

WORLD LIVER CONFERENCE 2018

May 25-26, 2018 | New York, USA

Robotic liver resections –My experience

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Background: The authors present their experience of robotic liver resections in comparison with open surgery.

Methods: Retrospective review of liver resections done robotically from February 2015 to October 2017 compared to cohort of open cases from January 2012 to December 2016.

Results: Nineteen patients in the study group were compared with matched control of 38 open cases. Mean operative duration was 442 ± 135 minutes in the robotic compared to 357 ± 127 minutes in control group ($p = 0.03$). Mean

blood loss was 270 ± 311 ml in the robotic compared to 451 ± 330 ml in control group ($p = 0.06$). Minor complications developed in 17% of robotic cases compared to 41% in open surgery ($p = 0.5$), while major complications occurred in 5.8% of robotic cases compared to 8.8% of open ($p = 0.3$). Mean hospital stay was 5.35 ± 0.8 days for the robotic group and 7.7 ± 4.2 days for open group ($p = 0.02$).

Conclusion: This study highlights the utility of robotics for liver resections with better outcomes and decreased length of stay compared to open surgery albeit at a higher cost at present.