USE OF THE SOEHENDRA LITHOTRIPTOR FOR ENDOSCOPIC REMOVAL OF ERODED LINX MAGNETIC SPINCTER AUGMENTATION DEVICES: A SAFE, EFFECIENT, AND COST-EFFECTIVE TECHNIQUE

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Introduction

The Linx magnetic sphincter augmentation device is increasingly utilized in the laparoscopic treatment of GERD and associated hiatal hernia repair. It has been documented to be effective and has a good overall safety profile. A rare, but serious complication is erosion of the device into the esophageal lumen. This generally occurs in between 0.4% and 0.5% of cases. Foregut surgeons should be familiar with this complication and its treatment. The preferred treatment is endoscopic division and removal of the device.
The Sohendra Lithotriptor is a safe, efficient, and cost effective device for endoscopically dividing the ring of eroded magnetic beads for endoscopic removal.

Methods

A retrospective record review of the chart was made to review two cases with erosion of the Linx device into the esophageal lumen. We utilized the Soehendra lithotriptor device was utilized to break the Linx device ring, allowing for endoscopic removal of the devices.

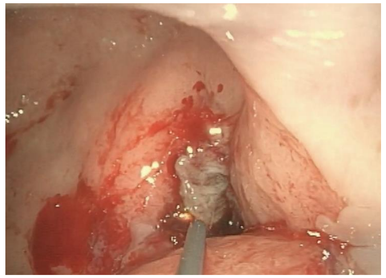


Figure 1: Wire directed inside ring of beads



Figure 2: Free ends of wire fed through lithotripter.



Figure 3: Wires wrapped around lithotripter.



Figure 4: Cable advanced under direct vision toward beads.

Results

Sex	Age	Time to Erosion	Linx Size	LOS	Complications
F	75	6.5 years	13	1 day	None
M	73	7.6 years	14	0 day	None

Conclusion

The Soehendra lithotriptor device provides a safe, efficient, and cost-effective use of the lithotripter device to divide and remove eroded Linx devices.