

Laparoscopic Liver resection in Practice: Indications and Limitations

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Summary

Laparoscopic liver resection is a technique that has greatly developed over time. Published reports have increased, giving way to comparative studies and meta-analysis. Three types of procedures have been differentiated: pure laparoscopic, hand-assisted and hybrid. Although there are no precise indications for each technique, the choice of each of them will depend on the procedure and the surgeon's experience. Initially, resection was only accepted for benign lesions, while today it is also accepted for malignant lesions, including metastases. It has been defined that the ideal lesions to resect are: single lesions, less than 5 cm, peripherally located and in the lateral or peripheral segments (II to VI). Added to this is that only expert surgeons who have all the necessary technology available are in charge of performing these procedures. The reported results support the use of this technique when comparing it with open surgery with regard to minors: blood loss, use of opioids, time to oral intake, hospital stay and complications, considering that the total costs are at least similar to the open technique. However, the most important thing is that during the follow-up of patients with malignant pathology, the 5-year oncological results have been equivalent to open surgery in terms of disease-free survival and total survival.

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