

Role of Surgical Drains after Cholecystectomy as it Stands Today

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Background

Insertion of drains after surgery has been a matter of constant discussion over the past many decades, yet there is neither conclusive evidence nor guidelines over their benefits and use of drains after surgery. The decision rests on the surgeon's choice, who takes into consideration patient's co morbidities and disease conditions.

Aims & Objectives

To study the use of drains in patients operated for cholecystectomy.

Material & Methods

A study proposal was drafted and institutional ethical

clearance was obtained. Proforma chart was created to include all patient details. A total of 379 files were obtained from Medical Record Department of Kasturba Hospital and were studied according to the proforma prepared. The results were analysed using spss software.

Results & Conclusions

The use of drains is seen to be associated with presence of co morbidities, emergency procedures, longer duration of use of antibiotics and longer hospital stay. It can be implied that if laparoscopic cholecystectomy is performed electively in a patient without co morbities, drains can be avoided. Further, considering this to be a pilot study, randomised control trials in age, gender, clinical condition and co morbidities matched patients in large series can be designed which will provide data to establish guidelines on the decision of insertion of drains in surgery.