

Long-term experience with duodenum and organ-preserving pancreatic head resection (Buchler-Farkas modification) in the surgical treatment of chronic pancreatitis

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Chronic pancreatitis (CP), a benign, inflammatory process can cause enlargement of the pancreatic head. CP is accompanied by severe pain and weight loss and often leads to a significant reduction in the quality of life (QoL). Methods: Clinical experience relates to the results attained with duodenum and organ-preserving pancreatic head resection (DOPPHR) in 190 patients during a 13-year period. The surgical procedure consists in a wide excision of the inflammatory tumour in the region of the pancreatic head, without division and cutting of the pancreas over the portal vein. Reconstruction, with drainage of the secretion from the remaining pancreas into the intestinal tract, takes place through a jejunal Roux-en-Y loop. The QoL was measured during the follow-up period by using EORTC QoL Questionnaire. Results: The mean operating time was 165 min. Three reoperations were required in consequence of anastomosis bleeding and small bowel obstruction, but no mortality was noted in the postoperative period. Duration of hospitalization ranged between 7 and 12 days. The mean follow-up time was 7.5 years (range 0.5-13.0). The late mortality rate was 6.8% (13 patients). The QoL improved in 89% of the cases. 157 of the patients became complaint-free, while 20 had moderate symptoms, and the weight increased by a median of 13.2 kg (range 4-30). The preoperative and postoperative endocrine functions remained in almost the same stage. Conclusion: This 13-year experience clearly demonstrates that this DOPPHR technique is a safe and effective procedure, which should be preferred in the surgical treatment of the complications of CP.

Biography

Gyula Farkas graduated at the University of Medical School in Szeged in 1967 as a medical doctor (summa cum laude). He worked as a Professor of Surgery, in University of Szeged, since 1996. and received his First postgraduate degree as general surgeon in 1971. He received One year fellowship in USA (Jefferson Memorial Hospital, Alexandria, Virginia (1974-75), and two months fellowship in 1983 from Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany. In 1992 one month professional visit in Department of Surgery, University of Ulm, Germany. He received Second postgraduate degree as gastroenterologist in 1998 and received Ph.D. in 1984. Dr. Habil. in 1995. Academic scientific degree (D. Sc.) in 1997. Publication: 154 (IF: 87.31). Citation: 756.

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