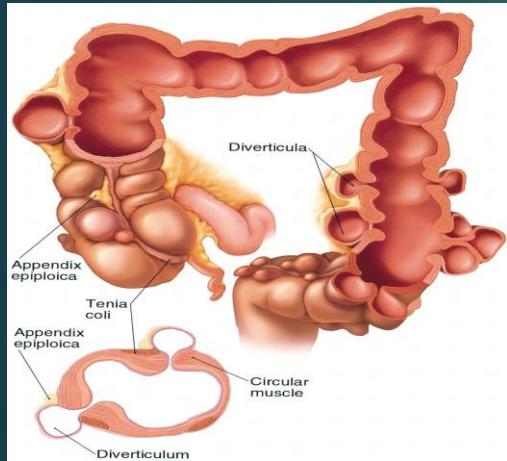




Diverticulitis & individualized management

Comment on elective resection



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President of Kuwait society of colorectal surgeons (KSCRS)

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Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Nothing to disclose

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Definitions
- ▶ Classification
 - ▶ Non-Complicated
 - ▶ Complicated
- ▶ individualized Management and timing of surgery

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ **Diverticular disease** of the colon is one of the most commonly diagnosed gastrointestinal conditions
- ▶ **Complicated disease** includes diverticulitis associated with free perforation, fistula, abscess, stricture, or obstruction
- ▶ **Uncomplicated diverticulitis** is defined as diverticulitis which is not associated with any of the aforementioned features
- ▶ Microperforation with small amounts of contained extraluminal gas, in the absence of a systemic inflammatory response, is considered uncomplicated diverticulitis
- ▶ Symptomatic uncomplicated diverticular disease (**SUDD**) is defined as diverticulosis associated with chronic abdominal pain

Diverticulitis & individualized management

SYMPTOMATIC UNCOMPLICATED

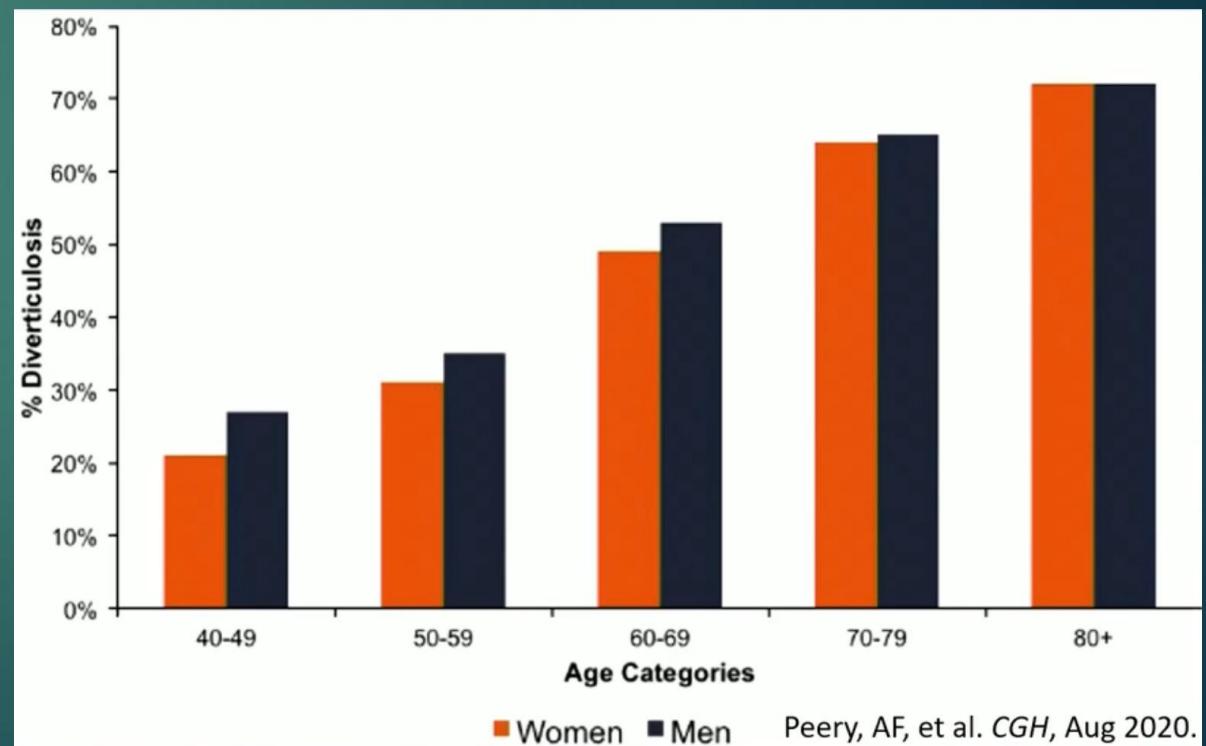
SUDD is defined as presence of diverticula and symptoms of abdominal pain and bloating with bowel habit changes in the absence of macroscopic inflammation

Domains	Items	Response Options
Physical symptoms	Bloated	“how many days...”
	Watery stools	<i>No days, 1 day only, 2-5 days, 6-9 days, 10-13 days, every day</i>
	Incomplete evacuation	
	Nausea	
	Abdominal pain	
Concerns	Unexpected flare up	“how concerned were you that...”
	Seriously wrong with body	<i>Not at all concerned, a little bit concerned, moderately concerned, quite a bit concerned, extremely concerned</i>
	Damage within body	
Emotions	Others look down on me	<i>None of the time, rarely, sometimes, a lot of the time, all of the time</i>
	Frustrated	
	Anxious	
	Irritated	
Behavioral changes	Ate less	<i>None of the time, rarely, sometimes, a lot of the time, all of the time</i>
	Wear looser clothing	
	Avoid social engagements	
	Could not sleep	
	Miss work or other obligations	

A score of 3.2 out of 10 distinguished between those with HRQoL-impacting diverticulosis

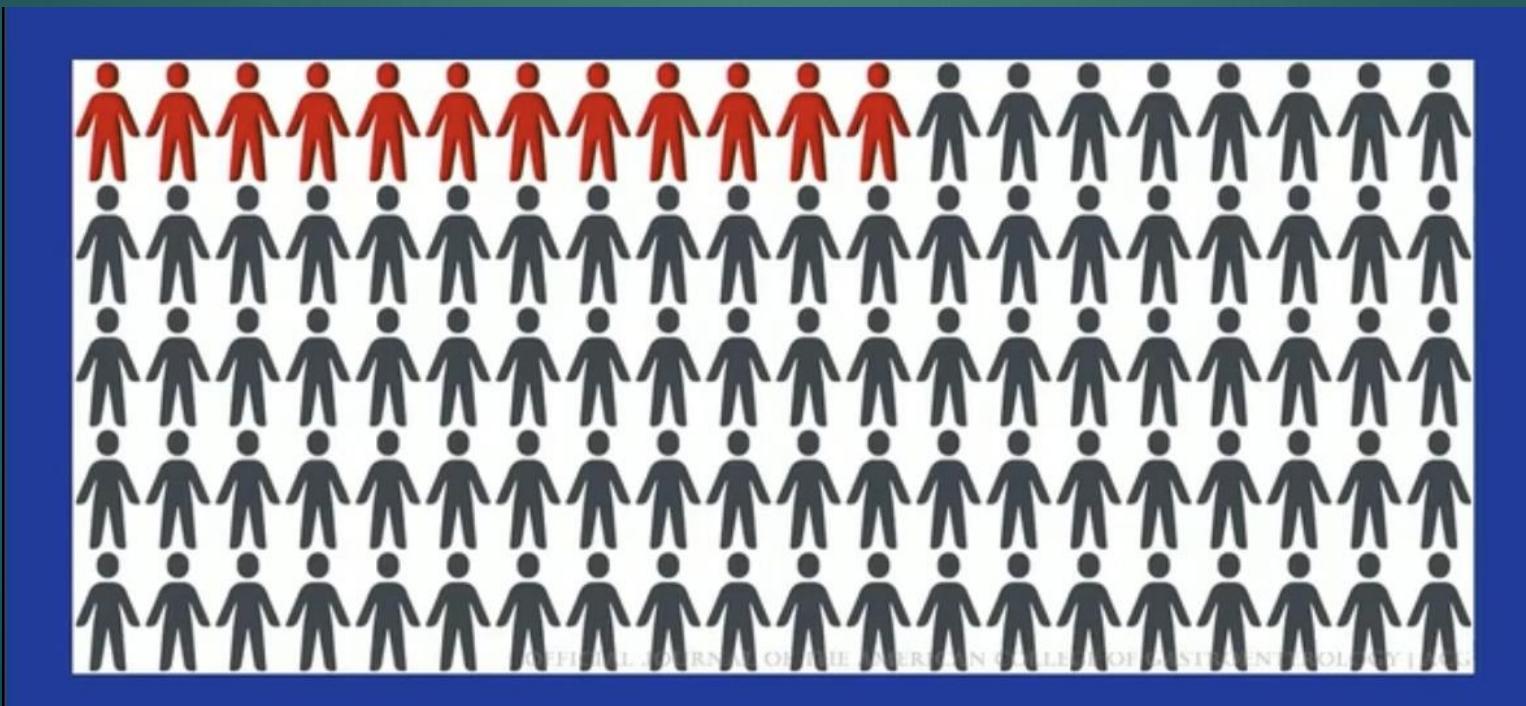
Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ The magnitude of the problem
 - ▶ Age related increase in incidence of diverticulosis
 - ▶ 5 % develop diverticulitis over 7 years



Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ 12 % of patients with acute diverticulitis develop complication
 - ▶ 80% of the complications (abscess , fistula , perforation or obstruction) occur in the first episode



Strate L , and Peery , A
Am J gastro , Apr 2023

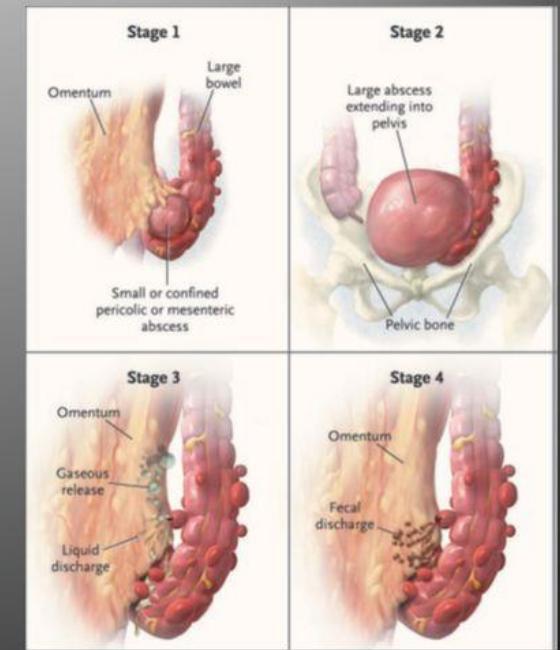
Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Classification
 - ▶ Hinchey classification

Hinchey Classification	
1a	Pericolonic phlegmon and inflammation, no fluid collection
1b	Pericolonic abscess <4cm
2	Pelvic or inter-loop abscess OR abscess >4cm
3	Purulent peritonitis
4	Feculent peritonitis

Hinchey classification

- Stage 1
- Pericolic or mesenteric abscesses.
- Stage 2
- Walled off pelvic abscess.
- Stage 3
- Generalised purulent peritonitis.
- Stage 4
- Generalised fecal peritonitis



Diverticulitis & individualized management

TABLE 1
Modified Hinckley Classification of Acute Diverticulitis
[modified from (9) and (26)]

Stage	Characteristics
0	Mild clinical diverticulitis (left lower quadrant abdominal pain, low-grade fever, leukocytosis, no imaging information)
1a	Confined pericolic inflammation, no abscess
1b	Confined pericolic abscess (abscess or phlegmon may be palpable; fever; severe, localized abdominal pain)
2a	Distant abscess amenable to percutaneous drainage
2b	Complex abscess associated with/without fistula
3	Generalized purulent peritonitis, no communication with bowel lumen
4	Feculent peritonitis, open communication with bowel lumen
Complications	Fistula, obstruction (large bowel or small bowel)

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Pathophysiology and risk factors
 - ▶ Genetics 40% - 50%
 - ▶ diet Fiber intake

Risk factor	Category	RR/OR ^a	References
Diet			
Fiber	Highest quintile	0.57–0.75	48,49
Nuts	>2 times/wk	0.80	50
Popcorn	>2 times/wk	0.72	50
Vegetarian diet	Yes/no	0.69	49
Prudent dietary pattern ^b	Highest quintile	0.74	39
Western dietary pattern ^c	Highest quintile	1.55	39
Red meat	Highest quintile	1.58	38
Lifestyle			
Physical activity	Highest quintile	0.63–0.75	40,51,52
BMI	BMI ≥ 30 kg/m ²	1.33–4.4	40–42
Waist-to-hip ratio	Highest quintile	1.62	42
Smoking	Current or ≥ 15 cigarettes/d	1.23–1.89	41,45,46
Medications			
Non-aspirin NSAIDs	≥ 2 times/wk	1.72	58
Aspirin	Ever or ≥ 2 times/wk	1.25–1.32	57,58
All NSAIDs	≥ 2 times/wk	1.62	58
Corticosteroids	Current use	2.74	57
Opiate analgesics	Current use	2.16	57
Statins	Current use	0.44	57
Vitamin D	Highest quintile	0.49	61
Sibling with diverticular disease	Yes/no	2.92	96

Diverticulitis & individualized management

► Risk factors

► Age

- Younger patients do not appear to have more virulent disease than their older counterparts. The younger patients have a higher lifetime risk of developing recurrent disease owing to the greater number of remaining years at risk.
- The relative risk of having an emergent operation in the younger cohort was slightly higher in a systematic review (7.3% vs. 4.9%)

Scand J Gastroenterol. 2013;48(6):643-51

- Sex
- Physical activity
- Smoking
- NSAID
- Obesity

Risk factor	Category	RR/OR ^a	References
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Dis Colon Rectum. 2018;61(3):382-389.

Int J Color Dis. 2017;32:611–22.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Investigation
 - ▶ CRP
 - ▶ CT scan gold standard
 - ▶ Endoscopy
 - ▶ Flexible sigmoidoscopy vs colonoscopy , not in the acute setting

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Individualized Management and timing of
surgery

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Management options:

