



Abnormal Position of Main Pancreatic Duct Running on the Posterior Surface of Pancreas, which is Possible to Influence the Result of Pancreaticoduodenectomy

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Clinical Image

The success of pancreaticoduodenectomy depends on reliable pancreaticoenterostomy. Herein, we present a patient, who underwent pancreaticoduodenectomy for cholangiocarcinoma. The main pancreatic duct was shown to face superior mesenteric vein and splenic vein directly without intervention of pancreatic parenchyma (Figure 1). The pancreatic duct was exposed on the posterior surface of the pancreas, which was confirmed also in the operative view (Figure 2).

We always perform the anastomosis of the duct with a certain pancreatic parenchyma for the stability of the stitches. Because, in this case, it was impossible to do so, external stent was placed into the pancreatic duct, fixing by ligation of absorbable thread with the duct covering the stent, and was penetrated and fixed to jejunal wall by purse-string suture.

We cannot find the case with such 'anomaly' of position of the pancreatic duct as this patient by searching in PubMed.

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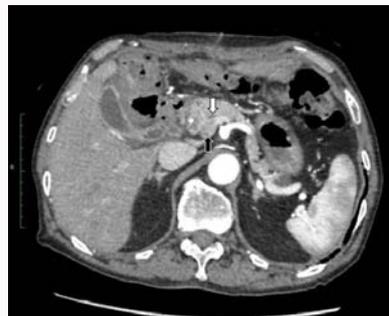


Figure 1: The image of preoperative CT scan early phase with injection of contrast medium. The main pancreatic duct (white arrow) exists in contact with the superior mesenteric vein (black arrow).



Figure 2: The operative view after pancreaticoduodenectomy before reconstruction. A rubber tube, 3 mm in diameter, was inserted into the main pancreatic duct. A part of the cut end of the pancreatic duct (white arrow) faces the posterior surface of the pancreas.