

# Inferior vena cava anomalies during laparoscopic retroperitoneal lymph node dissection

Castillo, Octavio A.

Sanchez-Salas, Rafael

Alvarez, Juan Manuel

Vitagliano, Gonzalo

Cortes, Oscar

**Purpose:** To report our experience with congenital inferior vena cava (IVC) anomalies found during laparoscopic retroperitoneal lymph node dissection (LRPLND). **Patients and Methods:** Two men with a mean age of 31.5 years (range 26-37 years) underwent LRPLND because of nonseminomatous germ-cell tumors (NSGCT) between December 2003 and July 2004. A four-port technique was used. A left IVC anomaly was found in both patients. The two operations were performed with no serious immediate complications and minimal blood loss. Congenital IVC anomalies were identified intraoperatively. A left-sided template modified because of anatomic variation was used. **Results:** Mean operative time was 95 minutes (range 60-130 min). Both patients remain without tumor recurrence at a median of 24.5 months of follow-up (range 15-34 months). **Conclusion:** Although uncommon, IVC anomalies must be considered when performing LRPLND because of potential complications. Preoperative studies are essential in surgical planni