

UEG and EAES rapid guideline: Systematic review, meta-analysis, GRADE assessment and evidence-informed European recommendations on TaTME for rectal cancer

Marco Milone

Standards and Guidelines

Digestive Oncology

Surgery

January 1, 2021

A rapid clinical practice guideline developed using GRADE methodology provides a weak recommendation for the use of transanal total mesorectal excision over laparoscopic or robotic TME for low rectal cancer when expertise is available.

KEY POINTS

- The guideline was developed in accordance with GRADE, G-I-N, and AGREE II standards by a multidisciplinary steering group and panel including colorectal surgeons, radiologists, oncologists, pathologists, and a patient representative.
- Evidence synthesis was based on a systematic review and meta-analyses of available data on TaTME for rectal cancer.
- The guideline provides a weak recommendation for TaTME over laparoscopic or robotic TME for low rectal cancer when expertise is available, reflecting conflicting evidence and practice recommendations in this area.
- The guideline identifies evidence gaps requiring future research and includes policy considerations, with full recommendations and evidence summaries accessible through the MAGICapp platform.

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