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Semi rigid laser nephrolithotripsy and dilatation of infundibular stenosis

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Purpose: We present a case of semi rigid laser nephrolithotripsy with concurrent dilatation of infundibular stenosis in the calyx with the lithiasis.

Patient and Methods: A 42 years old woman presented with right renal colic. The KUB and the CT scan revealed a 17mm stone in the middle calyx. The retrograde pyelography revealed a ureteral stenosis at 5cm from the ureteral orifice and a stenotic infundibulum in the calyx with the lithiasis. Due to her body habitus (height 155cm) we decided to perform a semi rigid ureteronephroscopy.

Results: Using a Storz Semi rigid ureteroscope 8 Fr, the renal pelvis was reached and the lithiasis of the middle calyx with the tip protruding through the stenotic infundibulum was observed. With the use of a 365µm Holmium laser fiber, a dilatation of the infundibulum and concurrent lithotripsy was performed. The lithiasic residuals were moved to the renal pelvis. A 7/26 JJ stent was introduced as well as a urinary catheter. The latter was removed on day 1 postoperatively and the former on day 14. In the postoperative KUB at day 12 the patient was stone free.

Conclusion: The use of semi rigid ureteronephrolithotripsy is an option for retrograde nephrolithotripsy in individuals of small stature, providing better visualisation, better irrigation and use of larger laser fiber. Laser dilatation of infundibular stenosis in order to facilitate lithotripsy and removal of lithiasic residuals can be performed in the same time with lithotripsy.

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