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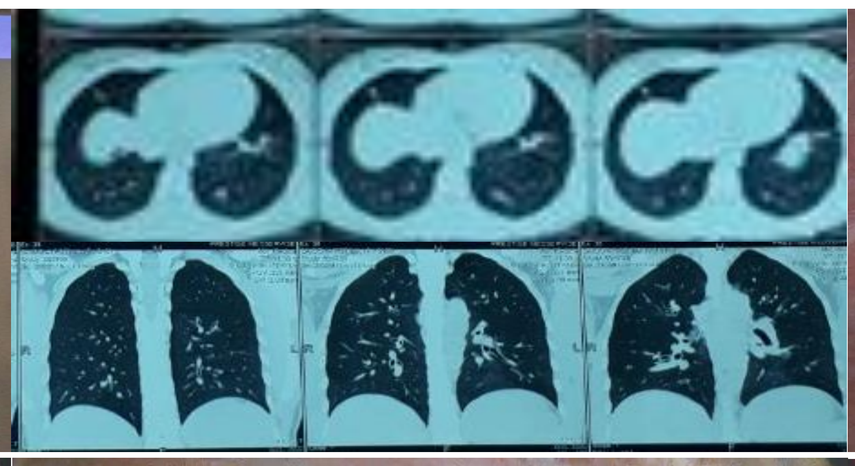
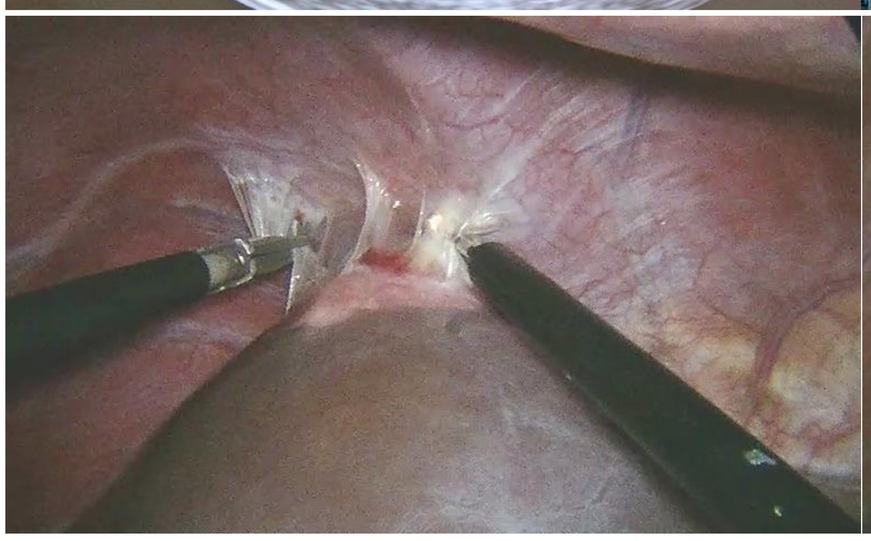
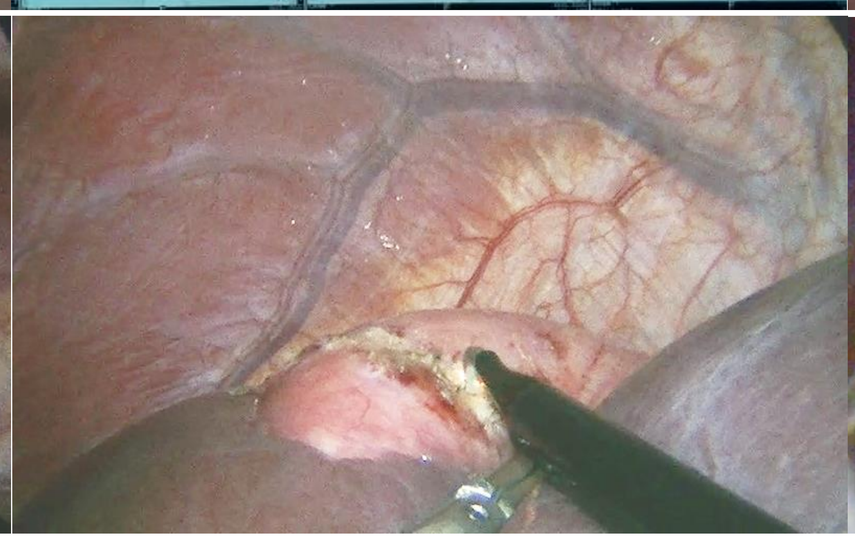
LAPAROSCOPIC MANAGEMENT OF HEPATIC HYDATID CYSTS

Shokhzod Shamsiyev, Jamshid Shamsiyev, Sherzod Muhitdinov, Khurshid Ulmasov, Saodat Igamova
Samarkand State Medical University Pediatric Surgery Hospital (Uzbekistan)

Purpose: To analyze the outcomes of laparoscopic echinococcectomy for hepatic hydatid cysts.

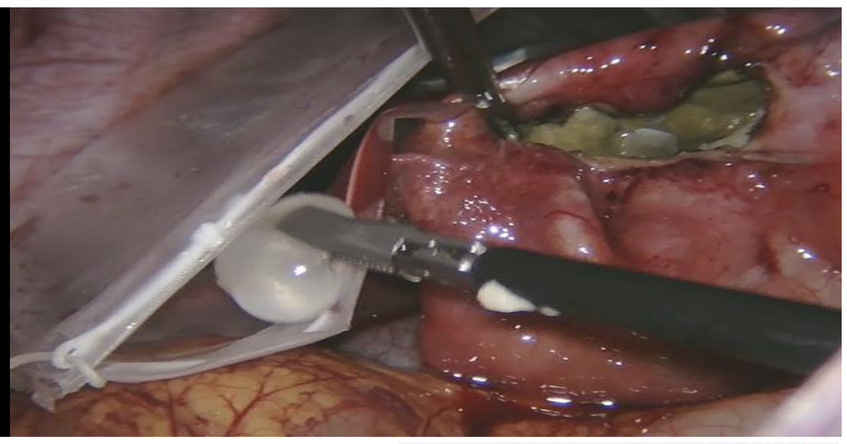
Methods: From 2017 to 2024, 78 patients underwent laparoscopic liver echinococcectomy at our hospital. The cohort included 34 boys (43.6%) and 44 girls (56.4%). Age distribution was as follows: 16 (20.5%) children under 5 years, 27 (34.6%) aged 5–10 years, 19 (24.4%) aged 10–14 years, 11 (14.1%) aged 14–18 years, and 5 (6.4%) patients over 18 years. Diagnosis was based on ultrasound, computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Solitary echinococcal liver cysts were identified in 49 (62.8%) patients, while 29 (37.2%) had multiple cysts (ranging from 2 to 6 cysts).




Results: Laparoscopic echinococcectomy was successfully performed in all 78 cases. In 3 patients (3.8%), conversion to open surgery was required after cyst evacuation, due to the presence of numerous small daughter cysts.







Conclusion: Laparoscopic echinococcectomy of hepatic hydatid cysts demonstrates outcomes comparable to conventional laparotomy, while offering additional benefits such as a shorter hospital stay, faster postoperative recovery, and improved cosmetic results. These advantages make the laparoscopic approach a viable and effective option for the surgical management of hepatic echinococcosis.