

## **Supplementary Material 2, Methods:**

### *Stakeholder Involvement*

In January 2022, the I-EUS leaders (A.A., C.F. and I.T.) invited Italian opinion leaders in the field of management of PFCs (gastroenterologists, endoscopists, radiologists, surgeons) and asked them to suggest relevant areas of interest. Based on this feedback, four aspects were selected.

- 1- What are the controversial indications and what is the timing of the endoscopic treatment of critically ill patients with PFCs?
- 2- Which is the best approach to endoscopic necrosectomy considering the timing, step-up approach, and multigate approach?
- 3- How can patients with PFCs be managed beyond drainage and necrosectomy?
- 4- How can these patients be managed beyond the endoscopic treatment?

Accordingly, four working groups (WGs) were created, each composed by 4 experts and a WG leader. The WGs met through online meetings between January 2022 and May 2022 (three to five times) and prepared a list of questions and statements based on systematic reviews and related evidence tables. The questions and statements were uploaded to a specific app (I-EUS) to be read by all experts involved and were eventually presented in a plenary session in a face-to-face meeting held in Palermo (Italy) 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> of May, 2022. The statements were discussed and agreed upon by 20 members of the four working groups and by an additional forty-two experts in the field, including three non-Italian ones. All statements with less than 80% agreement were discussed again for possible amendments and excluded if the agreement level was not reached.

### *Drafting the manuscript*

The consensus coordinator (G.C.), I-EUS leaders (A.A., C.F., I.T.), and two additional members (C.C. and G.E.M.R.) composed the writing team and revised all questions and statements after the consensus conference to ensure homogenization of the work and correct application of the grading system. Three rounds of amendments were conducted with the working groups,

and a final document was prepared in December 2023 and revised and approved by all participants in March 2024. The final manuscript was then divided into two parts, in order to focus each of them in different aspects of the management of PFCs. The first part, which is presented in this paper, is focused on the first and second aspects above mentioned, it means indications for treatment, initial approach and technical aspects of the drainage of PFCs.