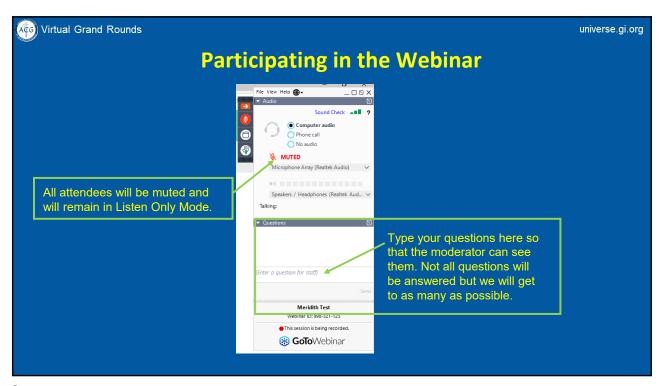
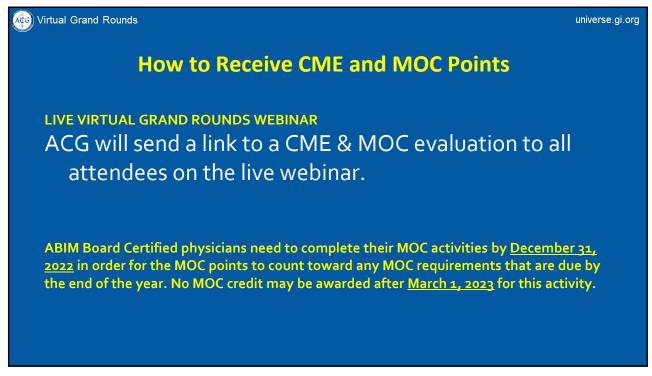


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#### **MOC QUESTION**

If you plan to claim MOC Points for this activity, you will be asked to: Please list specific changes you will make in your practice as a result of the information you received from this activity.

Include specific strategies or changes that you plan to implement.

THESE ANSWERS WILL BE REVIEWED.

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Faculty: Andres J. Yarur, MD, FACG
Moderator: Ryan C. Ungaro, MD, MS
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Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 8:00 PM Eastern

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# Palliation in Pancreatic Cancer

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University of Wisconsin School of Medicine& Public Health

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## **Current Problem**

- $7^{th}$  highest mortality in the world and  $4^{th}$  in US likely  $2^{nd}$  by 2030 in US
- Resectability at the time of diagnosis 20%
- 5-year survival approximately 5%
- Most common problems : Gastric outlet obstruction, Biliary obstruction, Pain control and local tumor sensitization/treatment

Siegel RL, Miller KD, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2019. CA Cancer J Clin 2019; 69: 7-34



#### Palliation in Pancreatic Cancer –Endoscopist's role

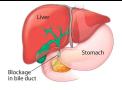
Objectives: Explain endoscopic palliation options

- 1. Biliary drainage ERCP stent/EUS guided drainage
- 2. Gastric outlet obstruction (GOO) Stents/Surgery/EUS guided bypass
- 3. Tumor localization fiducial placement
- 4. Pain management
- 5. Local therapies- tumor regression/sensitization

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- Lesions in the head of pancreas likely cause biliary obstruction jaundice, pruritus, cholangitis
- Current concept is for upfront stenting prior to neoadjuvant therapy
- Options: Surgical, Percutaneous, Endoscopic
- Surgical Increased recovery time, long recovery time rarely done
- Percutaneous drainage Not desirable external bag, leakage, infection – last resort!!

Speer A.G. et al. Lancet 1987; 2: pp. 57-62. Smith A.C et al. Lancet 1994; 344: pp. 1655-1660 Sharaiha et al. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Vol. 85 Issue 5p904–914



## Endoscopic Biliary drainage – should it be routine?

- Not everyone needs drainage
- Indications: HOP lesions, biliary obstruction, surgery >2 weeks, GOO needing stenting
- ERCP even with experts 5-8% risk of complications
- For upfront surgery No Routine preop ERCP :higher complications, delay in surgery
- Limitations: High failure rates of ERCP, high complication rates, no data on EUS intervention

Wang P et al. Am J Gastroenterol 2009:104(1)31-40 Van derGaag N Engl J Med 2010 LeeJ, Ahmed Surg Oncol Clin N Am 28 (2019) 147-159 Lee PJ, et al. HPB (Oxford). 2018 Jun;20(6):477-486.

