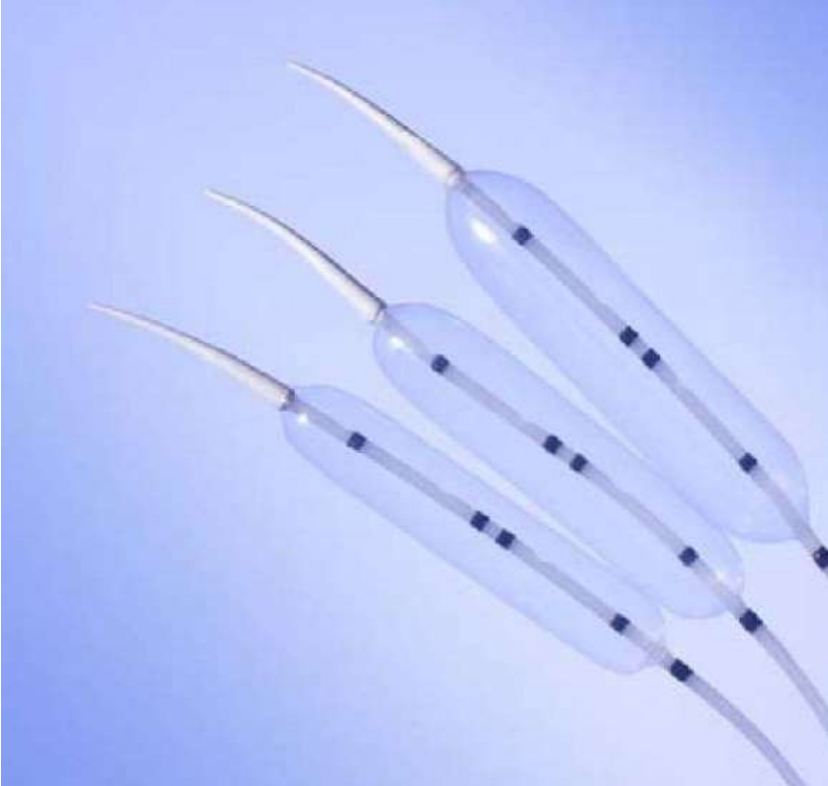
Botulinum Toxin Injection (BTI)

- Simple
- Repeat less effective
- 75% effective initially
- 75% fail at one year
- Less effective than balloon
- Increases difficulty myotom
- Rescue treatment



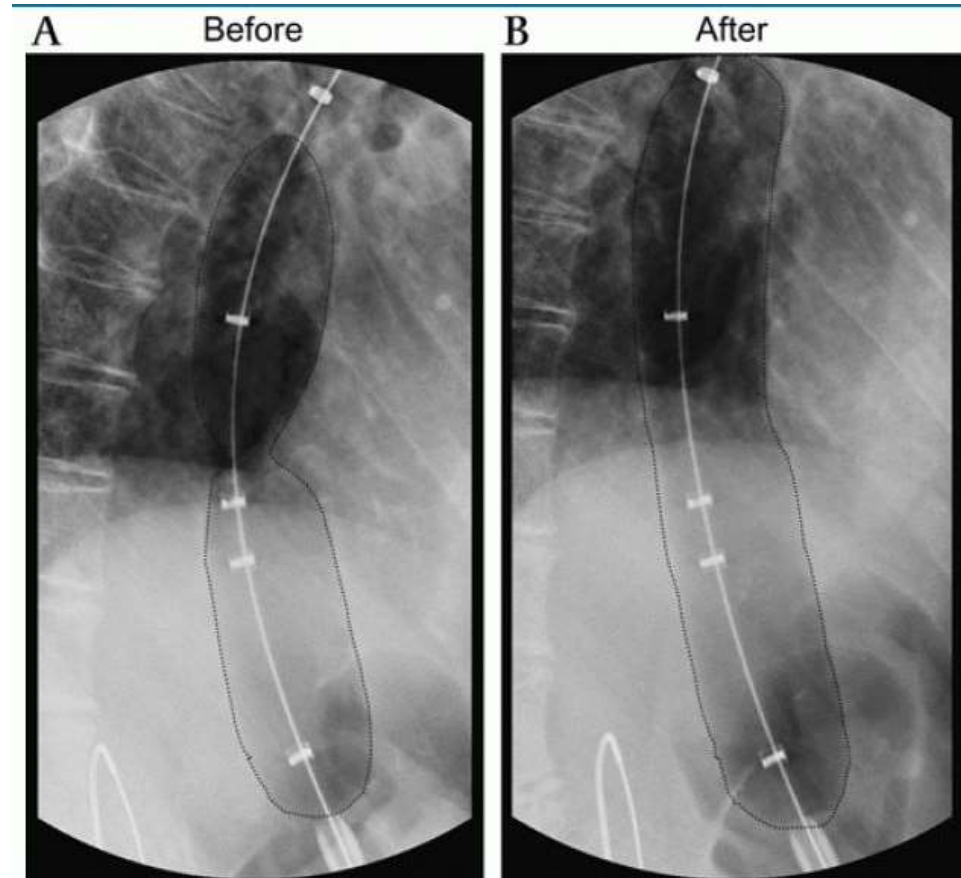
Pneumatic Balloon Dilation (PD)

30, 35, 40 mm



Pneumatic Balloon Dilation (PBD)

- Relief of dysphagia
≡ surgery
- $\leq 2\%$ perforation
- Relapse $>$ surgery
- Can be repeated
- OP procedure
- Salvage therapy

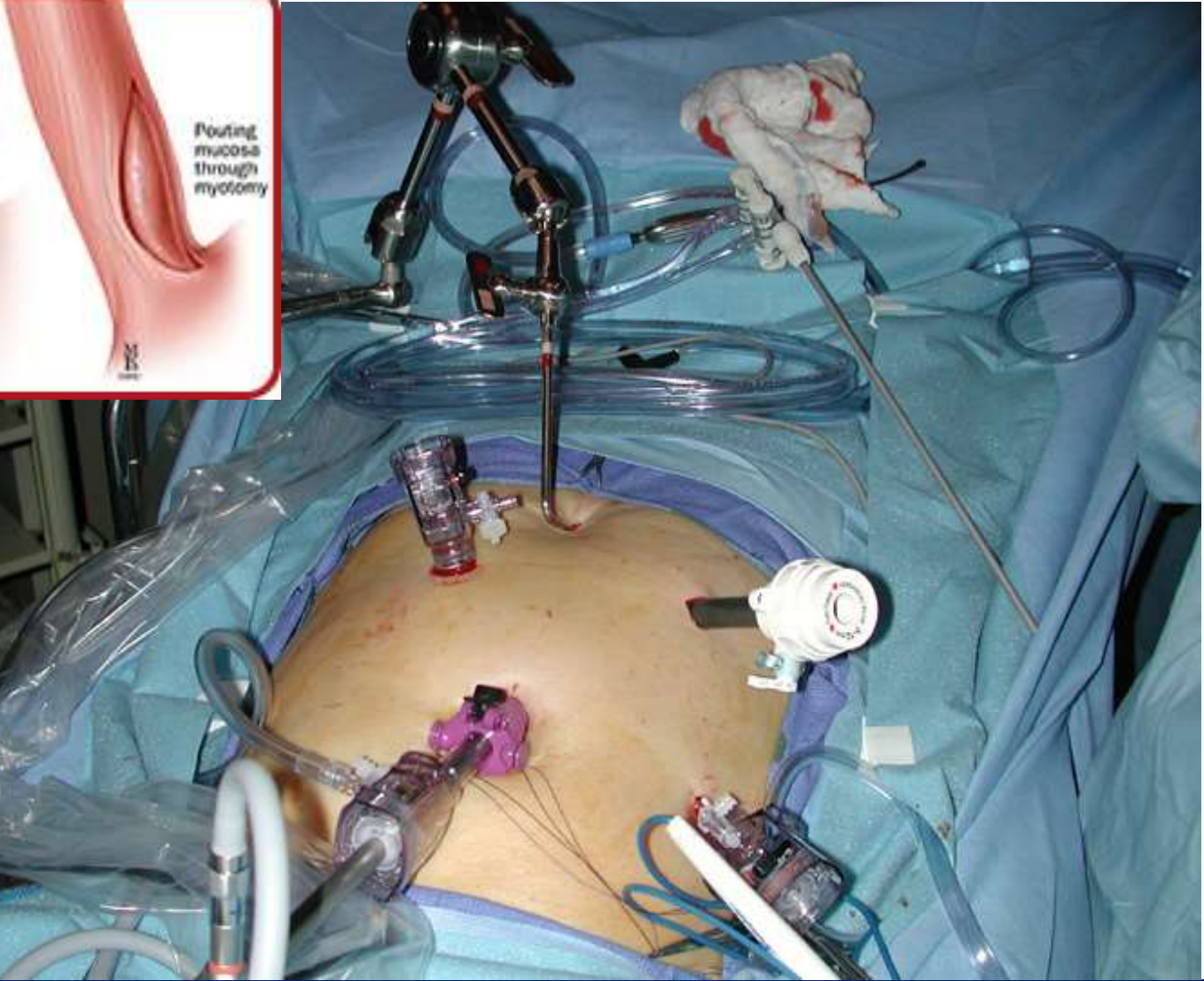
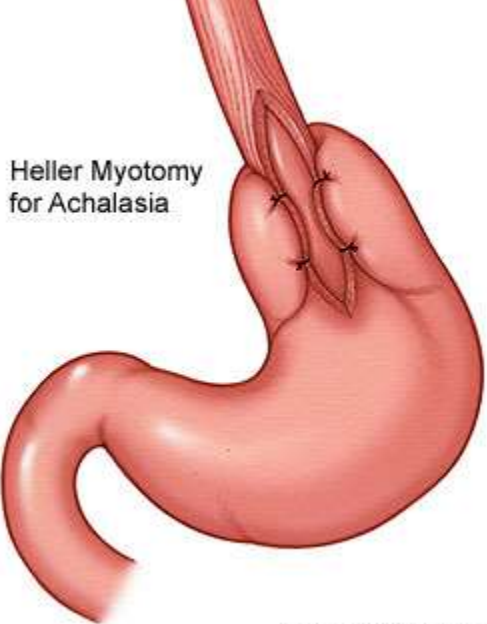
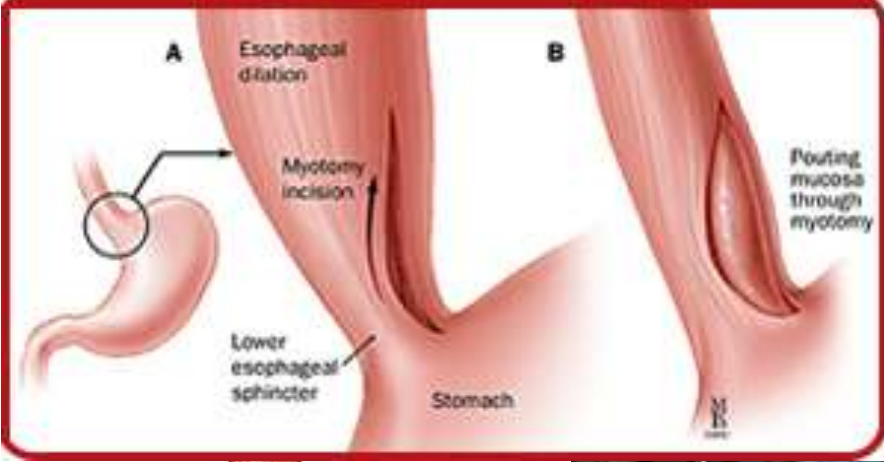


Laparoscopic Heller Myotomy

INTESTINAL CANAL

Large Intestines

Small Intestines



Heller Myotomy



Campos et al (UCSF) Ann Surg 2009; 249:45-57

Endoscopic and Surgical Treatments for Achalasia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

105 articles 7855 patients

Symptom Relief Repeat Therapy

BTI	68%	47%
PD	41%	25%
HM + FP	90%	0

PerOral Endoscopic Myotomy 'POEM'

Haruhiro Inoue



1) Submucosal tunneling



2) Submucosal tunneling beyond GE junction



3) Dividing circular muscle bundles



4) Complete division of inner circular muscle bundles



5) Closure of mucosal entry

Per-oral endoscopic myotomy, 1000 cases later: pearls, pitfalls, and practical considerations



Robert Bechara, MD,^{1,2} Manabu Onimaru, MD, PhD,¹ Haru Ikeda, MD,¹ Haruhiro Inoue, MD, PhD¹

Tokyo, Japan; Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Background and Aims: Eight years have passed since the introduction of the per-oral endoscopy myotomy (POEM) procedure. POEM was initially received as an investigational procedure, but since the revelation of promising safety and efficacy data, it is becoming the preferred treatment for achalasia. With the recent completion of our 1000th POEM procedure, we share our experience and knowledge through the discussion of clinical pearls, pitfalls, and practical considerations.

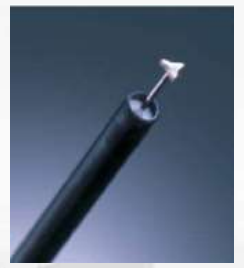
Methods: The various aspects of the procedure and conditions that warrant special attention are discussed from our perspective, with a focus on areas in which there is currently limited evidence.

Results: The key points on patient position, submucosal tunneling, myotomy, closure, intraprocedural bleeding, and advanced sigmoid achalasia are presented.