Diverting stoma

Percutaneous drainage

Bowel rest
Pain control

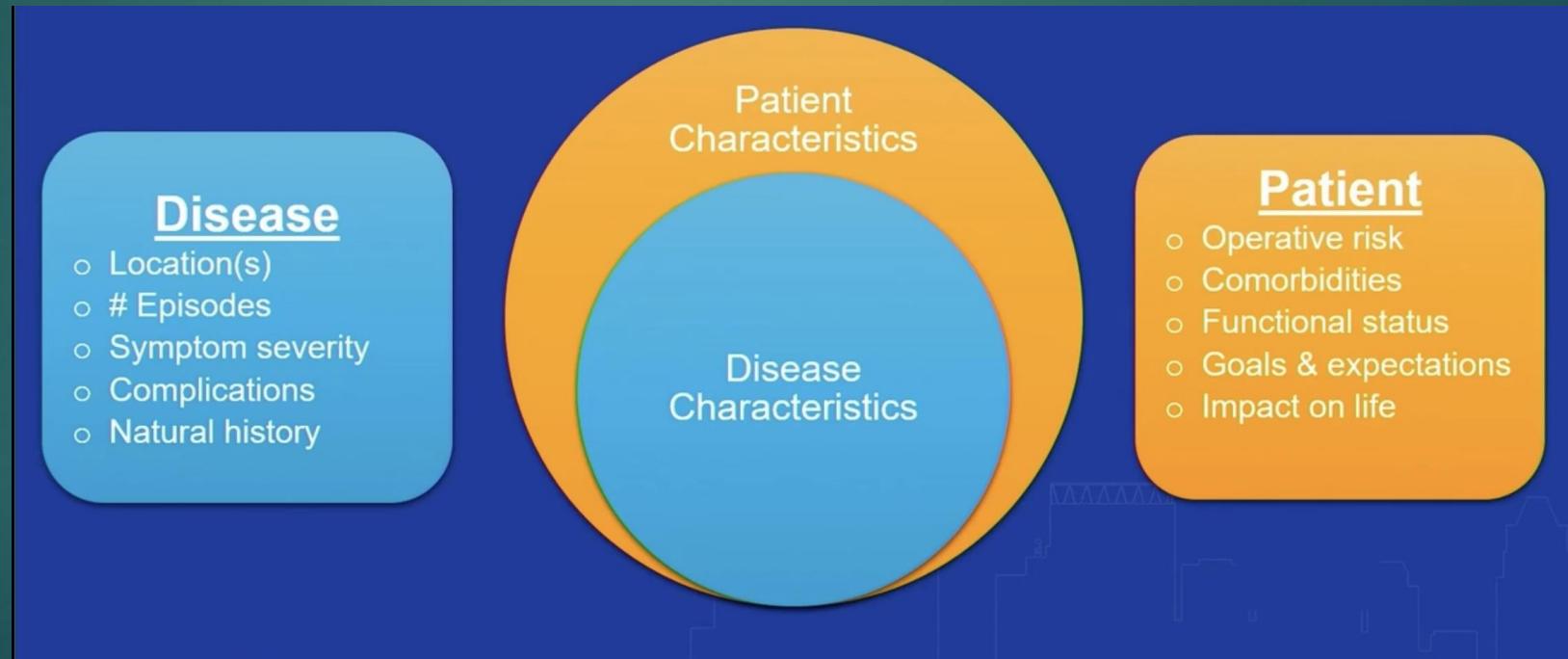
Laparoscopic lavage

Segmental resection

IV antibiotics

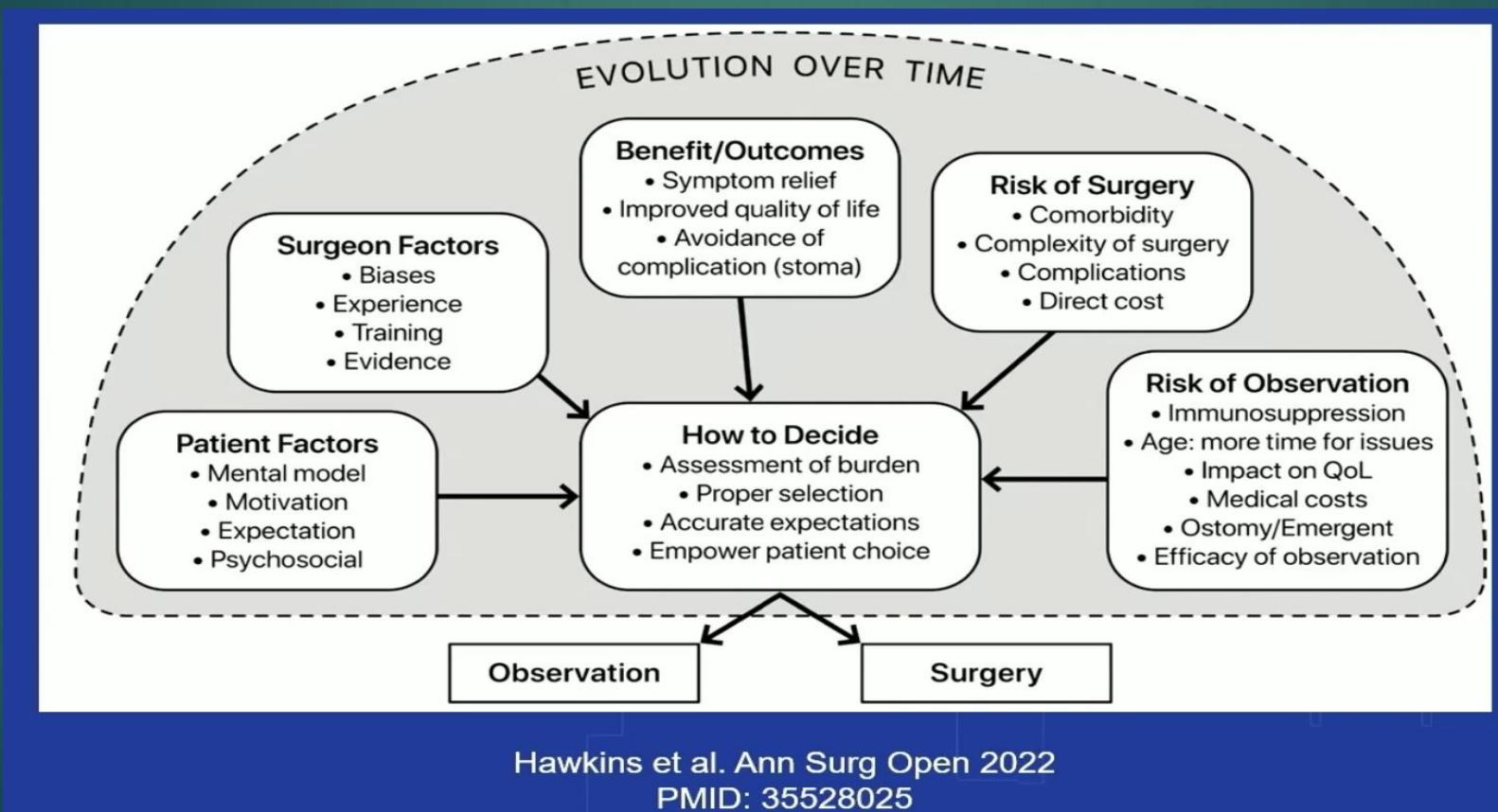
Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ How to consider , individualize , advise , recommend



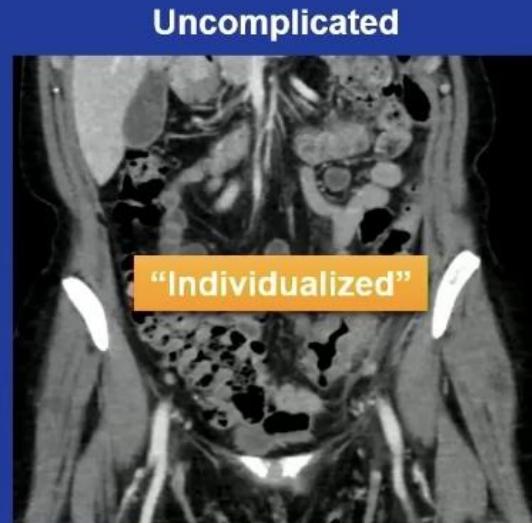
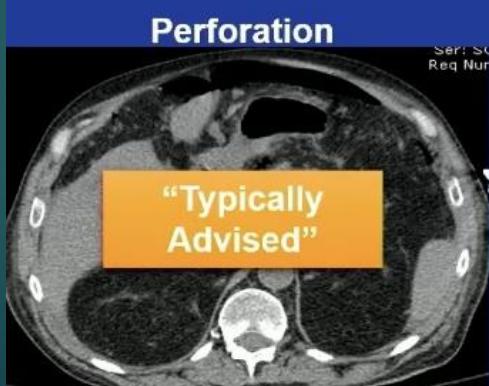
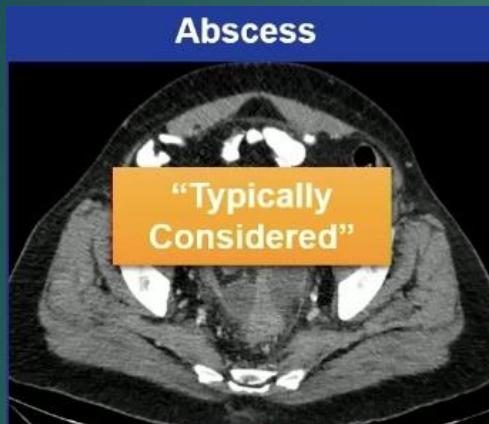
Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ How to consider , individualize , advise , recommend



Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ How to consider , individualize , advise , recommend



Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Asymptomatic colonic diverticulosis
 - ▶ LOW RISK FOR FUTURE ACTIVE DISEASE
 - ▶ CONSIDER:
 - ▶ Physical activity
 - ▶ Reduce weight
 - ▶ Stop smoking
 - ▶ Reduced red meat

ASCRS practice guidelines .DCR 2020;63:728

Strate LL et al .gastroenterology .2019;156:1298

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Medical management
 - ▶ Antibiotics vs no antibiotics

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Acute Uncomplicated Diverticulitis
 - ▶ DIABOLO and AVOD trials
 - ▶ In both trials, there were no differences with respect to development of complicated diverticulitis in the short or long term, nor in rates of recurrent diverticulitis based on antibiotic usage
 - ▶ The 2020 ASCRS guidelines for the treatment of left-sided diverticulitis recommend that “selected patients with uncomplicated diverticulitis can be treated without antibiotics,

Br J Surg. 2012;99(4):532-9. Am J Gastroenterol. 2018;113(7):1045-1052.

ASCRS Guidelines

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Uncomplicated Acute diverticulitis (UAD)
 - ▶ Data support Omission of Antibiotics
 - ▶ No difference readmission , changing in treatment strategy , emergency surgery , worsening or persistent diverticulitis

Systematic Review and/or Meta-analysis

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SURGERY

OPEN

Treatment for acute uncomplicated diverticulitis without antibiotic therapy: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials

Alba Correa Bonito, MD^a, Carlos Cerdán Santacruz, PhD^{a,*}, Marcello Di Martino, PhD^a, Lara Blanco Terés, MD^b, Alvaro Gancedo Quintana, MD^b, Elena Martín-Pérez, PhD^b, Sebastiano Biondo, PhD^b, Javier García Septién, PhD^a

Background: Use of antibiotics in selected cases of acute uncomplicated diverticulitis (AUD) has recently been questioned.

Objective: The aim of this study is to examine the safety and efficacy of treatment regimens without antibiotics compared with that of traditional treatments with antibiotics in selected patients with AUD.

Data sources: PubMed, Medline, Embase, Web of Science, and the Cochrane Library

Methods: A systematic review was performed according to PRISMA and AMSTAR guidelines by searching through Medline, Embase, Web of Science, and the Cochrane Library for randomized clinical trials (RCTs) published before December 2022. The outcomes assessed were the rates of readmission, change in strategy, emergency surgery, worsening, and persistent diverticulitis.

Study selection: RCTs on treating AUD without antibiotics published in English before December 2022 were included.

Interventions: Patients with AUD without antibiotics were compared with treatments with antibiotics.

Main outcome measures: The outcomes assessed were the rates of readmission, change in strategy, emergency surgery, worsening, and persistent diverticulitis.

Results: The search yielded 1163 studies. Four RCTs with 1809 patients were included in the review. Among these patients, 50.1% were treated conservatively without antibiotics. The meta-analysis showed no significant differences between nonantibiotic and antibiotic treatment groups with respect to rates of readmission [odds ratio (OR) = 1.39; 95% CI: 0.93–2.06; $P = 0.11$; $I^2 = 0\%$], change in strategy (OR = 1.03; 95% CI: 0.52–2.02; $P = 0.94$; $I^2 = 44\%$), emergency surgery (OR = 0.43; 95% CI: 0.12–1.53; $P = 0.19$; $I^2 = 0\%$), worsening (OR = 0.91; 95% CI: 0.48–1.73; $P = 0.78$; $I^2 = 0\%$), and persistent diverticulitis (OR = 1.54; 95% CI: 0.63–3.26; $P = 0.26$; $I^2 = 0\%$).