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# Biliary stenting – ERCP

- Metal stents favored over plastic stents\*
- Metal stents: longer patency, fewer complications
- Covered: less tumor ingrowth but more migration, >risk of PEP, cholecystitis
- No clear consensus for covered vs Uncovered both can be used for neoadjuvant therapy\*\*
- Reasons for failure of stenting: Stricture, Mass effect and angulation
- Stent PD if even unintentional cannulation
- Biliary and GOO may be synchronous/asynchronous –evaluate and proceed double stenting when needed
- Endoscopic decompression improves QoL

Davids P.H. et al. Lancet 1992; 340: pp. 1488-1492 \* Lee JH et al. Gastrointest Endosc. 2013 78(2):312-24 Moole et al. Indian J Gastroenterol (Sept-Oct 2016) 35(5):323-330 Seo D.W, et al. Gastrointest Endosc 2019; 90: pp. 602-612.e4\*\* Fogel EL, et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2017 Apr;112(4):537-554



## **Drug Eluting Stents**

- Likely increase stent patency
- Improve local drug penetration without increasing systemic toxicity
- Increased patency but no survival benefit (429 vs 148 (covered)/143 (uncovered) days

Lee et al. Gastrointest Endosc 2005;61(2):296-301 Suk et al. Gastrointest Endsoc 2007;66(4):798-803

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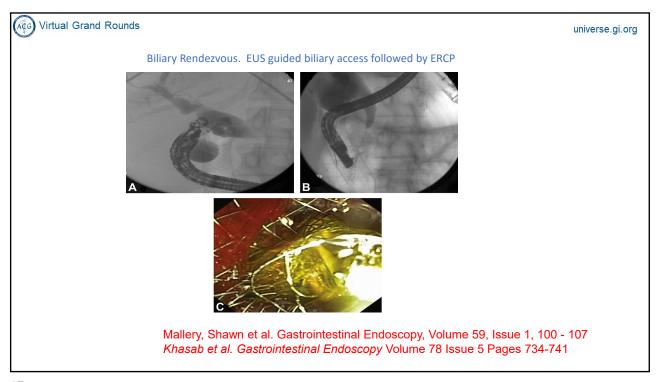


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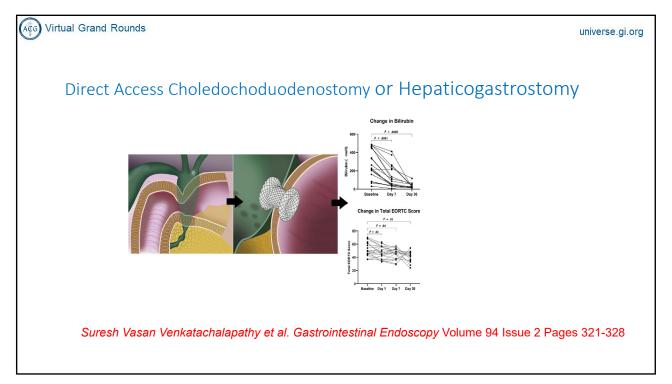
## EUS guided Biliary drainage

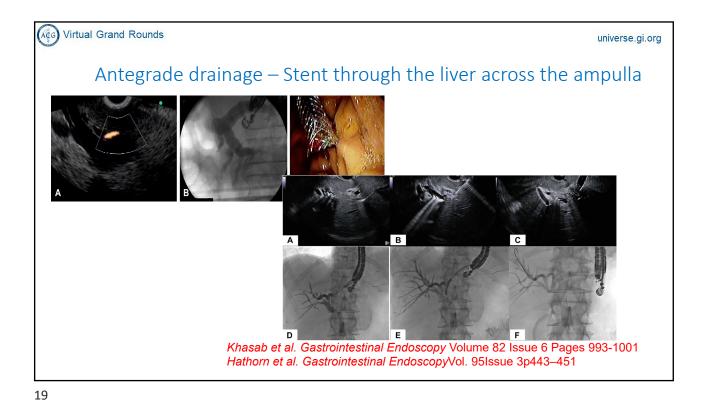
- Failure rate of ERCP 5-7%
- Three options:
  - 1. Biliary Rendezvous
  - 2. Direct Access: Choledochoduodenostomy/Hepaticogastrostomy puncture LHD/CHD from stomach or duodenum
  - 3. Antegrade drainage Stent through the liver across the ampulla
- Clinical success for EUS- biliary drainage: 94% with AE of 17%
- Data suggest primary EUS guided biliary drainage to minimize complications

