Minimally Invasive Surgery in Gynecological Oncology

In the twentieth century, gynecological surgery has evolved from open laparotomy for malignant tumors to laparoscopic hysterectomy, which rose in popularity in the 1990s. In 2000, the number of robotic surgery cases began to increase rapidly, and it has now become widespread.

The usefulness of laparoscopic surgery in early-stage endometrial cancer was shown in the LAP2 study, and now, minimal invasive surgery (MIS) plays a large role in gynecological surgery. Contrary to expectations, however, the LACC trial showed that in cervical cancer, MIS resulted in a poorer prognosis than open surgery, and the causes remain to be identified.

From the evolution of MIS as a diagnostic tool to its use as a definitive treatment, MIS, which lessens the burden on patients, is expected to play a major role in the effective use of the limited medical resources in the world today. The theme of this Special Issue of the European Journal of Gynaecological Oncology is “minimally invasive surgery in gynecologic oncology”, wherein new information on MIS and the latest information from experts is provided in the hope of MIS contributing to patient benefit.

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