LETTER

Endoscopic Varical Ligation

Sir,

We have read with interest the letter by Nanivadekar et al describing a few modifications in the equipment for endoscopic varical ligation. We also have experience in this area and have the following comments.

Using the introducer used by Nanivadekar et al, there is a chance of slipping of the 'O' ring before it is applied on to the inner cylinder. Moreover, the glass pipette may occasionally cause injury to endoscopy room personnel. We have made an introducer from the front part (snout) of a ball point pen, the inner diameter of which (Fig 1a) is slightly larger than that of the inner cylinder. The lumen of the pen is filled with plaster of Paris over its entire length except for a short distance at the end (Fig 1b) so that the edge of the inner cylinder can be held in this empty space while loading the 'O' ring (Fig 1c, d & e). This introducer is safer to use and there is no chance of the slipping of the 'O' ring at the time of loading on the inner cylinder.

Furthermore, Nanivadekar et al used a lacrosse string for making the trip wire. We, on the other hand, use a nylon fishing line which is cheaper. The knot can be made without the help of a soldering gun by heating the wire's end over a candle flame.

We have used these cheaper and safer accessories for the last three years on more than 150 patients without experiencing any difficulty.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Asia Pacific Association of Gastroenterology Mini Congress will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, November 8-10, 1995. For details contact:
APAGE Mini Congress Secretariat
Jet Asia (Pvt) Ltd., 12/1 Tickel Road
Colombo 8, Sri Lanka
Tel: 066623488594, Fax: 0004-1-688594

International Congress on Pediatric Gastroenterology will be held in Jaipur, December 12-16, 1995. For details, contact:
Dr Babir S Tomar
President, 1st International Congress on Pediatric Gastroenterology

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4, Govind Marg, Jaipur 302004 India
Tel: 91-141-604040 or 605050, Fax: 91-141-653788

1st World Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Caustic Esophageal Burns in Children will be held in İzmir on April 3-5, 1996. For details contact:
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