Coté GA et al. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2012; 10: 920-924 Giovannini M et al. *Endoscopy* 2001; **33**: 898-900 Khan S et al. *Dig Dis Sci* 2016; **61**: 684-703 **Han SY** et al. *Sci Rep* 2019; **9**: 16551



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## Will or should EUS-BD be preferred over ERCP-BD

- Three RCTs done SEMS used
- EUS-BD comparable to ERCP safety and patency
- No pancreatitis, reduced stent occlusion, re intervention rates
- Potential for same setting diagnosis, relief of obstruction, fiducial placement

Bang JY, et al.Gastrointest Endosc. 2016 Nov;84(5):773-779 Paik W.H., et al. Am J Gastroenterol 2018; 113: pp. 987-997. Park J.K Gastrointest Endosc 2018; 88: pp. 277-282



#### Gastric outlet obstruction

- Tumor growth, related inflammation -15-25%
- Nausea, vomiting, poor oral intake
- Surrogate marker for poor survival
- Options:
  - Surgical Bypass
  - Endoscopic stenting of the duodenum
  - EUS guided gastro jejunostomy

Tendler DA. Am J Gastroenterol 2002;97: 4-6

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## Endoscopic stenting for GOO

- Seen in up to 15% of patients with pancreatic cancer
- Symptoms: Abdominal pain, early satiety, fullness, nausea, vomiting, GERD
- High technical success once you pass the wire
- Easier to deploy, good palliation, shorter LOS but HIGH recurrence of symptoms
- Compared to surgery fewer complications, shorter LOS, quicker PO intake
- Common problems:
  - Perforation
  - Bleeding
  - Tumor ingrowth
  - Difficulty in subsequent ERCP



Wong Y.T., et a. Surg Endosc 2002; 16: pp. 310-312 Nagaraja V, et al. *J Gastrointest Oncol.* 2014;5:92-8

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## Surgical GJ vs Endoscopic stenting

- Multicenter RCT 18 in GJ and 21 to stent
- Stent placement: less time to PO intake, <LOS, lower costs</li>
- GJ had higher patency rates
- If survival is > 2 months GJ recommended
- Similar conclusions from a retrospective propensity score matched study
- GJ probably favored with neoadjuvant therapy and improved survival

Jeurnink SM, et al.Gastrointest Endosc. 2010 Mar;71(3):490-9 Jang S., et. al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2019; 17: pp. 1295-1302.e1

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# Endoscopic Ultrasound guided GJ

- EUS guided GJ alternative to stenting and surgery
- LAMS used to create connection between stomach and small bowel distal to obstruction
- Technical success rates: 92%, Clinical Success 90% and pooled AE: 12%, Reintervention rate 9%
- Impact of EUS-GJ on subsequent pancreaticoduodenectomy unclear

Khashab M.A., et. al. Gastrointest Endosc 2015; 82: pp. 932-938 Tyberg A et al. *Endosc Int Open* 2016; 4: E276-E281 Iqbal U et al. *Endosc Ultrasound* 2020; 9: 16-23

Sánchez-Aldehuelo, Rubén et al. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Volume 0, Issue 0. In Press



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## EUS-GJ VS SURGICAL GJ vs ENTERAL STENT

N=463	EUS GJ N=241	ES N=142	Surgical GJ N=80	
Technical success	98.3%	98.9%	100%	P=0.58
Clinical success	97.5%	90.1%,	85.0%	P<0.0001
Re-intervention	1.7%	14.1%	15%	P<0.0001
LOS days	2	4	5	P<0.0001
AE	9.1%	39.3%	28.7%	P<0.0001

**Conclusion:** This large cohort study demonstrates the long-term durability and safety of EUS-GJ as an alternative strategy for GOO palliation

Jaruvongvanich, Veeravich et al. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Volume 95, Issue 6, AB508 - AB509



