# Controversy about splenic flexure : Segmental or total colectomy ? Does deloyers procedure end the debate ?

# Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Abd El-Naby

- Splenic flexure colon cancer (SFCs) are relatively rare and account for less than 10% of all colorectal cancers.
- They are generally thought to have a poorer prognosis as they are often discovered at a more advanced stage and have an increased risk of bowel obstruction .

•Traditionally, SFCs are defined as tumors located within 10 cm of the splenic flexure edges or as raising from the colon A safe and precise surgical interventions warrants all surgeons to gain a preoperative understanding the tumor location, extent of lymph nodes and main feeding artery . In addition, preoperative awareness of the arterial branching or variations is necessary to help surgeons devise preoperative strategies and perform safe and rapid vessel ligation and lymph node dissection.

Laparoscopic surgery for cancer located in the splenic flexure is more difficult than that for cancer located in other sites .

This difficulty is attributed to the vascular variability in this region and adjacent vital organs such as the pancreas, and duodenum, and also the embryological adhesion renders the anatomy around the splenic flexure complicated





# Type1 Type2

### Type3

### Type4







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• There is currently no consensus on the optimal surgical approach to SFCs. As such , the debate revolves around three different procedures : segmental resection of the splenic flexure (segmental colectomy) with colocolonic anastomosis, subtotal colectomy with ileocolonic anastomosis, or formed left hemicolectomy with colorectal anastomosis.

• Arguments in favor of one surgical procedure over another are largely based on the understanding of the vascularization and lymphatic drainage of the splenic flexure. However, the choice of operation is further complicated by the consideration of three important surgical outcomes : cancer-related survival, post-operative morbidity (specifically anastomosis leak). And functional results

• The preference for segmental resection of the splenic flexure is relatively low in several centers, while others strongly advocate for this colon-sparing option as it avoid unnecessary ligation of the middle colic vessels. So, a more limited colon resection is indeed safe and can still provide adequate oncologic outcomes.



- 7 retrospective studies .
- Segmental VS extended right and left hemicolectomy .
- No difference were found between groups regarding 5 years survival or 5 year disease free survival
- No difference were found between groups regarding anastomotic leak rate
  - Adequate mesentrectomy and Adequate lymph node harvested



### Meta-Analysis

Comparison of extended right hemicolectomy, left hemicolectomy and segmental colectomy for splenic flexure colon cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis

S Hajibandeh et al. Colorectal Dis. 2020 Dec.







- 1-Tumor location .
- 2-pathological staging
- 3-Understanding vascular supply. (3D CT)
- 4-Understanding lymphatic drainage.(peritumoural ICG)
- 5-central ligation and/or complete lymphadenectomy . 6-Anastomosis with good vascular supply and tension free
- 7-functional outcome

thank

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