# Radiologic Management of Biliary Obstruction

## Variant 1: Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with dilated bile ducts from choledocholithiasis.

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<th>Rating</th>
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### Variant 3: Initial therapeutic procedure for a liver transplant recipient with elevated bilirubin and suspected biliary anastomotic stenosis or bile leak, with no dilated ducts.

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- 52 (24587819)
- 56 (23432435)
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Variant 4: Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with bile leak and dilated bile ducts following laparoscopic cholecystectomy.
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### Variant 5: Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with dilated bile ducts and suspected biliary sepsis or acute cholangitis.

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Removable biliary covered stent  | Usually not appropriate | Expert Consensus | N/A | N/A | 2 | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0
Endoscopic US-guided biliary drainage (EUS-BD) | May be appropriate | Limited | N/A | N/A | 4 | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0

References | Study Quality
88 (27122677) | 4

**Variant 6:** Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with malignant common bile duct obstruction (e.g., pancreatic carcinoma).

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| References | Study Quality | 95 (26290631) | 4 | 96 (22415652) | 1 |
| Percutaneous internal/external biliary catheter | Usually appropriate | Strong | N/A | N/A | 7 | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0
| References | Study Quality | 109 (25148939) | Good | 110 (19609609) | 3 | 111 (24064748) | 3 | 112 (12354980) | 1 |
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**Variant 7:** Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with hilar biliary obstruction from malignant etiology (eg, Klatskin tumor).
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### Variant 8: Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with dilated bile ducts and coagulopathy (INR >2.0 or platelet count <60 K).

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<td>4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanent biliary metallic stent</td>
<td>Usually not appropriate</td>
<td>Expert Consensus</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Removable biliary covered stent</td>
<td>May be appropriate</td>
<td>Expert Consensus</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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**Variant 9: Initial therapeutic procedure for a patient with dilated bile ducts and moderate to massive ascites.**
### Endoscopic US-guided biliary drainage (EUS-BD)

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<th>Procedure</th>
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#### References

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Appendix Key
A more complete discussion of the items presented below can be found by accessing the supporting documents at the designated hyperlinks.

**Appropriateness Category:** The panel's recommendation for a procedure based on the assessment of the risks and benefits of performing the procedure for the specified clinical scenario.

**SOE:** Strength of Evidence. The assessment of the amount and quality of evidence found in the peer reviewed medical literature for an appropriateness recommendation.

- **References:** The citation number and PMID for the reference(s) associated with the recommendation.
- **Study Quality:** The assessment of the quality of an individual reference based on the number of study quality elements described in the reference.

**RRL:** Relative Radiation Level. A population based assessment of the amount of radiation a typical patient may be exposed to during the specified procedure.

**Rating:** The final rating (1-9 scale) for the procedure as determined by the panel during rating rounds.

**Median:** The median rating (1-9 scale) for the procedure as determined by the panel during rating rounds.

**Final tabulations:** A histogram showing the number of panel members who rated the procedure as noted in the column heading (ie, 1, 2, 3, etc.).

Additional supporting documents about the AC methodology and processes can be found at [www.acr.org/ac](http://www.acr.org/ac).