#### EUS GJ vs SURGICAL GJ

	EUS GE (N=97)	Surgical GE (N=64)	
Technical Success	96.9%	100%	p=0.156
Clinical Success	93.8%	96.9%	p=0.382
Resumption of chemotherapy	23.1 days	41.1 days	p<0.001
Pre procedure Albumin	2.9	3.7	p<0.001
AE	16.5%	32.8%	p=0.016

**Conclusions:** EUS-GE can be performed among nutritionally deficient patients and allows earlier resumption of chemotherapy

de Gooyer, Peter et al. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Volume 95, Issue 6, AB493 Sánchez-Aldehuelo, Rubén et al. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, Volume 0, Issue 0 In Press\*

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## Tumor Localization – Fiducial placement

- Image guided radiotherapy precise deliver of radiation to target lesion
- Allows local tumor control with decreased radiation toxicity
- Placement of gold radio opaque markers by EUS to delineate the tumor
- Technical success 96%, AE 5%

Tchelebi et al. Cancer 2020; **126**: 2120-2131 Patel et al. World J Gastrointest Endosc 2020; **12**: 231-240

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# EUS – Injection therapies

- Small studies animal/human
- Mostly feasibility studies
- No definite data on outcomes/survival advantage
- Studies include concomitant therapy –radiation/chemo and not local injection as standalone – unlikely
- Likely tumor sensitizing agents minimize toxicity and increase response to systemic therapies

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## Injectable therapies

Table 1 Use of injectable therapy in pancreatic malignancies						
Author, Year	Study Type	Malignancy	Injection Therapy			
Chang et al, <sup>37</sup> 2000	Phase I trial	Pancreatic adenocarcinoma	Cytoimplant			
Hecht et al, <sup>38</sup> 2003	Phase I/II trial	Pancreatic adenocarcinoma	ONYX-015			
Gan et al, <sup>39</sup> 2005	Pilot study	Cystic pancreatic lesions	Ethanol lavage			
Meenan et al, <sup>40</sup> 2007	Early phase clinical trial	Pancreatic cancer	32P Biosilicon			
DeWitt et al, <sup>41</sup> 2009	Randomized, double-blind study	Cystic lesions	Ethanol lavage + paclitaxel			
Yang et al,42 2009	Prospective study	Pancreatic cancer	Ethanol			
Oh et al, <sup>43</sup> 2011	Prospective study	Cystic lesions	Ethanol lavage + paclitaxel			
Levy et al,44 2011	Prospective study	Pancreatic cancer	Gemcitabine			
Hecht et al, <sup>45</sup> 2012	Phase I/II trial	Pancreatic adenocarcinoma	TNF-α			
Levy et al,46 2012	Prospective study	PNET	Ethanol lavage			
Herman et al, <sup>47</sup> 2013	Phase III trial	Pancreatic adenocarcinoma	TNF-α			
Levy et al, <sup>48</sup> 2017	Prospective study	Pancreatic cancer	Gemcitabine			
Nishimura et al, <sup>49</sup> 2017	Open-label study	Pancreatic cancer	STNM01 (double- stranded RNA oligonucleotide			

Lee, Ahmed. Surg Oncol Clin N Am. 2019 Jan;28(1):147-159. Hirooka et al. BMC Cancer. 2018 May 25;18(1):596

Jong-chan Lee, DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gie.2020.02.012 (in press)

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## Brachytherapy

- Seeds/microparticles/liquids placed directly into or adjacent to the tumor
- Steady exposure of target tissue to low-energy gamma, Xrays/ Beta particles
- Leads to localized tissue injury and ablation
- EUS to delivery the radioactive seeds phosphorus 32, iodine, gold, iridium and yttrium
- Goal is to downstage tumor for resection

Bhutani MS, et al. VideoGIE. 2019;4(5):223-5

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## Radiofrequency ablation

- RFA generates high temperatures and causes local coagulative necrosis
- Possible stimulation of immune response Abscopal effect
- Potential complications: Pancreatitis, PD strictures, bowel perforation, peritonitis, bleeding

**Tatli S** etal. *Diagn Interv Radiol* 2012; **18**: 508-516 **Kaminski JM** et al. *Cancer Treat Rev* 2005; **31**: 159-172 *Salom, Prat. World J Gastrointest Endosc* 2022 January **16**; **14**(1): 35-48



