TOPOGRAPHIC ANATOMY AS A BASIS FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

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Abstract

The advancement of minimally invasive surgery has transformed clinical practice, reducing postoperative pain, hospital stay, and recovery time. However, the success of laparoscopic and endoscopic procedures largely depends on precise knowledge of topographic anatomy. This article discusses the integration of anatomical principles into minimally invasive techniques and highlights their role in patient safety.

Keywords: minimally invasive surgery, laparoscopic anatomy, topographic anatomy, surgical education, patient safety.

Introduction

Minimally invasive surgery (MIS), including laparoscopic and robotic procedures, is now considered the gold standard in many surgical fields. Nevertheless, restricted visualization and limited tactile feedback create challenges for surgeons. Mastery of topographic anatomy ensures safe instrument navigation, accurate identification of structures, and effective complication management during MIS.

Materials and Methods

The study involved literature review, analysis of laparoscopic procedures in general surgery (cholecystectomy, appendectomy, colectomy), and comparison of complication rates between trainees with different levels of anatomical training. Educational models included cadaver labs, virtual reality simulators, and intraoperative video analysis.

Results

1. **Laparoscopic cholecystectomy** demonstrated the importance of the "critical view of safety," based on topographic anatomy of the Calot’s triangle.
2. **Laparoscopic appendectomy** showed the relevance of vascular landmarks for safe mesoappendix dissection.
3. **Colorectal surgeries** highlighted the importance of preserving mesenteric vessels and autonomic nerves for postoperative recovery.
4. Surgeons trained with cadaveric and simulation-based anatomy models performed MIS with fewer vascular and nerve injuries compared to those with only theoretical knowledge.

Conclusion

Topographic anatomy remains the foundation of minimally invasive surgery. Despite technological advancements, precise anatomical knowledge ensures surgical safety, reduces intraoperative complications, and improves outcomes. The integration of cadaveric dissection, simulation training, and modern imaging should be a priority in surgical education to prepare competent MIS specialists.

References

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