Limitations: Heterogeneity and limited number of RCTs.

Conclusions: Treatment for AUD without antibiotic therapy is safe and effective in selected patients. Further RCTs should confirm the present findings.

Keywords: acute uncomplicated diverticulitis, antibiotic therapy, conservative management

Int J Surg. 2023 Apr 10;109(5):1412–1419.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Meta analysis
- ▶ 4 RCT , 1809 Patients
- ▶ Population – patient with acute uncomplicated diverticulitis
- ▶ Intervention antibiotic vs no antibiotics
- ▶ Outcome – emergency surgery , time to recovery , LOS , hospital admission

 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SURGERY

Systematic Review and/or Meta-analysis OPEN

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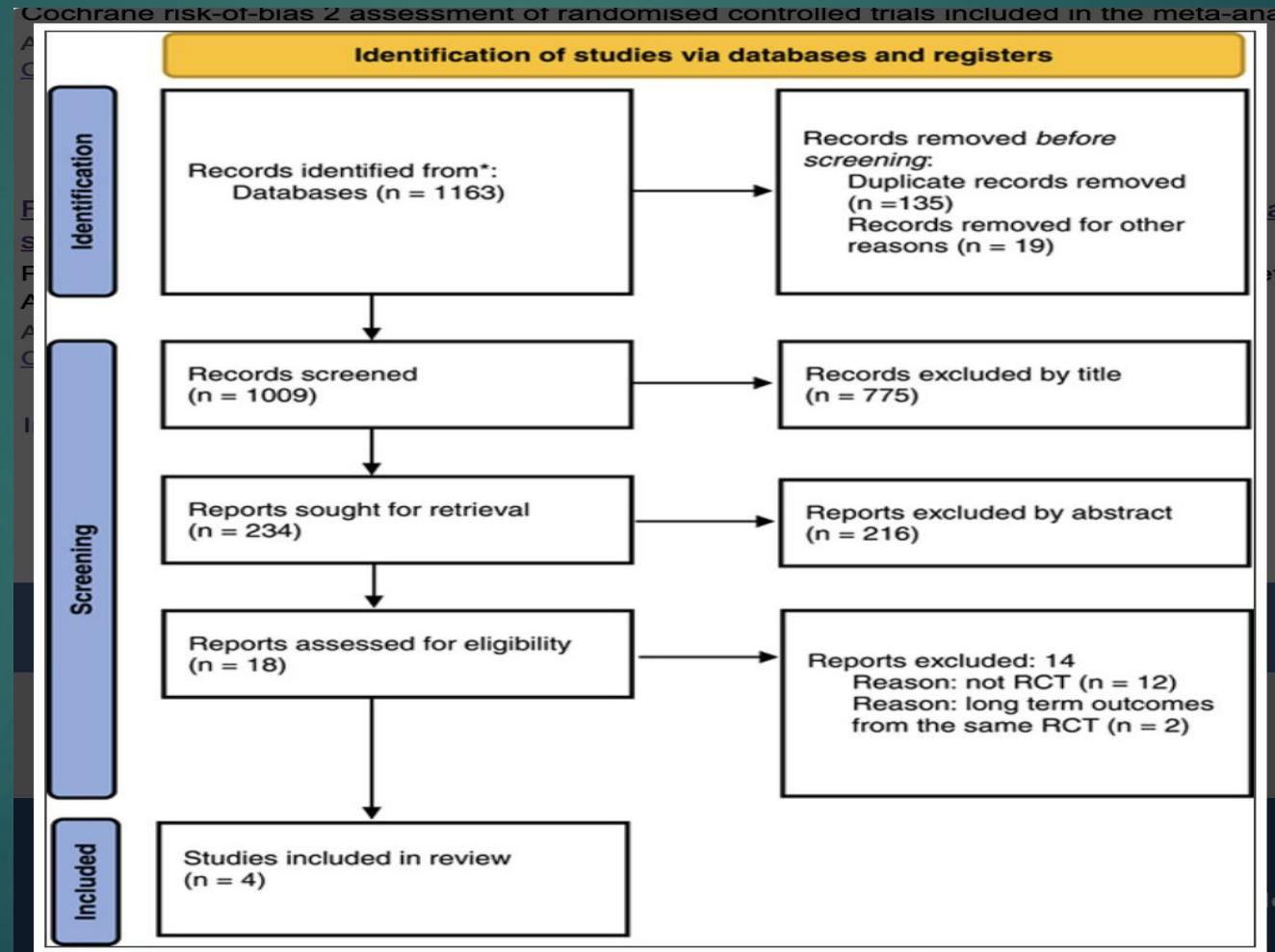
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Diverticulitis & individualized management



Diverticulitis & individualized management

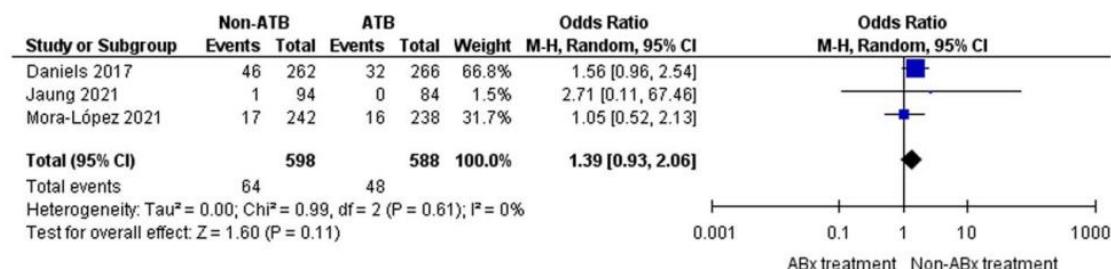


Figure 3. Readmission.

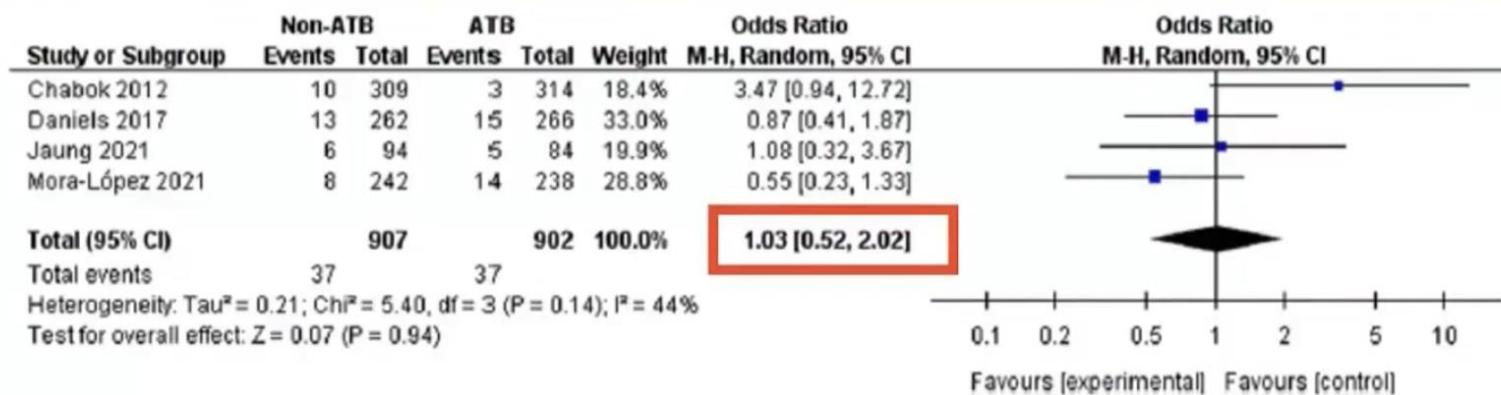


Figure 4. Change in strategy.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

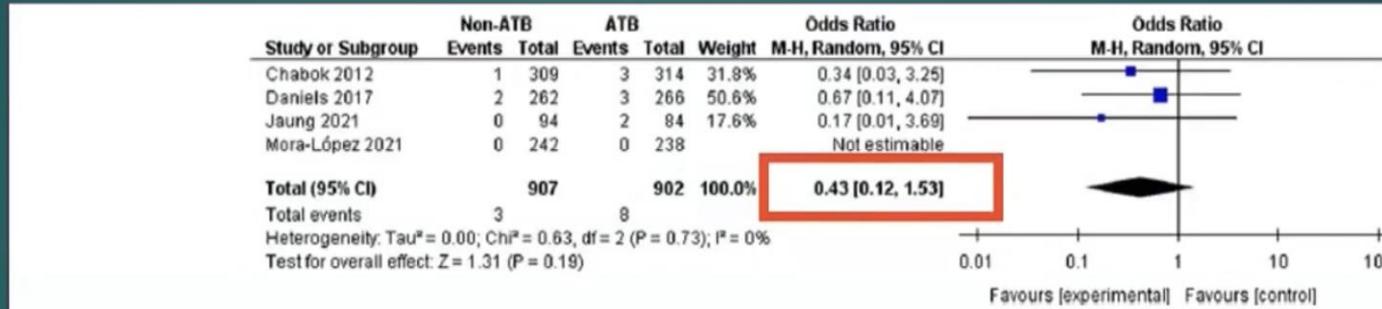


Figure 5. Emergency surgery.

