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Histopathological changes in rabbit gastric mucosa due to chronic exposure to pickled vegetables

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Gastric cancer is very common in Iran. Daily consumption of pickled vegetables is a routine dietary habit in most areas of Iran. Having considered the possible effect of pickled vegetables on gastric mucosa it can be of importance to study the relationship between the two. We have studied the histo-morphological effects of pickled vegetables on the rabbit gastric mucosa. 40 and 20 healthy male rabbits were respectively allocated in the experimental and control groups. The rabbits were fed freely with pickled (experimental group) and fresh vegetables (control group) for one year. Gastric mucosa of the rabbits was examined and the results were compared. In addition to all the rabbits of the control group, 14 rabbits (35%) of the experimental group had normal gastric mucosa. The rest showed abnormal changes including atypia -so called indefinite for dysplasia- in 10 (25%), low grade dysplasia in 14 (35%) and high grade dysplasia in 2 (5%). The analysis showed significant difference between results of the two groups ($P < 0.001$). Daily consumption of pickled vegetables can produce atypical and dysplastic changes in gastric mucosa. Such pre-neoplastic changes can potentially transform to gastric carcinoma. This process could be prevented by reduction or cessation of daily pickled food consumption.

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Apical lymph nodes dissection and low ligation of inferior mesenteric artery in the management of distal colorectal cancer

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Background: Nowadays surgery for colorectal cancer has been standardized both ways in open and laparoscopic approaches. But there are still debates regarding the level of ligation of the IMA: at its origin from aorta (high ligation) or below the origin of left colic artery (low ligation). The technique of apical lymph node dissection with preservation of LCA has the advantage of both, better lymph node harvest and lower postoperative complications.

Aim: Curative resection of sigmoid and rectal cancer includes high ligation of the inferior mesenteric artery (IMA). However, IMA ligation compromises blood flow to the anastomosis, which may increase the leakage rate, and carries the possibility of injury of autonomic nerve plexus. Accordingly, in this study we employ a technique of lymph node (LN) dissection around the IMA, preserving the IMA and left colic artery (LCA) and compare it with high and low ligation.

Materials & Methods: This is a prospective study which included 81 patients with operable distal colorectal cancer admitted to general surgery department in Menoufia University Hospitals from May 2012 to October 2015. Cases were divided by random serial number method into three groups: group (A) 27 cases for high ligation, group (B) 27 cases for low ligation and group (C) 27 cases for low ligation and apical lymph node dissection.

Results: There was high significant difference between the studied groups regarding to the number of harvested lymph nodes with Mean \pm SD; 18.3 \pm 4.05 for high ligation versus 11.3 \pm 3.2 for low ligation and 17.7 \pm 3.81 for apical dissection. Also there was significant difference between studied groups as regarding the postoperative genito-urinary complications.

Conclusions: Lymph node dissection around the IMA preserving the root of the IMA and LCA was feasible by our method, without compromising operation time, blood loss or the number of harvested lymph nodes with accepted rate of postoperative complications.

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