**Name of Journal: *World Journal of Hepatology***

**Manuscript NO: 34213**

**Manuscript Type: Minireviews**

**Role of endoscopic ultrasound in liver disease: Where do we stand in 2017?**

Saraireh HA *et al* EUS in liver diseases

# Hamzeh A Saraireh, Mohammad Bilal, Shailendra Singh

**Hamzeh A Saraireh,** Department of Internal Medicine, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX 77555, United States

**Mohammad Bilal,** Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX 77555, United States

**Shailendra Singh,** Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, United States

**Author contributions:** Saraireh HA and Bilal M performed literature review and search; Saraireh HA wrote the initial manuscript which was edited by Bilal M; Bilal M wrote certain parts of the manuscript; Singh S was involved in editing the manuscript and provided expert opinion.

**Conflict-of-interest statement:** The authors report no conflict of interest and have no financial disclosures.

**Open-Access:** This article is an open-access article which was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

**Manuscript source:** Invited manuscript

**Correspondence to: Shailendra Singh, MD,** Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Allegheny General Hospital, 320 East North Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, United States. shail121@gmail.com

**Telephone:** +1-412-2775244

**Fax:** +1-412-3598439

**Received:** April 7, 2017

**Peer-review started:** April 10, 2017

**First decision:** May 19, 2017

**Revised:** June 11, 2017

**Accepted:** July 21, 2017

**Article in press:**

**Published online:**

**Abstract**

Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) was first introduced into medical practice in 1980s as a diagnostic imaging modality for pancreatic pathology. EUS has the unique advantage of combining ultrasound and endoscopy to obtain detailed information of the gastrointestinal tract. Over the past decade, the use of EUS in liver diseases has been increasing. EUS, which was initially used as a diagnostic tool, is now having increasing therapeutic role as well. We provide a review of the application of EUS in the diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of liver disease. We also look at the evolving future research on the role of EUS in liver diseases.

**Key words:** Endoscopic ultrasound; Liver disease; Portal hypertension; Liver lesions

**© The Author(s) 2017.** Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

**Core tip:** The authors have summarized the up-to-date literature on the emerging role of Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) in liver disease. This brief review summarizes both the diagnostic and therapeutic role of EUS in focal hepatic lesions, portal hypertension, liver abscess and hepatic cysts. The authors have also summarized the future research on this subject.

Saraireh HA, Bilal M, Singh S.Role of endoscopic ultrasound in liver disease: Where do we stand in 2017? *World J Hepatol* 2017; In press

**INTRODUCTION**

The evaluation of liver disease has been progressively changing over the last few decades with advancement of new technologies. Computed tomography, conventional ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging has have been the principal means for evaluating hepatic disease for long time[1].

Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) was first introduced into medical practice in 1980s as a diagnostic imaging modality for pancreatic pathology[2]. It is distinctive in its ability to differentiate the histological layers of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract wall as well as the periluminal structures[3]. EUS has the unique advantage of combining ultrasound and endoscopy to obtain detailed information of the GI tract. With recent advances in technology, advanced physicians’ training and the expanding use of EUS, its role has grown dramatically to include both diagnostic and therapeutic aspects in gastrointestinal, pancreatic and hepatobiliary tree disease[1].

In this review, we aim to summarize the application of EUS in diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of liver diseases. EUS performances in diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of liver disease include diagnosis and management of focal hepatic lesions, simple hepatic cysts, hepatic abscesses and portal hypertension. Limitations of EUS include limited access to the right hepatic lobe and increased risk of complications in those with anatomical alteration of the GI tract. Complications, although rare, can happen during EUS-guided fine needle aspiration (FNA) and include esophageal and duodenal perforation. We also look at the evolving future research on the role of EUS in liver diseases.

**DIAGNOSTIC USE OF EUS, CONTRAST ENHANCED HARMONIC EUS, EUS-GUIDED FNA IN FOCAL HEPATIC LESIONS**

Focal hepatic lesions are divided into benign lesions (such as hepatic cysts, focal nodular hyperplasia, regenerative nodular hyperplasia, abscess, adenoma or hemangioma) and malignant lesions (such as hepatocellular carcinoma, intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, biliary cystadenoma and metastatic liver disease)[4]. Those lesions were classically diagnosed with combination of conventional imaging such computed tomography (CT) and transabdominal ultrasound and percutaneous liver. EUS was first used in liver imaging in 1997[5] and since then its use has become increasing popular.

EUS, especially when combined by cytology, has been used not for evaluating intra-abdominal masses only, but also for staging purposes[6-9]. In recent review by Srinivasan *et al*[4], EUS has shown superiority in detecting focal hepatic lesions compared with conventional CT and trans-abdominal ultrasound, especially for small lesions. A recent study comparing the diagnostic sensitivity of EUS and CT scan showed that of 574 patients, 14 had liver lesions that were visualized by EUS, however, only 3 of those 14 patients had their lesions visualized by CT scan prior to the use of EUS[10]. Another study by Awad *et al*[11] showed that EUS could detect additional hepatic lesions in 28% of patients with a history of known liver mass that were detected initially by CT scan. Similarly, other reports have shown that EUS can detect liver lesions that were missed by conventional imaging modalities[12]. Fuijii-Lau *et al*[13] proposed diagnostic criteria to differentiate between benign hepatic lesions and malignant metastatic lesions according to the lesion’s characteristics on EUS. These criteria include lesion’s shape, borders, echogenicity, homogeneity and size. These EUS criteria were applied to 200 patients who were diagnosed with malignancy using EUS-FNA. The authors concluded that EUS criteria may help in distinguishing benign from malignant hepatic lesions with a positive predictive value of 88%. The authors also suggested that the use of EUS criteria can guide the decision to perform EUS-FNA on a liver mass or not. The limitations of their study was that it was a signle center study and the EUS criteria was validated by one expert endosonosgrapher only.

The use of contrast-enhanced harmonic endoscopic ultrasound (CH-EUS) for liver disease has evolved recently. Since the liver cells have a dual blood supply, CH-EUS is divided into three phases according to timing from contrast injection; arterial phase, portal phase and late phase[14]. According to contrast enhancement imaging, increased arterial enhancement and late-phase contrast washout indicate hepatocellular carcinoma, while peripheral-rim like hyper enhancement followed by subsequent washout is visualized in metastatic liver cancer[15]. In cases of hemangioma, peripheral nodular hyper enhancement associated with sustained enhancement in the late phase is usually visualized [15]. A comparable study by Liu *et al*[16] showed that CH-EUS is the same if not superior to CT scan in characterization and visualization of focal hepatic lesions.

