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### Endoscopic management of hilar biliary strictures

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#### Abstract

Hilar biliary strictures are caused by various benign and malignant conditions. Its **52** difficult to differentiate benign and malignant strictures. Postcholecystectomy benign biliary strictures are frequently encountered. Endoscopic management of these strictures is challenging. An endoscopic method has been advocated that involves placement or increasing number of stents at regular intervals to resolve the **12** stricture. **36** Malignant hilar strictures are mostly unresectable at the time of diagnosis and only palliation is possible. Endoscopic palliation is preferred over surgery or radiological intervention. **51** Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) is quite important in the management of these strictures. **53** Metal stents are superior to plastic stents. The opinion is divided over the issue of unilateral or bilateral **12** stenting. Minimal contrast or no contrast technique has been advocated during endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) of these patients. The role of intraluminal brachytherapy, intraductal ablation devices, photodynamic therapy (PDT),

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