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# Primary closure versus T tube drainage in laparoscopic common bile duct exploration: has the paradigm already changed?

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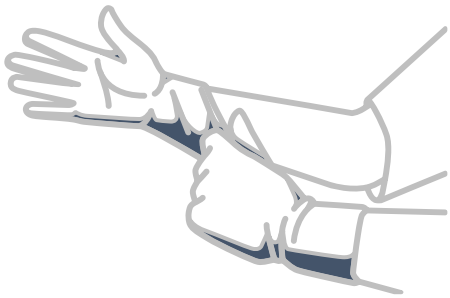


## INTRODUCTION

The question of how to close de common bile duct (CBD) following of laparoscopic bile duct exploration (LCBDE) remains a topic of debate. Traditionally, the CBD is closed with T-tube drainage after choledochotomy and removal of CBD stones. With advances in laparoscopic instrumentation and acquisition of advanced laparoscopic skills primary duct closure without a T-tube has been proposed as an alternative. In recent studies primary closure has been showing less complications, shorter hospitalization stay and reduced operative times discouraging the routine use of T-tube after LCBDE.

## AIM

To compare the safety and effectiveness of primary closure with T-tube drainage in laparoscopic common bile duct exploration (LCBDE) for choledocholithiasis.

## METHODS

Observational, retrospective study of patients undergoing LCBDE between January 2012 and December 2018. Descriptive and statistical analysis was performed with SPSS 25.

## RESULTS

67 underwent LCBDE with a transcholedochal approach

61,2% Female

64 Median age, years

**Choledocoscopy** was executed in **49,3%** of the patients

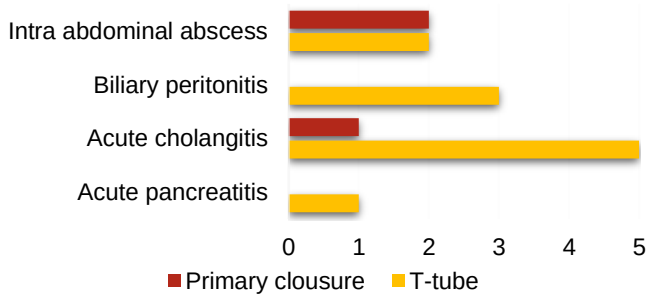
**Primary closure** rate was **28,4%**

The T-Tube group had a higher complications rate and an inferior CBD stone clearance rate

| | T-Tube | Primary closure |
|---|---|---|
| Complications | 22,9 % | 15,8 % |
| CBD stone clearance | 87,9 % | 90,0 % |

The hospital stay was similar in both groups.

**Complications**




## CONCLUSION

Primary closure is feasible and associated with fewer complications than T-tube drainage. Based on these results, primary duct closure may be considered as the optimal procedure for CBD closure after LCBDE. T-Tube drainage is now performed more selectively even though it provides acess to the biliary system.

Gurusamy K, Koti R, Davidson BR. T-tube drainage versus primary closure after laparoscopic common bile duct exploration. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2013, Issue 6. Art. No.: CD005641. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD005641.pub3