

Endoscopic diagnosis and management of peptic ulcer bleeding: European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy(ESGE) Guideline Update 2026

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Guideline scope

- 2021 nonvariceal UGIH guideline을 업데이트
- Nonvariceal UGIH : gastric and duodenal peptic ulcers, Mallory–Weiss syndrome, Dieulafoy's lesion, malignancy, angioectasias, and mucosal erosive disease of the esophagus, stomach, duodenum
- 범위: peptic ulcer hemorrhage의 pre-endoscopy, endoscopy, post-endoscopy management

Pre-endoscopy management

◆ Initial patient evaluation and hemodynamic resuscitation

- Immediate assessment of hemodynamic status
- If hemodynamic instability, prompt intravascular volume replacement, initially using crystalloid fluids
 - => Hemodynamic instability ? SBP < 90 mmHg alone, and SBP < 100 mmHg with HR >100/min
 - => Significantly decrease mortality

◆ RBC Transfusion

- Hemodynamically stable + no cardiovascular disease
- Hb <7 g/dL → RBC transfusion (Target Hb 7–9 g/dL)

- Hemodynamically stable + acute/chronic cardiovascular disease
- Hb ≤8 g/dL → RBC transfusion (Target Hb ≥10 g/dL)

Pre-endoscopy management

◆ Pre-endoscopy risk stratification

- Glasgow–Blatchford Score (GBS)

- => Pre-endoscopy risk stratification for acute UGIH

- => $GBS \leq 1 \rightarrow$: Outpatient management + outpatient endoscopy

- => Prompt GI/endoscopy follow-up plan

◆ Do not recommend the routine use of video capsule endoscopy or telemetric blood-sensing capsules in the management of patients with suspected UGIH

Pre-endoscopy management

◆ Antiplatelet / Anticoagulant management

- Aspirin

- => Primary cardiovascular prevention : Hold and restart after careful re-evaluation
 - => Secondary cardiovascular prevention : Do not hold. If interrupted, aspirin should be restarted as soon as possible, preferably within 3–5days
 - => DAPT for secondary prevention: Hold second antiplatelet agent, restart as soon as possible, preferably within 5days
 - => Consider Cardiology consultation
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- Do not recommend routine platelet transfusion for patients with acute non variceal UGIH taking antiplatelet agents
 - Do not recommend the use of tranexamic acid

Pre-endoscopy management

◆ Antiplatelet / Anticoagulant management

- VKA

- => Hold VKA

- => Hemodynamic instability : low-dose vitamin K + IV PCC/FFP

- => Reversal should not delay endoscopy/hemostasis

- DOAC

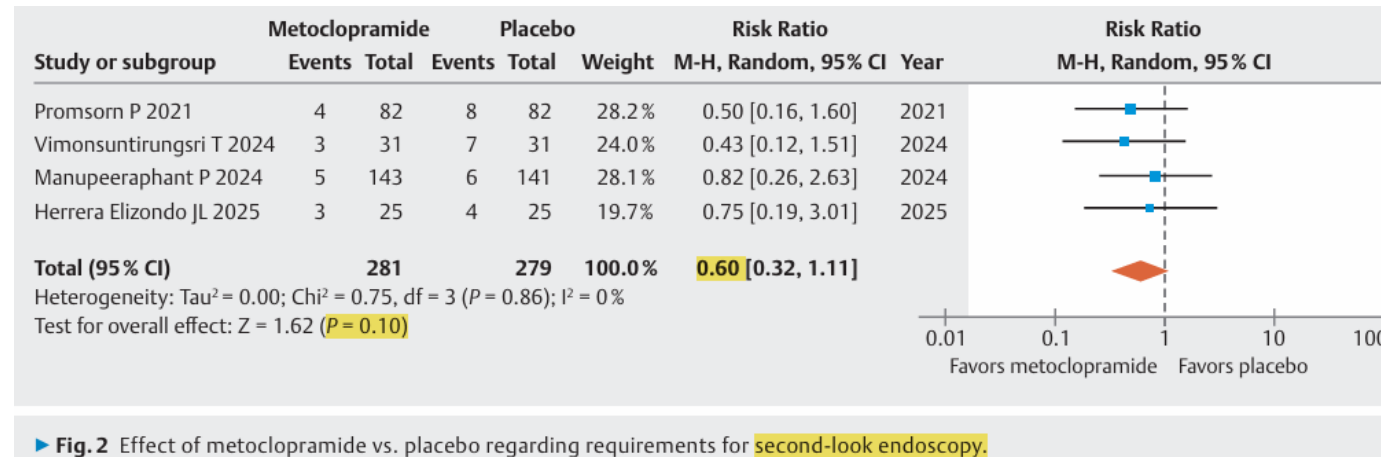
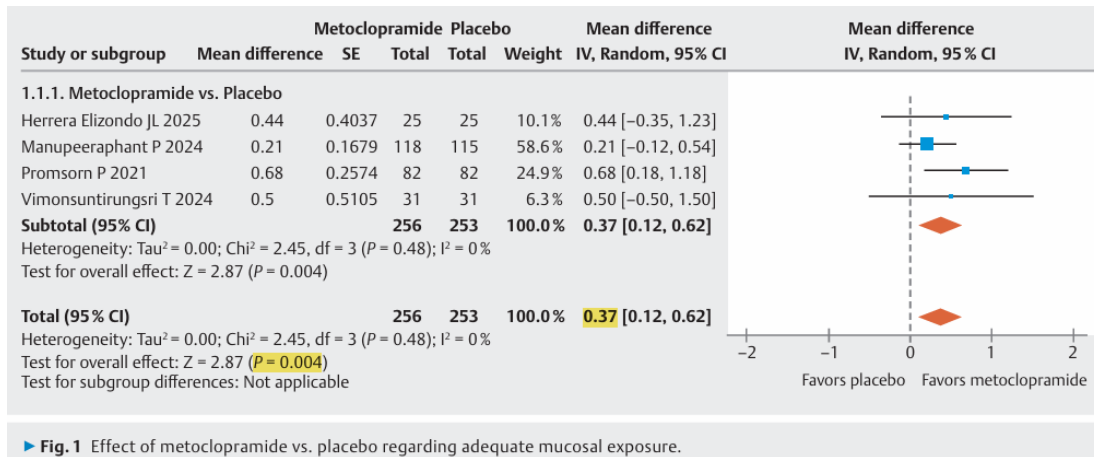
- => Hold DOAC, but do not delay endoscopy

