

Laparoscopy in developing countries

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Aim

- Improvement of laparoscopic surgery in developing countries
 - University Hospital
 - District Hospital
 - Mobile surgical units

Objectives

- Conduct and evaluation of training programmes in laparoscopy
- Assessment of research needs and conduct of research programmes

Laparoscopy vs laparotomy

similar effectiveness, but:

- Less infectious complications
- Minimal tissue trauma
- Could be performed outside the operating theatre
- Faster recovery
- Shorter hospital stay

Problems

- Surgeon's skills
- Costs and maintenance of equipment
- General anaesthesia required
- Availability of electricity and CO₂

Activities – first steps

Development of:

- A manual of basic laparoscopic surgery
- An international network of surgeons

Manual for laparoscopic surgery

- Indications for laparoscopic interventions
- Basic principles of the intervention
- Basic minimum material required
- Commentaries of local specialists

- *Validation of the manual after implementation*

Manual for laparoscopic surgery - objectives

- Practical and hands-on guidelines
- Guidelines for training and identification of research needs
- Covering all fields of surgery

Manual for laparoscopic surgery - activities

- Identification of collaborating centres
- Manual in electronic format
- French translation
- Development of e-learning programme and research

Manual for laparoscopic surgery - accreditation

- Establishment of an editorial board and preparation of specific chapters
- Consensus meeting

Identification of collaborating centres

- Already practising laparoscopy
- Involved in national training programmes
- Needs assessment
- Contributors

DISCUSSION