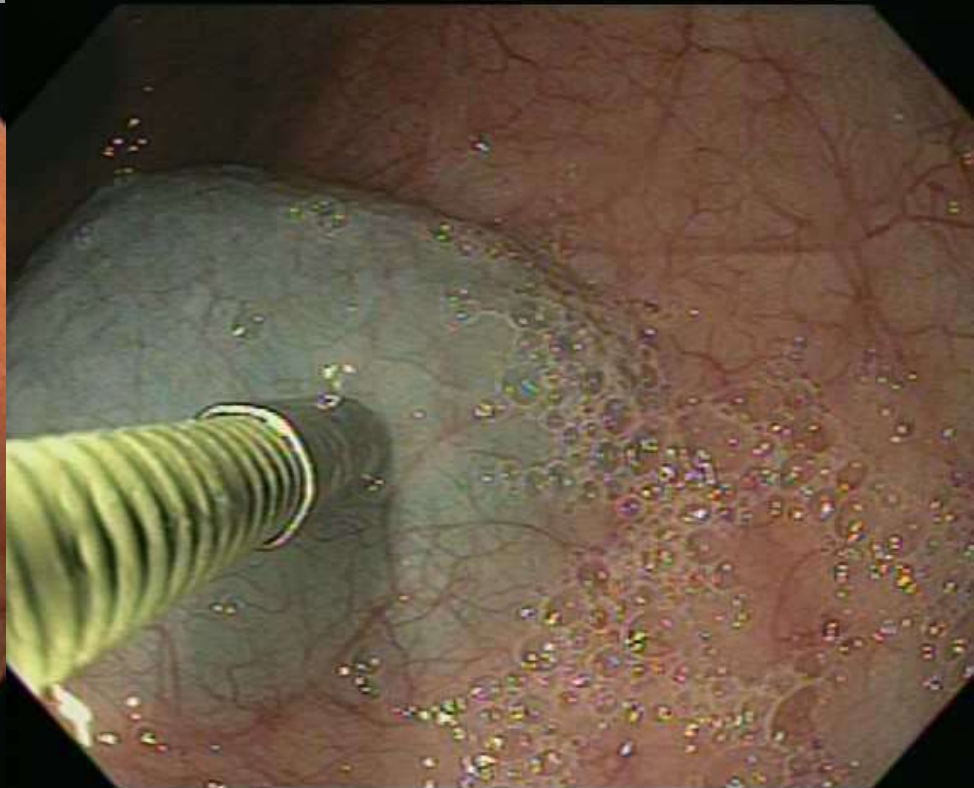
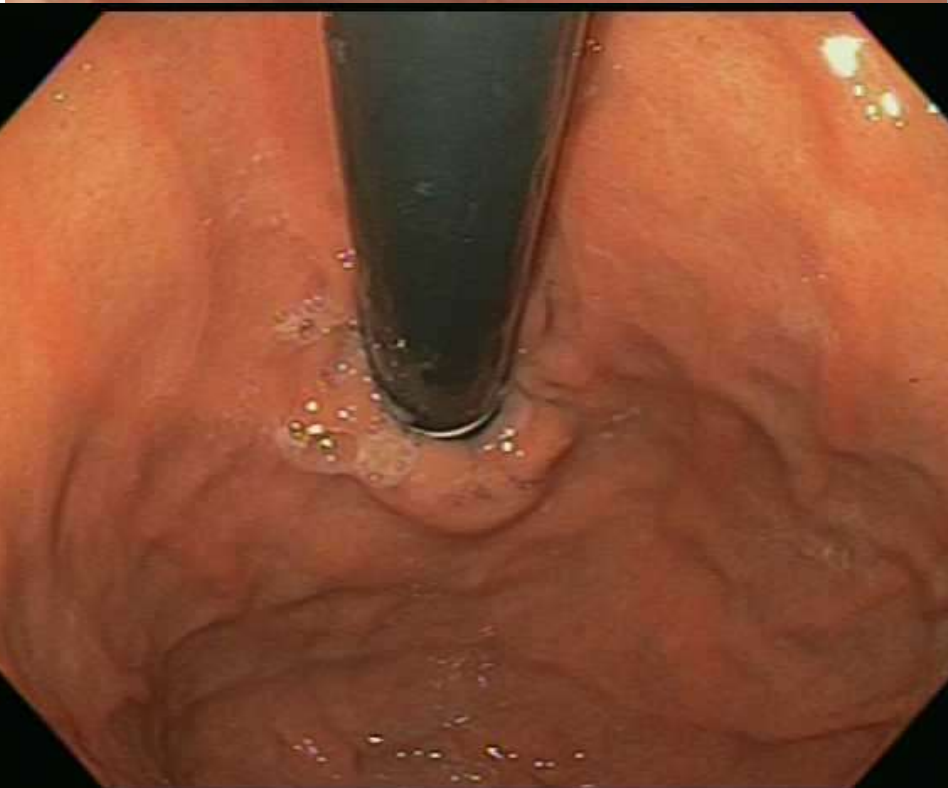
Conclusions: The dissemination of this information serves as a foundation for new POEM operators and as a catalyst for more-experienced operators to further refine and advance their POEM skills and stimulate international discourse and collaboration. (Gastrointest Endosc 2016;84:330-8.)

POEM – Essentials

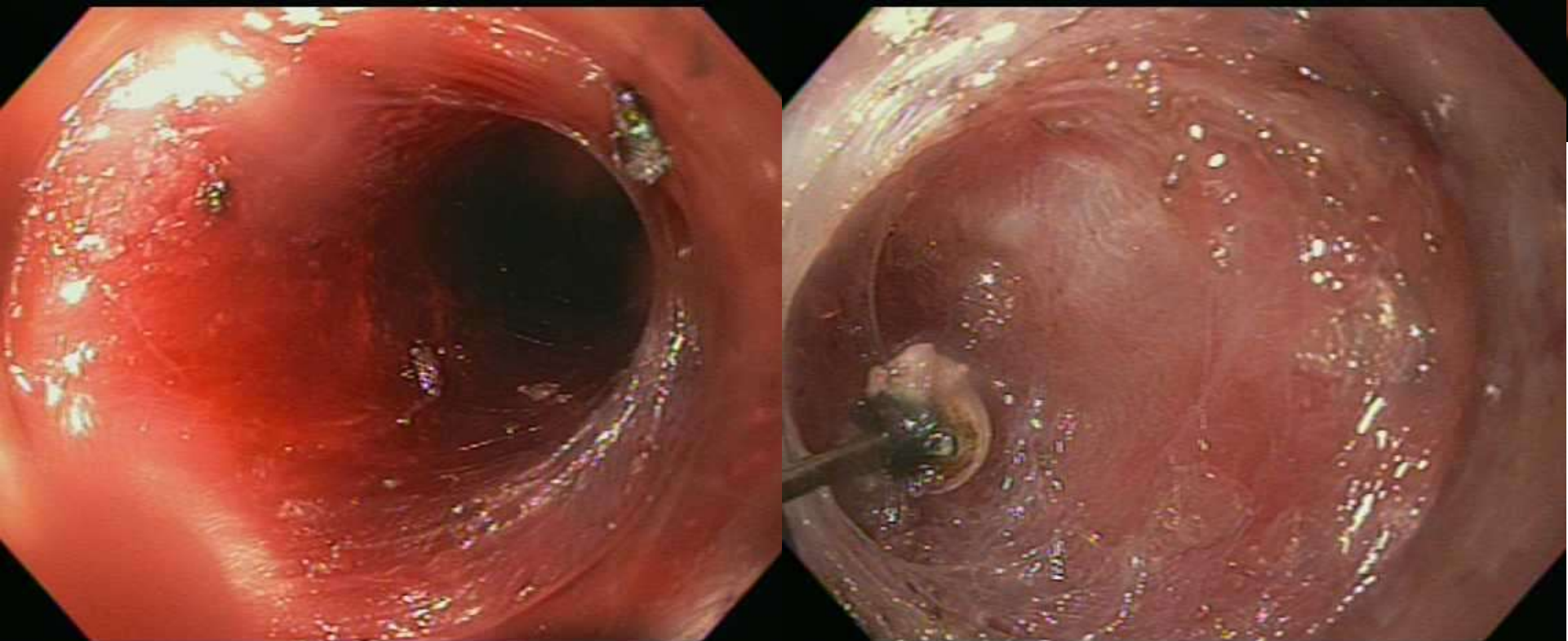
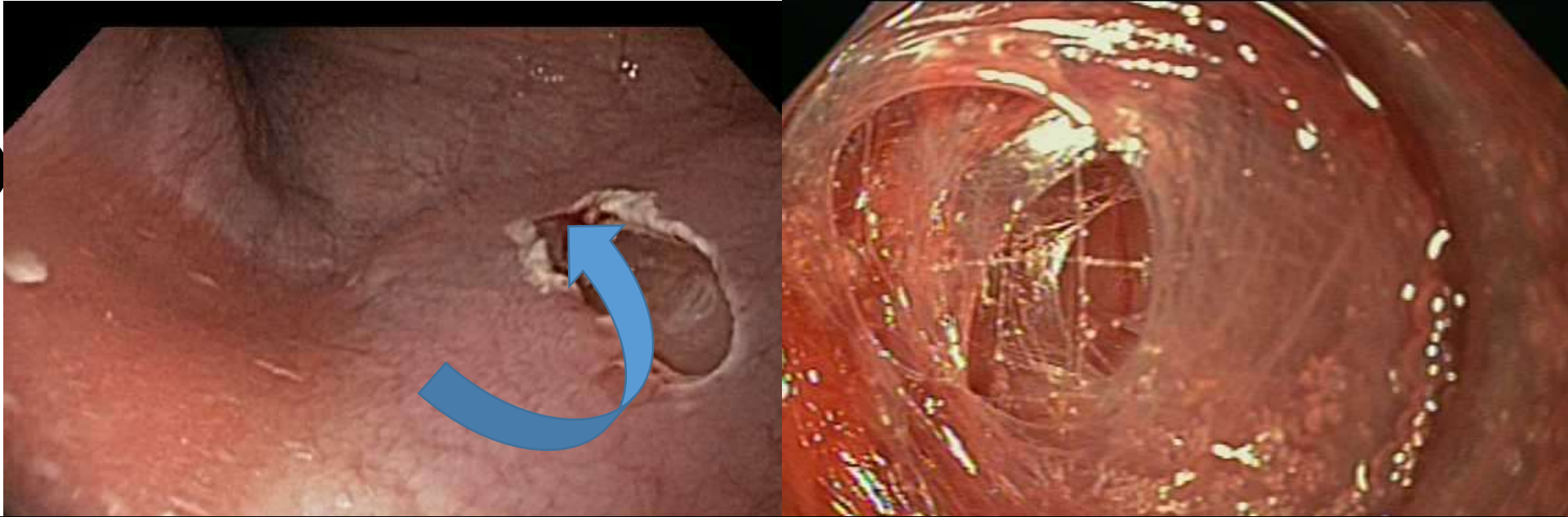
- Anesthesia
- Technique
- Endoscope
- CO₂
- Cap
- Knife
- Coagulator
- Generator
- Closure