#### Pain Control

- Pain/analgesia ladder escalation based on symptoms
- Mild: Acetaminophen, NSAIDs
  - Complementary approaches acupuncture, massage, mindfulness etc.,
- Moderate: Adjuvant meds Duloxetine, amitriptyline, gabapentin, tizanidine, baclofen etc..
  - Mild/Moderate opiods
- Severe: Stronger opiods (morphine, oxycodone, hydromorphone etc.,)
  - EUS- CPB
  - EUS CPN
  - video-thoracoscopic splanchnicectomy (VSPL)
  - intrathecal drug delivery systems (IDDS)

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## Celiac Plexus block & Neurolysis

- CPN used in treatment of pain
- Injection : central location, bilateral or into the celiac ganglion
- Overall response rates 68% (CI 61-74%) at week 2 and 53 % (95% CI 45-62%) at week 4
- No difference in injection techniques
- Complications higher in central injection

Koulouris AI, et al. .Pancreatology. 2021 Mar;21(2):434-442

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# Celiac Plexus neurolysis with RFA

- RFA: Proven efficacy in splanchnic nerve blockade in chronic abdominal pain due to chronic pancreatitis/malignancies
- RCT of 28 patients CPN (14) RFA (12)
- At 4 weeks pain scores lower in RFA group
- No difference in opiate use
- Preliminary data favor RFA over CPN

Bang et al. Gastrointest Endosc 2019;89:58-66.

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## Non endoscopic options

- Nausea
  - Serotonin receptor antagonists =/- dopamine-receptor antagonists
  - Antipychotics
- Dyspnea
  - Opiates
- Abdominal distension (peritoneal metastases + Ascites)
  - Paracentesis (drain placement)/diuretics/Peritoneovenous shunt
- Constipation
  - Multiple drug regimens (different mechanism of action)
- Behavioral health
  - Pain control, anxiolytics, anti depressants, psychological support

Moffat GT et al. Cancer. 2019 Nov 15;125(22):3927-3935



#### Thromboembolic disease

- >27%. 4 times > other cancers and >50 times to average individuals
- VTE poor prognostic factor for mortality
- PE and VTE second leading cause of death in PDAC
- Consider LMWH, DOACs

Yousuke Nakai et al. Surgical Oncology Clinics of North America, 2021-10-01, Volume 30, Issue 4, Pages 639-65

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#### Nutrition in Pancreatic Cancer

- Weight loss and cachexia seen in up to 80%
- Leads to decrease QOL
- Frequent small meals, well balanced, low fat, simple carbs
- Avoid excess alcohol.
- Panc Enzyme Replacement Therapy (PERT) improves malabsorption, pain, steatorrhea and QoL. Symptom correlation is poor.
- Consider appetite stimulants : Megestrol, synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol

Landers A et al. *Palliative care* 2019;12:1178224218825270 Moffat GT et al. Cancer. 2019 Nov 15;125(22):3927-3935 Bartel MJ, et al. *Dig Liver Dis.* 2015;47:1013–20



## Malignant Afferent Limb Syndrome

- Seen post pancreaticoduodenectomy
- Complete or partial obstruction of the afferent (pancreaticobilary)
   limb
- Common causes: Radiation enteropathy, tumor recurrence
- Incidence: up to 13% in one year
- Treatment options: Surgical bypass or EUS –GE/enteral stent
- EUS-GE technically feasible, natural way for biliary and pancreatic drainage

Yousuke Nakai et al. Surgical Oncology Clinics of North America, 2021-10-01, Volume 30, Issue 4, Pages 639-65

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#### In summary:

- 1.Endoscopic biliary drainage superior and favorable to surgical or percutaneous approaches
- 2. If ERCP drainage not feasible consider EUS drainage or EUS first approach is preferable as well.
- 3. Consider Biliary drainage at the time of stenting of GOO
- 4. EUS- GJ preferable over surgical approach and maybe superior to transpyloric stenting
- 5. Early Celiac plexus neurolysis may be beneficial in pain control
- 6. Local injection therapies, brachytherapy, RFA are still experimental in treatment of pancreatic cancer
- 7. Consider prophylaxis for VTE, nutrition and enzyme replacement



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