

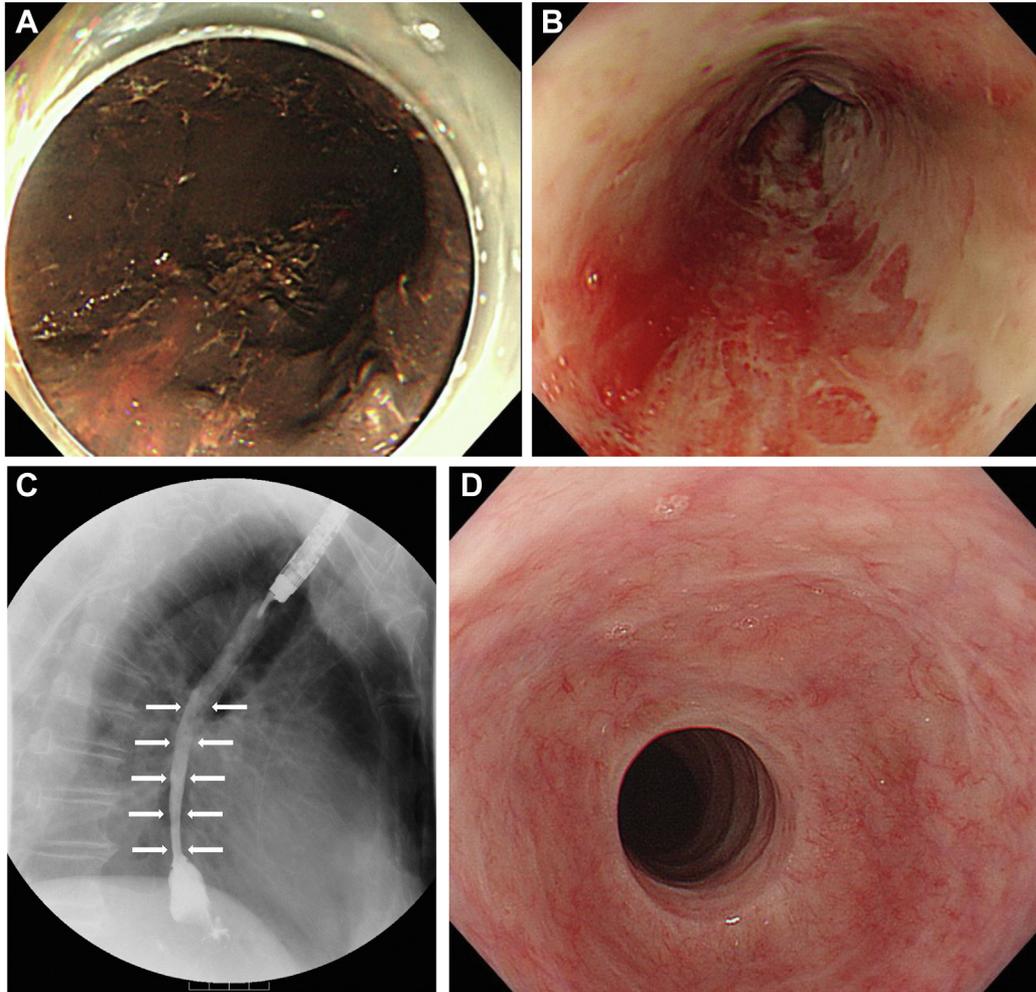
## IMAGE OF THE MONTH

### A Case of Acute Necrotizing Esophagitis With Effective Steroid Therapy for Stenosis Prevention



Kazuki Natsui,<sup>1,2</sup> Masaki Maruyama,<sup>1</sup> and Shuji Terai<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Gastroenterology, Kashiwazaki General Hospital and Medical Center, Kashiwazaki, Niigata, Japan; and  
<sup>2</sup>Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Niigata University, Chuo-Ku, Niigata, Japan



An 80-year-old man with a complaint of hematemesis was taken to our emergency department. Blood tests showed decreased hemoglobin, 12.6 g/dL (normal range, 13.7–16.8 g/dL), and increased D-dimer, 9.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  (normal range,  $<1$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ). Contrast-enhanced computed tomography revealed the edematous thickening of the entire esophageal wall and a peripheral pulmonary artery embolism. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) showed a black appearance of the entire esophageal mucosa and easy bleeding only by passing of the scope (Figure A). Acute

necrotizing esophagitis complicated by pulmonary embolism was diagnosed. The patient was treated with proton pump inhibitor. On day 9, EGD and esophageal transit

Most current article

Copyright © 2022 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Inc. on behalf of the AGA Institute. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

2772-5723

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gastha.2022.05.012>

with gastrografen showed ameliorated bleeding tendency of the mucosa with moderate stenosis in the lower esophagus (Figure B and Figure C). Prednisolone (30 mg) was initiated orally in accordance with the preventative treatment for stenosis in corrosive esophagitis and circumferential endoscopic submucosal dissection for esophageal carcinoma. Prednisolone was tapered off and discontinued after 6 weeks. On day 16, EGD revealed improved stenosis. Six months after discharge, EGD showed a recovered normal esophageal mucosa with only a residual upper-esophagus ring-shaped scar (Figure D). Stenosis can also occur as an acute necrotizing esophagitis complication, and early steroid therapy is a possible treatment option.

---

Received May 17, 2022. Accepted May 18, 2022.

**Correspondence:**

Address correspondence to: Kazuki Natsui, MD, Department of Gastroenterology, Kashiwazaki General Hospital and Medical Center, 2-11-3 Kitahanda, Kashiwazaki, Niigata 9450035, Japan. e-mail: [kazukinatsui@med.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:kazukinatsui@med.niigata-u.ac.jp).

**Conflicts of Interest:**

The authors disclose no conflicts.

**Funding:**

The authors report no funding.

**Ethical Statement:**

The corresponding author, on behalf of all authors, jointly and severally, certifies that their institution has approved the protocol for any investigation involving humans or animals and that all experimentation was conducted in conformity with ethical and humane principles of research.