

COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY ANALYSIS ON LAPAROSCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY PRACTICES IN KOREA

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Background : Laparoscopic cholecystectomy (LC) is a widely performed procedure in Korea. However, significant variations in surgical practices, techniques, and postoperative management exist among surgeons and institutions. This study aims to evaluate current trends, surgical preferences, and outcomes of LC based on the fourth nationwide survey conducted by the Korean Association of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery.

Methods : A total of 185 surgeons participated in a structured survey designed to collect data on various aspects of LC, including the use of advanced surgical tools, prophylactic antibiotics, intraoperative imaging techniques, and management of complications.

Results : The survey revealed diverse practices in the use of tools such as the ultrasonic energy device and ICG fluorescence imaging. While most surgeons adhered to standard protocols for NPO time and prophylactic antibiotics, significant differences were observed in the duration of hospital stays and postoperative management strategies. The rate of conversion to open surgery remained low, with most respondents reporting no major complications in the past year. Institutional differences significantly influenced outcomes and surgical preferences.

Conclusions : This study highlights the evolving landscape of laparoscopic cholecystectomy in Korea. The findings underscore the need for standardized guidelines to minimize practice variations and improve patient outcomes. Further research is recommended to explore the impact of specific surgical techniques and tools on clinical efficiency and safety.

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