- => Severe ongoing bleeding : DOAC reversal agent or IV PCC

Pre-endoscopy management

◆ Prokinetic medications

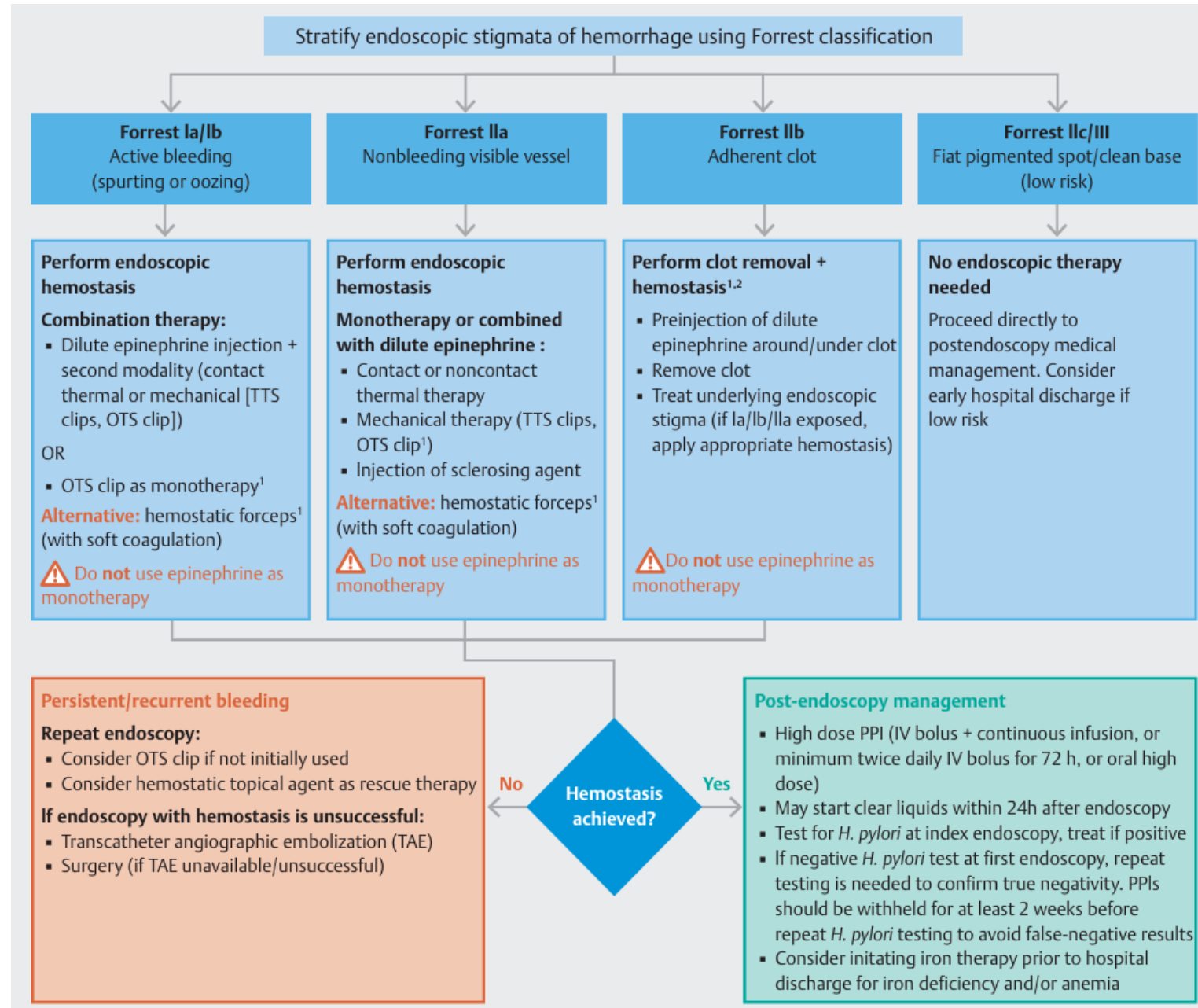
- Severe/ongoing active UGIH : IV erythromycin, IV metoclopramide
=> Improved mucosal exposure and endoscopic visualization
=> No significant differences in units of blood transfused or hospital length of stay, although there was a possible trend toward a reduced need for second-look endoscopy