The use of EUS was not limited to visualization only, but also in obtaining tissue biopsy for diagnostic purpose. EUS guided fine needle aspiration (FNA) has played a major role in revolutionizing the diagnosis of focal hepatic lesions. EUS-FNA is a minimally invasive procedure that is utilized for procurement of tissue of hepatic lesions. Currently, its use is limited to the left lobe, the proximal right lobe, the hilum and part of the intrahepatic biliary tract[17]. EUS-FNA has a theoretical advantage over classical percutaneous biopsy in patients with cirrhosis, since percutaneous approach may be difficult in these patients owing to the presence of ascites and coagulopathy[4]. Previous reports on the safety and efficacy of EUS-FNA have yielded encouraging results. In a survey by Tenberge *et al*[18], which included data from twenty-one centers of 167 cases of EUS-FNA of the lives lesions, it was shown that EUS-FNA was able to diagnose malignancy in 23 out of 26 (89%) of cases after a non-diagnostic trans-abdominal ultrasound guided FNA. Safety of EUS-FNA was also tested, with only 1% rate of major complication was reported. EUS-FNA was also shown to be safe with only 1% rate of major complications. Several other studies have shown the sensitivity of EUS-FNA for diagnosis of malignancy in liver lesions ranging from 82%-94%[19,20]. Table 1 sumarizes the complications of EUS guided FNA and percutaneous FNA[18,21-24].

**EUS-GUIDED LIVER BIOPSY**

Liver biopsy remains the cornerstone in the diagnosis of liver diseases[25]. Percutaneous liver biopsy was first described in 1923[26] before the transjugular approach was suggested in 1973[27]. Limitations of percutaneous approach are significant sample variability[25] and risk of adverse events that include pain at site of biopsy, bleeding, marked hypotension and pneumothorax[21]. The transjugular approach for liver biopsy entails accesses to the liver parenchyma through superior vena cava and hepatic vein, hence the liver capsule is not punctured[25]. This approach is preferred in those with coagulopathy, marked ascites and in morbidly obese patients[25]. Recently, EUS was used to obtain liver biopsy. EUS-guided liver biopsy (EUS-LB) was first described in animal studies in 2002[28], with favorable outcome and safety profile. EUS-LB in humans was described by Dewitt *et al*[29]. A case series of 21 patients who underwent a transgastric EUS guided Tru-cut biopsy with a 19-gauge needle. Histologic diagnosis was successfully obtained in 90% of specimens (19/21), however, only 71% (15/21) were helpful for clinical diagnosis. No adverse events were reported in any of the patients. In another retrospective study of 9 patients, Gleeson *et al*[30] were able to show that Tru-cut biopsy is safe and at the same time yields suitable tissue for diagnostic purposes of liver disease.

**THERAPEUTIC EUS-FNA OF FOCAL HEPATIC LESIONS**

Recently some case reports have highlighted the therapeutic role of EUS in liver lesions as well[31-34]. This includes the use of EUS to guide alcohol injection and laser ablation of hepatic lesions. Barclay *et al*[31] described a case of 3.3 cm metastatic liver lesion treated with multiple EUS-guided ethanol injections. Follow-up imaging showed a decrease in tumor size to less than 2 cm. Hu *et al*[32] also reported a patient with pancreatic adenocarcinoma with metastasis to retroperitoneal lymph nodes and left hepatic lobe. Following pancreatoduodenectomy and chemotherapy, patient underwent successful ethanol injection of left hepatic lesion with no significant post-procedure complications. Other examples of therapeutic intervention include EUS-guided Nd:YAG (neodymium-doped yttrium aluminum garnet; Nd:Y3Al5O12) laser ablation of hepatocellular carcinoma[35].

**THERAPEUTIC USE OF EUS IN SIMPLE HEPATIC CYSTS**

Hepatic cysts are mostly asymptomatic, and estimated to occur in 5% of population[36]. The female: Male is approximately 1.5:1 among those with asymptomatic simple hepatic cysts (SHC) while it is 9:1 in those with symptomatic or complicated SHC[36]. SHC is generally diagnosed incidentally on abdominal imaging. Only 10%-16% of such cysts are symptomatic[4]. Symptoms are due to mass effect, rupture, hemorrhage and infection[36], and include abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, early satiety, obstructive jaundice and hepatomegaly[4,36]. Management of SHC has varied over the years. Treatment options include surgical approach (open deroofing, laparoscopic deroofing, complete cyst resection and hepatectomy), percutaneous aspiration and sclerotherapy[4, 36-40]. Prior reports have shown that percutaneous aspirations is associated with recurrence rate, as high as 100%, that can be seen as early as two weeks[38,40]. A recent systematic review by Wijnands*et al*[39] evaluated the role of percutaneous sclerotherapy in the management of SHC. The authors included 16 studies and reported cysts volume reduction ranged between 76% to 100% after a median follow-up period of one to fifty-four months. In 10 of these studies, 72% to 100% patients reported improvement of symptoms, while 56% to 100% patients reported symptoms resolution. In regards to safety, three studies reported ethanol intoxication incidence, manifested as headache, nausea and flushing, with frequency of intoxication as high as 93%. The risk of intoxication increased with increased sclerotherapy duration, and increased volume of ethanol used[39].

In recent years, EUS guided ethanol lavage has emerged as a popular treatment modality of SHC. In 2014, Lee *et al*[41] did a single center retrospective cohort study comparing EUS guided and percutaneous ethanol lavage for treatment of large hepatic cysts. A total of 10 cysts were drained by percutaneous approach with placement of drainage catheter, while 8 cysts were drained using EUS guided ethanol lavage. In EUS- guided group, cysts were drained in a 1-step approach without the placement of a catheter. Both approaches were efficacious. Results revealed a 97.5% and 100% reduction in cysts size at 11.5-mo follow-up and 15-mo follow-up, respectively. The authors concluded that there is an excellent symptomatic and radiological response in both groups. EUS-guided approach is more effective for left liver lobe cysts while percutaneous approach is better in right sided liver cysts[41]. Despite positive results, further multi-center trials are needed to confirm these findings, since this was a single center study.

