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COST ANALYSIS OF OPEN APPENDICECTOMY COMPARED TO LAPAROSCOPIC APPENDICECTOMY IN UNIVERSITY KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA MEDICAL CENTRE (UKMMC) 2011

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Background:

Acute appendicitis is a common intra-abdominal inflammatory disease that requires surgery. The advantages of laparoscopic appendicectomy (LA) are controversial in previous studies. The aim of this study is to assess the cost-analysis of LA compared to open appendicectomy (OA) in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre.

Material and Methods:

This was a retrospective study of patient's record who underwent appendicectomy in UKMMC from January to December 2010. In this study, the cost was calculated merely on provider's point of view and further classified into capital costs and recurrent costs.

Results:

The subject was 30 patients diagnosed with acute appendicitis, male was 63.3%, and female was 36.7%. Mean age of the subjects was 27.97. Average length of stay for OA (4.13 days) was slightly longer than LA (3.67 days). Capital cost were 57.9% higher (RM626.23) higher for LA. Only equipment cost was higher in LA, however building and furniture cost were 9.9% higher for OA. Recurrent cost were 30.3% higher (RM631.85) for LA.

Conclusion:

The treatment cost for LA was found to be higher as compared with OA. The higher cost of LA is attributed to capital cost; the cost for equipment per patient use for LA is expected relatively higher. Also, it can be related to the number of surgeons trained using laparoscopic technique is small and hence this type of operation is not being carried out frequently compared to OA. In order to minimise the cost of LA, frequency of equipment use for laparoscopic operation should be increase in order to reduce the cost of equipment per patient.

Keywords:

cost analysis, open appendicectomy, laparoscopic appendicectomy, appendicitis