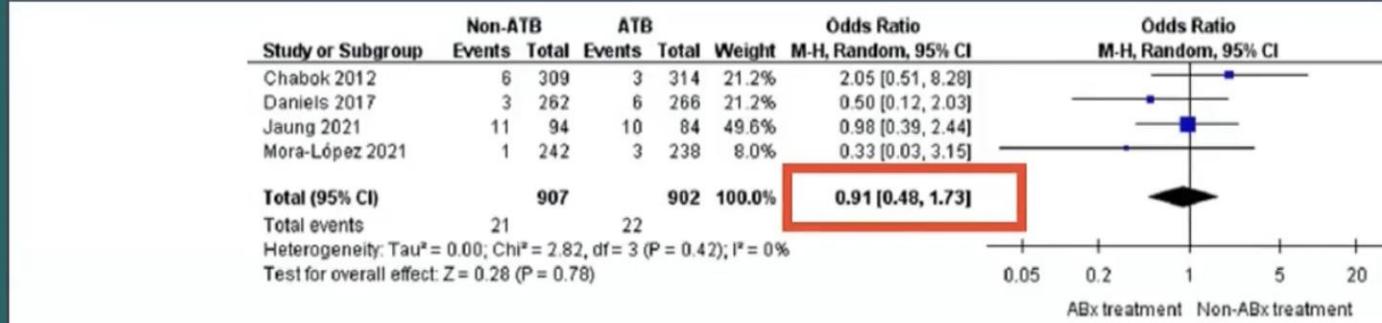


Figure 6. Worsening.

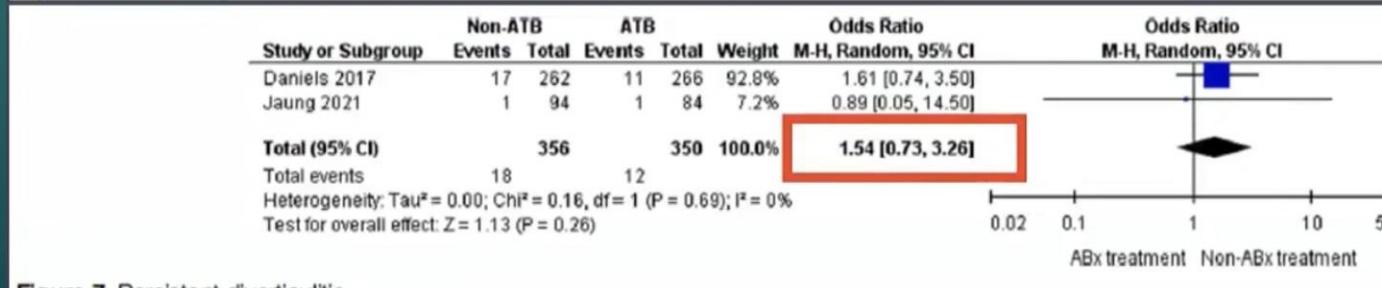


Figure 7. Persistent diverticulitis.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Uncomplicated acute diverticulitis – role of abx
 - ▶ Level 1 data show omission of antibiotics is safe and effective
 - ▶ Why do we still use abx?
 - ▶ Lack of confidence
 - ▶ Patient expectation
 - ▶ Lack of education and a awareness
 - ▶ Change in paradigm

 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SURGERY

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Limitations: Heterogeneity and a limited number of RCTs.

Conclusions: Treatment for AUD without antibiotic therapy is safe and effective in selected patients. Further RCTs should confirm the present findings.

Keywords: acute uncomplicated diverticulitis, antibiotic therapy, conservative management

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ The choice of intravenous antibiotics depends on disease severity.
- ▶ Oral antibiotics :
 - ▶ amoxicillin-clavulanate,
 - ▶ ciprofloxacin/metronidazole,
 - ▶ levofloxacin/metronidazole,
 - ▶ or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole/metronidazole.
 - ▶ Immunocompetent patients should complete a total of 4 to 7 days of antibiotic therapy (7 to 10 days for undrained abscess or phlegmon); immunocompromised patients should be treated for 10 to 14 days.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Antibiotics advised in uncomplicated diverticulitis in patient with
 - ▶ Comorbidity & fragility
 - ▶ CRP > 140 mg/l
 - ▶ WBC > 15
 - ▶ Possible admission

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Admission criteria

Indications for hospital admission for acute colonic diverticulitis

- Complicated diverticulitis (ie, frank perforation, abscess, obstruction, fistula)
- Sepsis or SIRS (>1 of temperature $>38^{\circ}$ or $<36^{\circ}$ Celsius, heart rate >90 beats per minute, respiration rate >20 respirations per minute, white blood cell count $>12,000/\text{mL}$ or $<4000/\text{mL}$, C-reactive protein $>15 \text{ mg/dL}$)
- Severe abdominal pain or diffuse peritonitis, and/or failure to reduce abdominal pain in the emergency department to <5 on a VAS
- Microperforation (eg, a few air bubbles outside of the colon without contrast extravasation or phlegmon)
- Age >70 years
- Significant comorbidities (eg, diabetes mellitus with organ involvement [eg, retinopathy, angiopathy, nephropathy], recent cardiogenic event [eg, acute myocardial infarction, angina, heart failure], or recent decompensation of chronic liver disease [\geq Child B] or end-stage kidney disease)
- Immunosuppression (eg, poorly controlled diabetes mellitus, chronic high-dose corticosteroid use, use of other immunosuppressive agents, advanced HIV infection or AIDS, B or T cell leukocyte deficiency, active cancer of hematologic malignancy, or organ transplant)
- Intolerance of oral intake secondary to bowel obstruction or ileus
- Nonadherence with care/unreliability for return visits/lack of support system
- Failure of outpatient treatment

SIRS: systemic inflammatory response syndrome; VAS: visual analog scale.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Interval colonoscopy –
 - ▶ Complicated diverticulitis
 - ▶ 11% malignancy risk
 - ▶ Uncomplicated diverticulitis
 - ▶ 0.7% Malignancy risk



**ANNALS
OF
SURGERY**

META-ANALYSIS

Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of the Role of Routine Colonic Evaluation After Radiologically Confirmed Acute Diverticulitis

Sharma, Prashant V. FRACS*; Eglinton, Timothy FRACS*; Hider, Phil FAFPHM, RACP†; Frizelle, Frank FRACS*

[Author Information](#) 

Annals of Surgery 259(2):p 263-272, February 2014. | DOI: 10.1097/SLA.0000000000000294

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ ASCRS guidelines – colonoscopy 6 weeks after resolution of complicated diverticulitis if not recently performed
- ▶ AGA guidelines – colonoscopy 6-8 weeks after complicated diverticulitis or first episode uncomplicated diverticulitis if more than 1 year since most recent scope

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ ASCRS guidelines
- ▶ patient with prior **uncomplicated** diverticulitis
 - ▶ against surgical resection for a prior history of uncomplicated diverticulitis that is successfully treated medically, regardless of the number of episodes
 - ▶ Age is not a factor in deciding whether to operate as young patients are no longer thought to have more frequent or complicated recurrences .

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ ASCRS guidelines
- ▶ Patients with prior **complicated** diverticulitis
 - ▶ Elective surgery for patients who have had a previous episode of complicated diverticulitis, even if they are currently asymptomatic, due to the elevated risk of severe complications or mortality from recurrent diverticulitis .
 - ▶ such patients are at a greater risk of developing complications or dying from a recurrent attack and therefore would benefit from early elective surgery.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Management

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Individualized based patient risk factors
 - ▶ Multiple episodes uncomplicated
 - ▶ Patients symptoms not a number
 - ▶ single episode complicated diverticulitis
 - ▶ Fistula , stricture or suspicious of neoplasm

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Complicated left sided diverticulitis
 - ▶ Diverticular Abscesses (Hinchey Stages Ib and II)
 - ▶ Chronic symptoms
 - ▶ Frequent admission
 - ▶ High rate of recurrence
 - ▶ Surgery is recommended as an elective setting or according to patient condition
 - ▶ In a systematic review of 7653 patients treated with antibiotics, the overall recurrence rate was 25.5% , in patients treated with percutaneous drainage, the recurrence rate was 15%
(Int J Surg. 2016;35:201-208.)
 - ▶ Abscess < 3 cm
 - ▶ Medical treatment (antibiotics)
 - ▶ Abscess > 3 cm
 - ▶ Percutaneous drainage or surgical

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Hinche Stage III Diverticulitis
 - ▶ Nonoperative
 - ▶ In very limited cases
 - ▶ No hemodynamic instability
 - ▶ No peritonitis
 - ▶ No Persistent fever
 - ▶ No Overt connection of the colon to the peritoneal cavity by CT
 - ▶ CASE studies published (Int J Color Dis. 2017;32:1503–7.)
 - ▶ Laparoscopic lavage
 - ▶ Laparoscopic lavage, however, was associated with a significantly increased risk of intra-abdominal abscess, peritonitis, and future emergency reoperation
 - ▶ lavage has a higher initial re-intervention rate, but overall morbidity and mortality at 1 year and the need for subsequent intervention is similar to resectional surgery

