

PIII2: LAPAROSCOPIC ADRENALECTOMY IN CHILDREN

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Background Adrenal surgery is undoubtedly a challenge for a pediatric surgeon due to the rarity of indications for adrenalectomy in children and the small series of patients being treated. The main indications for adrenalectomy are neurogenic tumours. Very few other indications exist. Laparoscopic techniques have become the standard of choice in many centers in recent years. The aim of this paper is to present the usefulness of laparoscopic adrenalectomy in children.

Materials and methods In the years 2012-2016 laparoscopic adrenalectomy was performed in 8 patients (6 girls and 2 boys) aged 0.8 months to 16 years (average 7.8 years). In all patients transperitoneal lateral access was used.

Results 5 right adrenalectomy and 3 left were done. Indications for surgery were: neuroblastoma in 6 cases and pheochromocytoma in 2 cases. The diameter of the tumour ranged from 2.5 cm to 6 cm (average 4.2 cm). There were no intraoperative and postoperative complications. There were no conversions. Mean time of surgery was 84 min. The average hospitalization time was 2.7 days.

Conclusions Laparoscopic adrenalectomy is a beneficial alternative to adrenal surgery in children, even in oncological cases. Transperitoneal access gives an excellent visualization of the surgical field, which increases intraoperative safety, reduces the risk of complications, and improves the resection efficiency. The laparoscopic method gives a better cosmetic effect, less postoperative pain, and shorter hospital stay. In centers experienced in minimally invasive techniques and endocrine surgery, laparoscopic adrenalectomy should be the method of choice for pediatric patients.

Key words laparoscopic adrenalectomy, children