

Laparoscopic radical cystectomy. The new gold standard for bladder carcinoma? ¿es la osteotomía radical laparoscópica el nuevo standard de oro para el cáncer de vejiga?

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OBJECTIVES: The experience of a renowned Latin American laparoscopic center is reported and the differences with the open technique are thoroughly discussed. **METHODS:** During a 7 year period a total of 85 laparoscopic cystectomies were performed, in 92% urinary diversion was performed extracorporeally. This accounted for: 14 anterior exenterations, 50 radical cystoprostatectomies, 7 radical cystectomies and 14 simple cystectomies. Male to female ratio was 3:1. Mean patient age was 63 years (range 29 to 83). Mean Body Mass Index (BMI) was 28 kg/m² (range 20 to 47). Operative data and long term results are analyzed. **RESULTS:** All 85 procedures were completed laparoscopically without the need for conversion to open surgery. Orthotopic neobladder, Santiago pouch, Studer, Fontana and Le Bag were performed in 42, 13, 16, 12 and 1 case respectively. Ileal conduit, Indiana pouch and Mainz II were employed in 24, 10 and 9 cases respectively. All Mainz II were performed intracorporeally Mean opera