

# Giant Lipoma Causing Intestinal Subocclusion: Detachable Snare Loop-Assisted Polypectomy

João Fernandes<sup>a</sup> Rui Ramos<sup>a</sup> Célia Vicente<sup>a</sup> Tobias Teles<sup>b</sup> Jorge Canena<sup>c</sup>  
Luís Lopes<sup>d-f</sup> Carlos Casteleiro<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Gastroenterology Department, Centro Hospitalar Cova da Beira EPE, Covilhã, Portugal; <sup>b</sup>Surgery Department, Centro Hospitalar Cova da Beira EPE, Covilhã, Portugal; <sup>c</sup>Gastroenterology Department, Nova Medical School/Faculdade de Ciências Médicas de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal; <sup>d</sup>Gastroenterology Department, Hospital Santa Luzia, Viana do Castelo, Portugal; <sup>e</sup>Life and Health Sciences Research Institute (ICVS), School of Medicine, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal; <sup>f</sup>ICVS/3B's – PT Government Associate Laboratory, Braga/Guimarães, Portugal

## Keywords

Giant lipoma · Subepithelial lesion · Endoloop · Polypectomy

**Suboclusão intestinal causada por um lipoma gigante: Polipectomia assistida por laço endoscópico**

## Palavras Chave

Lipoma gigante · Lesão subepitelial · Laço endoscópico · Polipectomia

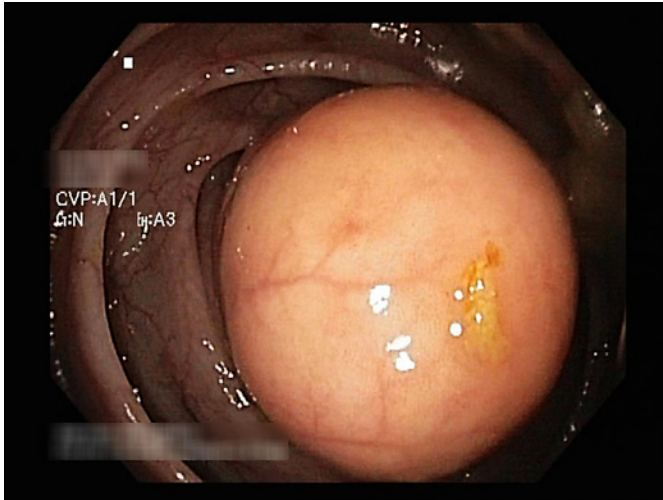
Gastrointestinal lipomas are benign tumors mostly located in the right colon and usually diagnosed during endoscopic procedures [1–4]. Although typically silent, they can cause symptoms such as bleeding, obstruction, invagination, or prolapse. Their tendency to become symptomatic is strongly correlated with their size and location [1–5].

We describe the case of a 78-year-old man reporting recurrent abdominal pain in the last 8 months, during

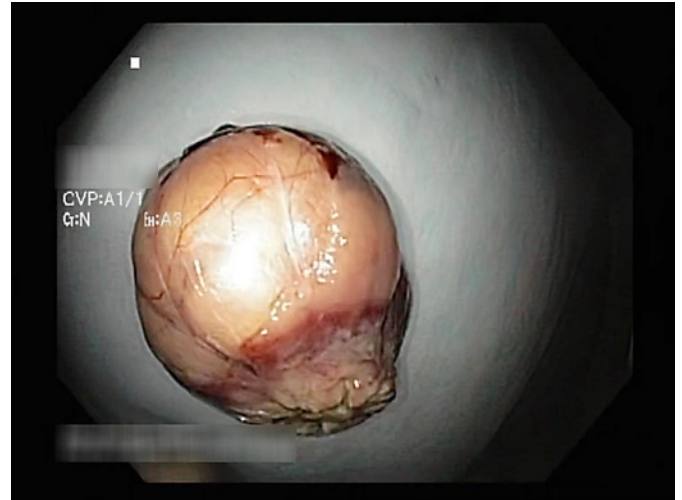
which he had an episode of intestinal subocclusion. Colonoscopy revealed an 8-cm yellowish pedunculated lesion at the transverse colon occupying the entire lumen (Fig. 1). The yellowish color and presence of a “pillow sign” supported our presumptive lipoma diagnosis.