Int J Color Dis. 2017;32:163–9. Br J Surg. 2017;104(1):62-68

Diverticulitis & individualized management

► **Immediate surgery needed**

- Hinckey III or IV Diverticulitis
 - Purulent or Fecal peritonitis
 - large or multiple intra abdominal abscess no meanable for radiological drainage
- Systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)
- Failure of conservative treatment for complicated diverticulitis
- Formal resection if malignancy suspected
- Surgical option
 - Segmental resection with primary anastomosis +/- ileostomy
 - Hartman's procedure

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Elective surgery is indicated in the following
 - ▶ Fistulas , stricture and symptoms of obstruction (could not pass the scope)
 - ▶ Symptomatic , recurrence , chronic , uncomplicated
 - ▶ Chronic abdominal discomfort
 - ▶ Change in bowel habit and stool character
 - ▶ GI stress
 - ▶ Segmental colitis associated disease
 - ▶ Atypical disease
 - ▶ SUDD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Chronic Uncomplicated Disease
 - ▶ Complications of diverticulitis are most likely to occur with a first episode and prophylactic surgery to prevent complicated disease is not justified
 - ▶ The decision to perform surgery should be a shared one, which weighs the potential improvement in quality of life against the risks of surgery.
 - ▶ The decision for surgery should be individualized, based on severity of symptoms and interference with overall quality of life.
 - ▶ Patients should have CT confirmation of the diagnosis of acute diverticulitis, as symptoms from irritable bowel syndrome may mimic ongoing inflammation or recurrent attacks.

Dis Colon Rectum. 2000;43(3):290-7

Dis Colon Rectum. 2011;54(3):283-8.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Surgical management and time of the intervention principles
 - ▶ Minimally invasive surgery when safe
 - ▶ Laparoscopic vs robotics
 - ▶ Resection with anastomosis
 - ▶ All disease bowel to be resected
 - ▶ If left side , to the upper rectum
 - ▶ Difficult anastomosis or unstable patient
 - ▶ Decision intraoperatively

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Acuna SA et al
 - ▶ Operative Strategies for Perforated Diverticulitis: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis
 - ▶ The purpose of this study was to compare operative strategies for perforated diverticulitis.
 - ▶ Randomized clinical trials evaluating operative strategies for perforated diverticulitis.
 - ▶ Hartmann procedure, primary resection and anastomosis, and laparoscopic lavage
 - ▶ Six trials including 626 patients with perforated diverticulitis

Diverticulitis & individualized management

PROCEDURE (Purulent/Feculent)

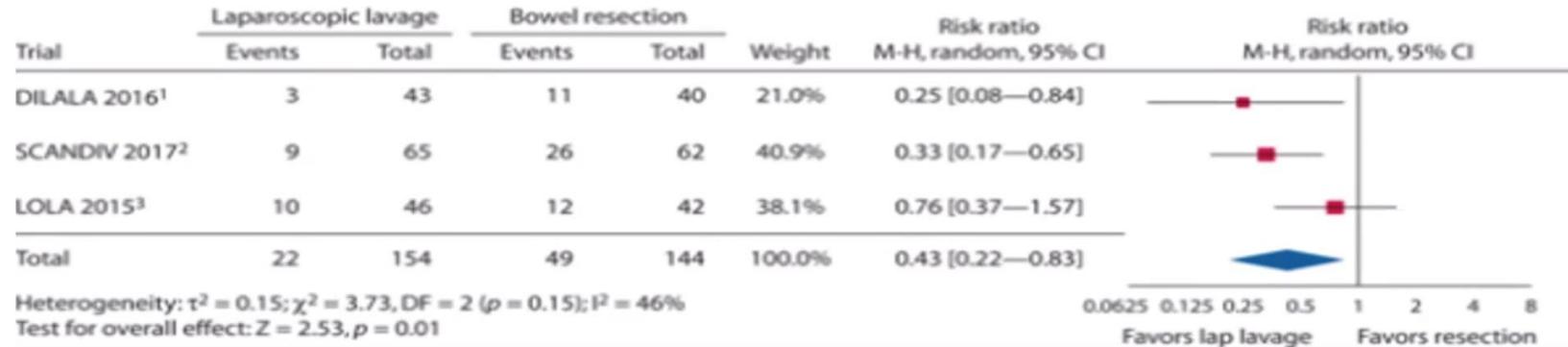
Trial name	Intervention arm	No. of randomly assigned participants	Hinchey classification, n (%)	Age, mean (SD), y	Women, n (%)	BMI, mean (SD)	Previous diverticulitis, n (%)	Previous abdominal surgery, n (%)	ASA >III, n (%)
DIVERTI ⁵	PRA	50	III: 42 (84) IV: 8 (16)	61 (25±93) ^a	22 (44.0)	26.1 (20±43) ^b	NR	NR	NR
	Hartmann	52	III: 40 (76.5) IV: 12 (23.5)	61.5 (25±93) ^a	29 (55.8)	26.8 (19.3±44.6) ^b	NR	NR	NR
DILALA ¹	Lap. lavage	43	III: 43 (100)	64 (50±76) ^a	22 (51)	25.6 (21±32) ^b	5 (12)	20 (47)	0 (0)
	Hartmann	40	III: 40 (100)	68 (56±79) ^a	24 (60)	24.9 (19±36) ^b	5 (13)	13 (33)	2 (5)
LOLA ³	Lap. lavage	46	III: 46 (100)	62.3 (12.7)	20 (43)	27.6 (6.2)	12 (32)	4 (9)	3 (7)
	Bowel resection ^c	42	III: 42 (100)	64.0 (12.3)	17 (40)	27.0 (4.4)	10 (26)	3 (7)	2 (5)
SCANDIV ²	Lap. lavage	101	I: 3 (3) II: 1 (1) III: 70 (79) IV: 15 (17) ^d	69.9 (13.5)	57 (56)	26.6 (4.9)	19 (19)	34 (34)	9 (9)
	Bowel resection ^e	96	I: 2 (2) II: 4 (5) III: 64 (77) IV: 13 (16) ^d	65.7 (15.2)	51 (53)	26.0 (4.4)	24 (25)	36 (37)	5 (5)
Oberkofler et al ⁴	PRA	32	III: 24 (75) IV: 8 (25)	72 (60±83) ^a	20 (62.5)	24 (23±28) ^b	NR	NR	8 (27)
	Hartmann	30	III: 23 (77) IV: 7 (23)	74 (61±81) ^a	21 (65.6)	24 (22±29) ^b	NR	NR	8 (25)
Binda et al ⁶	PRA	34	III: 30 (88) IV: 4 (12)	63.5 (2.2)	12 (35.3)	NR	NR	12	NR
	Hartmann	56	III: 45 (80) IV: 11 (20)	65.7 (1.8)	29 (51.8)	NR	NR	27	NR

COMPARISON (LAVAGE vs. RESECTION)

Major postoperative complications (Clavien-Dindo > IIIa)

