INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO ESTABLISHING LAPAROSCOPY SERVICES IN LOW-RESOURCE SETTINGS: PROMISING OUTCOMES FROM ETHIOPIA

AUTHORS

S.M.Djote. M.D., FACS, FCS-ECSA*,W.A.Zerefa M.D. , D. Getachew M.D.

*Corresponding author-(mulatusurafel@yahoo.com)

AFFILIATIONS

Yekatit12 Hospital Medical College, Tewodros St., Addis Ababa,Ethiopia

INTRODUCTION

In treating gallbladder stone disease, laparoscopic cholecystectomy is the standard, but it's difficult to implement in public surgical facilities, especially in developing nations. This research suggests a new approach, focusing on local resources and global partnerships. It's exemplified by 132 successful laparoscopic cholecystectomies at Yekatit 12 Hospital Medical College in Ethiopia.

OBJECTIVE

To highlight key findings of a new innovative approach to establish a laparoscopic surgery service at a public hospital in Ethiopia

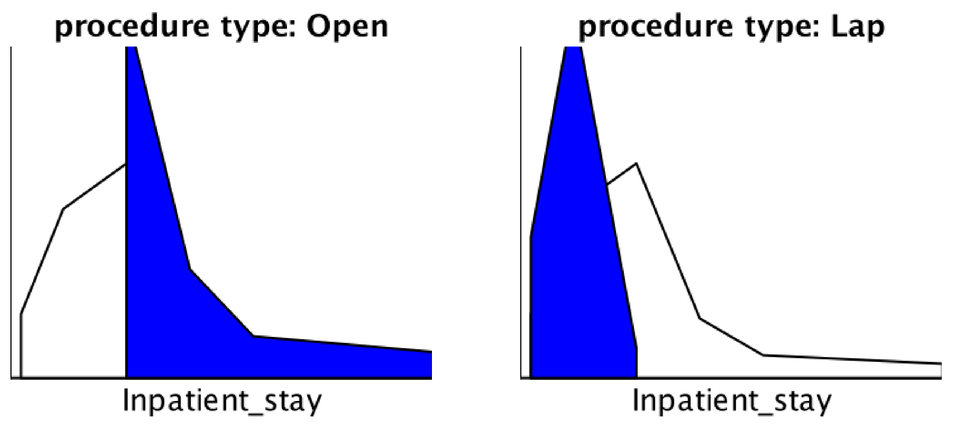
METHODOLOGY

A retrospective analysis of data from 132 laparoscopic cholecystectomies at Yekatit 12 Hospital from August 2021 to September 2022 was conducted. Key outcome measures included surgical duration, achievement of critical view of safety, conversion to open surgery frequency, and overall hospital stay.

RESULTS

- The study revealed a F:M ratio of 7.6, with laparoscopic procedures showing a statistically significant shorter hospital stay of 1.7 +/- 0.5 days compared to 3.58+/- 1.2 days for open surgery (p=<0.001).

- While laparoscopic surgeries took slightly longer (90.8+/- 26.7 minutes) than open surgeries (73.1+/- 24.2 minutes), the difference was not statistically significant (p=0.083).
- Despite resource constraints, our approach delivered promising outcomes with acceptable service quality, offering a sustainable solution for expanding laparoscopy services in similar settings and addressing critical healthcare needs.





CONCLUSION

Establishing laparoscopy services in low-resource settings is feasible and can yield positive outcomes, enhancing access to advanced surgical care for underserved populations. Our experience in Ethiopia serves as a valuable case study for similar initiatives worldwide.