Image of the month

Preoperative Localization Through a Harpoon of Local Recurrence of Rectal Adenocarcinoma After Abdominoperineal Amputation

Localización preoperatoria mediante arpón de recidiva local de adenocarcinoma de recto tras amputación abdominoperineal

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A 54-year-old male was treated in 2015 for low-rectal adenocarcinoma (ypT3N1cM0) by neoadjuvant radio-chemotherapy, abdominoperineal amputation and adjuvant chemotherapy. During the follow-up, imaging tests (CT, MRI, PET-CT) (Fig. 1-M RI) revealed a 20×12 mm nodule in the elevator muscle of the right anus, suggestive of local recurrence.

We decided to mark the injury with a harpoon guided by CT (Fig. 2) and extirpation by posterior approach (Kraske procedure). The pathological anatomy reports “infiltration by intestinal pattern adenocarcinoma in soft presacral tissues” with free margins. The postoperative period elapsed without incidents, with the patient being discharged on the fifth postoperative day.

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