Endoscopy management

◆ Timing of upper GI endoscopy

- Emergent: ≤ 6 h, Urgent: ≤ 12 h, Early: ≤ 24 h, Delayed: > 24 h
- Early endoscopy after adequate hemodynamic resuscitation
- Do not recommend routine emergent or urgent endoscopy unless the patient remains hemodynamically unstable despite adequate resuscitation
- Use of antiplatelet/anticoagulant, predetermined INR cutoff : should not be used to guide the timing of endoscopy



Endoscopy management

◆ Forrest Ia/Ib

- Dilute epinephrine injection + second hemostatic modality
 - contact thermal or mechanical therapy (TTS clip / OTS clip)
- OTS clip monotherapy : first-line alternative
 - =>Lower risk of further bleeding at 30 days compared with standard endoscopic therapy
- Hemostatic forceps + soft coagulation : monotherapy option
- Do not recommend topical hemostatic agents as first-line therapy for high risk peptic ulcer bleeding
- Do not use epinephrine injection as monotherapy



Endoscopy management

◆ Forrest IIa

- monotherapy or combine with epinephrine

=> Contact thermal therapy, Noncontact thermal therapy, Mechanical therapy(TTS clip, OTS clip), Sclerosing-agent injection

◆ Forrest IIb

- Remove clot, check underlying stigma

=> Ia/Ib/IIa → hemostasis (O), IIc/III → hemostasis (X)

- Pre-injection of diluted epinephrine around and/or under the clot should be performed before attempting clot removal to mitigate the risk of inducing brisk bleeding

Use of a DEP to guide hemostatic therapy was associated with a significant reduction in recurrence of bleeding, surgical intervention, and bleeding-associated mortality

=>ESGE could not reach a recommendation for or against the routine use of a DEP

Endoscopy management

◆ Persistent/Recurrent bleeding

- Ongoing active bleeding (spurting, arterial pulsatile bleeding, or oozing) that is present at the end of the first endoscopy and refractory to standard hemostasis modalities.
- Bleeding after initial successful endoscopic hemostasis
 - =>Consider topical hemostatic agent or OTS clip
 - =>Consider TAE(trans catheter angiographic embolization)
 - =>Surgery

◆ Prophylactic TAE

- Selected high-risk peptic ulcer bleeding
 - initial hemodynamic instability
 - posterior duodenal wall ulcer
 - large ulcer >2 cm
 - durable endoscopic hemostasis is considered uncertain

Postendoscopy management

◆ High dose PPI & second-look

- After endoscopic hemostasis or FIIb ulcer stigmata not treated endoscopically
- IV bolus + continuous infusion (80 mg bolus → 8 mg/h) for 72 hours
=> High-dose IV bolus twice daily or high-dose oral formulation twice daily
- ESGE could not reach a consensus for or against the routine use of P-CAB for patients who have undergone endoscopic hemostasis
- Do not recommend routine second-look endoscopy

