Use of staplers in gastrointestinal surgery in comparison to conventional hand suture methods

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Abstract

Introduction: An anastomosis becomes necessary when a segment of the gastrointestinal tract is resected for benign or malignant disease and gastrointestinal continuity needs to be restored. The two most commonly used anastomotic techniques are handsewn anastomosis and stapled anastomosis.

Aim of Study: The aim of my study is to evaluate the outcome of uses of stapler in gastrointestinal surgeries in comparison to conventional hand suture methods.

Objectives of the study:
- To assess the advantages and disadvantages of stapler use in gastrointestinal surgeries in terms of following:
  1. Mean operating time.
  2. Anastomosis Leak.
  3. Stricture formation.

Conclusion: Stapled anastomosis is better in terms of time, complication and cost effective than Handsewn anastomosis.

Keywords: Staplers, gastrointestinal, conventional

Introduction

An anastomosis becomes necessary when a segment of the gastrointestinal tract is resected for benign or malignant disease and gastrointestinal continuity needs to be restored. The resected segment can be anywhere between the pharynx and the anus [1]. A successful anastomosis needs a well-nourished patient with no systemic illness, no fecal or purulent contamination, gentle tissue handling, well-vascularized tissues, adequate hemostasis, and meticulous surgical technique besides other factors [2,3,4]. Important complications following intestinal anastomosis include anastomotic leak, bleeding, wound infection, anastomotic site stricture, and prolonged functional ileus, especially in children. The two most commonly used anastomotic techniques are handsewn anastomosis and stapled anastomosis.

Material & methods

All patients admitted at Dhiraj general Hospital posted for laparotomy for resection anastomosis were explained about the risk factor. A detailed history was taken and all patients were subjected to thorough clinical examination including per abdominal and per rectal examination. Routine lab investigations like blood and screening of chest were done.

Data was analysed postoperatively and other post-operative complications such as

1) Early complication - Anastomosis leak
2) Late complication - Stricture formation
3) Recovery time to normal function

All patients were followed up at 1 week, 15 days, 3 months post operatively.
**Result and Discussion**

1) **Age Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Patient (Present Study)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31-40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-50</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-60</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-70</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;70</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In present study patient belonged to various age group were enrolled in study. No Age predominance was found.

2) **Sex Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were 7 male and 1 female patients. Male Predominance was found in present study.

3) **Surgeries**

Gastrojejunostomy was done in 4 patient benign pyloric stenosis (Gastric Outlet Obstruction)
1. Patient with with multiple caecal ulcers underwent Right hemicolecctionomy with ileotransverse anastomosis.
2. Patient underwent jejunotransverse anastomosis (Figure 1&2) for Small bowel ischemia.

![Fig 1: Jejuno Transverse anastomosis for ischemic bowel.](image)

![Fig 2: Resected specimen: Caecum with ileum and ascending colon](image)

Most of surgery was completed in 60 minutes with the help of stapler while 3 surgeries took up to 90 min and 1 surgery took 2 hrs.

4) **Time of surgery**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Of Surgery</th>
<th>No. Of Surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45-60 min</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-90 min</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;90 min</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

5) **Complication**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complications</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomises leak</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stricture Formation</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

None of the patient developed complication in our study.
Conclusion
Stapled anastomosis is better in terms of time, complication and cost effective than Handsewn anastomosis.

References