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Non Absorbable Suture Should be Avoided When Operating on the Biliary Tree

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Image Article

Non-absorbable and braided sutures should be avoided whilst operating on the bile duct, for example when closing a choledochotomy or ligatisng the cystic duct. Suture material may migrate into the lumen of the duct over time. Foreign objects may act as a nidus for stone formation [1]. This complication is demonstrated by the Figure 1 below:

an intra-operative cholangiogram demonstrating choledocholithiasis, and the stone extracted at laparoscopic bile duct exploration measuring 24 mm, which had formed around a braided suture used during open cholecystectomy 37 years previously in Poland.

References

1. Beardsley C, Lim J, Gananadha S (2012) Nonabsorbable suture material in the biliary tract. *J Gastrointest Surg* 16: 2182-2183.

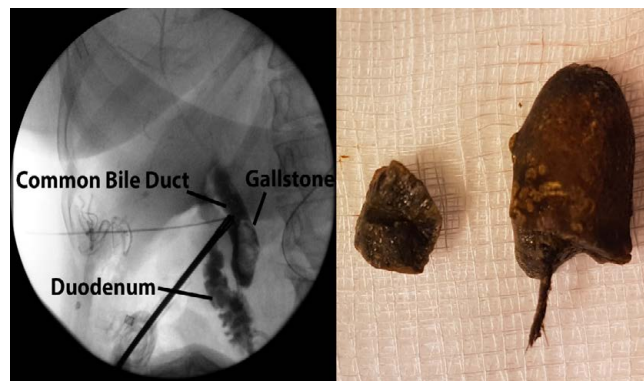


Figure 1: Represents an intra-operative cholangiogram.

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