ASO AUTHOR REFLECTIONS

Robot-Assisted Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy Reduces the Risk of Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve Palsy

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PAST

In esophagectomy for esophageal carcinoma, robot-assisted minimally invasive esophagectomy (RAMIE) is expected to reduce the incidence of recurrent laryngeal nerve (RLN) palsy leading to pneumonia, which is an independent prognostic factor.^{1,2}

PRESENT

Our results showed that RAMIE using the novel “modified Bascule method” can reduce the risk of left RLN palsy during upper mediastinal lymphadenectomy comparing with conventional MIE.^{3,4}

FUTURE

Larger prospective studies are needed to validate the results of this article. In particular, it should be estimated whether RAMIE will improve esophageal carcinoma patients’ prognosis by decreasing the risk of RLN palsy.

DISCLOSURES Taro Oshikiri and coauthors have no conflicts of interest or financial ties to disclose.

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