

19th European

# GASTROENTEROLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS CONGRESS

December 12-13, 2024 | Webinar

## Use of the staple line reinforcement tool to completely avoid anastomotic leakage end-to-end anastomosis

**Atsushi Hirose**

Toyama prefectural Central Hospital, Japan

**Background:** We observed anastomotic leakage (AL) in approximately 2% of functional end-to-end anastomosis (FEEA) cases annually and usually observed at the staple line of the entry hole closure in several reoperation cases. Although many risk factors for AL have been reported in previous reports [1-4], this study aimed to investigate whether AL would occur in FEEA using a new staple line reinforcement tool—ECHELON ENDOPATH® Staple Line Reinforcement (SLR) (Ethicon, Raritan, NJ, USA) (FIGURE 1).

**Methods:** A total of 380 patients/400 anastomoses performed from September 2021, when SLR use began, to the end of February 2024 were compared retrospectively, with a total of 459 patients/469 anastomoses performed from April 2020 to August 2022, the same period before SLR was initiated. The SLR group used the ECHELON FLEX® 60 mm and GST® system (Ethicon, Raritan, NJ, USA) cartridges as the stapling device.

### Biography

Atsushi Hirose specializes lower gastrointestinal surgery in Japan, especially laparoscopic and robot-assisted surgery. He graduated from the Hokkaido University School of Medicine with a degree in Medical Doctor, and graduated from Kanazawa University Graduate School of Medicine with a Doctor of Philosophy. He is about to have less than 20 years of clinical experience, he manages more than 200 lower gastrointestinal surgical procedures a year, mainly in clinical practice, 100 of which he performs himself. In addition, he is actively involved in the education of junior surgeons. In addition, he also offers chemotherapy and palliative care treatment, he is board certified by the Japanese Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Therapy (JSPEN) and is active in the hospital's Nutrition Support Team (NST).

**Results (Table 1):** No AL was observed in the SLR group, with a significant difference ( $p=0.0021$ ). By anastomotic organ, the AL rate significantly decreased for small intestine-colon anastomosis ( $p=0.023$ ), but there was no significant difference in small intestine-small intestine anastomosis ( $p=0.061$ ) or colon-colon anastomosis ( $p=0.35$ ) between groups. One (0.3%) case in the SLR group and two (0.4%) cases in the non-SLR group had abscesses around the anastomosis. However, these cases were not considered AL and considered intracorporeal infection because the intestinal lumen was not contrast-enhanced on CT-guided drainage, the drainage was not fecal juice-like, and the patients healed quickly.

**Conclusion:** In our study, reinforcing the staple line using SLR in FEEA achieved completely avoid AL and may reduce the AL rate. We hope to include more cases in the future when AL occurs so that we can investigate the cause in greater detail.