**THERAPEUTIC USE OF EUS IN LIVER ABSCESSES**

Liver abscesses are defined as encapsulated collection of suppurative material within the liver parenchyma[42]. They are the most common intra-abdominal abscesses with a reported incidence of 8-20 cases per 100000 hospitalized patients per year in the United States[43]. Historically, pyogenic liver abscess has been managed with either surgical or percutaneous interventions[44]. Since 2001, the number of percutaneous procedures has doubled, while the number of surgical procedures has decreased by about 20%[45]. Percutaneous abscess drainage has a success rate of up to 100%[46], hence making it the first line drainage technique. On the other hand percutaneous drainage is associated with side effects including catheter dislodgment, subscapsular hematoma, drainage from catheter exit site[47], hepato-venous fisulas[48] and hepato-colic fistulas[49]. In recent years, EUS guided drainage for liver abscesses has emerged an alternative approach since it was first proposed by Seewald *et al*[50] in 2005. The authors reported a case of an 11 cm hepatic abscess within the left lobe of the liver that was successfully drained through trans-gastric approach using EUS with no complications or recurrence on follow up. Since then, several other case reports and series have described successful EUS guided drainage of liver abscess via trans-gastric and trans-duodenal approaches[51-56]. In a retrospective report by Ogura *et al*[57], 27 patients who underwent either EUS-guided abscess drainage or percutaneous abscess drainage, the clinical success rate of EUS-guided group was superior to that of the percutaneous group, at 100% and 82%, respectively. Safety and hospital stay was also superior in EUS guided group[57]. Although this data is encouraging, more prospective studies are still needed to compare the safety and efficacy of both interventions.

**EUS AND PORTAL HYPERTENSION**

***Diagnostic aspect***

Portal hypertension is the hallmark of end stage liver disease or advanced fibrosis. Hepatic venous pressure gradient (HVPG) greater than 5 mmHg is defined as portal hypertension. Esophageal varices (EV) form when HVPG is greater than 10 mm Hg and the chances of EV bleeding occurs when HVPG exceeds 12 mm Hg[58,59]. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) has been the cornerstone for diagnosis, surveillance and treatment of EV[60]. Over the last decade EUS has emerged as an important tool for evaluation of gastroesophageal varices[61].

EUS can effectively measure the size of EV by using the sum of the cross-sectional surface area of all the EV in the distal third of the esophagus[62]. While upper gastrointestinal endoscopy continues to be the gold standard in detecting EV, EUS has better sensitivity in detecting gastric varices[63]. In one study EUS was able to detect gastric varices twice more than conventional EGD[63]. Since EUS can detect vascular changes better, some experts believe that EUS can easily differentiate thickened gastric folds from small gastric varices that can be difficult to diagnose via EGD[64]. EUS like EGD can not only diagnose esophageal and gastric varices but can also predict the risk of bleeding. One report showed that the detection of hemocystic spots via EUS predicted the chance of variceal hemorrhage[65].

The other advantage of EUS is increased sensitivity in detection of collateral veins around the esophagus. These veins can be small in size, called peri-esophageal collateral veins, or large in size; para-esophageal collateral veins[61]. In one study from China, EUS was able to detect extra-luminal venous abnormalities in greater than 90% of patients with cirrhosis[66]. Some gastroenterologists argue that the early detection of gastroesophageal varices, and other venous abnormalities in cirrhosis via EUS might reduce the need of liver biopsy if the etiology of cirrhosis is clear, *e.g.,* alcohol use and long standing viral hepatitis[67].

The detection of collateral vasculature does not only have diagnostic significance, but also has prognostic value. Prior studies have shown that the presence of severe collateral and perforating veins can help predict the chance of recurrence of esophageal varices before and after treatment[68-70]. Konishi *et al*[70] performed a study evaluating the risk of recurrence of esophageal varices after band ligation based on presence of vascular structures around the gastric cardia detected *via* EUS. They reported that over 90% of patients with severe perforating veins seen on EUS prior to variceal band ligation had recurrence of varcies[70]. In another study by Masalaite *et al*[71], severe esophageal collateral veins seen during EUS were shown to be independent risk factors for recurrence of varices. This suggests that this subset of patients might need closer follow up as compared to patients who do not have perforating veins.

***Therapeutic aspect***

Over recent years, EUS has found role in management and treatment of gastroesophageal varices as well. The role of sclerosing therapy under EUS guidance is becoming increasingly popular. One randomized trial from Brazil showed encouraging results demonstrating that EUS guided sclerotherapy was equally effective as compared to standard endoscopic sclerotherapy for esophageal collateral vessels[72]. Where treatment of esophageal varices *via* EGD continues to be the standard of care, bleeding from gastric varices continues to be a challenge for endoscopists around the globe. Gastroesophageal varices type 2 (GOV-2) are usually large in size and lead to significant bleeding. These varices cannot be effectively treated by band ligation, and therapy targeting the accompanying perforating and collateral veins is needed. Due to these challenges, EUS guided therapy with precise localization of these veins is becoming exceedingly popular[73]. The two common modalities include EUS guided cyanoacrylate injection and EUS guided coil embolization[73,74]. Lee *et al*[66] performed a study in which 54 patients with bleeding due to gastric varices underwent EUS every two weeks, with injection of cyanoacrylate until obliteration of gastric varices. The authors reported that this intervention lead to decrease in recurrence of bleeding and improved survival in this group of patients[66]. A multi-center study also compared the use of cyanoacrylate injection (CI) with EUS guided coil embolization (CE) for treatment of bleeding gastric varices[75]. The results of this study were promising and showed that both EUS guided CI and CE were effective in treatment of gastric varices, however, CE had less side effects and needed less number of sessions for eradication of gastric varices. EUS guided sclerosis has also been successfully used to treat bleeding rectal varices in some cases[76].

The role of EUS in portal hypertension seems to be growing even more. Recently an animal study reported comparable results of portal pressure gradient measurement by EUS guided manometer approach with interventional radiology guided portal pressure measurement[77]. The same group of investigators also performed a pilot human study in which 28 patients underwent EUS guided portal pressure measurement with a hundred percent success rate and no adverse events[78]. Whereas further studies with larger sample size are needed in this regard, EUS guided portal pressure measurement might be a breakthrough for gastroenterologists and hepatologists in taking care of patients with cirrhosis. Animal studies (Table 2) have also shown that EUS can potentially be used for creation of intra-hepatic portosystemic shunts[79,80]. Historically the intra-hepatic portosystemic shunt has been placed using a trans-jugular approach under angiography (TIPS). Although this procedure as suggested has been technically feasible in animals, major concerns should be addressed before its application in patients with advanced liver disease. Those concerns include high risk of bleeding, severe infections and technical difficulties in stent placement[81].