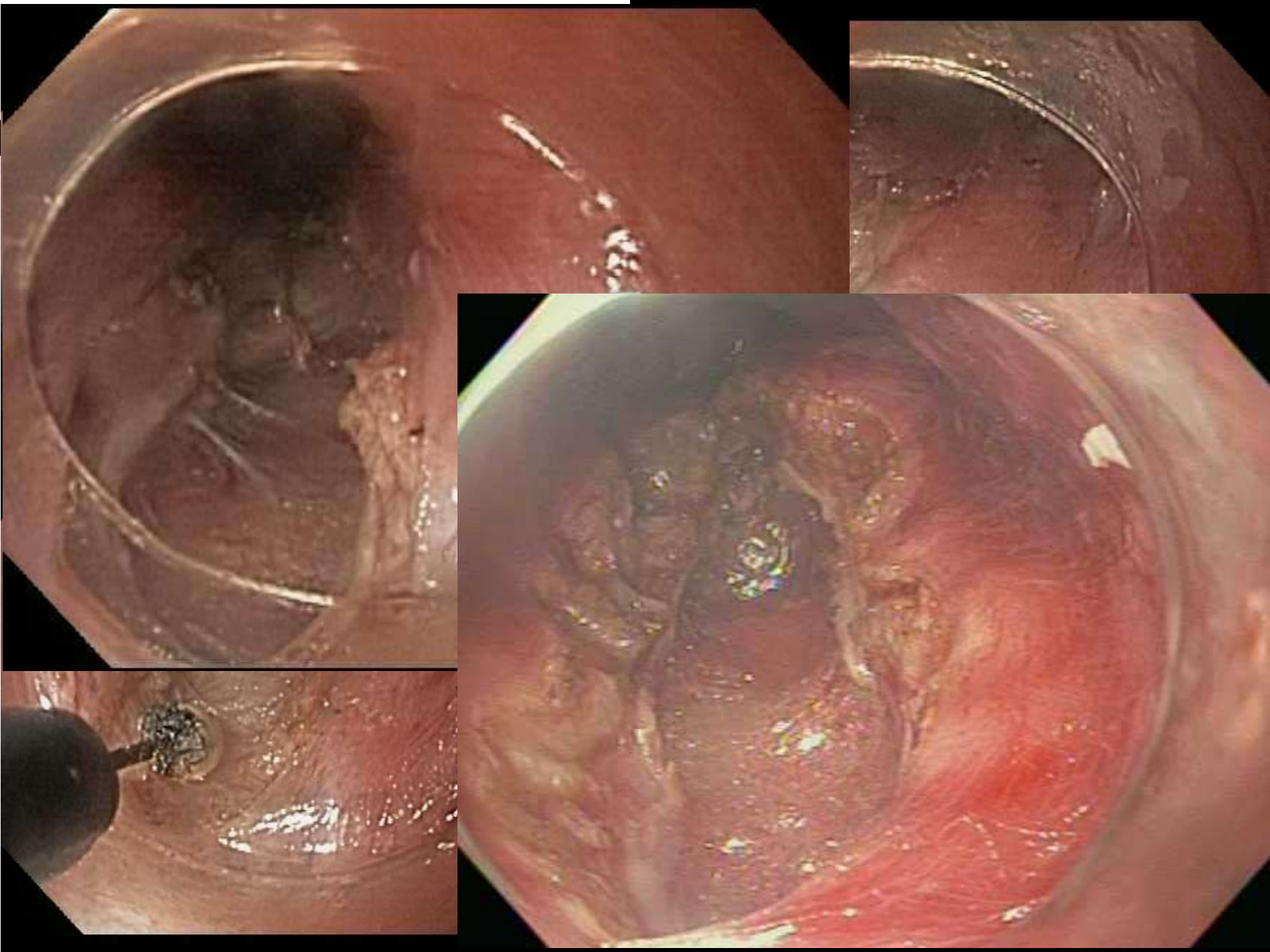
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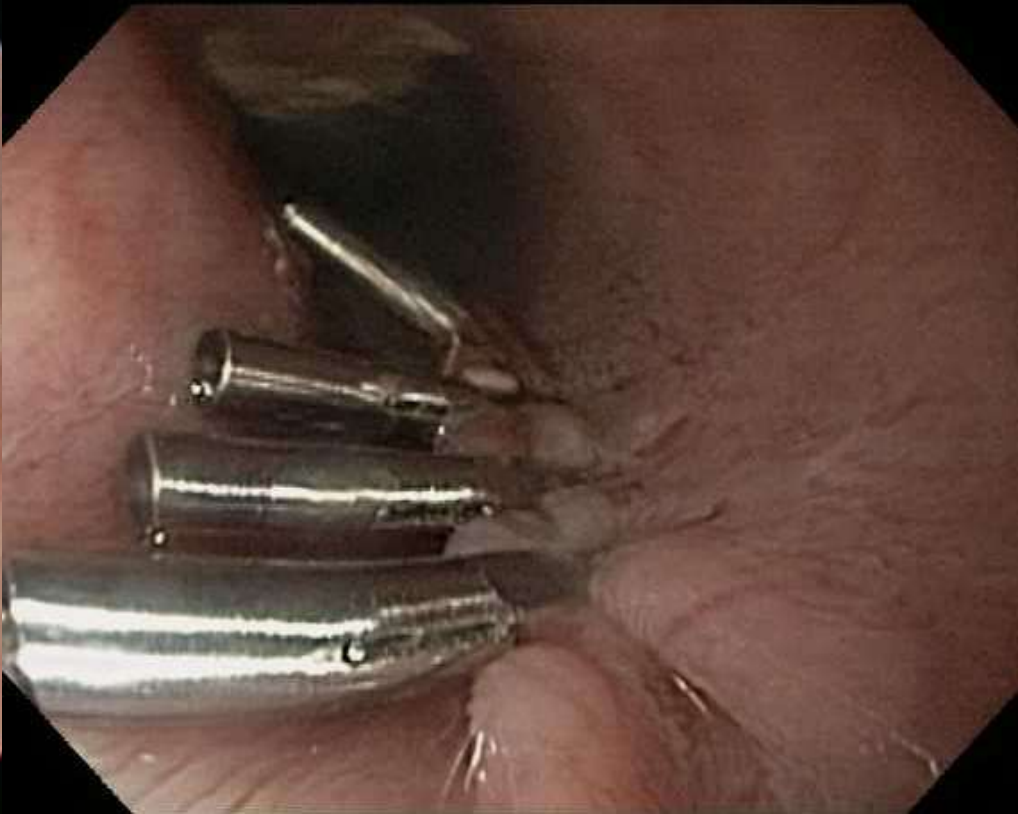
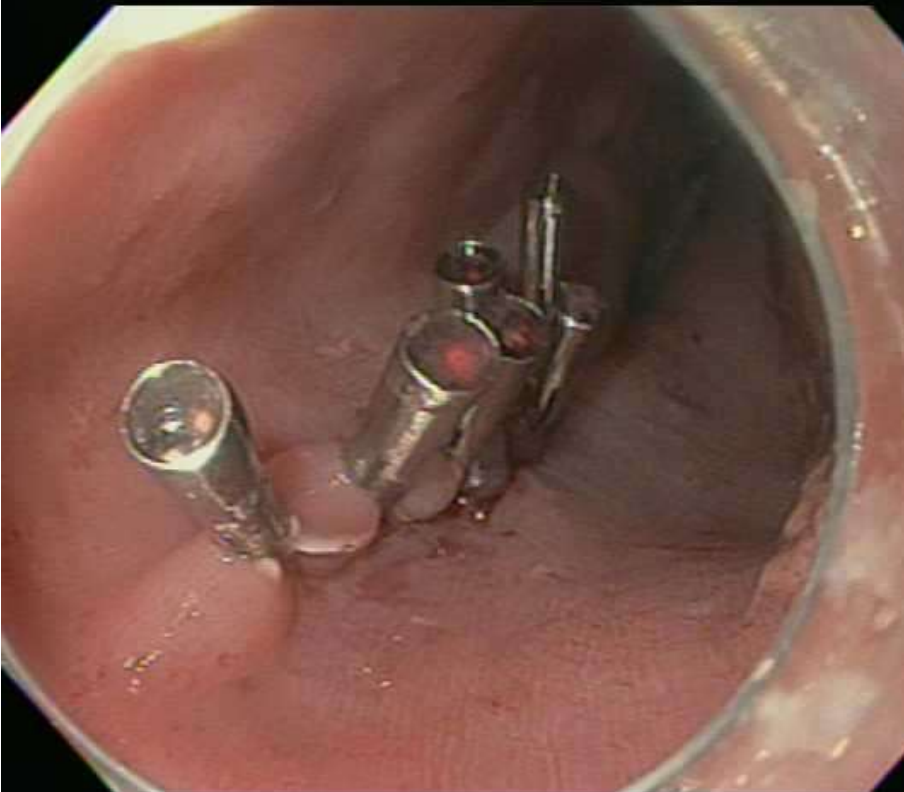
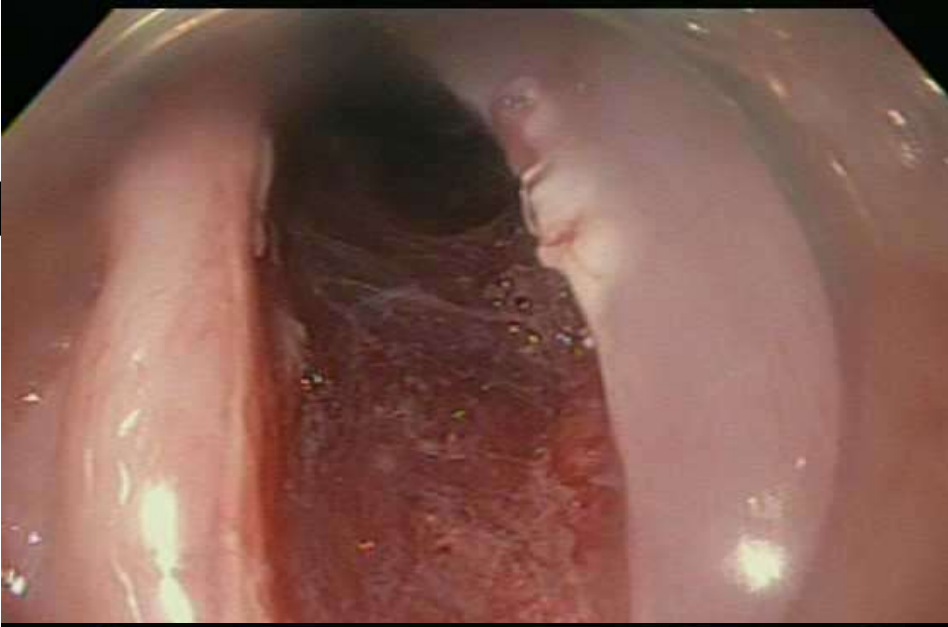
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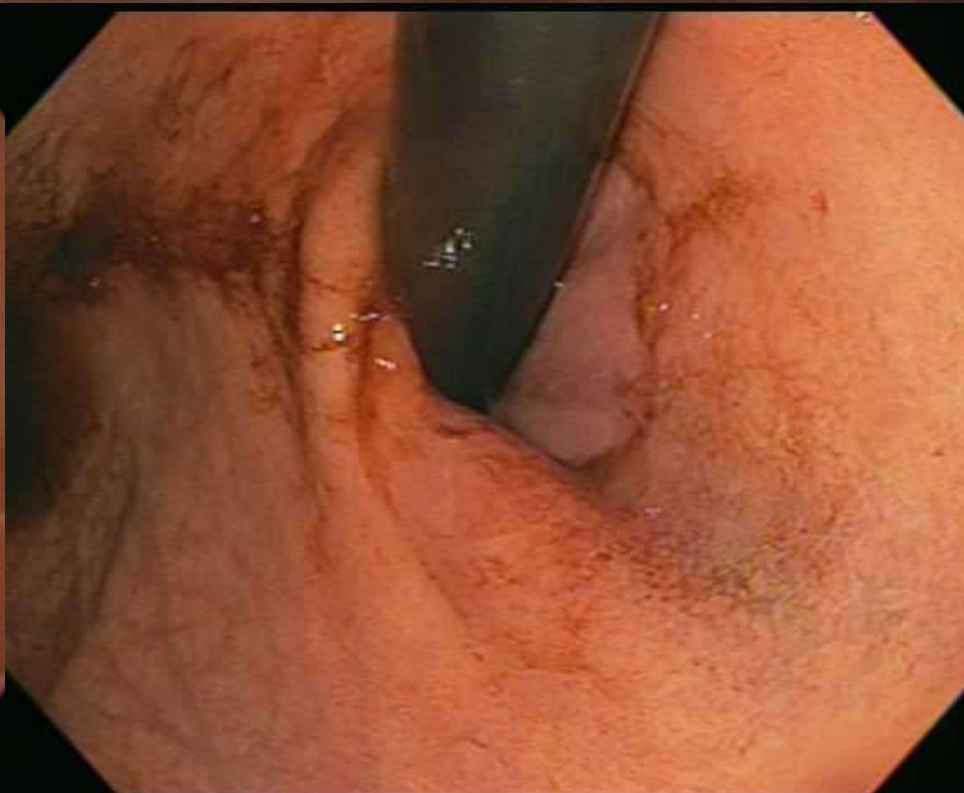
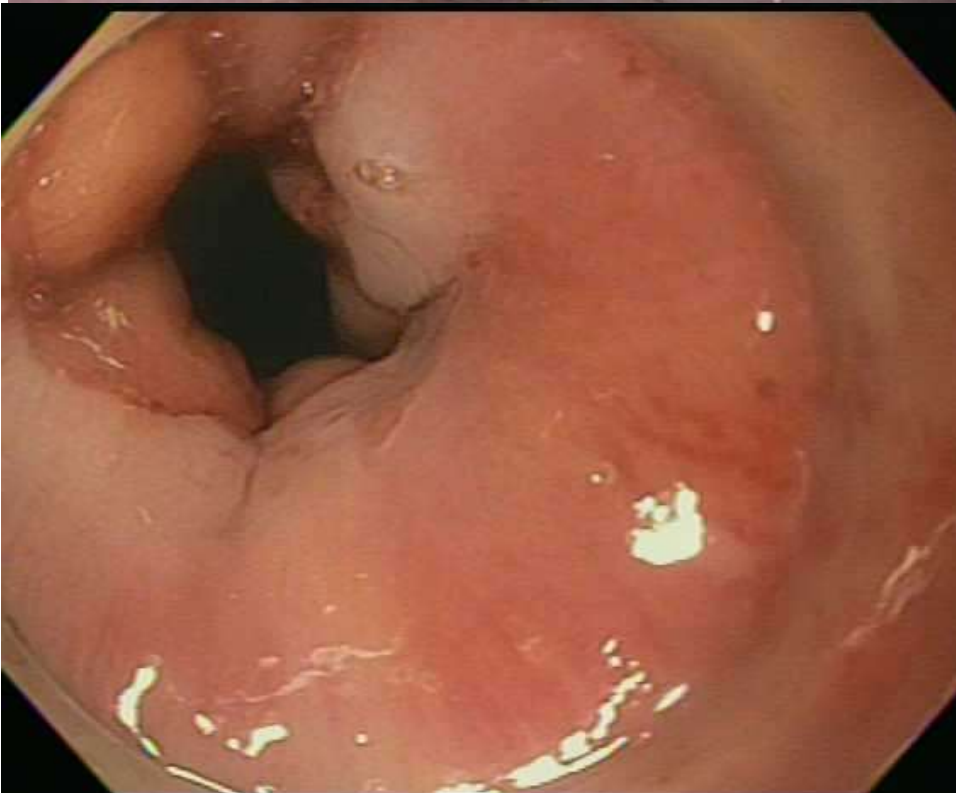
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PO



PO



E-POEM

1. Introduction

2. The Poem

3. The Poem

4. The Poem

5. The Poem

6. The Poem

7. The Poem

8. The Poem

9. The Poem

10. The Poem

11. The Poem

12. The Poem

13. The Poem

14. The Poem

15. The Poem

16. The Poem

17. The Poem

18. The Poem

19. The Poem

Safety and feasibility of performing POEM as an outpatient procedure with same-day discharge

Benias PC... Carr-Locke D. *Gastrointest Endosc.* 2019 Oct;90(4):570-578

103 POEMs – 101 successful

62.4% same day discharge without esophagram

29.7% admitted for mild pain

7.9% admitted for observation

SAE none

Post-procedure pain requiring admission (univariate analysis):

duration of disease > 3 years

longer length of procedure (50.9 vs 68.5 min, $P < .0001$)

longer length of myotomy (7.2 vs 8.5 cm, $P < .0068$)



POEM after Heller Myotomy?

