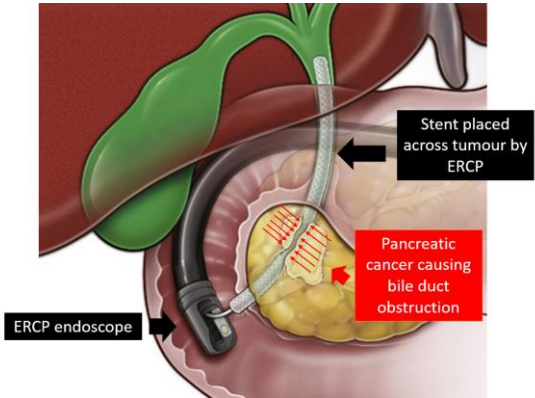
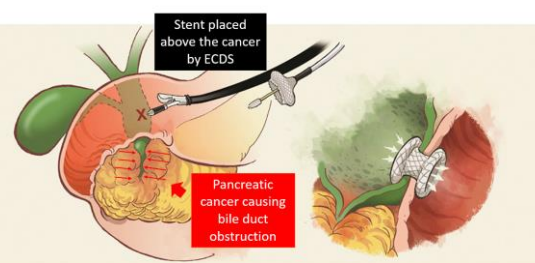


## Appendix

### Graphical illustrations of ECDS and ERCP

<p>ERCP</p>  <p>The diagram shows a cross-section of the pancreas and duodenum. A pancreatic cancer mass is shown causing a narrowing of the bile duct. An ERCP endoscope is inserted into the duodenum, and a metal stent is being placed across the tumor to bypass the obstruction. Labels include 'ERCP endoscope', 'Stent placed across tumour by ERCP', and 'Pancreatic cancer causing bile duct obstruction'.</p>	<p>ERCP involves placing a metal stent into an obstructed bile duct through an endoscope. Since the obstruction is caused by pancreatic malignancy, the stent is placed across the tumour. The whole process is assisted by an X-ray and injection of a contrast medium.</p>
<p>ECDS</p>  <p>The diagram shows a cross-section of the pancreas and duodenum. A pancreatic cancer mass is shown causing a narrowing of the bile duct. A metal stent is placed above the tumor, creating a direct connection between the bile duct and the duodenum. Labels include 'Stent placed above the cancer by ECDS' and 'Pancreatic cancer causing bile duct obstruction'.</p>	<p>ECDS directly creates a connection between the bile duct and the duodenum by a metal stent through the endoscope under the guidance of ultrasound, for biliary drainage. The stent is placed above the tumour rather than across it.</p>