**COMPLICATIONS OF EUS**

Due to specific mechanical properties of echoendoscopes used for EUS and the evolving training of advanced endoscopy specialists, there is a low, and yet noteworthy risk of complications with EUS. Majority of the complications related to EUS occur during EUS-FNA[82]. The mortality associated with EUS and EUS-FNA is 0.02%[82]. The major adverse complication with EUS is perforation. Gastrointestinal perforation can happen, especially at areas of angulation and in the presence of unexpected anatomical changes[82]. A survey conducted in Germany, including 67 centers, reported 32 complications associated with EUS. Esophageal perforation occurred only in 8 of almost 85000 diagnostic EUS procedures[83]. Another survey among members of American endosonography club in 2002 reported 16 esophageal perforations that occured after almost 44000 EUS procedures were performed, and more than half of those occurred with endoscopists who had less than one year of experience performing EUS[84]. Duodenal perforations occur more frequently than esophageal perforation[82]. In a prospective EUS online registry, 10 events of gastrointestinal perforations in 13,988 diagnostic EUS procedures were noted, with duodenal perforation accounting for 60% of these cases[82]. A survey by Lachter *et al*[85] investigated the mortality in patients who had a complication during EUS. The authors reported that 13 out of 18 (73%) fatalities resulted from duodenal tears causing retroperitoneal perforations, with four of those thirteen patients having duodenal diverticula.

**CONCLUSION**

The role of EUS has evolved greatly in recent years. Initially thought to be a great tool for diagnostics, EUS has now several therapeutic implications as well. Since expansion of EUS in liver diseases, it is emerging as a great tool for gastroenterologists and hepatologists to manage several liver related conditions. Focal hepatic lesions have always been a challenge for hepatologists. With recent advancements in EUS, it has shown superiority in detecting focal liver lesions as compared to conventional CT scan and ultrasound imaging modalities. Moreover, recently several therapies including EUS guided ethanol and EUS-guided Nd:YAG (neodymium-doped yttrium aluminum garnet; Nd:Y3Al5O12) laser ablation are also used to treat focal hepatic lesions. Similarly, recent data is showing that EUS guided liver biopsy may potentially be more safer than percutaneous liver biopsy when done by an experienced endosonographer. In regards to portal hypertension, EUS can detect early changes of portal hypertension and hence provides early and accurate assessment of overall clinical status. Despite encouraging results from available data, further research including randomized control trials is needed, before the use of EUS can be generalized in liver diseases.