[Zhang X et al (NY) GIE 2018;87:972-85]

2009-2016, 318 consec POEMs

	prior HM	p	no HM
N	46		272
Disease duration yr	12	<0.01	2
Time since HM yr	6		
Pre-POEM LESP mmHg	20.7	<0.01	44.3
Pre-POEM Eckardt	7	<0.01	8
POEM Orientation	83% post		50% post
Post-POEM LESP mmHg	15.6		18.4
Post-POEM Eckardt	1		0
Success %	95.7		95.1

“Rescue treatment of choice after failed Heller”



POEM v LHM Meta-analyses

1045 pts, 29 studies

- Changes in Eckardt score: NS (p=0.078)
- **Less operative time w POEM (p=0.026)**
- Post-operative pain score: NS (p=0.489)
- Post-operative analgesic dose: NS (p=0.450)
- Length of hospital stay: NS (p=0.156)
- Risk of adverse events: NS (p=0.220)
- Symptomatic GER (11%): NS (p=0.156)

[Talukdar, Rupjyoti, Inoue, Reddy. *Surgical Endoscopy* (2014)]

1213 pts, all studies to Sep 2018

[Park CH et al (Korean) *GIE* 2019; Jun 10]

“POEM superior to HM”



POEM: anterior or posterior?

[Khashab MA et al (USA/France/Greece/China/Japan) GIE 2019;Aug 10]

Single-blinded, non-inferiority RCT

150 pts (138 w 1 year f/u)

	Anterior	Posterior
N	73	77
Tech success %	97.3	100
LOS median days	2	2
AE %	11	9
Clinical success %	90	89
Abnormal acid Exposure %	49	42

GERD after POEM

% pH/EGD/Symptoms positive

73/28/18 @ 3mo, 48/35/13 @ 6 mo, 55/30/15 @ 12 mo
on PPI 5/2/6 @ 24 mo, 4/1/6 @ 48 mo

[Hernandez-Mondragon et al (Mex) Rev Gastroenterol Mex 2019; Jun 4]

Gastric myotomy length >2.5 cm increases reflux
– use double scope method to improve accuracy

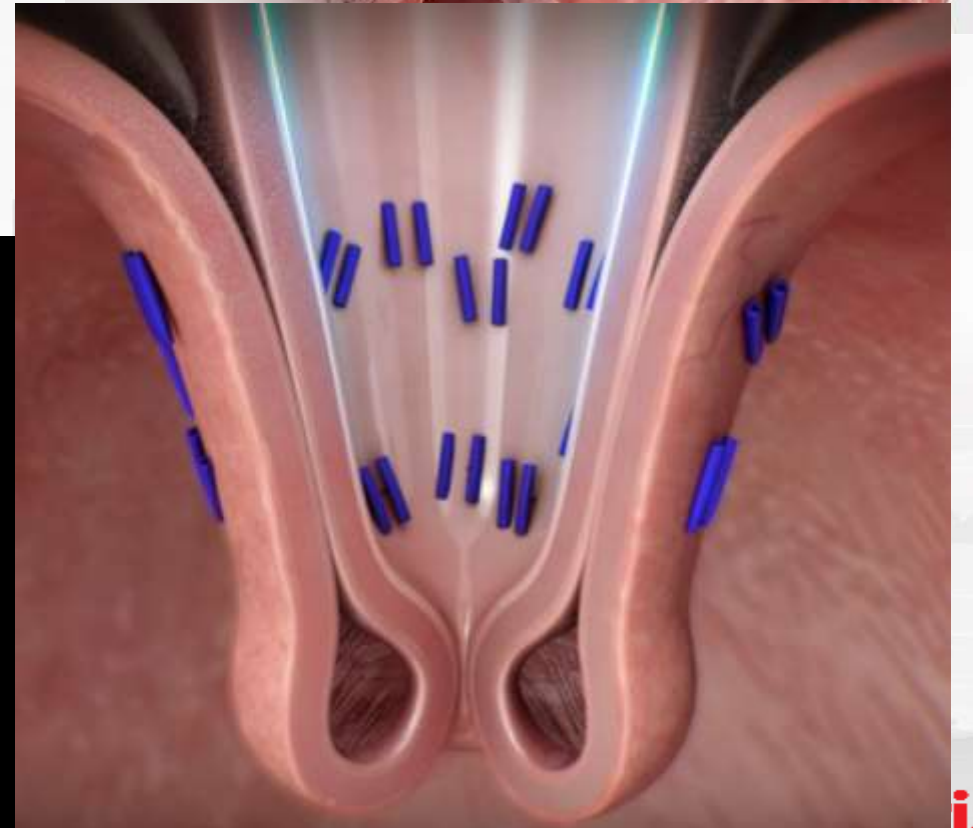
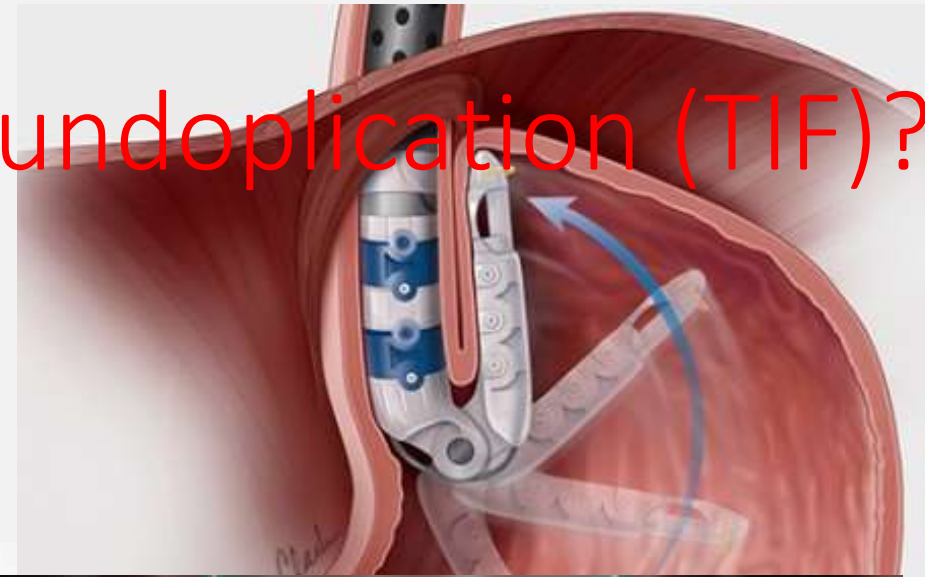
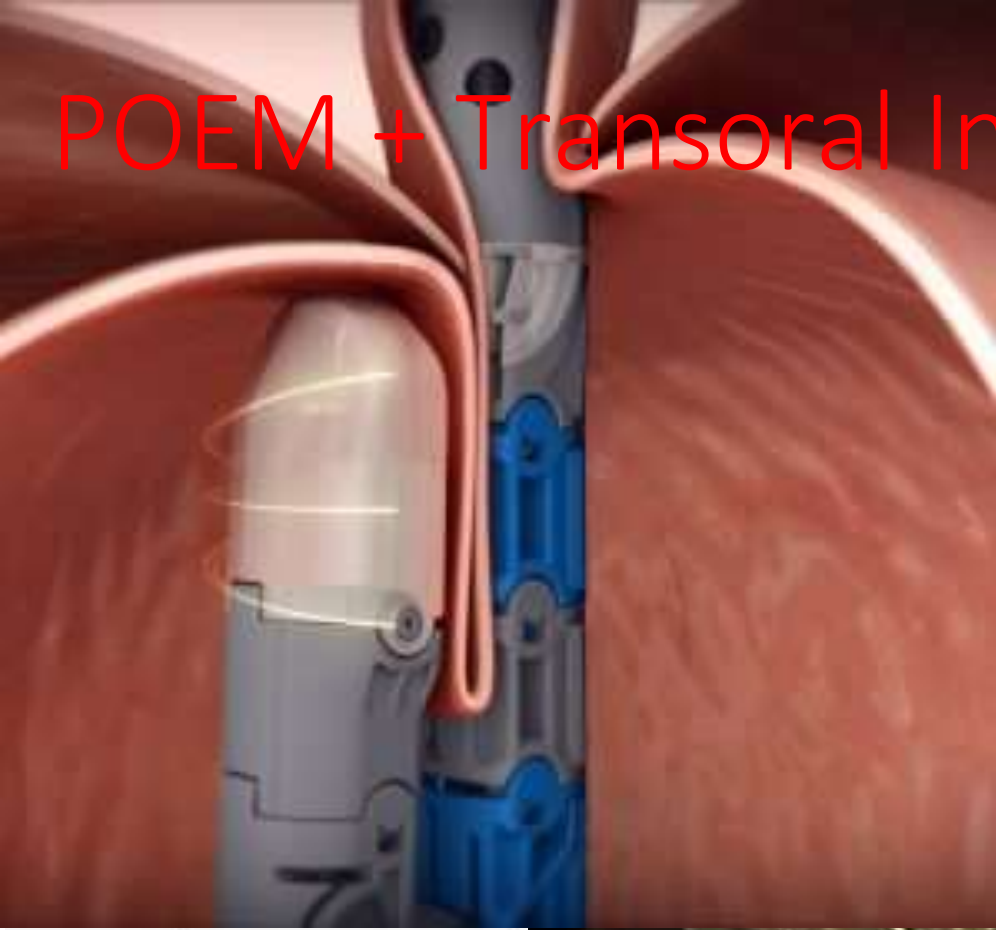
[Grimes et al (US/Tokyo) Surg Endosc 2019; Aug 28]

Use ‘two penetrating vessel’ myotomy marker reduces reflux

[Tanaka S et al (Kobe) J Gastro Hep 2019; Aug 1]

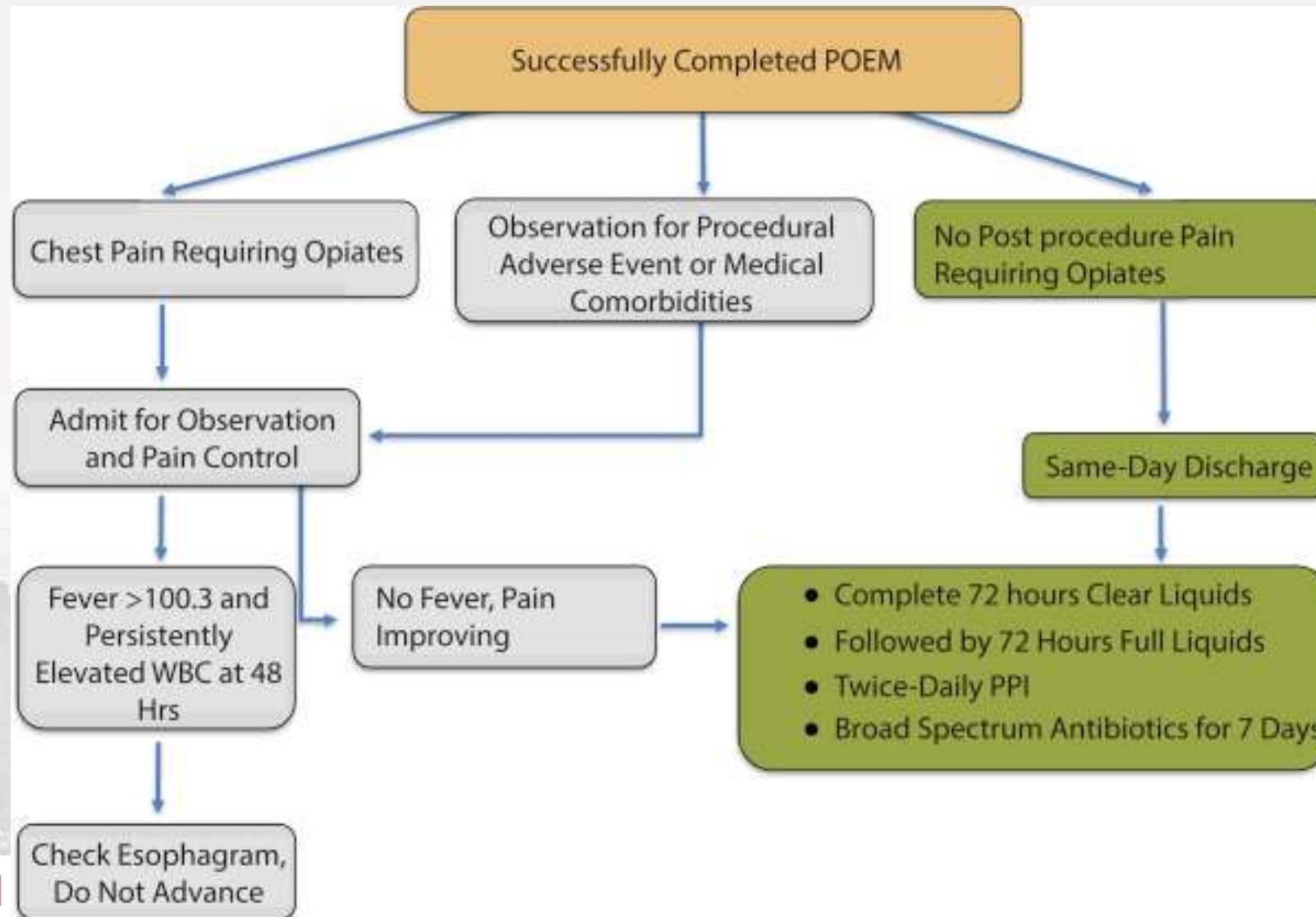


POEM + Transoral Incisionless Fundoplication (TIF)?



