SPECIMEN RETRIEVAL BAG USE AND THE RATE OF SURGICAL SITE INFECTION IN LAPAROSCOPIC APPENDECTOMY

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OBJECTIVE

This study investigates whether the use of a specimen retrieval bag (SRB) reduces the incidence of postoperative SSI in emergent laparoscopic appendectomies for acute appendicitis.

METHODS

The ACS-NSQIP targeted appendectomy database was queried for patients undergoing isolated, emergent, laparoscopic appendectomy.

Participants were sorted by SRB use and then matched based on demographic information.

The primary outcome was SSI within 30 days of surgery

	Total	No BAG	BAG	p
n	18635	1199	17436	
SSI overall	506 (2.7)	41 (3.4)	465 (2.7)	0.15
Superficial SSI	170 (0.9)	9 (0.8)	161 (0.9)	0.65
Wound infection	14 (0.1)	1 (0.1)	13 (0.1)	1.00
Organ space infection	324 (1.7)	31 (2.6)	293 (1.7)	0.03

Table 1: rate of SSI by subgroup

RESULTS

18,635 patients met inclusion criteria. Of those, an SRB was used in 17,436. Between groups, there were no significant differences in pre or postoperative patient characteristics.

2.7% of patients developed an SSI within the study period. Upon further delineation of SSI subtype, there was a significant reduction in organ space infection (OSI) when an SRB was used.

CONCLUSION

The use of an SRB significantly reduces the risk of postoperative OSI and surgeons should strongly consider the routine use of SRB for laparoscopic appendectomy as a best practice.