**REFERENCES**

1. **Schwartz DA**, Wiersema MJ. The role of endoscopic ultrasound in hepatobiliary disease. *Curr Gastroenterol Rep* 2002; **4**: 72-78 [PMID: 11825544]
2. **Wong JYY**, Kongkam P, Ho KY. Training in endoscopic ultrasonography: An Asian perspective. *Dig Endosc* 2017; **29**: 512-516 [PMID: 28066947]
3. **Kim E**, Telford JJ. Advances in endoscopic ultrasound, part 2: Therapy. *Can J Gastroenterol* 2009; **23**: 691-698 [PMID: 19826645]
4. **Srinivasan I**, Tang SJ, Vilmann AS, Menachery J, Vilmann P. Hepatic applications of endoscopic ultrasound: Current status and future directions. *World J Gastroenterol* 2015; **21**: 12544-12557 [PMID: 26640331 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v21.i44.12544]
5. **Bogstad J**, Vilmann P, Burcharth F. Early detection of recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma by endosonographically guided fine-needle aspiration biopsy. *Endoscopy* 1997; **29**: 322-324 [PMID: 9255540 DOI: 10.1055/s-2007-1004198]
6. **Jhala NC**, Jhala DN, Chhieng DC, Eloubeidi MA, Eltoum IA. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration. A cytopathologist's perspective. *Am J Clin Pathol* 2003; **120**: 351-367 [PMID: 14502798 DOI: 10.1309/MFRF-J0XY-JLN8-NVDP]
7. **Shin HJ**, Lahoti S, Sneige N. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration in 179 cases: the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center experience. *Cancer* 2002; **96**: 174-180 [PMID: 12115306 DOI: 10.1002/cncr.10614]
8. **Chang KJ**, Katz KD, Durbin TE, Erickson RA, Butler JA, Lin F, Wuerker RB. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration. *Gastrointest Endosc* 1994; **40**: 694-699 [PMID: 7859967]
9. **Singh P**, Erickson RA, Mukhopadhyay P, Gopal S, Kiss A, Khan A, Ulf Westblom T. EUS for detection of the hepatocellular carcinoma: results of a prospective study. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2007; **66**: 265-273 [PMID: 17543307 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2006.10.053]
10. **Nguyen P**, Feng JC, Chang KJ. Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) and EUS-guided fine-needle aspiration (FNA) of liver lesions. *Gastrointest Endosc* 1999; **50**: 357-361 [PMID: 10462656 DOI: 10.1053/ge.1999.v50.97208]
11. **Awad SS**, Fagan S, Abudayyeh S, Karim N, Berger DH, Ayub K. Preoperative evaluation of hepatic lesions for the staging of hepatocellular and metastatic liver carcinoma using endoscopic ultrasonography. *Am J Surg* 2002; **184**: 601-4; discussion 604-5 [PMID: 12488184]
12. **Prasad P**, Schmulewitz N, Patel A, Varadarajulu S, Wildi SM, Roberts S, Tutuian R, King P, Hawes RH, Hoffman BJ, Wallace MB. Detection of occult liver metastases during EUS for staging of malignancies. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2004; **59**: 49-53 [PMID: 14722547]
13. **Fujii-Lau LL**, Abu Dayyeh BK, Bruno MJ, Chang KJ, DeWitt JM, Fockens P, Forcione D, Napoleon B, Palazzo L, Topazian MD, Wiersema MJ, Chak A, Clain JE, Faigel DO, Gleeson FC, Hawes R, Iyer PG, Rajan E, Stevens T, Wallace MB, Wang KK, Levy MJ. EUS-derived criteria for distinguishing benign from malignant metastatic solid hepatic masses. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2015; **81**: 1188-96.e1-7 [PMID: 25660980 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2014.10.035]
14. **Choi JH**, Seo DW. Applications of contrast-enhanced harmonic endoscopic ultrasound on biliary, focal liver lesions and vascular diseases. *Endosc Ultrasound* 2017; **6**: 21-24 [PMID: 28218196 DOI: 10.4103/2303-9027.200211]
15. **Xu HX**. Contrast-enhanced ultrasound: The evolving applications. *World J Radiol* 2009; **1**: 15-24 [PMID: 21160717 DOI: 10.4329/wjr.v1.i1.15]
16. **Liu GJ**, Xu HX, Lu MD, Xie XY, Xu ZF, Zheng YL, Liang JY. Enhancement pattern of hepatocellular carcinoma: comparison of real-time contrast-enhanced ultrasound and contrast-enhanced computed tomography. *Clin Imaging* 2006; **30**: 315-321 [PMID: 16919551 DOI: 10.1016/j.clinimag.2006.03.031]
17. **Hammoud GM**, Almashhrawi A, Ibdah JA. Usefulness of endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration in the diagnosis of hepatic, gallbladder and biliary tract Lesions. *World J Gastrointest Oncol* 2014; **6**: 420-429 [PMID: 25400873 DOI: 10.4251/wjgo.v6.i11.420]
18. **tenBerge J**, Hoffman BJ, Hawes RH, Van Enckevort C, Giovannini M, Erickson RA, Catalano MF, Fogel R, Mallery S, Faigel DO, Ferrari AP, Waxman I, Palazzo L, Ben-Menachem T, Jowell PS, McGrath KM, Kowalski TE, Nguyen CC, Wassef WY, Yamao K, Chak A, Greenwald BD, Woodward TA, Vilmann P, Sabbagh L, Wallace MB. EUS-guided fine needle aspiration of the liver: indications, yield, and safety based on an international survey of 167 cases. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2002; **55**: 859-862 [PMID: 12024141]
19. **DeWitt J**, LeBlanc J, McHenry L, Ciaccia D, Imperiale T, Chappo J, Cramer H, McGreevy K, Chriswell M, Sherman S. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration cytology of solid liver lesions: a large single-center experience. *Am J Gastroenterol* 2003; **98**: 1976-1981 [PMID: 14499774 DOI: 10.1111/j.1572-0241.2003.07638.x]
20. **Hollerbach S**, Willert J, Topalidis T, Reiser M, Schmiegel W. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine-needle aspiration biopsy of liver lesions: histological and cytological assessment. *Endoscopy* 2003; **35**: 743-749 [PMID: 12929021 DOI: 10.1055/s-2003-41593]
21. **Seeff LB**, Everson GT, Morgan TR, Curto TM, Lee WM, Ghany MG, Shiffman ML, Fontana RJ, Di Bisceglie AM, Bonkovsky HL, Dienstag JL; HALT–C Trial Group. Complication rate of percutaneous liver biopsies among persons with advanced chronic liver disease in the HALT-C trial. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2010; **8**: 877-883 [PMID: 20362695 DOI: 10.1016/j.cgh.2010.03.025]
22. **Gilmore IT**, Burroughs A, Murray-Lyon IM, Williams R, Jenkins D, Hopkins A. Indications, methods, and outcomes of percutaneous liver biopsy in England and Wales: an audit by the British Society of Gastroenterology and the Royal College of Physicians of London. *Gut* 1995; **36**: 437-441 [PMID: 7698705]
23. **Edoute Y**, Ben-Haim SA, Brenner B, Malberger E. Fatal hemoperitoneum after fine-needle aspiration of a liver metastasis. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1992; **87**: 358-360 [PMID: 1539572]
24. **Huang JF**, Hsieh MY, Dai CY, Hou NJ, Lee LP, Lin ZY, Chen SC, Wang LY, Hsieh MY, Chang WY, Yu ML, Chuang WL. The incidence and risks of liver biopsy in non-cirrhotic patients: An evaluation of 3806 biopsies. *Gut* 2007; **56**: 736-737 [PMID: 17440193 DOI: 10.1136/gut.2006.115410]
25. **Parekh PJ**, Majithia R, Diehl DL, Baron TH. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided liver biopsy. *Endosc Ultrasound* 2015; **4**: 85-91 [PMID: 26020041 DOI: 10.4103/2303-9027.156711]
26. **Grant A**, Neuberger J. Guidelines on the use of liver biopsy in clinical practice. British Society of Gastroenterology. *Gut* 1999; **45 Suppl 4**: IV1-IV11 [PMID: 10485854]
27. **Rösch J**, Lakin PC, Antonovic R, Dotter CT. Transjugular approach to liver biopsy and transhepatic cholangiography. *N Engl J Med* 1973; **289**: 227-231 [PMID: 4713761 DOI: 10.1056/NEJM197308022890501]
28. **Wiersema MJ**, Levy MJ, Harewood GC, Vazquez-Sequeiros E, Jondal ML, Wiersema LM. Initial experience with EUS-guided trucut needle biopsies of perigastric organs. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2002; **56**: 275-278 [PMID: 12145612]
29. **Dewitt J**, McGreevy K, Cummings O, Sherman S, Leblanc JK, McHenry L, Al-Haddad M, Chalasani N. Initial experience with EUS-guided Tru-cut biopsy of benign liver disease. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2009; **69**: 535-542 [PMID: 19231495 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2008.09.056]