Safety and feasibility of performing POEM as an outpatient procedure with same-day discharge

Benias PC... Carr-Locke D. *Gastrointest Endosc.* 2019 Oct;90(4):570-578



POEM 2024

- Relief of dysphagia >90%
- Maintained at 5 year
- Adverse events <5%
- Outpatient procedure in >60%
- Pediatric to geriatric: equivalent results
- Equivalent or superior to Laparoscopic Heller Myotomy
- Training (40-70 for competence, 60-100 for mastery)
- Standardized approach to assessment before/after POEM
- Solve the issue of reflux

E-POEM

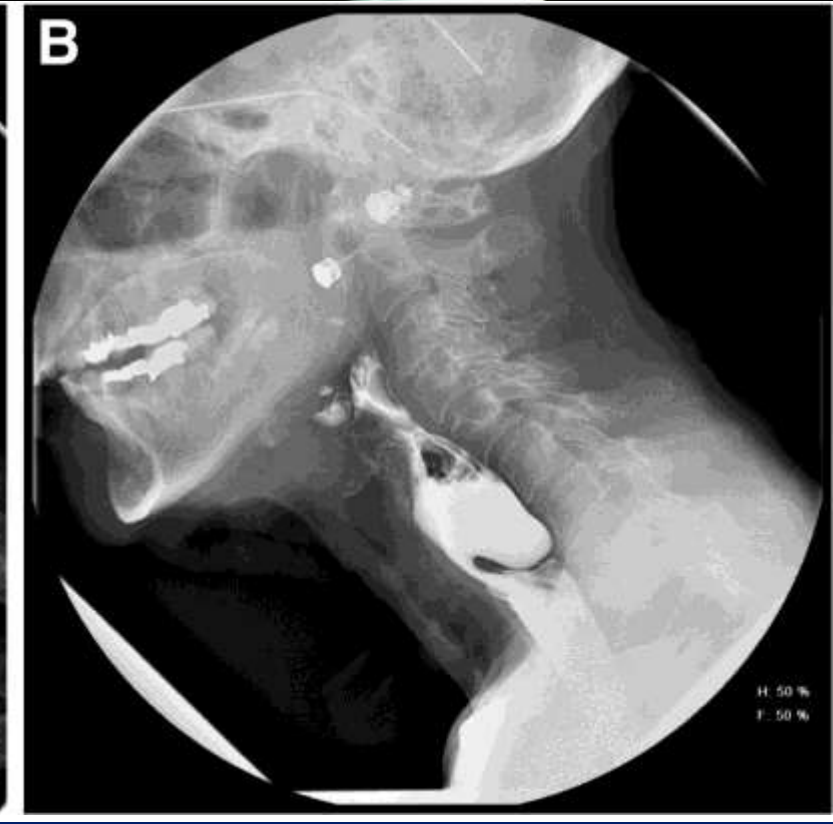
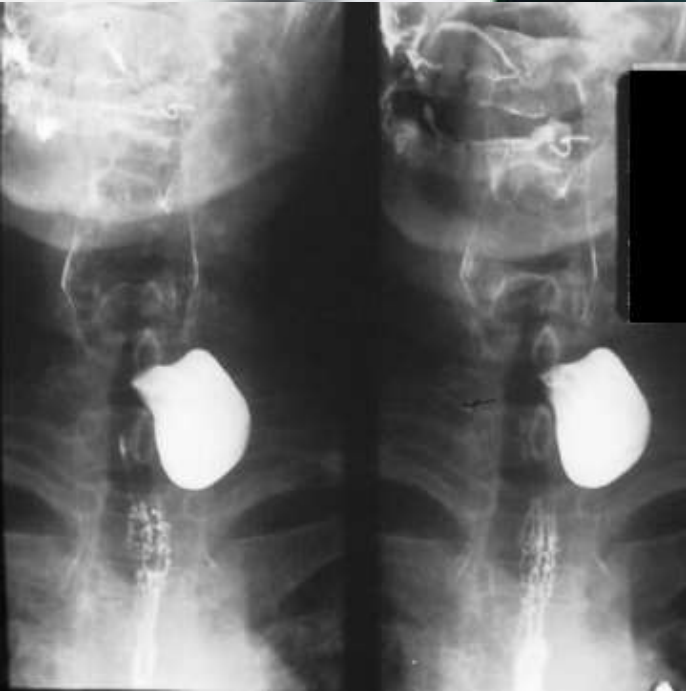
Is now an acceptable alternative to other endoscopic therapies and surgery for achalasia



**Friedrich Albert von
Zenker
1825 -1898**



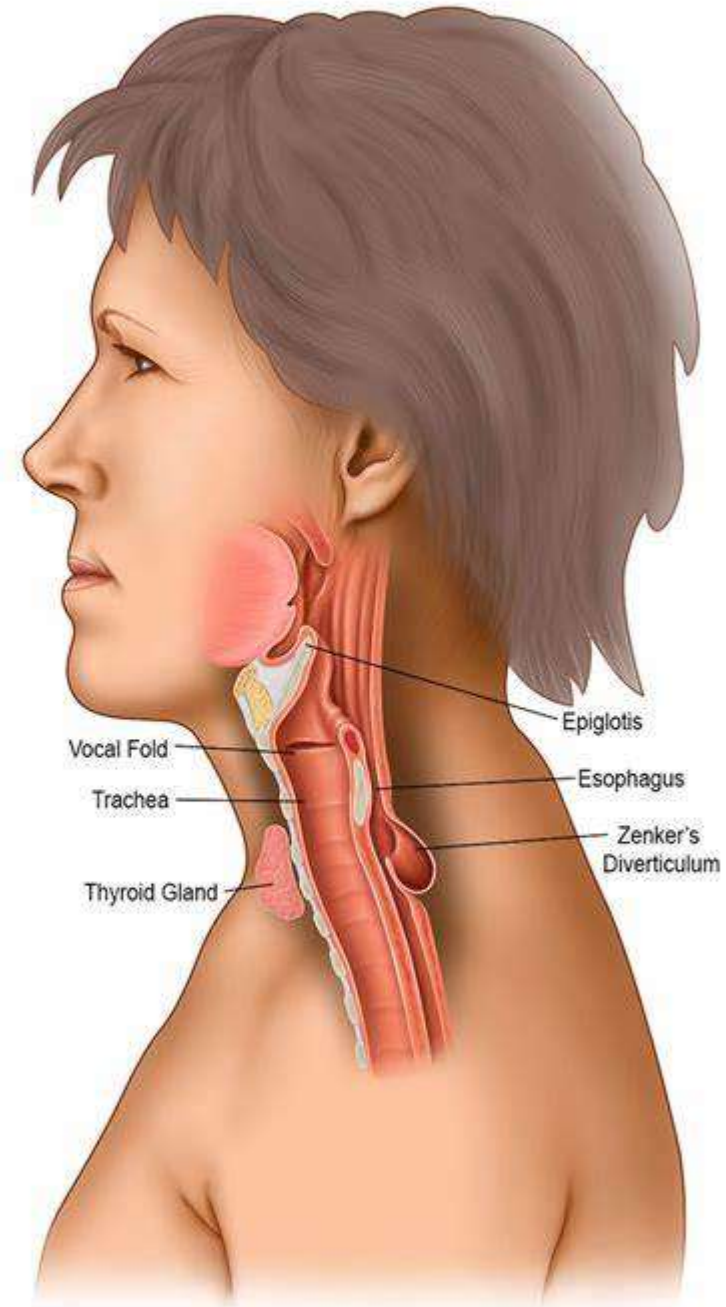
Krankheiten des Oesophagus. HW von Ziemsen's
Handbuch der allgemeinen Therapie, 1874;7:1-208



Zenker's Diverticulum

Herniation of mucosa
posteriorly between the
cricopharyngeus and the
inferior pharyngeal
constrictor muscles

Pseudo-diverticulum



Zenker's Diverticulum

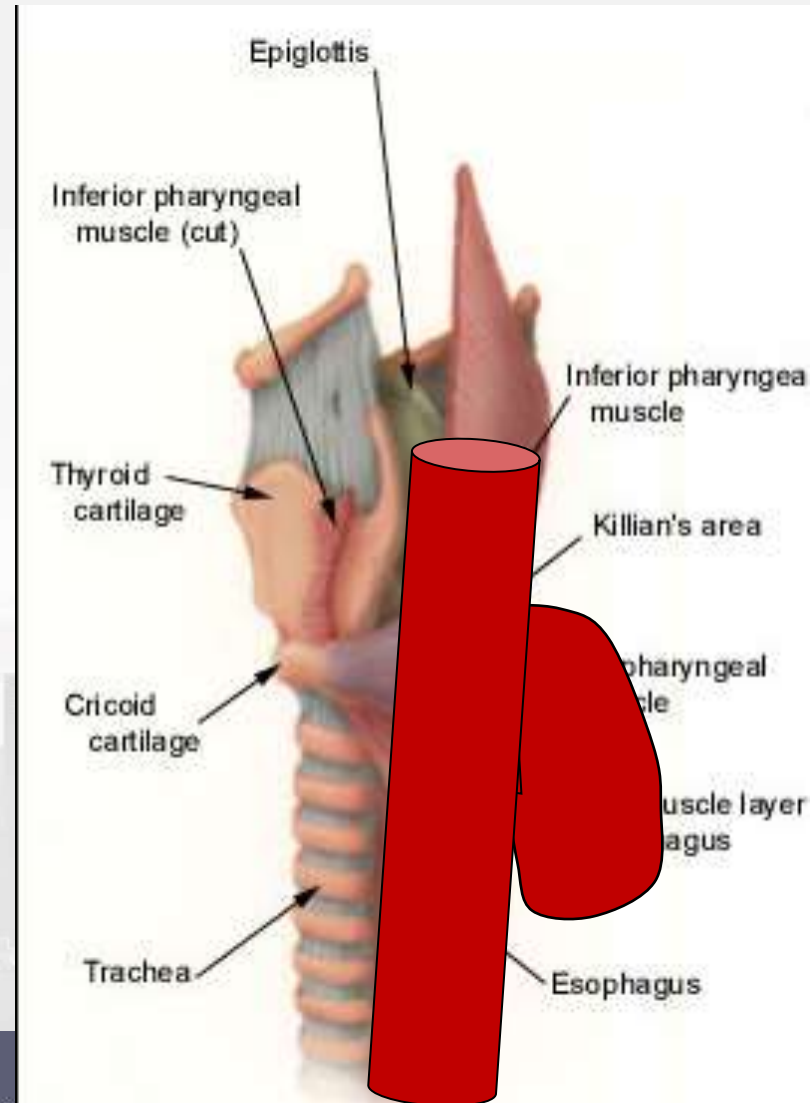
Treatment

Surgical

- Cricopharyngeal myotomy
- +/- Diverticulectomy
- +/- Diverticulopexy
- +/- Diverticulostomy

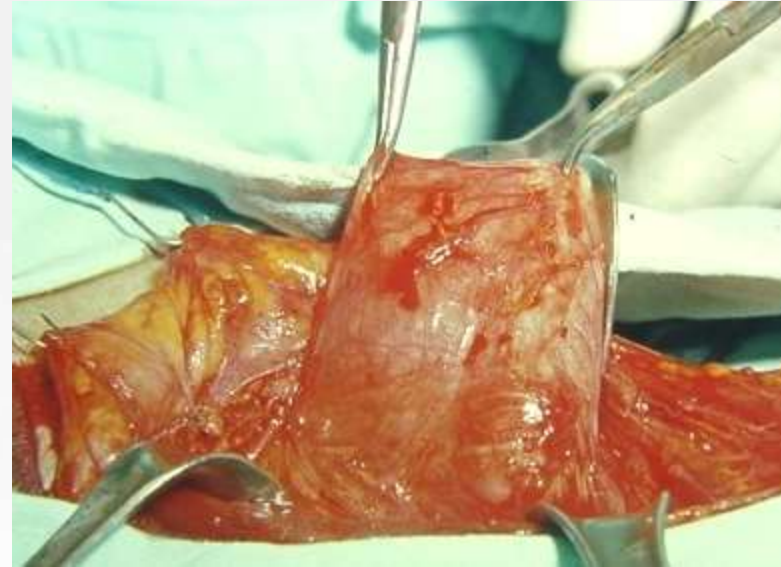
Endoscopic

- Cricopharyngeal
(muco)myotomy



Open Surgical Therapy

- **Cricopharyngeal myotomy with diverticulectomy or diverticuloplexy [Wheeler 1887]**



Mortality 1-2%

Perforation, mediastinitis, fistula, stenosis, recurrent laryngeal N palsy - 6%

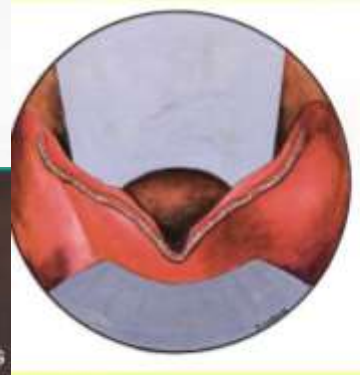
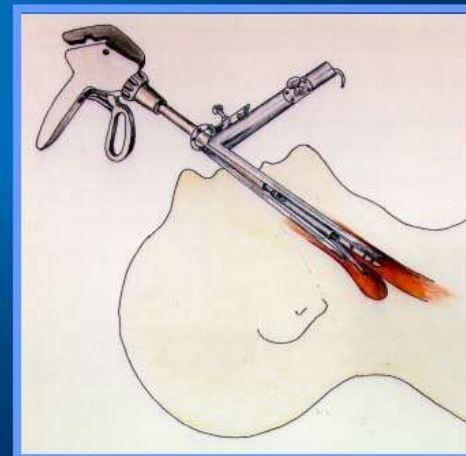


