

DIAGNOSIS AND PRESURGICAL EVALUATION OF BILIARY
AND PANCREATIC DISORDERS UTILIZING A FIBER-
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Since initiation of the study in May 1972, attempts at ampullary cannulation have been made in 13 patients. The procedure was successful in 7 of the 13 cases. Of these cases, 3 were women with unexplained right upper quadrant pain, and all the pancreatic and biliary systems were normal. Two elderly men had unexplained jaundice, and all proved to have obstruction of the common duct due to carcinoma. One man was suspected of having chronic pancreatitis and had a normal pancreatogram.

One man was suspected of having a postoperative stricture of the common duct, but due to his size, an intravenous cholangiogram was unsuccessful. The examination revealed normal pancreatic ducts, and grossly dilated biliary ducts, with a terminal benign stricture. This latter individual had mild pancreatitis following the procedure which responded quickly to conservative measures.

No sequelae of the procedure were experienced. All patients tolerated the procedure well.

Tentatively, one can now draw the conclusion that this procedure required a great deal of skill and the presence of a radiologist. A period of training by a recognized expert would be most desirable.

The clinical information can, as expected, be very valuable, both in diagnosis and outlining the abnormal anatomy.

Due to the detachment of the principal investigator, this study is being terminated.
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