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# ROBOTIC VERSUS LAPAROSCOPIC DISTAL PANCREATECTOMY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CLINICAL OUTCOMES AND COST ANALYSIS

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**Background:** The costs associated with robotic surgery present a critical issue that has not yet been well addressed. This study aims to compare the clinical outcomes and cost differences of robotic distal pancreatectomy (RDP) with those of laparoscopic distal pancreatectomy (LDP).

**Methods:** Data were abstracted prospectively from 2011 to 2017. An independent company performed the financial analysis.

**Results:** A total of 28 RDP and 26 LDP were included. The mean operative time was significantly lower in the LDP (294 vs. 241 min;  $p=0.02$ ). The main intra- and post-operative data were similar, except for the conversion rate (RDP: 3.6% vs. LDP: 19.2%;  $p=0.04$ ) and hospital stay (RDP: 8.9 vs. LDP 13.1 days;  $p=0.04$ ). The mean total costs were similar in both groups (RDP: 9198.64 € vs. LDP: 9399.74 €;  $p>0.5$ ).

**Conclusions:** RDP showed a lower conversion rate and shorter hospital stay than LDP at the price of a longer operative time. RDP is financially comparable to LDP.

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