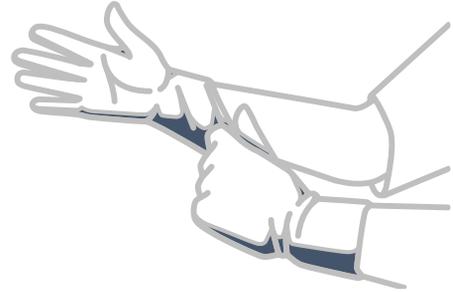


### Common bile duct exploration: Transcystic versus transcholedochal approach

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#### INTRODUCTION

It is not clear whether laparoscopic transcystic exploration is superior than a transcholedochal one in the management of choledocholithiasis.

#### AIM

To compare the safety and effectiveness of transcystic with transcholedochal approach in laparoscopic common bile duct exploration (LCBDE) for choledocholithiasis.

#### METHODS

Observational, retrospective study of patients undergoing LCBDE between January 2012 and December 2018. Descriptive and statistical analysis was performed.

#### RESULTS

157



underwent LCBDE

55,6%

Transcystic

44,4%

Transcholedochal

54,9%

Female

64

Median age, years

In the transcholedochal approach, the majority of the patients had dilated CBD

Complication rates and hospital stay were similar in both groups. Mortality rate was 2%

Additionally, 15,5% of the patients with the transcystic approach underwent postoperative ERCP versus 13,4%.

	Transcystic	Transcholedochal
CBD dilatation	72,2%	91 %
CBD stone clearance	86,1 %	88,8 %

#### CONCLUSION

From our knowledge both options are valid and safe. Transcystic exploration is feasible in most cases, saves time, does not violate de CBD and shows no higher morbidity, but is limited to patients with a patent, wide, straight cystic duct and small stones. Once stones exceed 5mm, the likelihood of extraction falls and a choledochotomy may be a better one. Furthermore transcholedochal exploration has a higher rate of successful duct clearance.

#### Complications

