A 38-year-old healthy female is admitted with right upper quadrant abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting of 12 hours duration. Abdominal exam reveals epigastric and right upper quadrant tenderness without rebound or guarding. Her vitals are temperature 100.8 F, heart rate 110, blood pressure 102/68, respiratory rate 18. Labs show white blood cell count 18,000, creatinine 1.0, BUN 28, AST 88, ALT 87, alkaline phosphatase 192, total bilirubin 2.4. Imaging with right upper quadrant ultrasound shows gallbladder with multiple stones and a common bile duct measuring 7 mm without filling defects. She is started on IV fluids and IV antibiotics.

What is the next best step in management?

A. EUS  
B. CT abdomen  
C. ERCP  
D. MRCP

Answer: C
Patients with acute pancreatitis and concurrent cholangitis should undergo ERCP within 24 hours of admission.