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Summary

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THREE COMMON BILE DUCT CLOSURE TECHNIQUES AFTER CHOLEDOCHOLITHOTOMY: SAFETY AND EFFICACY

Mohammed Omar

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Hepatobiliary

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A retrospective study of 211 patients compared three common bile duct closure techniques after exploration for stones, finding antegrade biliary stenting associated with lower complication rates and faster recovery than T-tube drainage or primary closure.

KEY POINTS

- The biliary stenting group (87 patients) had statistically significantly lower rates of overall biliary complications and bile leak compared to T-tube drainage (63 patients) and primary duct closure (61 patients) groups.
- Hospital stays, drain carried time, return to normal activity, re-intervention rates, and re-admission rates were all statistically significantly lower in the biliary stenting group.
- No statistically significant differences were found among the three groups for operative time, choledochotomy time, retained or recurrent stones, stricture, biliary peritonitis, cholangitis, or cost.
- The authors conclude that biliary stenting should be the preferred first option for common bile duct closure after exploration based on these findings from 2016 to 2020.

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