Surgery-Anesthesia2013

OMICS Group Conferences
Accelerating Scientific Discovery

2nd International Conference on
Surgery and Anesthesia

September 16-18, 2013 Las Vegas, USA

Role of protective ileostomy in destructive colon injuries in gunshot victims and predictors of post-operative morbidity in a developing nation

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Abstract

Abdominal injury from Gunshot Wounds accounts for upto 90% of the mortality associated with penetrating abdominal injuries.Due to fear of anastomotic leak there still seems to be limited role of diversion.

At Aga Khan University Hospitalwe have progressed from Resection with Hartmann Procedure to Resection andAnastomosis with covering ileostomyin destructive colon injury in gunshot victims. We assessed morbidity with our change of practice and find out factors forpost-operative complications.

Victimsfrom 2004-2012 were included.Charts were reviewed for demographics and clinical variables. Morbidity and associated risk factors were determined using Mann-Whitney-U-test and chi-square-test where p-value < 0.05 was taken as significant.

Data was divided into **Group-A**(Resection with Hartmann) and **Group-B**(Resection and Anastomosis with ileostomy). Patients in thegroups were15 and 27 with median age being 30 and 36 years.

Post-operative morbidity was 40% in group A and 26% in group B (p-value 0.48).Median hospital stay has decreased from 15 to 10 days **(p-value 0.015)**. Stoma reversal was done in a median of 9 months to 4 months **(p-value 0.010).**

Post-operative complications included oneintra-abdominal abscess, strictureand anastomotic leak in group B, wound dehiscence in 6 patients of each group.

On multivariate analysis age > 45 years, transfusion of > 4 packed cells in first 24 hours, post-operative inotropes requirement for > 1 day and pH < 7.35 were associated with post-operative complications.

Current study suggests Resection& Anastomosis with ileostomy has acceptable morbidity with early reversal of stoma.This can be safely performed in all patients with destructive colon injuries.

Biography

Tanzeela Gala - Year III Resident in General Surgery at Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan; which is equivalent to a level II Trauma Center in USA. She has special interests in Trauma care and Colorectal Surgery and has carried out research in related fields. She also has distinction of being a female surgeon in making which in itself is a major undertaking in our part of the world.