Outcomes Following Difficult Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy – Experience of a Tertiary Care Centre From India

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Long Beach, 2025

Introduction

- Difficult cholecystectomy – 20% of all Laparoscopic cholecystectomy
- Risk factors identified on the basis of "Surgical cholecystectomy Score" [1]
    - Post ERCP/Acute Biliary Pancreatitis/Acute Cholecystitis

Aim

Surgical Outcomes of difficult LC over past 5 yrs.

Methodology

- Retrospective analysis of a prospectively maintained database.
- January 2019 to December 2023.
- Patients were evaluated with routine blood investigations, ultrasound abdomen in all patient with magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography in selected cases.
- Post-operative follow up at 1 week, 4 weeks & yearly

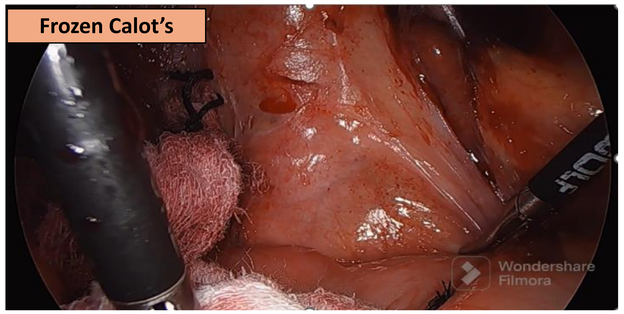
Results

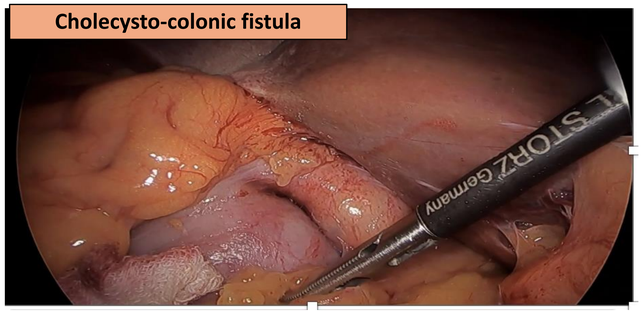
Variable	n = 364
Mean age (years)	42.7 (15-80)
Female	198 (54.4%)
Male	166 (45.6%)

Etiology	n = 364 (%)
Acute biliary pancreatitis	86 (23.5)
Post Acute cholecystitis	77 (21.4)
Post ERCP	66(18.1)
Post Cholangitis	65(17.8)
Recurrent Biliary Colic	45(12.4)
Stump Cholecystitis	25 (6.8)

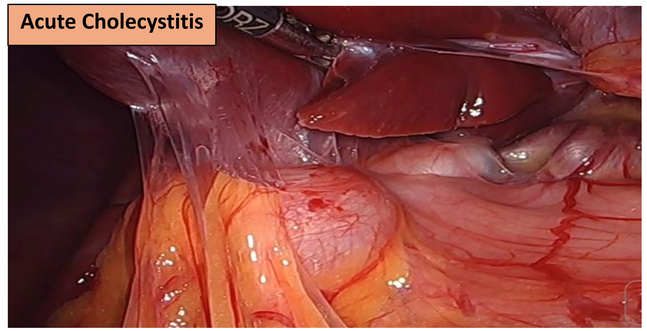
Management	n = 364
Laparoscopic	343 (94.2%)
Conversion to Open	21 (5.8%)
• Frozen calot's	13
• Bleeding	5
• Unclear anatomy	3
Critical view of safety achieved	257 (70.6%)
Bail out procedures	107 (29.4%)
Intraop Cholangiogram	3 (0.8%)

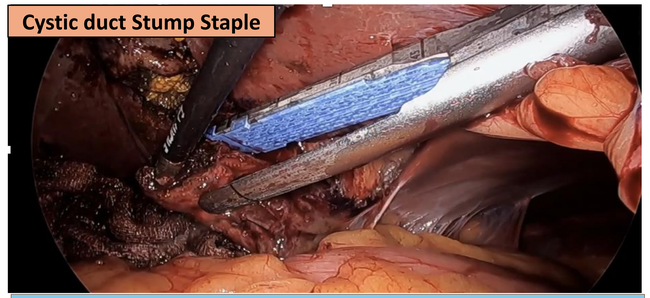
Complication	Number (%)
30-day Mortality	0
Bile duct injury	0
SSI	11 (3.0)
Re-exploration	6 (1.6)
- For bleeding	5
- For biliary peritonitis	1





- Mean duration of symptoms 10.6 months (Range- 1-24 mnths)
- Mean operating time : 46.5 min (35-140) vs. 18 min in simple cholecystectomy
- Mean duration of keeping Drain – 2 days (1-14 days)
- Median postop hospital stay : 2 days (1-4)





Conclusion

- Laparoscopic management of difficult gallbladders is safe and feasible.
- Low threshold for conversion.

Reference

1. Bansal VK et al Surgical Cholecystectomy Score (SCS) for grading the difficulty of laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Langenbecks Arch Surg. 2024