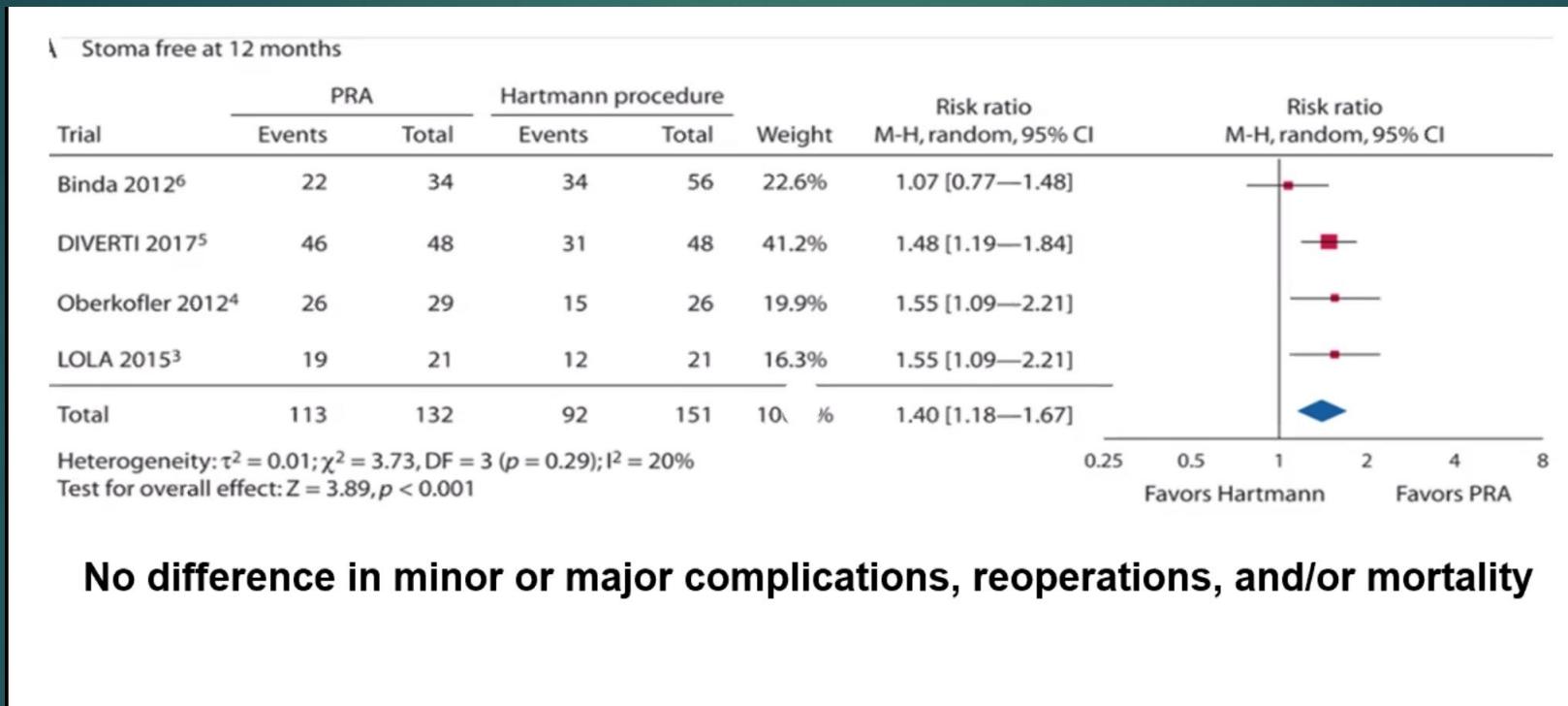


¹ Patients with stoma at 12 months



No difference in EARLY reoperations and mortality

Diverticulitis & individualized management



Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Perforated diverticulitis Hinchez III & IV
 - ▶ Compared to resection , laparoscopic lavage is associated with higher risk of major complications (LL :35% vs PA :18 %)
 - ▶ Compared to Hartman's , Primary Resection and Anastomosis (PRA) associated with a lower rate of persistent stoma compared to Hartmann procedure at 12 months
 - ▶ Similar mortality at 12 months

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Laparoscopic Elective sigmoid colectomy vs conservative treatment , symptomatic LASER trial
 - ▶ Assessing the GI QoL , complication , recurrence
 - ▶ LASER trial
 - ▶ At 6 months (2021)
 - ▶ At 2 years (2023)
 - ▶ At 4 years (2025)

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Comparing Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection With Conservative Treatment in Improving Quality of Life of Patients With Diverticulitis The Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection Following Diverticulitis (LASER) Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD; Ville Sallinen, MD, PhD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Randomized clinical trial (Finnish)
- ▶ Multicenter , 128 patients
- ▶ Population – recurrent complicated or persistent symptoms of diverticulitis
 - ▶ Excluded – no colonoscopy , cancer , contraindication for MIS , fistula
- ▶ Outcome- Difference in GI Qol score at 6 months

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Comparing Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection With Conservative Treatment in Improving Quality of Life of Patients With Diverticulitis
The Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection Following Diverticulitis (LASER) Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD; Ville Sallinen, MD, PhD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ 6 months result :
- ▶ Interval sigmoidoscopy
 - ▶ Appropriate MIS surgical candidate have improved pain and quality of life at 6 months with low risk of complication
 - ▶ 5 % risk of temporary stoma
 - ▶ 10 % risk Major complications

IMPORTANCE Diverticulitis has a tendency to recur and affect quality of life.

OBJECTIVE To assess whether sigmoid resection is superior to conservative treatment in improving quality of life of patients with recurrent, complicated, or persistent painful diverticulitis.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This open-label randomized clinical trial assessed for eligibility 128 patients with recurrent, complicated, or persistent painful diverticulitis in 6 Finnish hospitals from September 29, 2014, to October 10, 2018. Exclusion criteria included age younger than 18 years or older than 75 years; lack of (virtual) colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy data within 2 years, or presence of cancer, contraindication to laparoscopy, or fistula. Outcomes were assessed using intention-to-treat analysis. A prespecified interim analysis was undertaken when 66 patients had been randomized and their 6-month follow-up was assessable. Data were analyzed from June 2018 to May 2020.

INTERVENTIONS Laparoscopic sigmoid resection or conservative treatment.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES The primary outcome was difference in Gastrointestinal Quality of Life Index (GIQLI) score between randomization and 6 months.

RESULTS Of 128 patients assessed for eligibility, 90 were randomized (28 male [31%]; mean [SD] age, 54.11 [11.9] years; 62 female [69%]; mean [SD] age, 57.13 [7.6] years). A total of 72 patients were included in analyses for the primary outcome (37 in the surgery group and 35 in the conservative treatment group), and 85 were included in analyses for clinical outcomes (41 in the surgery group and 44 in the conservative treatment group). The difference between GIQLI score at randomization and 6 months was a mean of 11.96 points higher in the surgery group than in the conservative treatment group (mean [SD] of 11.76 [15.89] points vs -0.2 [19.07] points; difference, 11.96; 95% CI, 3.72-20.19; $P = .005$). Four patients (10%) in the surgery group and no patients in the conservative treatment group experienced major complications (Clavien-Dindo grade III or higher). There were 2 patients (5%) in the surgery group and 12 patients (31%) in the conservative treatment group who had new episodes of diverticulitis within 6 months.

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE In this randomized clinical trial, elective laparoscopic sigmoid resection improved quality of life in patients with recurrent, complicated, or persistent painful diverticulitis but carried a 10% risk of major complications.

TRIAL REGISTRATION ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: [NCT02174926](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02174926).

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ LASER trial after 2 years
 - ▶ GI Qol
 - ▶ Recurrence

Research

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

**Quality-of-Life and Recurrence Outcomes Following Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment Following Diverticulitis
Prespecified 2-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial**

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD, PhD;
Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD;

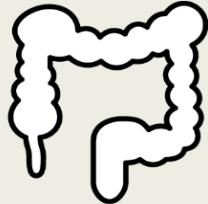
Diverticulitis & individualized management

JAMA Surgery

RCT: Quality-of-Life and Recurrence Outcomes Following Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment Following Diverticulitis

POPULATION

28 Men, 62 Women



Patients with recurrent, complicated, or persisting painful diverticulitis

Mean (SD) age, 54.11 y (11.9)

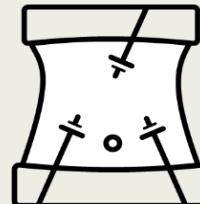
INTERVENTION

90 Patients randomized



45 Conservative treatment

Written counseling and fiber supplements

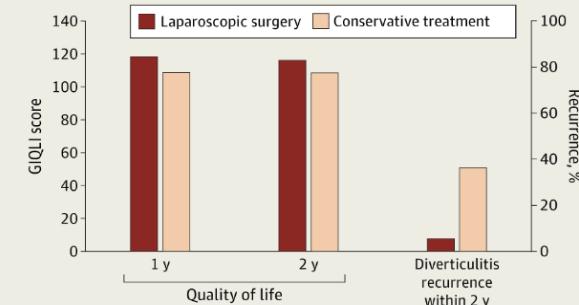


45 Surgery

Elective laparoscopic sigmoidectomy

FINDINGS

Elective laparoscopic sigmoidectomy was associated with improved quality of life at 1 y and lower rate of recurrence compared with conservative treatment



Mean GIQLI score at 1 y:

118.5 in surgery group vs 109.0 in conservative group (difference, 9.5; 95% CI, 0.83-18.18; $P = .03$)

SETTINGS / LOCATIONS



Five Finnish hospitals

PRESPECIFIED SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Gastrointestinal Quality of Life (GIQLI) score at 1 y and 2 y (range, 0-144, with higher scores indicating better quality of life) and recurrence of diverticulitis

Research

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Quality-of-Life and Recurrence Outcomes Following Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment

Following Diverticulitis

Prespecified 2-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Päivi Mäntula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Sharmel Ismail, MD, PhD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Jousela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD;

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Research

JAMA Surgery | **Original Investigation**

Quality-of-Life and Recurrence Outcomes Following Laparoscopic Elective Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment Following Diverticulitis

Prespecified 2-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD, PhD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD;

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE In this randomized clinical trial, elective sigmoid resection was effective in preventing recurrent diverticulitis and improved quality of life over conservative treatment within 2 years.

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ LASER trial at 4 years
 - ▶ 2025
 - ▶ GI Qol
 - ▶ Recurrence
 - ▶ complication
 - ▶ Gastrointestinal Quality of Life Index (GIQLI) scores, complications, and recurrences, within 4 years are reported using intention-to-treat and post hoc per-protocol analyses.

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment After Diverticulitis Prespecified 4-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD, PhD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD; Ville Sallinen, MD, PhD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ 90 enrolled patients
- ▶ 45 elective sigmoid resection and 45 to conservative treatment.
- ▶ Among those randomized to conservative treatment, 14 of 44 (32%) underwent sigmoid resection within 4 years (patients with lower QOL on average).
- ▶ The mean (SD) GIQLI score was 115.3 (17.8) in the surgery group vs 109.8 (19.8) in the conservative treatment group
- ▶ Recurrence of diverticulitis occurred in 6 of 38 patients (16%) in the surgery group vs 34 of 37 patients (92%) in the conservative treatment group.
- ▶ Severe postoperative complications occurred in 4 patients (10%) in the surgery group vs 5 patients (11%) in the conservative treatment group.