30. **Gleeson FC**, Clayton AC, Zhang L, Clain JE, Gores GJ, Rajan E, Smyrk TC, Topazian MD, Wang KK, Wiersema MJ, Levy MJ. Adequacy of endoscopic ultrasound core needle biopsy specimen of nonmalignant hepatic parenchymal disease. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2008; **6**: 1437-1440 [PMID: 19081532 DOI: 10.1016/j.cgh.2008.07.015]
31. **Barclay RL**, Perez-Miranda M, Giovannini M. EUS-guided treatment of a solid hepatic metastasis. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2002; **55**: 266-270 [PMID: 11818938 DOI: 10.1067/mge.2002.120784]
32. **Hu YH**, Tuo XP, Jin ZD, Liu Y, Guo Y, Luo L. Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided ethanol injection in hepatic metastatic carcinoma: a case report. *Endoscopy* 2010; **42** Suppl 2: E256-E257 [PMID: 20931470 DOI: 10.1055/s-0030-1255653]
33. **DiMaio C,** Krishna S, Roayaie S. EUS-guided ethanol ablation for management of metastatic hepatocellular carcinoma. *Journal of Interventional Gastroenterology* 2014, **4**: 13-14
34. **Nakaji S**, Hirata N, Iwaki K, Shiratori T, Kobayashi M, Inase M. Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided ethanol injection for hepatocellular carcinoma difficult to treat with percutaneous local treatment. *Endoscopy* 2012; **44** Suppl 2 UCTN: E380 [PMID: 23139031 DOI: 10.1055/s-0032-1309918]
35. **Di Matteo F**, Grasso R, Pacella CM, Martino M, Pandolfi M, Rea R, Luppi G, Silvestri S, Zardi E, Costamagna G. EUS-guided Nd:YAG laser ablation of a hepatocellular carcinoma in the caudate lobe. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2011; **73**: 632-636 [PMID: 21030019 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2010.08.019]
36. **Asuquo M**, Nwagbara V, Agbor C, Otobo F, Omotoso A. Giant simple hepatic cyst: a case report and review of relevant literature. *Afr Health Sci* 2015; **15**: 293-298 [PMID: 25834563 DOI: 10.4314/ahs.v15i1.40]
37. **Mazza OM**, Fernandez DL, Pekolj J, Pfaffen G, Sanchez Clariá R, Molmenti EP, de Santibañes E. Management of nonparasitic hepatic cysts. *J Am Coll Surg* 2009; **209**: 733-739 [PMID: 19959042 DOI: 10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2009.09.006]
38. **Saini S**, Mueller PR, Ferrucci JT Jr, Simeone JF, Wittenberg J, Butch RJ. Percutaneous aspiration of hepatic cysts does not provide definitive therapy. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 1983; **141**: 559-560 [PMID: 6603770 DOI: 10.2214/ajr.141.3.559]
39. **Wijnands TF**, Görtjes AP, Gevers TJ, Jenniskens SF, Kool LJ, Potthoff A, Ronot M, Drenth JP. Efficacy and Safety of Aspiration Sclerotherapy of Simple Hepatic Cysts: A Systematic Review. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 2017; **208**: 201-207 [PMID: 27824501 DOI: 10.2214/AJR.16.16130]
40. **Maruyama Y**, Okuda K, Ogata T, Yasunaga M, Ishikawa H, Hirakawa Y, Fukuyo K, Horiuchi H, Nakashima O, Kinoshita H. Perioperative challenges and surgical treatment of large simple, and infectious liver cyst - a 12-year experience. *PLoS One* 2013; **8**: e76537 [PMID: 24098524 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0076537]
41. **Lee S**, Seo DW, Paik WH, Park DH, Lee SS, Lee SK, Kim MH. Ethanol lavage of huge hepatic cysts by using EUS guidance and a percutaneous approach. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2014; **80**: 1014-1021 [PMID: 24890421 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2014.03.037]
42. **Lardière-Deguelte S**, Ragot E, Amroun K, Piardi T, Dokmak S, Bruno O, Appere F, Sibert A, Hoeffel C, Sommacale D, Kianmanesh R. Hepatic abscess: Diagnosis and management. *J Visc Surg* 2015; **152**: 231-243 [PMID: 25770745 DOI: 10.1016/j.jviscsurg.2015.01.013]
43. **Johannsen EC**, Sifri CD, Madoff LC. Pyogenic liver abscesses. *Infect Dis Clin North Am* 2000; **14**: 547-563, vii [PMID: 10987109]
44. **Mavilia MG**, Molina M, Wu GY. The Evolving Nature of Hepatic Abscess: A Review. *J Clin Transl Hepatol* 2016; **4**: 158-168 [PMID: 27350946 DOI: 10.14218/JCTH.2016.00004]
45. **Levin DC**, Eschelman D, Parker L, Rao VM. Trends in Use of Percutaneous Versus Open Surgical Drainage of Abdominal Abscesses. *J Am Coll Radiol* 2015; **12**: 1247-1250 [PMID: 26653832 DOI: 10.1016/j.jacr.2015.06.015]
46. **Liu CH**, Gervais DA, Hahn PF, Arellano RS, Uppot RN, Mueller PR. Percutaneous hepatic abscess drainage: do multiple abscesses or multiloculated abscesses preclude drainage or affect outcome? *J Vasc Interv Radiol* 2009; **20**: 1059-1065 [PMID: 19560374 DOI: 10.1016/j.jvir.2009.04.062]
47. **Dulku G**, Mohan G, Samuelson S, Ferguson J, Tibballs J. Percutaneous aspiration versus catheter drainage of liver abscess: A retrospective review. *Australas Med J* 2015; **8**: 7-18 [PMID: 25848403 DOI: 10.4066/AMJ.2015.2240]
48. **Chung YF**, Tay KH, Stan B, Htoo AM, Thng CH, Chow PK, Ooi LL, Lau TN. Percutaneous drainage of liver abscess complicated by hepato-venous fistula. *Singapore Med J* 2003; **44**: 299-301 [PMID: 14560862]
49. **Timbol AB**, Mondragon KA, Banez VP. Hepatocolic fistula: a rare presentation of pyogenic liver abscess. *BMJ Case Rep* 2017 Mar 8; **2017**: pii: bcr2016219141[PMID: 28275025 DOI: 10.1136/bcr-2016-219141]
50. **Seewald S**, Imazu H, Omar S, Groth S, Seitz U, Brand B, Zhong Y, Sikka S, Thonke F, Soehendra N. EUS-guided drainage of hepatic abscess. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2005; **61**: 495-498 [PMID: 15758937]
51. **Noh SH**, Park DH, Kim YR, Chun Y, Lee HC, Lee SO, Lee SS, Seo DW, Lee SK, Kim MH. EUS-guided drainage of hepatic abscesses not accessible to percutaneous drainage (with videos). *Gastrointest Endosc* 2010; **71**: 1314-1319 [PMID: 20400078 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2009.12.045]
52. **Itoi T**, Ang TL, Seewald S, Tsuji S, Kurihara T, Tanaka R, Itokawa F. Endoscopic ultrasonography-guided drainage for tuberculous liver abscess drainage. *Dig Endosc* 2011; **23** Suppl 1: 158-161 [PMID: 21535224 DOI: 10.1111/j.1443-1661.2011.01115.x]
53. **Medrado BF**, Carneiro FO, Vilaça TG, Gouveia TS, Frazão MS, de Moura EG, Sakai P, Otoch JP, Artifon EL. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided drainage of giant liver abscess associated with transgastric migration of a self-expandable metallic stent. *Endoscopy* 2013; **45** Suppl 2: E331-E332 [PMID: 24150733 DOI: 10.1055/s-0033-1344128]
54. **Alcaide N**, Vargas-Garcia AL, de la Serna-Higuera C, Sancho del Val L, Ruiz-Zorrilla R, Perez-Miranda M. EUS-guided drainage of liver abscess by using a lumen-apposing metal stent (with video). *Gastrointest Endosc* 2013; **78**: 941-2; discussion 942 [PMID: 24016354 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2013.07.034]
55. **Kawakami H**, Itoi T, Sakamoto N. Endoscopic ultrasound-guided transluminal drainage for peripancreatic fluid collections: where are we now? *Gut Liver* 2014; **8**: 341-355 [PMID: 25071899 DOI: 10.5009/gnl.2014.8.4.341]
56. **Tonozuka R**, Itoi T, Tsuchiya T, Sofuni A, Ishii K, Ikeuchi N, Umeda J, Tanaka R, Mukai S, Gotoda T, Moriyasu F. EUS-guided drainage of hepatic abscess and infected biloma using short and long metal stents (with videos). *Gastrointest Endosc* 2015; **81**: 1463-1469 [PMID: 25843615 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2015.01.023]
57. **Ogura T**, Masuda D, Saori O, Wataru T, Sano T, Okuda A, Miyano A, Kitano M, Abdel-Aal UM, Takeuchi T, Fukunishi S, Higuchi K. Clinical Outcome of Endoscopic Ultrasound-Guided Liver Abscess Drainage Using Self-Expandable Covered Metallic Stent (with Video). *Dig Dis Sci* 2016; **61**: 303-308 [PMID: 26254774 DOI: 10.1007/s10620-015-3841-3]
58. **Groszmann RJ**, Garcia-Tsao G, Bosch J, Grace ND, Burroughs AK, Planas R, Escorsell A, Garcia-Pagan JC, Patch D, Matloff DS, Gao H, Makuch R; Portal Hypertension Collaborative Group. Beta-blockers to prevent gastroesophageal varices in patients with cirrhosis. *N Engl J Med* 2005; **353**: 2254-2261 [PMID: 16306522 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa044456]
59. **Ripoll C**, Groszmann R, Garcia-Tsao G, Grace N, Burroughs A, Planas R, Escorsell A, Garcia-Pagan JC, Makuch R, Patch D, Matloff DS, Bosch J; Portal Hypertension Collaborative Group. Hepatic venous pressure gradient predicts clinical decompensation in patients with compensated cirrhosis. *Gastroenterology* 2007; **133**: 481-488 [PMID: 17681169 DOI: 10.1053/j.gastro.2007.05.024]
