

Book Review

Bypass Gástrico por Laparoscopia (Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass)

Authors: Felipe de la Cruz and José Luis de la Cruz

Publisher: Minimally Invasive Surgery Centre, Cáceres, Spain. Web: www.ccmi.es

Price: 150 Euros. In Spanish. 235 pages, 200 illustrations and photos in color, soft cover. Includes DVD-video (MPEG2) 130 minutes.

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Overview of Book:

The main purpose of “Bypass Gástrico por Laparoscopia” (Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass) is teaching. This is a book written in Spanish about the banded Roux-en-Y gastric bypass technique. The authors are very experienced surgeons in bariatric and laparoscopic surgery, respectively. By joining their skills, they have developed their own way of performing the banded gastric bypass by laparoscopy. The methodology goes from the experimental laboratory to the operating theater.

In the first chapter, general information about severe obesity is given. Epidemiologic data, clinical considerations, diagnostic work-up for selection of patients, and the criteria for the surgical indications are discussed, as well as the different parameters used for weight loss surveillance and reporting.

The part in which laparoscopic training is presented is very original. From “in vitro” exercises of suturing, to reproductions of the different anastomoses in the “pelvitainer” using frozen pig stomach and intestine, the techniques are fully explained.

The experimental live pig model of the laparoscopic gastric bypass operation is described with an opportune anatomical introduction of the animal abdominal cavity. The operation is shown with drawings and in DVD.

The anatomical human landmarks related to the surgical technique are developed and illustrated, with a special interest in the peritoneal structures involved in the gastric bypass.

The authors give a general review of the past and current surgical techniques for the treatment of the morbidly obese patient, and in the following chapter, show the historical evolution of open gastric bypass techniques.

The different laparoscopic gastric bypass techniques are explained and discussed, with special reference to the banded bypass described by the authors. The last chapter is devoted to the detailed description of this technique. The operation is shown step by step with fully explained, clear, colored drawings and photographs, and both the antecolic and retrocolic Roux-en-Y limbs. The results obtained in the authors’ patient series, with reference to weight loss and complications, are discussed. Every chapter is followed by the current bibliography.

The DVD accompanying the book, contains: a complete antecolic operation; a retrocolic operation (showing only the differences with the antecolic); the operation with the pig model; the circular-stapled, linear-stapled and hand-sewn anastomosis training in the “pelvitainer”; a schema of the gastric bypass physiology; and anatomical drawings. The DVD menu offers the option of showing the operation by chapters, with or without subtitles and/or voice.

Intended Readership:

Surgeons, surgical residents and nurses interested in learning and teaching laparoscopic gastric bypass surgery, as well as veterinarians related to experimental surgery.

Opinion:

Drs. de la Cruz’ book (and DVD) offers a complete teaching approach to the technique of laparoscopic gastric bypass in a very comprehensive way. It is an essential tool for the surgeon interested in laparoscopic bariatric surgery as well as for the laparoscopic training teacher.

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