



University of Limpopo

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SASES Members

LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY

Pre-amble

There are a few revolutionary surgical therapies that have impacted outcomes of patients more than laparoscopic surgery

Laparoscopic surgery has become standard of care for a number of surgical conditions just to name a few – laparoscopic cholecystectomy, laparoscopic Nissen fundoplication for treatment of gastroesophageal reflux.

Training

As the technology continues to advance at such a rapid pace, it becomes evident that surgical departments at academic hospitals that train surgeons of the future adapt their training to fit the needs of a changing society. Laparoscopic training has now become absolutely key and mandatory for the up and coming surgeon.

Training surgeons are now trained in the new ways of doing surgery viz laparoscopic surgery. This is crucial not to train for a world that no longer exists!!

DGMAH standard of care for patient with acute appendicitis

Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital is the second largest public training hospital in Gauteng. It caters for the training needs of the University of Limpopo, Medical School (Medunsa Campus) for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The standard of care for patient with acute appendicitis at our hospital is laparoscopic appendectomy. This is how training surgeons are trained and taught!!

To expect surgeons who are taught throughout their training to do laparoscopic appendectomy and then to expect them to do open appendectomy later on is not acceptable.

As a Department of Surgery – treating public sector patient, I would like to put it on record that our departmental policy is that laparoscopic appendectomy is the standard of care for acute appendicitis.

The benefits of laparoscopic appendectomy to mention a few include:

- Shorter hospital stay
- Less postop pain
- Less surgical site infection
- Early return to normal duty
- Better cosmesis for patient

It is important to reiterate that we are training surgeons of the future and not surgeons for the world that no longer exists.

Yours sincerely



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