60. **Garcia-Tsao G**, Sanyal AJ, Grace ND, Carey WD; Practice Guidelines Committee of American Association for Study of Liver Diseases; Practice Parameters Committee of American College of Gastroenterology. Prevention and management of gastroesophageal varices and variceal hemorrhage in cirrhosis. *Am J Gastroenterol* 2007; **102**: 2086-2102 [PMID: 17727436 DOI: 10.1111/j.1572-0241.2007.01481.x]
61. **El-Saadany M**, Jalil S, Irisawa A, Shibukawa G, Ohira H, Bhutani MS. EUS for portal hypertension: a comprehensive and critical appraisal of clinical and experimental indications. *Endoscopy* 2008; **40**: 690-696 [PMID: 18609464 DOI: 10.1055/s-2008-1077400]
62. **Miller L**, Banson FL, Bazir K, Korimilli A, Liu Ji, Dewan R, Wolfson M, Panganamamula KV, Carrasquillo J, Schwartz J, Chaker AE, Black M. Risk of esophageal variceal bleeding based on endoscopic ultrasound evaluation of the sum of esophageal variceal cross-sectional surface area. *Am J Gastroenterol* 2003; **98**: 454-459 [PMID: 12591068 DOI: 10.1111/j.1572-0241.2003.07224.x]
63. **Choudhuri G**, Dhiman RK, Agarwal DK. Endosonographic evaluation of the venous anatomy around the gastro-esophageal junction in patients with portal hypertension. *Hepatogastroenterology* 1996; **43**: 1250-1255 [PMID: 8908559]
64. **Shim JJ**. Usefulness of endoscopic ultrasound in esophagogastric varices. *Clin Endosc* 2012; **45**: 324-327 [PMID: 22977828 DOI: 10.5946/ce.2012.45.3.324]
65. **Schiano TD**, Adrain AL, Vega KJ, Liu JB, Black M, Miller LS. High-resolution endoluminal sonography assessment of the hematocystic spots of esophageal varices. *Gastrointest Endosc* 1999; **49**: 424-427 [PMID: 10202053]
66. **Lee YT**, Chan FK, Ching JY, Lai CW, Leung VK, Chung SC, Sung JJ. Diagnosis of gastroesophageal varices and portal collateral venous abnormalities by endosonography in cirrhotic patients. *Endoscopy* 2002; **34**: 391-398 [PMID: 11972271 DOI: 10.1055/s-2002-25286]
67. **Hammoud GM**, Ibdah JA. Utility of endoscopic ultrasound in patients with portal hypertension. *World J Gastroenterol* 2014; **20**: 14230-14236 [PMID: 25339809 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v20.i39.14230]
68. **Irisawa A**, Obara K, Bhutani MS, Saito A, Shishido H, Shibukawa G, Takagi T, Yamamoto G, Seino O, Shishido F, Kasukawa R, Sato Y. Role of para-esophageal collateral veins in patients with portal hypertension based on the results of endoscopic ultrasonography and liver scintigraphy analysis. *J Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2003; **18**: 309-314 [PMID: 12603532]
69. **Sato T**, Yamazaki K, Toyota J, Karino Y, Ohmura T, Akaike J. Endoscopic ultrasonographic evaluation of hemodynamics related to variceal relapse in esophageal variceal patients. *Hepatol Res* 2009; **39**: 126-133 [PMID: 19208033 DOI: 10.1111/j.1872-034X.2008.00415.x]
70. **Konishi Y**, Nakamura T, Kida H, Seno H, Okazaki K, Chiba T. Catheter US probe EUS evaluation of gastric cardia and perigastric vascular structures to predict esophageal variceal recurrence. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2002; **55**: 197-203 [PMID: 11818922 DOI: 10.1067/mge.2002.121338]
71. **Masalaite L**, Valantinas J, Stanaitis J. Endoscopic ultrasound findings predict the recurrence of esophageal varices after endoscopic band ligation: a prospective cohort study. *Scand J Gastroenterol* 2015; **50**: 1322-1330 [PMID: 25956657 DOI: 10.3109/00365521.2015.1043640]
72. **de Paulo GA**, Ardengh JC, Nakao FS, Ferrari AP. Treatment of esophageal varices: a randomized controlled trial comparing endoscopic sclerotherapy and EUS-guided sclerotherapy of esophageal collateral veins. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2006; **63**: 396-402; quiz 463 [PMID: 16500386 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2005.10.039]
73. **Tang RS**, Teoh AY, Lau JY. EUS-guided cyanoacrylate injection for treatment of endoscopically obscured bleeding gastric varices. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2016; **83**: 1032-1033 [PMID: 26551730 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2015.10.043]
74. **Fujii-Lau LL**, Law R, Wong Kee Song LM, Gostout CJ, Kamath PS, Levy MJ. Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS)-guided coil injection therapy of esophagogastric and ectopic varices. *Surg Endosc* 2016; **30**: 1396-1404 [PMID: 26139494 DOI: 10.1007/s00464-015-4342-3]
75. **Romero-Castro R**, Ellrichmann M, Ortiz-Moyano C, Subtil-Inigo JC, Junquera-Florez F, Gornals JB, Repiso-Ortega A, Vila-Costas J, Marcos-Sanchez F, Muñoz-Navas M, Romero-Gomez M, Brullet-Benedi E, Romero-Vazquez J, Caunedo-Alvarez A, Pellicer-Bautista F, Herrerias-Gutierrez JM, Fritscher-Ravens A. EUS-guided coil versus cyanoacrylate therapy for the treatment of gastric varices: a multicenter study (with videos). *Gastrointest Endosc* 2013; **78**: 711-721 [PMID: 23891417 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2013.05.009]
76. **Connor EK**, Duran-Castro OL, Attam R. Therapy for recurrent bleeding from rectal varices by EUS-guided sclerosis. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2015; **81**: 1280-1281 [PMID: 25583557 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2014.07.037]
77. **Huang JY**, Samarasena JB, Tsujino T, Chang KJ. EUS-guided portal pressure gradient measurement with a novel 25-gauge needle device versus standard transjugular approach: a comparison animal study. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2016; **84**: 358-362 [PMID: 26945557 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2016.02.032]
78. **Huang JY**, Samarasena JB, Tsujino T, Lee J, Hu KQ, McLaren CE, Chen WP, Chang KJ. EUS-guided portal pressure gradient measurement with a simple novel device: a human pilot study. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2017; **85**: 996-1001 [PMID: 27693644 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2016.09.026]
79. **Schulman AR**, Ryou M, Aihara H, Abidi W, Chiang A, Jirapinyo P, Sakr A, Ajeje E, Ryan MB, Thompson CC. EUS-guided intrahepatic portosystemic shunt with direct portal pressure measurements: a novel alternative to transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunting. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2017; **85**: 243-247 [PMID: 27468858 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2016.07.041]
80. **Buscaglia JM**, Dray X, Shin EJ, Magno P, Chmura KM, Surti VC, Dillon TE, Ducharme RW, Donatelli G, Thuluvath PJ, Giday SA, Kantsevoy SV. A new alternative for a transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt: EUS-guided creation of an intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (with video). *Gastrointest Endosc* 2009; **69**: 941-947 [PMID: 19327481 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2008.09.051]
81. **Bosch J**. EUS-guided intrahepatic portosystemic shunt: A real alternative to transjugular intrahepatic portalsystemic shunt? *Gastrointest Endosc* 2017; **85**: 248-249 [PMID: 27986115 DOI: 10.1016/j.gie.2016.08.039]
82. **Jenssen C**, Alvarez-Sánchez MV, Napoléon B, Faiss S. Diagnostic endoscopic ultrasonography: assessment of safety and prevention of complications. *World J Gastroenterol* 2012; **18**: 4659-4676 [PMID: 23002335 DOI: 10.3748/wjg.v18.i34.4659]
83. **Jenssen C**, Faiss S, Nürnberg D. [Complications of endoscopic ultrasound and endoscopic ultrasound-guided interventions - results of a survey among German centers]. *Z Gastroenterol* 2008; **46**: 1177-1184 [PMID: 18937186 DOI: 10.1055/s-2008-1027334]
84. **Das A**, Sivak MV Jr, Chak A. Cervical esophageal perforation during EUS: a national survey. *Gastrointest Endosc* 2001; **53**: 599-602 [PMID: 11323585]
85. **Lachter J**. Fatal complications of endoscopic ultrasonography: a look at 18 cases. *Endoscopy* 2007; **39**: 747-750 [PMID: 17661252 DOI: 10.1055/s-2007-966605]