Rigid Endoscopic Surgical Therapy

**Rigid endoscopy +
staples, scissors, or
laser to dissect
septum [1917]**



Collard- Weerda
diverticuloscope



Flexible Endoscopic Cricopharyngeal Mucomyotomy

- First described in 1995 [Mulder and Ishioka]
- Incision of the septum during endoscopy
- 93-100% success rate (follow up 6-7 mo)
- Morbidity 5 - 13%: perforation
hemorrhage



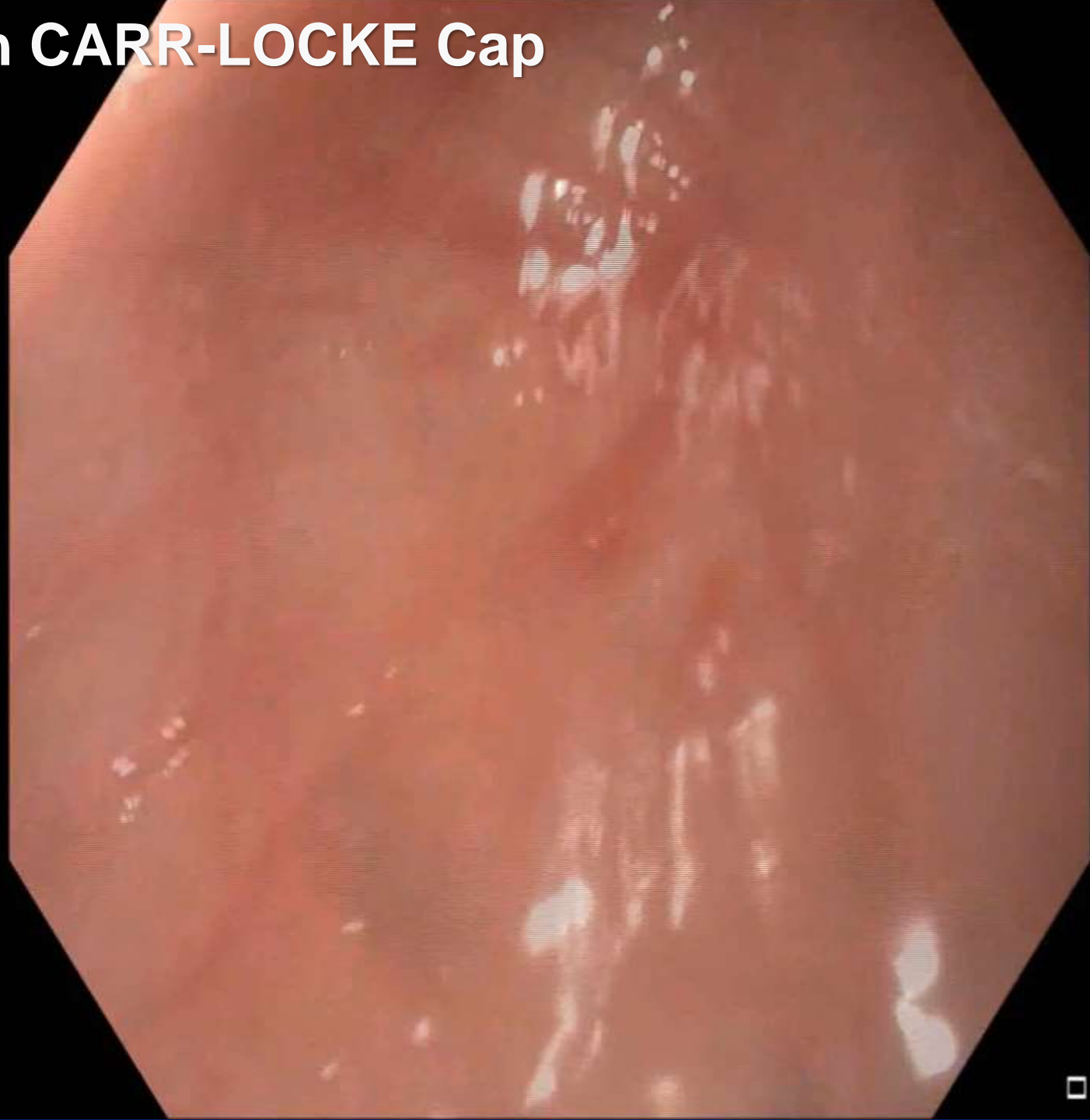
Cricopharyngeal Myotomy

[Aiolfi A et al (Milan) WJGIE 2015;7:87-93]

	<i>N</i>	<i>Good Outcome</i>	<i>Morbidity</i>
<i>Surgery (myotomy +)</i>	<i>1664</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>6.6%</i>
<i>Rigid Endoscopy</i>	<i>853</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>5.0%</i>
<i>Flexible Endoscopy</i>	<i>449</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>



Mucomyotomy with CARR-LOCKE Cap



Endoscopic Treatment of Zenker's Systematic Review & Meta-analysis

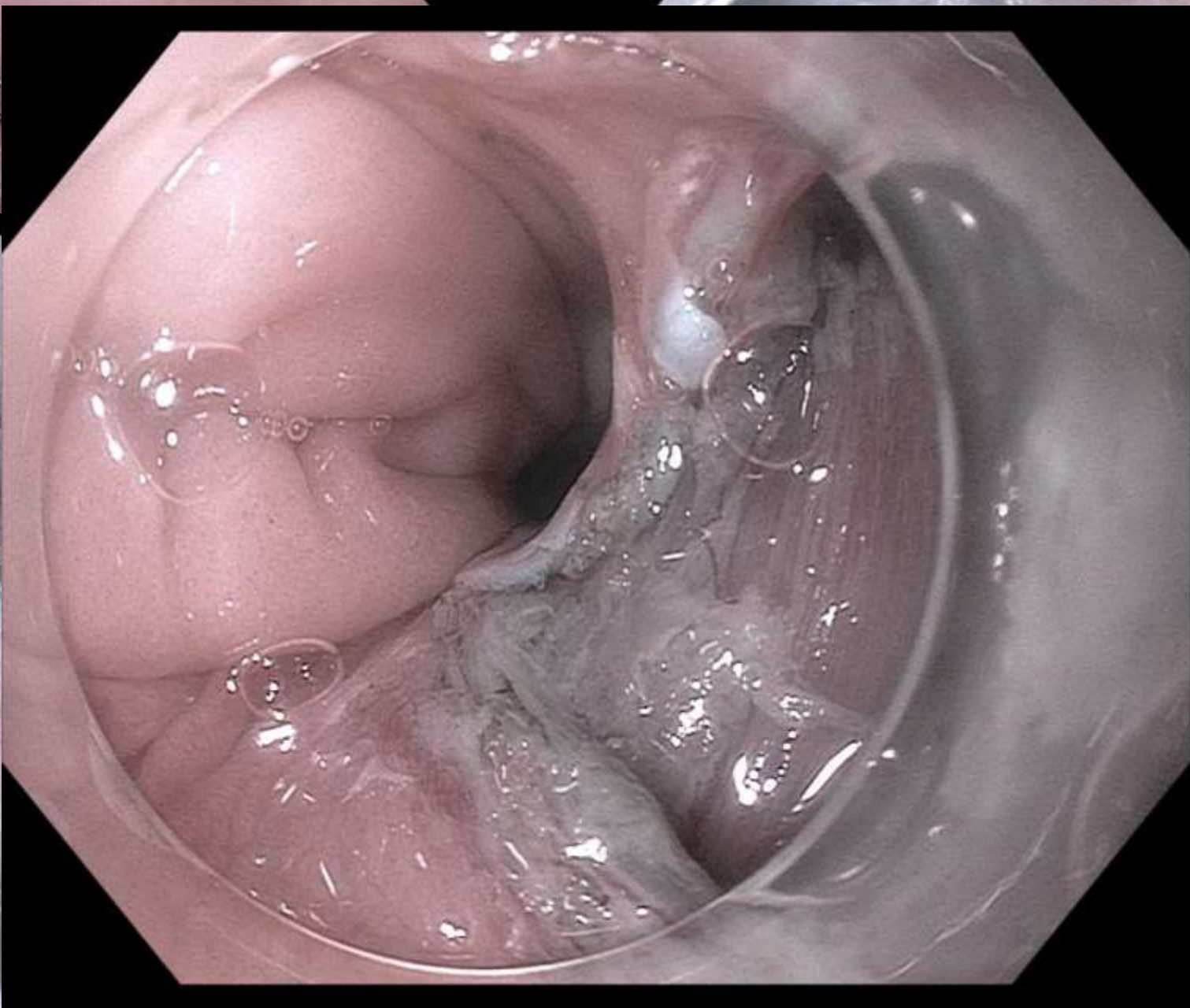
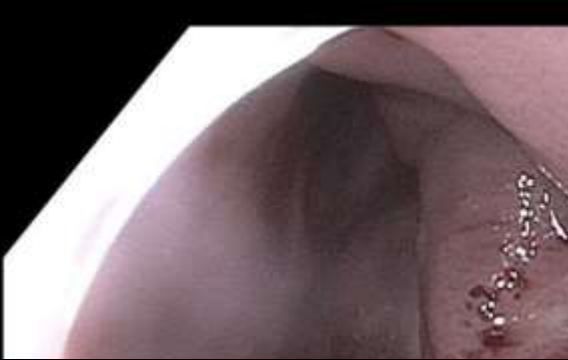
20 studies, 813 pts

Success	91%
AE	11%
Recurrence	11%

“Feasible, safe and effective”

[Ishaq et al (IntMC) GIE 2016;83:1076-89]





Z-POEM for Zenker's

[Yang J et al (IMC) GIE 2020 Jan;91(1):163-168

75 pts, mean 73.3 years, median ZD 3.1 cm

Tech success 97.3%

AE 6.7% (1 bleed, 4 perforations)

Procedure time 52.4 min

LOS 1.8 days

Clinical success 92%

Mean dysphagia score 1.96 to 0.25

Median F/U 10 mo

1 symptomatic recurrence at 12 mo

Z-POEM & Endoscopic Cricopharyngeal Mucomyotomy

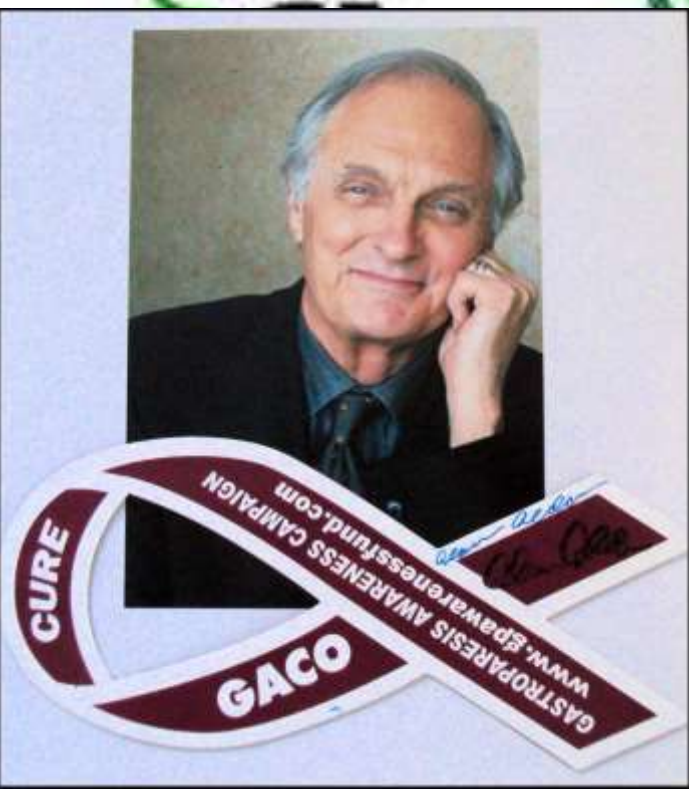
*Is now an acceptable alternative to
open and rigid endoscopic surgery*



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se It Matters...