Endoscopy management

◆ H. pylori, anticoagulation, iron, nutrition

- H. pylori

- => Investigate in Index endoscopy and HPE

- => Retest if Index test negative (hold PPI at least two weeks)

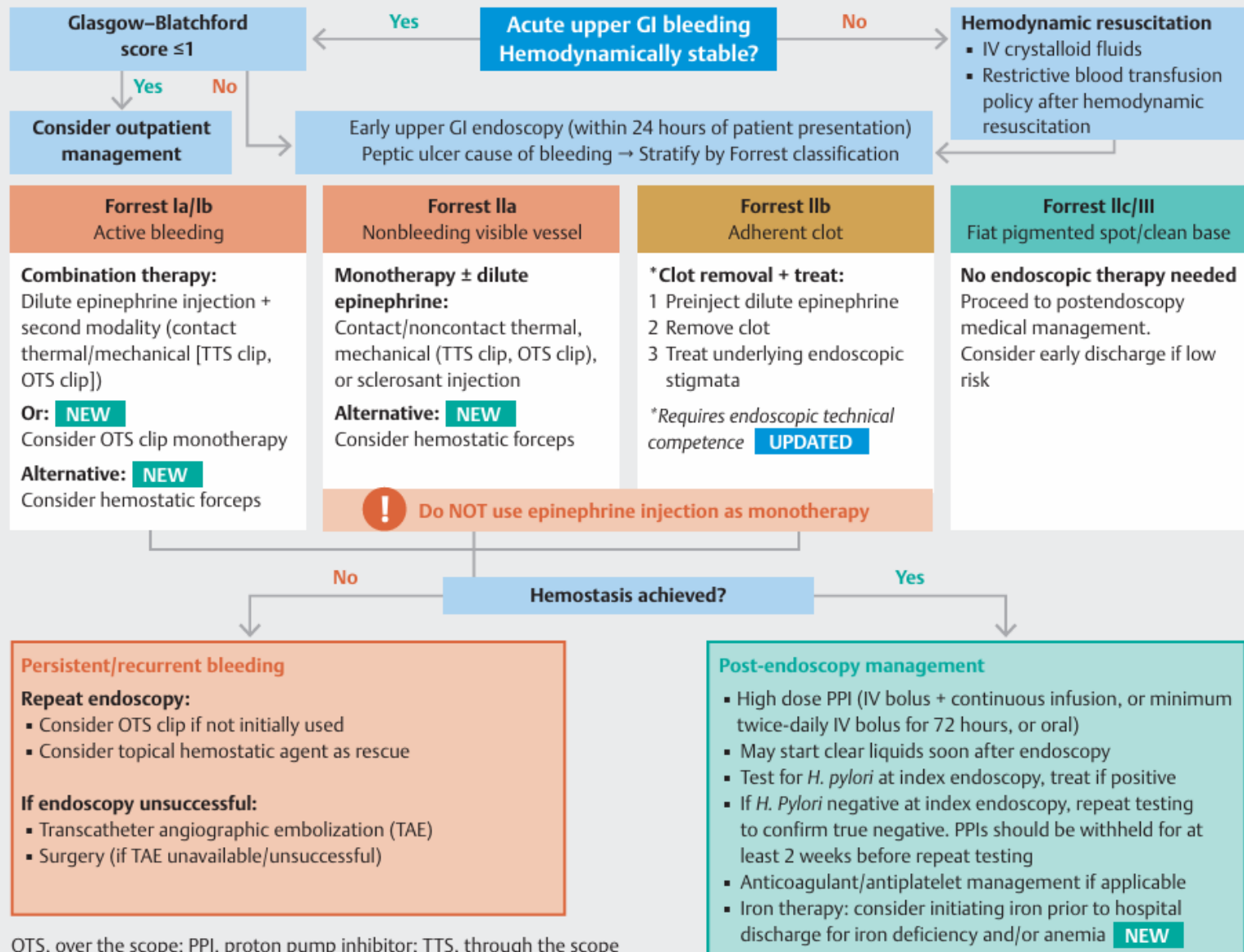
- Anticoagulation

- => Resume as soon as clinically indicated based on thromboembolic risk (CHA2DS2-VASc, HAS-BLED)

- => VKAs should be restarted earlier because the time required to achieve adequate anticoagulation is longer (up to 5 days) compared with DOACs, which take hours

- Consider initiating iron therapy prior to hospital discharge for iron deficiency and/or anemia

- Start early oral nutrition within 24 hours



OTS, over the scope; PPI, proton pump inhibitor; TTS, through the scope