



EDITION 06 | 19 and 20 APRIL 2010

CASE 1: INTRA PARENCHYMAL LIVER CYST

Monday was a day spent well in the operation theatre. Besides one personally assisted classic cholecystectomy – removal of the gallbladder through an incision under right costal arch, a procedure that took approximately twenty minutes – a 45ish year old female patient was electively operated to remove a symptomatic liver cyst. This patient was seen by dr. Tarafe, head of the surgical department, in the outpatient setting a little while ago with a long standing swelling in the right upper quadrant of the abdomen. Firstly she tried massaging butter onto this swelling, yet, after this approach failed, and the swelling continued to increase in size over time, she started to complain about abdominal pain. Amongst other investigations, an ultra sound was made of her abdomen that showed a massive cyst in her liver.

During operation, at the ‘moment suprême’, the suction machine stopped working when the cyst was breached. Over a litre of fluid was spilled whilst six scrub nurses disassembled and reassembled the machine. Suction was eventually restored and the cyst could be removed from the liver. I kid you not, it’s size approached that of a regular football! Picture on the right is the cyst capsule.



QUOTE OF THE DAY! At one point Pien wanted to examine a patient in the emergency room, but the surgery intern said: ‘**No, this patient is medical**’. Meaning, it’s not a surgery patient but one for Internal Medicine.

HERNIA REPAIR WITH MOSQUITO NET MESH

Tuesday morning would have been Jaap’s moment to shock and awe our peers at the hospital by convincing them that the usage of custom cut mosquito net meshes has similar complication and rejection rates as commercial meshes used at home. Such meshes are supposedly easy to use and cost less than €1,- compared to €30,- of the commercial meshes making their use an interesting alternative to other methods or commercial meshes. He probably would have convinced them, if the beamer had not stopped working that morning. Come Thursday he’ll argue his case, if the beamer is repaired by then...

Article:

The use of sterilised polyester mosquito net mesh for inguinal hernia repair in Ghana. Clarke et al. Hernia (2009) 13:155–159