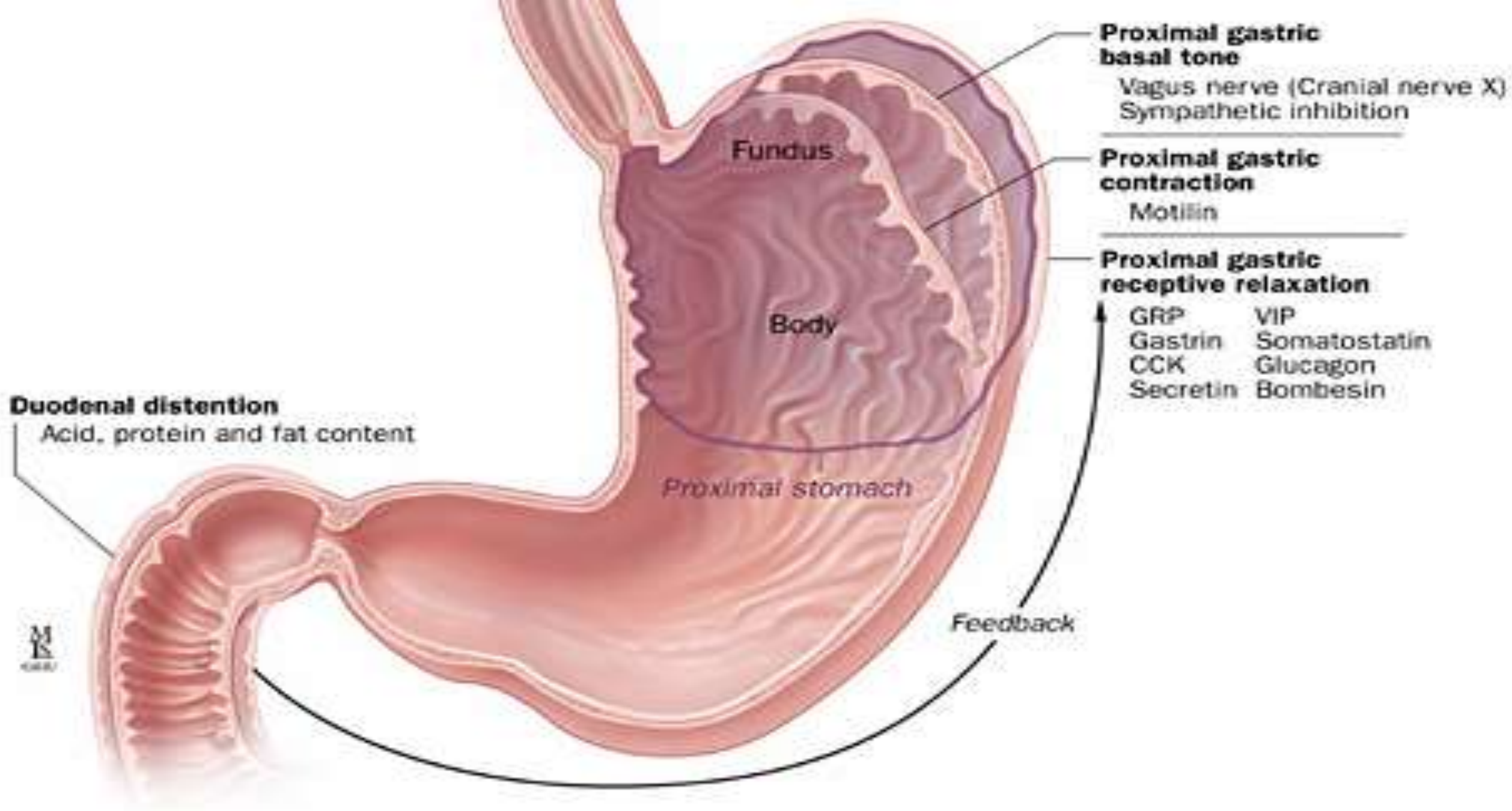


Gastroparesis



A Snail Is Faster Than My Gut

GPFight.com



Gastroparesis - Pathophysiology

Diabetes I & II

Eating disorders

Ehlers-Danlos syndrome

Parkinson's disease, MS, amyloid

Vagal trauma (surgical)

Drugs: narcotics, cannabis

Idiopathic (?viral)

Gastroparesis - Treatment

Diets & control diabetes

Prokinetics: metoclopramide, erythromycin, [cisapride],
domperidone

Experimental: sildenafil, mirtazepine (5HT3)

Nutritional support: jejunostomy, TPN

Stomach: pacemaker, stimulator

Pylorus: Botox, gastrojejunostomy, pyloroplasty
pyloromyotomy (GPOEM)

Gastroparesis - Diagnosis

Normal Gastric Emptying Study

>90% @ 4 hours

Gastroparesis Cardinal Symptom Index (GCSI)

[Revicki DA et al (Bethesda) AP&T 2003;18:141-150]

Average of A mean + B mean + C mean Index range is 0-5		None	Very Mild	Mild	Mod	Severe	Very severe
1. Nausea	A	0	1	2	3	4	5
2. Retching		0	1	2	3	4	5
3. Vomiting		0	1	2	3	4	5
4. Stomach fullness	B	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Not able to finish a normal-sized meal		0	1	2	3	4	5
6. Feeling excessively full after meals		0	1	2	3	4	5
7. Loss of appetite	C	0	1	2	3	4	5
8. Bloating		0	1	2	3	4	5
9. Stomach or belly visibly larger		0	1	2	3	4	5

Gastroparesis Cardinal Symptom Index (GCSI)

[Revicki DA et al (Bethesda) AP&T 2003;18:141-150]

1. Nausea		0	1	2	3	4	5
2. Retching A		0	1	2	3	4	5
3. Vomiting		0	1	2	3	4	5
4. Stomach fullness		0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Not able to finish a normal-sized meal		0	1	2	3	4	5
6. Feeling excessively full after meals B		0	1	2	3	4	5
7. Loss of appetite		0	1	2	3	4	5
8. Bloating		0	1	2	3	4	5
9. Stomach or belly visibly larger C		0	1	2	3	4	5

Wilhelm Conrad Ramstedt (1867-1963)

Berichte über Krankheitsfälle und Behandlungsverfahren.

Aus der Hedwigsklinik (Dr. Ramstedt) und dem Säuglingsheim
(Dr. Schulte) in Münster i. W.

Zur Operation der angeborenen Pylorusstenose¹⁾

von

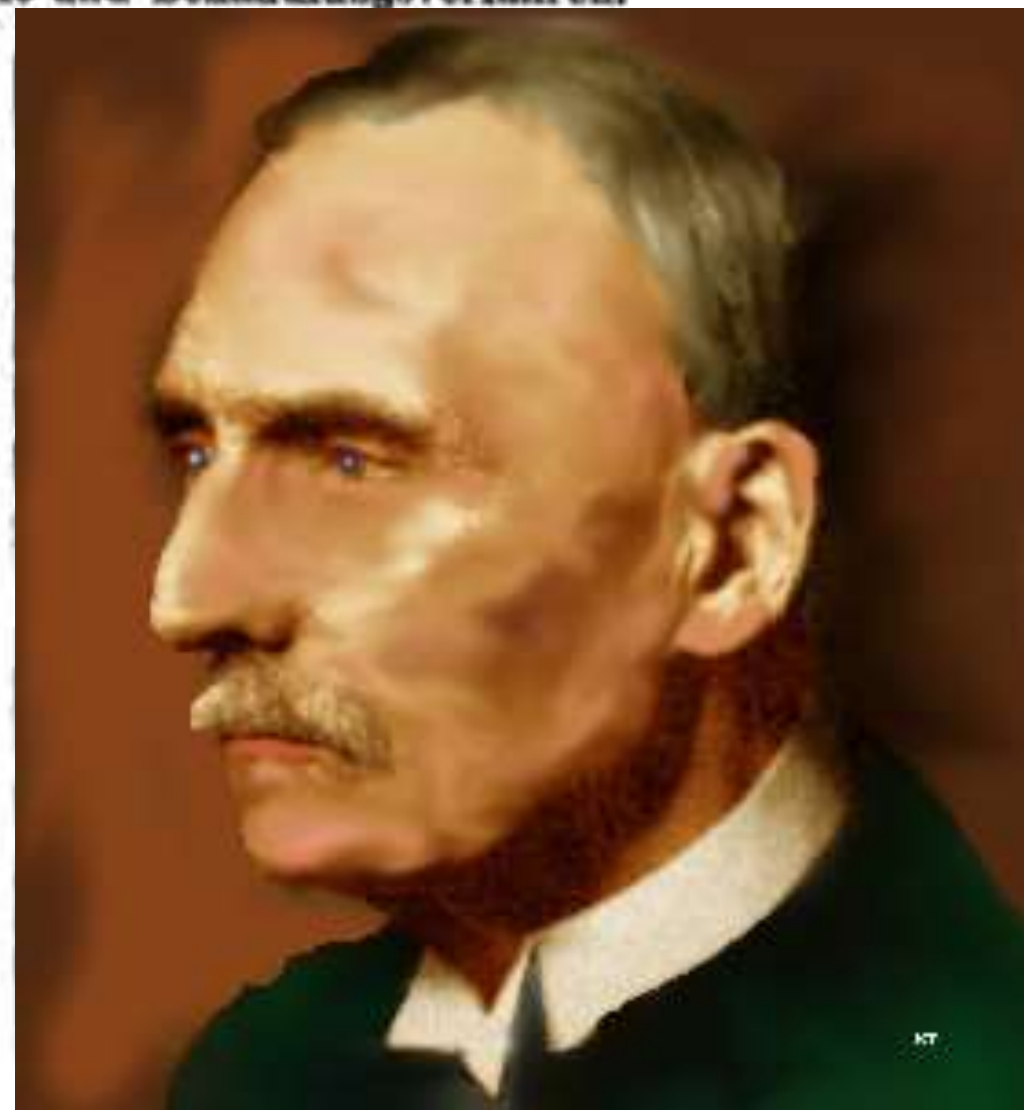
Prof. Dr. Ramstedt, Oberstabsarzt.

Die Frage, ob man die Pylorusstenose der Säuglinge intern oder operativ behandeln soll, wird heute wohl von keinem Pädiater mehr einseitig im Sinne der internen Behandlung beantwortet, sondern von Fall zu Fall entschieden. Da unzweifelhaft unter zweckmäßigen diätetischen Maßnahmen, wie sie besonders Heubner, Pfaundler, Ibrahim und Andere empfohlen haben, die größte Zahl der Säuglinge mit Pylorusstenose ausheilt, ist eine abwartende Therapie in allen Fällen erst zu versuchen. Schwieriger ist die Frage zu beantworten, wie lange man diese durchführen soll, wenn der Erfolg auf sich warten läßt. Diese Entscheidung wird, wie mir scheint, wesentlich mit dadurch be-

¹⁾ B. u. Chir., Bd. 58.

²⁾ „Ueber chronische Wirbelsäulerversteifung“, F. d. Röntg., Bd. 10, H. 5.

³⁾ Nach einem Vortrage, gehalten auf der Naturforscherversammlung in Münster 1912.



Gastric peroral endoscopic myotomy for refractory gastroparesis:
first human endoscopic pyloromyotomy (with video) 

Mouen A. Khashab, Ellen Stein, John O. Clarke, Payal Saxena, Vivek Kumbhari, Bani Chander Roland, Anthony N. Kalloo, Stavros Stavropoulos, Pankaj Pasricha, Haruhiro Inoue [GIE 2013](#);78:764–768

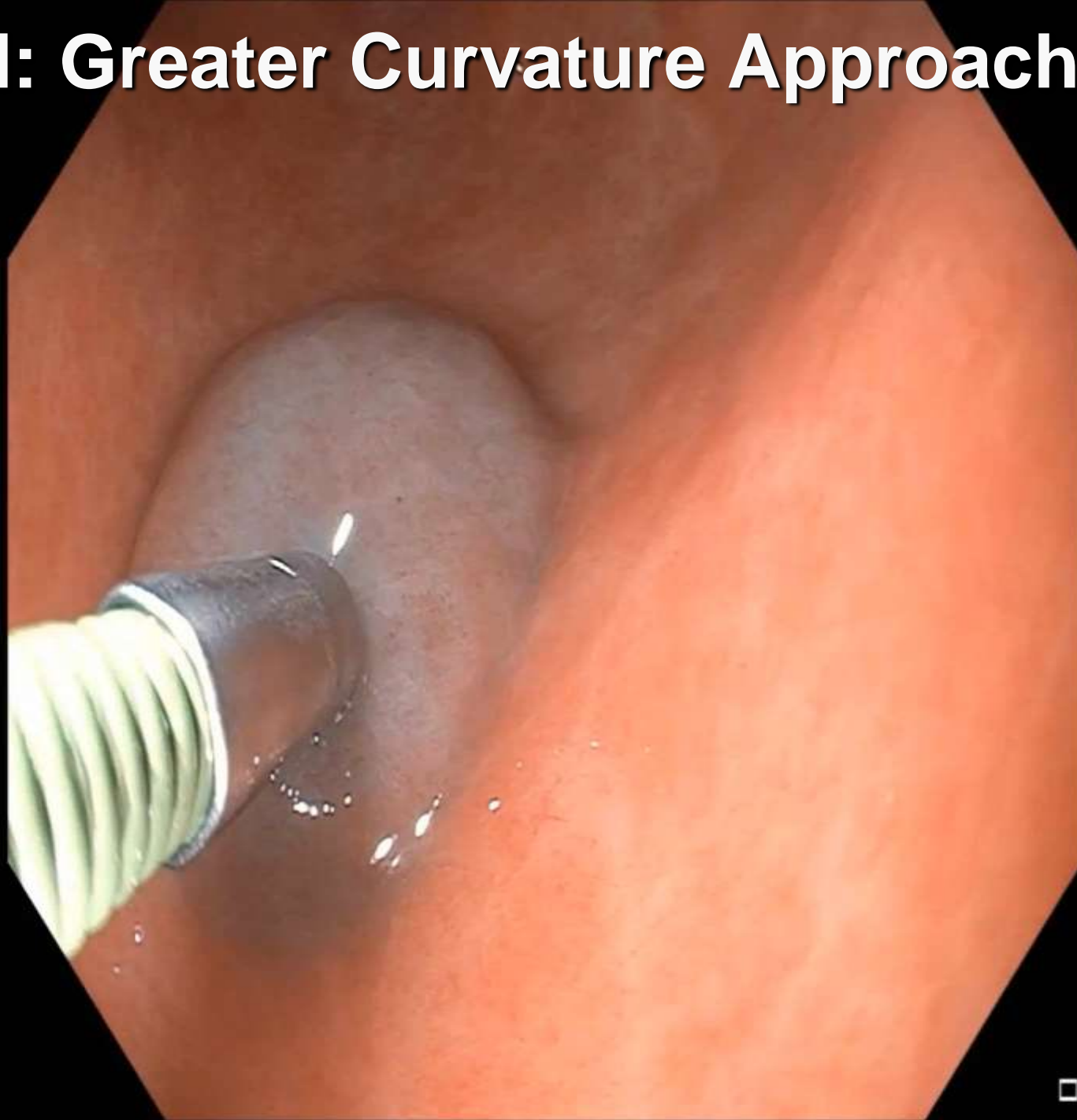
[SAGES 2014](#)

Early human experience with Per-Oral Endoscopic Pyloromyotomy (POP). E Shlomovitz, R Pescarus, A Sharata, KM Reavis, CM Dunst, LL Swanstrom.

