Transanal endolaparoscopic resection of T2N0M0 low rectal adenocarcinoma followed by adjuvant therapy

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Dear Editor,

Transanal minimally invasive surgery (TAMIS) is becoming more popular and its indications are widening [1]. One of the surgical indications is the removal of low and middle rectal T2N0 adenocarcinoma followed by adjuvant therapy [2].

A 84-year-old woman presented with a T2N0M0 ultralow rectal adenocarcinoma as demonstrated by a preoperative pelvic MRI, transanal ultrasonography and thoraco-abdominal CT scan. The patient refused any conventional rectal surgery with protective stoma. She was treated by a TAMIS resection. The tumour was located on the left posterolateral quadrant at 2 cm from the dentate line. The procedure was performed using a semi-flexible reusable transanal platform and monocurved reusable instruments according to DAPRI (Karl Storz-Endoskope, Tuttlingen, Germany). A full-thickness endolaparoscopic resection was performed (Fig. 1) with a final full-thickness rectal wall closure (Fig. 2) by two converging absorbable barbed running sutures. During the entire procedure, the surgeon worked under ergonomic positioning, without any conflict between the surgeon’s hands and camera assistant’s holder (Fig. 3).

The operative time was 96 min (31 min for resection and 65 min for suturing) and intra-operative bleeding was 20 cm³. Postoperative course was uneventful, and the patient was discharged on the second postoperative day. The patient underwent adjuvant chemotherapy. At 12 months’ follow-up there was no tumour recurrence or distant metastasis.

T2N0M0 low rectal adenocarcinoma can be treated by transanal endolaparoscopic resection. This surgery can be considered an option for selected patients and needs to be followed by adjuvant chemotherapy.

Conflict of interest

GD keeps the patent licence of the transanal platform produced by Karl Storz-Endoskope, Tuttlingen, Germany. The other authors have no disclosure or financial ties to declare.

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References


Supporting Information

The video may be found in the online version of this article and also on the Colorectal Disease Journal YouTube and Vimeo channels:

Video S1. Transanal endolaparoscopic resection of T2N0M0 low rectal adenocarcinoma followed by adjuvant therapy (https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=v0CWtwRNlx0).