

Gallstone Disease in Young Population: Incidence, Complications, Therapeutic Approach

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Abstract

Objective: The purpose of this study is to highlight the high incidence of gallstones and the etiology in young people, as well as the fact that the onset is associated with complications: i.e. acute pancreatitis, jaundice.

Material and Methods: This retrospective study was conducted between January 2007 and February 2012 on patients admitted to the two surgical wards of Pitesti District Hospital and was based on the analysis of observation charts and theatre records. A total of 1905 cholecystectomies were performed, 1023 laparoscopic and 882 classic, respectively.

Results: A total of 36 patients aged between 16 and 25 years were included in the study. Laparoscopic cholecystectomy was performed in 34 patients, only two patients being operated by the classical open approach. 6 patients developed post-operative jaundice, which resolved under medical treatment in 3 patients within 3-5 days. The remaining 3 patients underwent endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) 4-5 days postoperatively.

Conclusions: The most important risk factors for gallstones are: age, female gender, pregnancy and obesity. Common complications of gallstones in young people are: duct stones and acute pancreatitis.

Key words: gallstone, age, complications

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