

Trial compares laparoscopic and open surgeries for pancreatic cancer

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Credit: GEM Hospital

A randomized clinical trial has compared key-hole (laparoscopic) surgery and open surgery in pancreatic cancer patients undergoing pancreaticoduodenectomy, or the Whipple procedure.

The procedure is used to treat tumors located in the head of the pancreas and adjacent areas, where approximately 75% of pancreatic cancer

tumors occur. In the 64-patient trial, which was carried out at GEM Hospital and Research Center, in India, showed overall complications and pathological outcomes did not differ, but laparoscopy offered reduced blood loss, decreased blood transfusions, fewer wound infections, and shorter hospital stays compared with [open surgery](#).

"Major surgeries like cancer operations performed with a laparoscopic approach offer significant advantages to patients," said Prof. Chinnusamy Palanivelu, lead author of the *British Journal of Surgery* study.

More information: C. Palanivelu et al, Randomized clinical trial of laparoscopic versus open pancreatoduodenectomy for periampullary tumours, *British Journal of Surgery* (2017). [DOI: 10.1002/bjs.10662](https://doi.org/10.1002/bjs.10662)

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