As the clinical symptoms reported were thought to be caused by the lipoma, it was decided to perform an endoscopic resection (Video) using a single-channel colonoscope. First, we ligated the stalk with 3 detachable snare loops (Endoloop Olympus) in order to prevent bleeding. Then the lipoma was resected en bloc using a polypectomy snare (Fig. 2, 3). There were no adverse events related to the procedure, which lasted 20 min. The patient was discharged on the same day. Histopathological examination showed a submucosal lipoma with an R0 resection. The patient remains asymptomatic 2 years after resection.

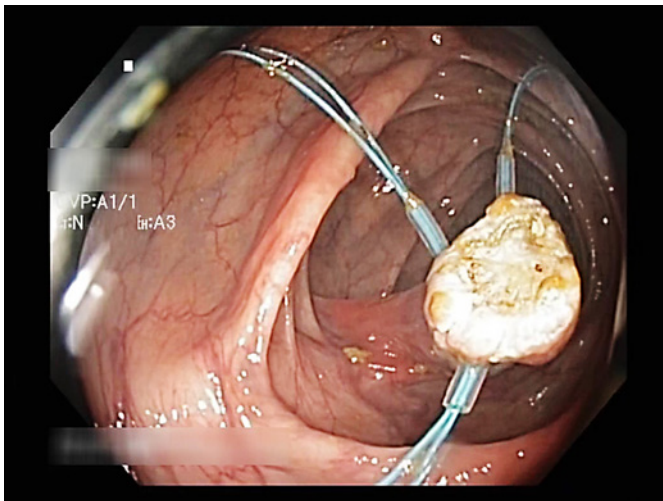
Resection of a gastrointestinal lipoma is recommended for symptomatic lesions. Most authors recommend endoscopic excision exclusively in lipomas of up to 20–30 mm, since larger lesions tend to present an unacceptable rate of complications using an endoscopic approach [2, 4, 5]. However, with the development of new endoscopic



**Fig. 1.** Endoscopic view of the lipoma occluding the lumen.



**Fig. 3.** Resected specimen.



**Fig. 2.** Remnant stalk.

devices and techniques such as detachable snare loops, we are now able to remove safely these lesions, which were once referred for surgery [4, 5].

We highlight this case since, as far as we know after literature search, this is one of the largest lipomas resected by endoscopy, underlining the role of interventional endoscopy in the approach of these lesions.

### Statement of Ethics

This study did not require informed consent nor review/approval by the appropriate ethics committee.

### Disclosure Statement

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

### Author Contributions

J.F., R.R., J.C., and L.L. wrote the manuscript. C.V., T.T., and C.C. were responsible for the revision of its contents.

### References

- 1 Fernandes J, Libânio D, Giestas S, Araújo T, Martínez-Ares D, Certo M, et al: Giant symptomatic rectal lipoma resected by endoscopic submucosal dissection. *Endoscopy* 2018;50: E63–E64.
- 2 Panagiotakis GI, Andreou AG, Petrakis IE, Tzardi M, Daskalogiannaki M, Chalkiadakis GE: Laparoscopic resection of a sigmoid colon lipoma in a young female patient: a case report and review of the literature. *Oncol Lett* 2017;13:1303–1306.
- 3 Mendes SS, Pinho R, Leite S, Ponte A, Silva J, Rodrigues J, et al: Ligate-and-resect technique for resection of a large pseudo-pedunculated subepithelial lesion in the ascending colon. *GE Port J Gastroenterol* 2018;25:96–98.
- 4 Lee KJ, Kim GH, Park DY, Shin NR, Lee BE, Ryu DY, et al: Endoscopic resection of gastrointestinal lipomas: a single-center experience. *Surg Endosc Other Interv Tech* 2014;28:185–192.
- 5 Lorenzo D, Gonzalez JM, Benezech A, Barthet M: Endoscopic resection of giant GI lipoma: a case series. *Video GIE* 2016;1:43–46.