

A Case of Bleeding Peptic Ulcer after Surgery for Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Mouth Floor

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We report a case of bleeding peptic ulcer with hypovolemic shock after surgery for squamous cell carcinoma of the mouth floor.

A 68-year-old man was referred to our hospital because of a mass on the mouth floor. The diagnostic biopsy confirmed squamous cell carcinoma. We performed bilateral neck dissection, marginal mandibular resection, and tumor excision under general anesthesia. After operation, the patient was in good general condition and the surgical wound was healing. On the 12th postoperative day, he lost consciousness with sudden massive melena. We suspected hypovolemic shock due to upper gastrointestinal bleeding. He recovered consciousness by rapid transfusion. We referred him to the department of digestive organs, and he was hospitalized immediately. As GIF (gastrointestinal fiberscope) endoscopy showed an ulcer associated with exposed blood vessel in gastric body, he was diagnosed with bleeding peptic ulcer. He received endoscopic hemostatic therapy with local injection of ethanol. After hemostasis, he underwent pharmacotherapy. The patient's postoperative course has been good with no evidence of recurrence of tumor or bleeding peptic ulcer.

The bleeding peptic ulcer in this patient might have been caused by various factors such as postoperative stress, administration of NSAIDs, heavy smoking and drinking and underlying disease (diabetes mellitus).

Key words : bleeding peptic ulcer, hypovolemic shock, massive melena, squamous cell carcinoma of the mouth floor