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment After Diverticulitis Prespecified 4-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

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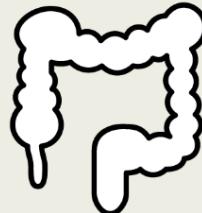
Diverticulitis & individualized management

JAMA Surgery

RCT: Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment After Diverticulitis

POPULATION

28 Men, 62 Women



Adults with recurring, persistent painful, or complicated diverticulitis

Median age: 59 y

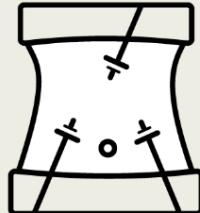
SETTINGS / LOCATIONS



6 Hospitals in Finland

INTERVENTION

78 Participants analyzed



38 Surgery

Elective laparoscopic sigmoid resection within 3 mo of randomization

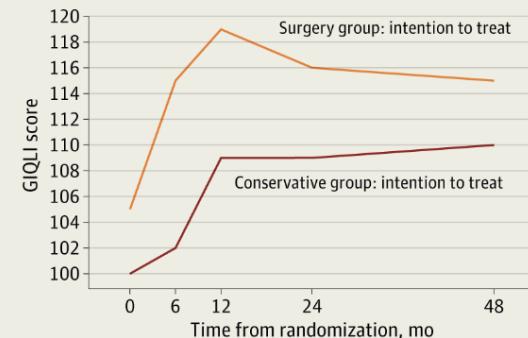


40 CONSERVATIVE MANAGEMENT

Educational materials on constipation and diverticulosis, with option for elective surgery after 6 mo

FINDINGS

There was no significant difference between the surgery and conservative management groups in quality of life at 48 mo



Mean between-group difference in GIQLI score at 4 y:
5.54 (95% CI, -2.98 to 14.06)

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment After Diverticulitis
Prespecified 4-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

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Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD; Ville Sallinen, MD, PhD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Results
- ▶ High crossover rates from conservative treatment to surgery indicate that patients with low QOL in the conservative treatment group often require surgical intervention;
- ▶ Elective sigmoid resection did not improve QOL compared with conservative treatment in 4-year follow-up, even though it was effective in preventing recurrences of diverticulitis and did not lead to increased rates of postoperative complications.
- ▶ Upfront surgery may be preferable in patients with low QOL, but initial conservative treatment is an option for patients with near-normal QOL.

JAMA Surgery | Original Investigation

Sigmoid Resection vs Conservative Treatment After Diverticulitis Prespecified 4-Year Analysis of the LASER Randomized Clinical Trial

Alexandre Santos, MD; Panu Mentula, MD, PhD; Tarja Pinta, MD, PhD; Shamel Ismail, MD, PhD; Tero Rautio, MD, PhD; Risto Juusela, MD; Aleksi Lähdesmäki, MD, PhD; Tom Scheinin, MD, PhD; Ville Sallinen, MD, PhD

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Conclusions

Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Surgery should aim primarily at improving quality of life and to be patient focused
- ▶ The decision to perform elective surgery after several episodes of recurrent uncomplicated diverticulitis should be individualized
- ▶ Safe to omit antibiotics in selected patient with uncomplicated diverticulitis
- ▶ 11% malignancy risk with complicated diverticulitis → interval colonoscopy recommended and can save life
- ▶ Minimally invasive surgery is an acceptable option for managing diverticulitis and its complications (laparoscopic /robotics)

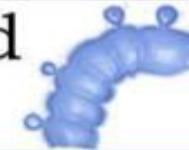
Diverticulitis & individualized management

- ▶ Laparoscopic lavage can be employed in some patients with Hinchey III diverticulitis in a limited clinical setting since has a high post operative complications
- ▶ Interval MIS improves QoL with low risk in patients with recurrent , complicated or smoldering diverticulitis
- ▶ In a hemodynamically stable Immunocompetent patient with Hinchy III/IV diverticulitis , compared to Hartmann's procedure
 - ▶ PA is safe
 - ▶ PA may have fewer days in the hospital
 - ▶ PA will have less hernia
 - ▶ PA less rate of stoma

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Conclusions

Clinical Practice Guidelines: Left-Sided Diverticulitis (1/2)



CT scan best initial diagnostic imaging test (1B)



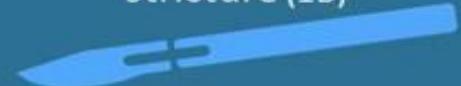
Uncomplicated mild disease can be treated **WITHOUT** antibiotics (1A)



Percutaneous Drainage for Abscess > 3cm in size (1B)



Recommend Elective Surgery after **complicated** disease e.g. abscess treatment or if fistula, stricture (1B)



Endoscopic evaluation recommended to confirm diagnosis (1C)



0.7-11% risk of malignancy

Individualized decision for surgery in Uncomplicated disease based on risk (1B)



DISEASES OF THE COLON & RECTUM



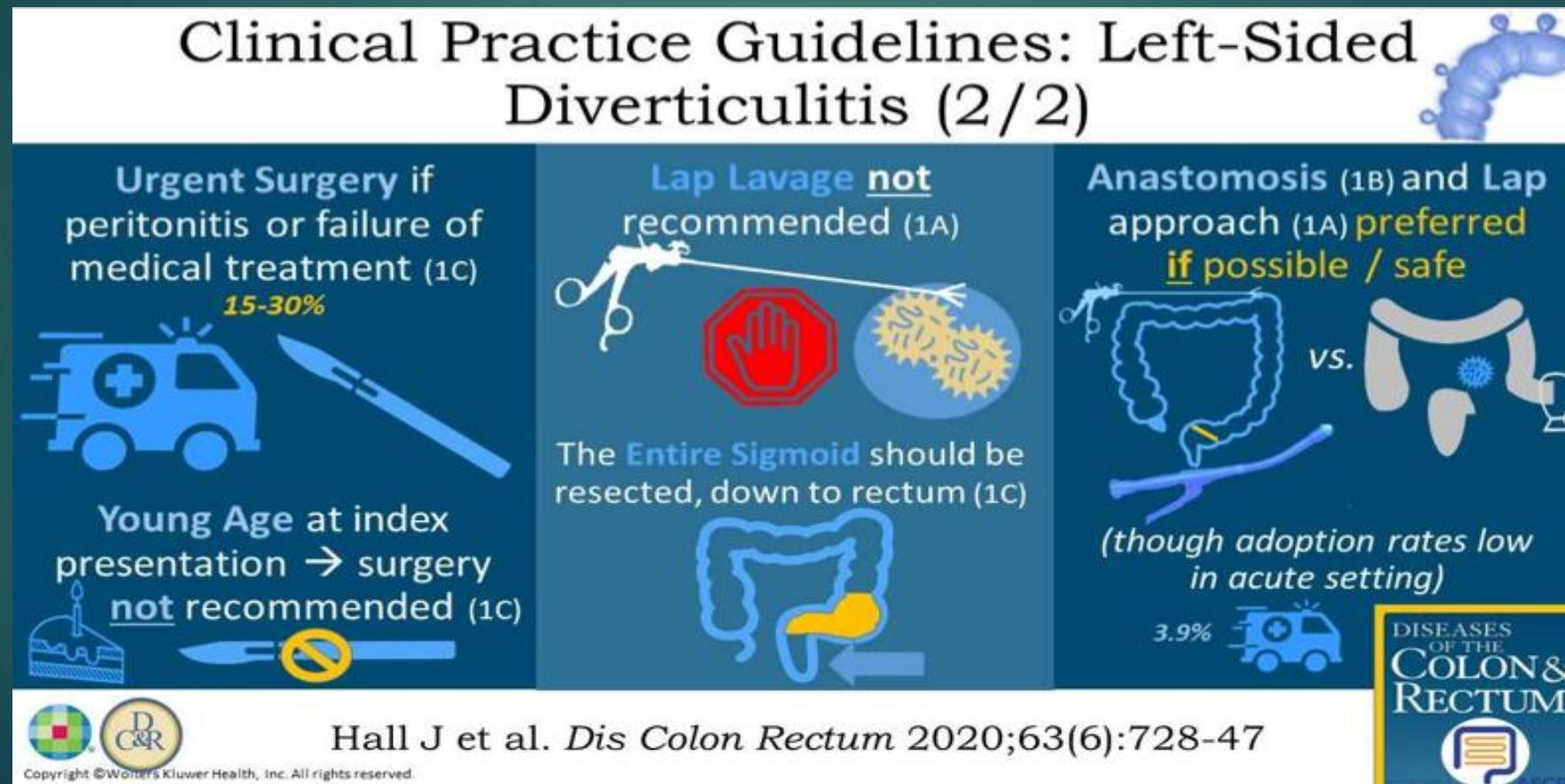
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Hall J et al. *Dis Colon Rectum* 2020;63(6):728-47

Diverticulitis & individualized management

Conclusions

Clinical Practice Guidelines: Left-Sided Diverticulitis (2/2)



Urgent Surgery if peritonitis or failure of medical treatment (1C)
15-30%

Young Age at index presentation → surgery not recommended (1C)

Lap Lavage not recommended (1A)

The **Entire Sigmoid** should be resected, down to rectum (1C)

Anastomosis (1B) and Lap approach (1A) preferred if possible / safe

(though adoption rates low in acute setting)

3.9%

DISEASES OF THE COLON & RECTUM

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Hall J et al. *Dis Colon Rectum* 2020;63(6):728-47

Diverticulitis – Colo-vesical fistula





Thank you