

OUTCOMES FOLLOWING ROBOTIC SURGERY FOR RECTAL CANCERS



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Introduction

Recent innovation of Robotic surgery in the field of colorectal surgery has been well received by many laparoscopic colorectal surgeons especially in rectal surgeries. This technology gives a three-dimensional view and extra range of movements, which helps in precision surgery. We would like to share some of our early experience with Robotic Colorectal Surgery.

Methodology

A prospective analysis of our first 85 consecutive robotic colorectal cases performed by 3 laparoscopic colorectal surgeons who were trained as per the European Academy of Robotic Colorectal Surgery (EARCS) programme. Oncological and general surgical outcomes were investigated.

Results

- In total 85 cases underwent Robotic colectomies from Feb 2015 to Sept 2019
- 70 were for Rectal cancers
- Male:Female was 1:1
- Average age of 65 (33-88) years
- Malignant:Benign were 82:3
- Re-admission rate of 14% (12/85)
- Returned to theatre 3/85 (3%)
- Mean length of stay was 9 (2-40)
- 11 cases had to be converted to open (13%)
- Average lymph nodes of 9
- No anastamotic leak
- 47% had received LCCR
- 5 out of 85 cases had R1 resection (6%)
- Procedures done:, 25 APERs, 4 Hartman's procedure, and 27 had covering ileostomies
- There were no 90day mortality
- 7 patients have died until date

Conclusion

Our preliminary results show that with a structured training programme Robotic Colorectal Surgery can be easily adopted to achieve good clinical and oncological outcomes.

Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland