

THE USE OF LAPAROSCOPY IN THE TREATMENT OF HYPERTROPHIC PYLORIC STENOSIS – PRELIMINARY EXPERIENCES

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Introduction. Pyloric stenosis is the most common form of gastrointestinal obstruction in infants. The cause of pyloric stenosis is unknown, and this condition involves a gradual narrowing of the pyloric lumen due to pyloric muscle enlargement. The method of choice for treating pyloric stenosis is surgical treatment according to the Ramstedt–Weber technique which involves longitudinal serosal dissection, leaving the mucosa intact. Recently, the employment of laparoscopic surgery in infants has become more common, for example in the treatment of hypertrophic pyloric stenosis.

Aim. To describe our experience with respect to laparoscopy in the treatment of pyloric stenosis.

Materials and methods. Early experiences of treating six infants are described.

Case study. In five patients the postoperative course was complication-free. One patient developed complications in the form of intraoperative perforation of the gastrointestinal tract, which was repaired laparoscopically during the main surgery.

Conclusions. Surgical treatment of hypertrophic pyloric stenosis with the use of laparoscopy, despite the technical difficulties associated with very limited operating space, can be an alternative method of treatment if performed by an experienced surgeon, resulting in substantial gains such as less postoperative pain, quick feeding after surgery, and a short hospital stay. Late cosmetic results of laparoscopy, i.e., a virtually invisible scar, are also significant, especially for girls. A reduced risk of consequences associated with an open laparotomy, for example, intraperitoneal adhesions, is also important.