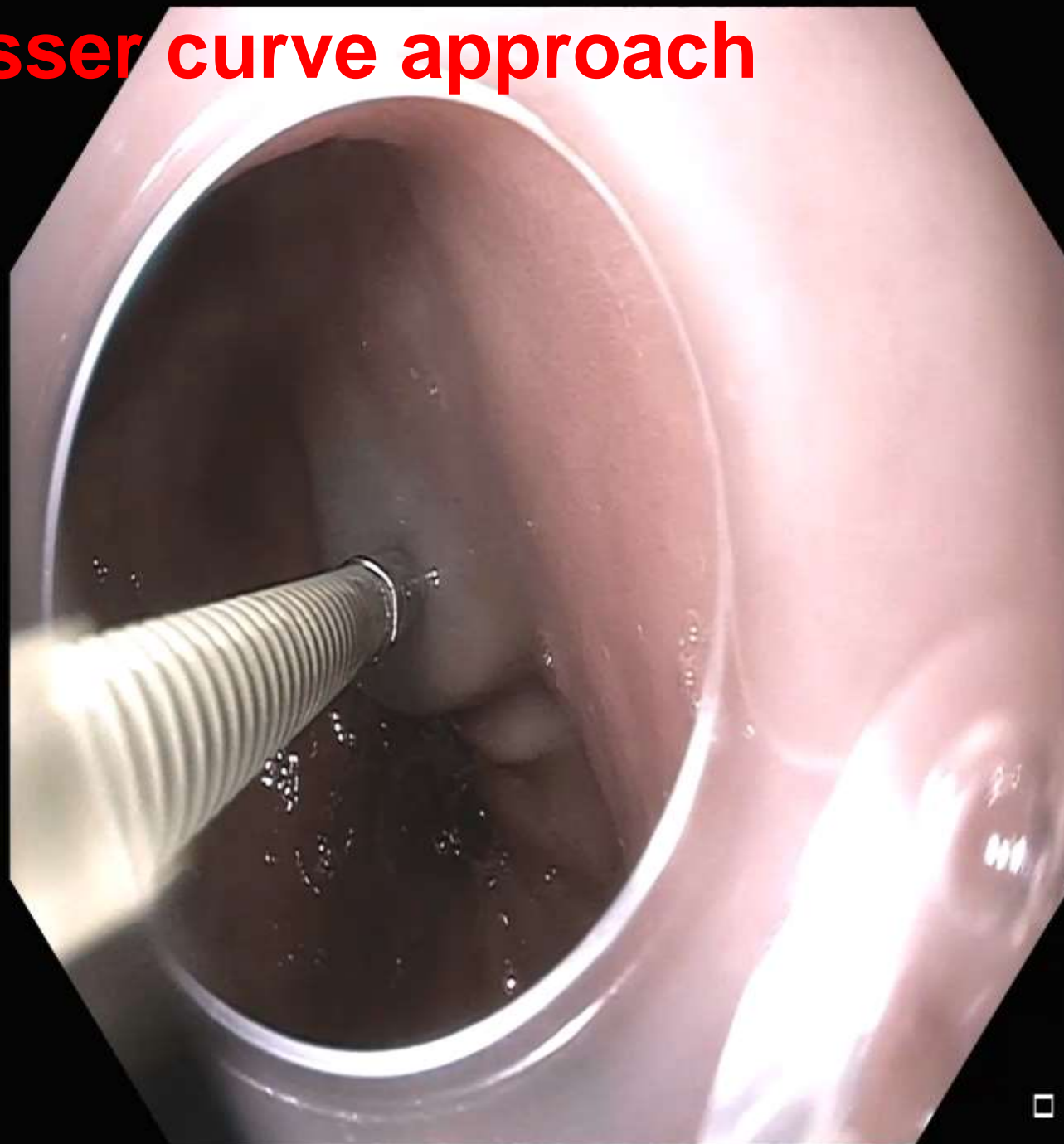
GIE 2005;61:598-600.

Endoscopic pyloromyotomy for congenital pyloric stenosis.
Ibarguen-Secchia. San Antonio, TX

G-POEM: Greater Curvature Approach



GPOEM Lesser curve approach



G-POEM for Gastroparesis

[Khashab et al (MC) GIE 2017;85:123-8]

30 refractory gastroparesis

Prior Botox 12, transpyloric stenting 3, PEGJ 1

G-POEM in 100% in 72 min (35-223 min)

Myotomy length 2.6 ± 2.3 cm

LOS 3.3 days (range, 1-12 days)

AE 2 (6.7%): 1 capnoperitoneum/1 ulcer

Clinical response 26 (86%) f/u 5.5 months

Gastric emptying normalized in 8/17 (47%)

improved in 6/17 (35%)

Same day discharge after GPOEM

[Landreneau JP et al (Cleveland Clinic) Surg Endosc 2019;Sep 3]

44 pts, Jan 2016-May 2018

SDD compared with 54 admitted pts

Mean age 44.8, 85% female

idiopathic 53.7%, DM 29.6%, post-surg 11.1%

Operative time 25.4 v 31.1 min

Recovery time 4 h v 29.3 h

Readmission 7.4 v 18.5%

AE 1.9 v 3.7%

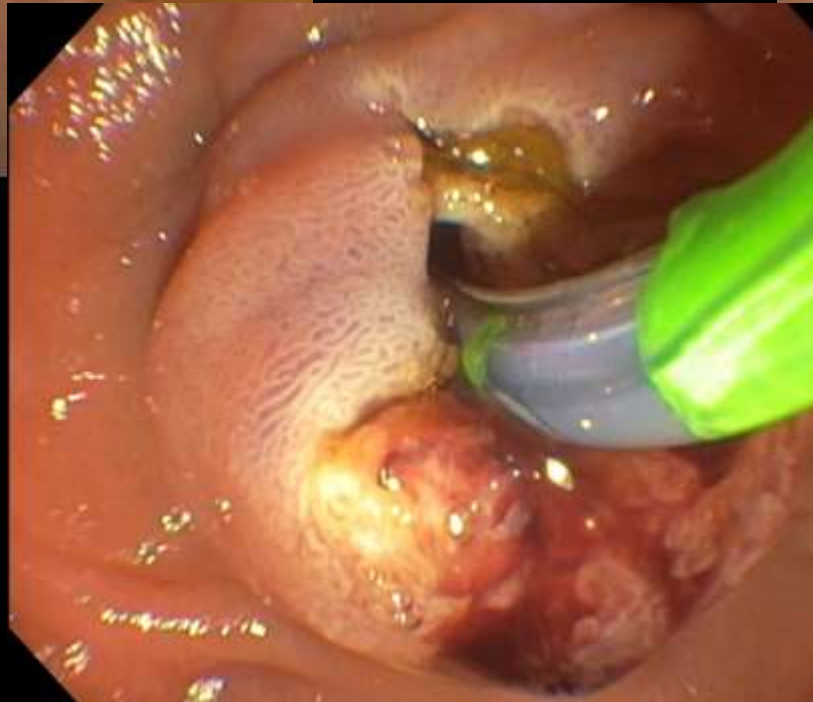
Cost 26% less with SDD

G-POEM (Pyloromyotomy)

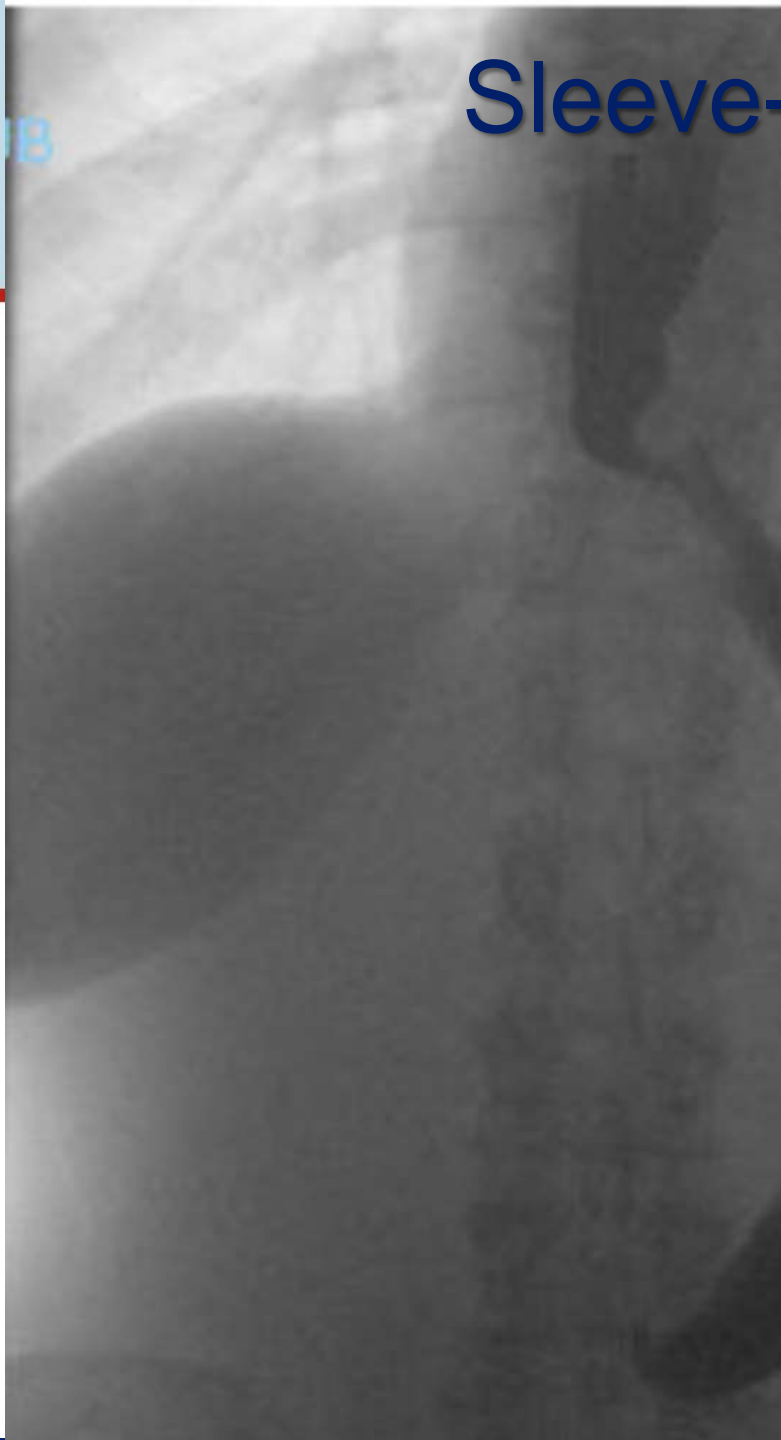
Is now an acceptable treatment for selected patients with gastroparesis



Biliary-POEM & Pancreatic-POEM

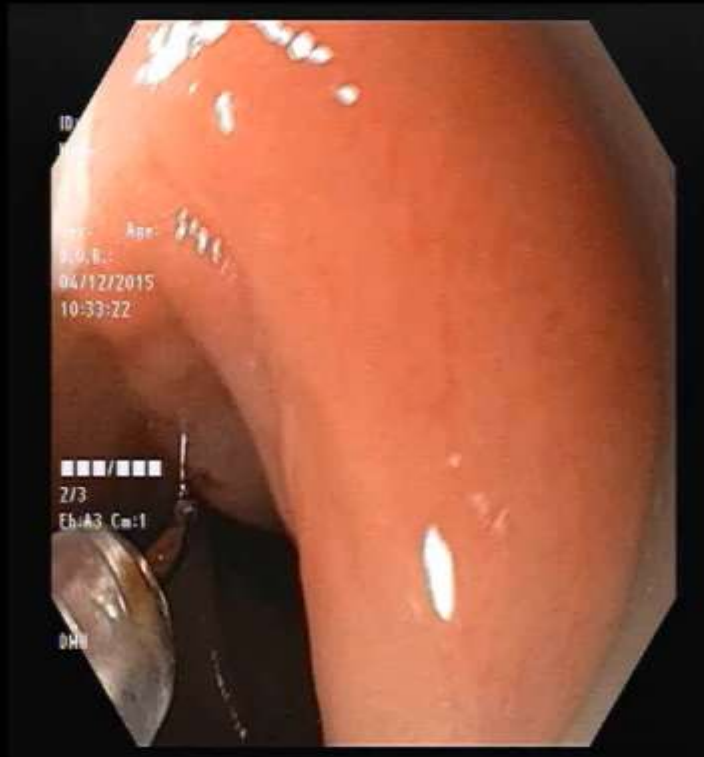


Sleeve-POEM (Petros Benias, MD)



Per Rectal Endoscopic Myotomy for Adult Hirschsprung's Disease: First Human Case

[Bapaye A, et al [Pune India] Dig Endo 2016;28:680-684]



Myotomy Family

- Z-POEM (Zenker's)
- E-POEM (Achalasia)
- G-POEM (Gastroparesis)
- B-POEM (Biliary)
- P-POEM (Pancreatic)
- S-POEM (Sleeve)
- PREM (Hirschsprung's)

