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# Salvage laparoscopic ultra-radical lymph nodal debulking using yasargil clamps for gynecological malignancies. A feasibility analysis

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## Abstract

The aim of this study was to analyze the feasibility of laparoscopic ultra-radical lymph nodal debulking using Yasargil clamps in gynecological cancer patients with bulky lymph nodes metastases.

**Objective.** The resection of bulky lymph node in gynecological cancer is a challenging surgical procedure. Considering the risk of intraoperative vascular injury and the related poor surgical outcome, a technique to avoid severe complications is needed. Thus, the aim of this study was to analyze the feasibility of laparoscopic ultra-radical lymph nodal debulking using Yasargil clamps in gynecological cancer patients with bulky lymph nodes metastases.

**Methods.** We retrospectively evaluated a consecutive series of patients with gynecological malignancies who underwent laparoscopic lymph node debulking using Yasargil clamps between September 2010 and April 2020, at three Italian centers. Surgical and post-operative data was analyzed.

**Results.** Forty-three gynecological cancer patients with bulky pelvic and/or aortic lymph nodes metastases undergoing laparoscopic lymph node debulking surgery using Yasargil clamps were included. Median surgical procedure time was 300 min (range 120-550 min), median estimated blood loss 170 mL (range 0-700 mL). Median size of lymph nodes was 50 mm (range 25-100). R0 resection was achieved in all cases. Four (9.3%) intraoperative complications occurred. No conversion to an open abdominal approach was required. There were eight post-operative complications classified grade 2 or worse. There were no cases with intra- or postoperative mortality.

**Conclusions:** In our experience, in carefully selected gynecological cancer patients with bulky lymph node, laparoscopic lymph node debulking using Yasargil clamps is a valid approach to avoid possible severe vascular intraoperative complications.