Does initial experience in ileocolonic intracorporeal anastomosis negatively impact postoperative outcomes?

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BACKGROUND

Safety and benefits of ileocolonic intracorporeal anastomosis (IA) are undisputed, however, its initial experience might affect postoperative outcomes. This study aimed to compare the 30-days morbidity and mortality of a single center's first 30 cases to the following 29 cases.

METHODS

This retrospective study includes all patients with ileocolonic IA between 2016 and 2020 in a Chilean hospital. Data was obtained from medical records. Cases were divided into groups: (A) first 30 and (B) following 29 patients. Main outcome was 30-days postoperative morbidity and mortality. Secondary outcomes included: Clavien-Dindo Scale ≥3, Anastomotic-leak, Length of Stay (LOS), Conversion, Readmission and Reintervention. Continuous variables were compared with Mann-Whitney U Test and categorical variables using Fisher Exact Test or X^2. Ethical approval ID: 190121007.

Table 1. Demographic characteristics from groups A and B

Variable	Group A (N=30)	Group B (N= 29)
Age (years) (mean, SD)	64.6 (12.1)	66.1 (14.2)
Female	14 (46.7%)	13 (44.8%)
Pathology: Cancer	25 (83.3%)	28 (96.6%)

Table 2. Postoperative outcomes comparing groups A and B

Variable	Group A (N=30)	Group B (N=29)	p-value
30-days mortality	0	0	-
30-days morbidity	9 (30%)	7 (24.1%)	0.613
Clavien ≥3	5 (16.7%)	0	0.052
Leak	3 (10%)	0	0.237
Conversion	0	0	-
LOS (days) (Median, IQR)	3 (3-4)	3 (3-4.5)	0.394
Readmission	2 (6.7%)	2 (6.9%)	1
Reintervention	1 (3.3%)	0	1

RESULTS

Demographic characteristics are shown in Table 1. There was no 30-days mortality. The initial group (A) showed slightly higher rates in 30-days morbidity, 30% vs 24.1%, however, this difference was not significant (p=0.613). Similarly, secondary variables such as Clavien-Dindo Scale ≥3, Anastomotic-leak or Reintervention rate also were a little higher, but none was significantly different (Table 2).

CONCLUSION

Despite postoperative outcomes were slightly impaired during ileocolonic IA initial experience, there was no significant difference between both groups.

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