

# A technique for solution of alpha loop-formed guidewire in the bile duct

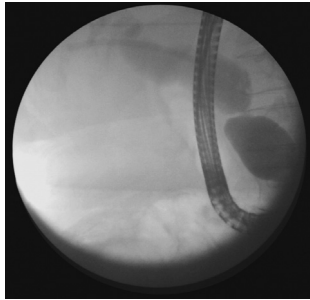
*Safra yolunda alfa loop olmuş kılavuz kateterin çözüm tekniği*

*To the Editor,*

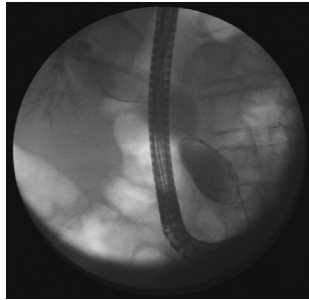
An 86-year-old woman with a history of previous stent application in the choledochus due to a narrowed segment three months before admitted to the hospital with jaundice. Her physical examination revealed widespread intense jaundice without fever. Her laboratory results and hepatobiliary ultrasound revealed an obstructive jaundice. Thereafter, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) (Olympus CV-260 SV) was performed. After selective cannulation of the choledochus, a bilobulated, advanced dilated choledochus with short segment narrowing in the distal part and in the middle part and a broken biliary plastic stent in the proximal choledochus were shown (Figure 1). Despite several repetitions, the guidewire formed an alpha loop in the distal dilated segment

of the choledochus, and thus could not be passed through the narrow segment in the middle of the choledochus without alpha loop (Figure 2). Previously, the biliary stent had been inserted over the alpha loop, and consequently broke. In order to resolve this problem, a balloon catheter was inserted over the guidewire and inflated in the proximal dilated part of the choledochus. Then, the balloon and contained guidewire were straightened with pulling as the balloon supplied a hanging force (Figure 3). A 10 French (F), 12 cm biliary stent was placed successfully (Figure 4). The jaundice resolved in the following days.

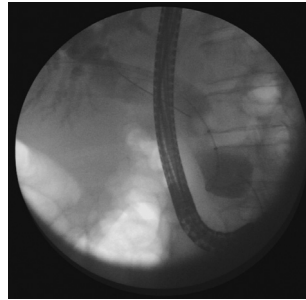
In conclusion, we recommend using this technique to overcome such a problem rather than placing the stent over the alpha-loop guidewire.



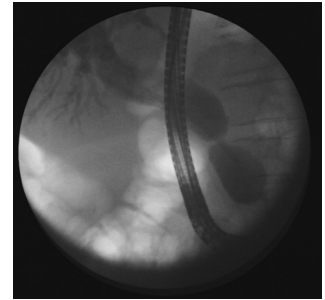
**Figure 1.** A bilobulated, advanced dilated choledoc, and a broken biliary plastic stent in the proximal choledoc were shown.



**Figure 2.** The alpha-looped guide-wire was shown.



**Figure 3.** The straightening of inflated balloon and the guidewire were shown.



**Figure 4.** Successfully placing of the biliary stent was shown.

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