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                                                           150 ml
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            ml
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                                                                      (gastric antrum)
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                                 (erythromycin)
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(overhead radiography) 1998 20 12 , 17:15 9-70 ( 15 , 40 ) 500 mg, 3 mg/kg (Erythromycin Lactobionate, Abbott 가 Laboratories, North Chicago, IL, U.S.A.) 10 ml 100 ml 15 70%w/v 150 ml 0.5% (Methylcellulose, Sigma Chemical CO., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A.) 600 ml 5 (spot radiogra -

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Fig. 1. Image obtained 15 minutes after administration of barium meal in a 36-year-old man from EM-injection group. The barium column reaches the terminal ileum and the bowel double contrast is excellent and the small bowel fold patterns are well demonstrated.



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Fig. 2. Image at 30-minutes in a 30-year-old woman from EMinjection group. The small bowel fold patterns and bowel double contrast are demonstrated in less than half of ileal loop. We graded this case as good.

가 Excellent (Fig. 1), 1/2 가 Good 3 (Fig. 2), Fair 2 (Fig. 3), Poor (Fig. 4) 3 1 2 Wilcoxon rank sum test 150 ml 18.5 , 600ml 25.8 (p<0.05), 150 ml 7 (35%) , 600 ml 5 14 (70%) (Table 1). 가 (Table 2), 15 3.3 , 2.4 가 (p<0.05) (Table 3).



**Fig. 3.** Image in a 27-year-old woman. Some small bowel fold patterns are demonstrated in distal ileal loop, although poor transradiency.

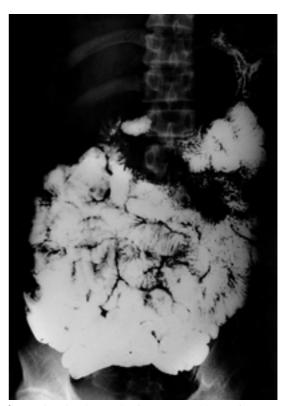
(p < 0.05),

**Table 1.** Gastric Emptying Time (GET)

GET (min)	150mL Bari	600mL Methylcellulose		
	EM group $(n=20)$	Control group $(n = 12)$	EM group $(n = 20)$	Control group (n = 12)
0- 5	7 (35%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
5 - 10	2 (10%)	1 (8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
10 - 15 15 - 30	3 (15%) 6 (30%)	6 (50%) 2 (17%)	7 (35%) 7 (35%)	0 (0%) 0 (0%)
30 - 45	2 (10%)	2 (17%)	3 (15%)	4 (33%)
45 - 60	0 (0%)	1 (8%)	1 (15%)	5 (42%)
60 -	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (10%)	3 (25%)
Mean GET	18.5 min	34.5 min	25.8 min	65 min

**Table 2.** Small Bowel Transit Time

	Transit time (min)	EM group (n = 20)	Control group (n = 12)  2 (17%) 2 (17%)	
	0 - 15	3 (15%)		
	15 - 30	5 (25%)		
	30 - 45	5 (25%)	1 (8%)	
	45 - 60	1 (5%)	3 (25%)	
	60 - 90	2 (10%)	2 (17%)	
90 - Mean		4 (20%)	2 (17%)	
		64.5 min	66.3 min	



**Fig. 4.** Overhead radiograph of a 38-year-old man from control group. The small bowel loops shows poor transradiency, inadequate distension and bowel loop crowding. Therefore, all three readers graded this case as poor.

Point	EM group (n = 20)	Control group (n = 12)	
1 (Proximal jejunum	0 (0%)	2 (17%)	
2 (Distal jejunum)	2 (10%)	5 (42%)	
3 (Proximal ileum)	10 (50%)	3 (25%)	
4 (Distal ileum)	8 (40%)	2 (17%)	
Mean point	3.3	2.4	

metoclopramide

**Table 4.** Luminal Diameter and Image Quality

N		ninal diameter (ean)	Image quality (Mean)	
	EM group ( (n = 20)	Control group (n = 12)	EM group ( (n = 20)	Control group (n = 12)
Proximal jejunum Distal jejunum &	3.0 cm	2.6 cm	3.9	3.6
proximal ileum Distal ileum	2.5 cm 2.3 cm	2.2 cm 2.0 cm	3.7 2.8	3.1 2.3

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(p<0.05) (Table 4).

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## The Effects of Erythromycin in Small-Bowel Follow-through<sup>1</sup>

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**Purpose:** To evaluate the efficacy of erythromycin(EM), known to accelerate gastric emptying, in modified small-bowel follow-through(SBFT).

**Materials and Methods:** We evaluated 32 normal patients who underwent modified SBFT by oral administration of methylcellulose. In the EM injection group(n=20), 500 mg EM (3 mg/kg in pediatric patients) in 100 ml saline was infused intravenously over a 15-minute period prior to the administration of a barium meal, while in the control group(n=12), EM was not infused. Gastric emptying time(GET), small-bowel transit time(SBTT) for barium and methylcellulose, small-bowel transit(SBT) during the first 15 minutes, luminal diameter and quality of image were compared between the two groups. SBT was assigned 1, 2, 3, or 4 points, depending on the extent to which the barium head reached the proximal or distal jejunum, and the proximal or distal ileum during the initial 15-minute. Three radiologists reached a consensus as to image quality.

**Results:** Mean GET was significantly faster in the EM injection group (18.5 mins for 150 ml barium suspension and 25.8 mins for 600 ml methylcellulose). The SBT score during the initial 15 minutes was significantly higher in the EM injection group (3.3 points) than in the control group (2.4 points), but mean SBTT was not significantly different between the two groups. Luminal diameter and image quality were also higher in the EM injection group.

**Conclusion:** EM does not decrease SBTT but is highly effective for shortening gastric emptying time, helping to increase the range of fluoroscopic examination and improve image quality in modified small-bowel follow-through, especially in patients with delayed gastric emptying.

**Index words :** Intestines, diseases
Intestines, radiography

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