

ROLE OF PROPHYLACTIC BILIARY STENT IN REDUCING RECURRENCE OF STONES AND BILIARY COMPLICATIONS AFTER STONE CLEARANCE IN PATIENTS AWAITING CHOLECYSTECTOMY-A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

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Poster

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A randomized controlled trial found no advantage of prophylactic biliary stenting versus no stenting in preventing common bile duct stone recurrence or biliary complications in patients awaiting cholecystectomy after endoscopic stone clearance.

KEY POINTS

- In 66 patients randomized after documented bile duct clearance, recurrence of common bile duct stones at three months was 20.59 percent in the stent group versus 9.38 percent in the no-stent group, a difference that was not statistically significant.
- No patients in either group required emergency endoscopic retrograde cholangiography during follow-up, and biliary complications were infrequent in both arms.
- Three patients in the stent group developed post-ERC pancreatitis compared to none in the no-stent group, though this difference did not reach statistical significance.
- The authors acknowledge limitations including single-center design, possible underpowering, observer-dependent clearance assessment, and shorter recurrence assessment window compared to some prior studies.
- This evidence may inform decisions about biliary stent placement after endoscopic stone clearance in patients with concomitant gallstones awaiting surgery.

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