**P-Reviewer:** Huang JYL, Napoleon B, Reeh M, Sadik R S**-Editor:** Kong JX **L-Editor: E-Editor:**

**Specialty type:** Gastroenterology and hepatology

**Country of origin:** United States

**Peer-review report classification**

Grade A (Excellent): 0

Grade B (Very good): B, B

Grade C (Good): C, C

Grade D (Fair): 0

Grade E (Poor): 0

**Table 1 Complication of endoscopic ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration compared with percutaneous fine needle aspiration**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EUS guided FNA** | **Percutaneous FNA** |
| Bleeding[18] | Bleeding[21,22] |
| Pain[18] | Severe pain[21] |
| Fever[18] | Punctured gall bladder[21] |
| Hemoperitoneum[23] | pneumothorax[21] |
| Death[23] | Syncope[21] |
|  | Hemoperitoneum[24] |
| Hypovolemic shock[24] |
| Death[22] |

EUS: Endoscopic ultrasound; FNA: Fine needle aspiration.

**Table 2 Animals studies regarding endoscopic ultrasound-guided intrahepatic portosystemic shunt placement**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Animals** | **Type of needle** | **Success rate** |
| Schulman *et al*[79] | 5 pigs | 19-G-needle | 100% |
| Buscaglia *et al*[80] | 10 pigs | 19-G-needle | 100% |