



Glove Finger Technique For Appendix Retrieval After Laparoscopic Appendectomy

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Introduction

- Appendix retrieval following laparoscopic appendectomy has traditionally been done via retrieval bag or direct extraction.
- Retrieval bags can cost \$30 - \$150.
- Simple surgical gloves' finger has been described for retrieval which costs \$0.50-\$1.50 but lacks literature support
- The purpose of this study is to evaluate outcomes of our surgical glove's finger technique for appendix extraction.

Method

- Retrospective review for 100 consecutive LA with appendix retrieval via surgical glove technique. Following data was recorded: age, sex length of stay, surgical site infection (SSI) at the time of discharge, SSI at postoperative follow up, and 30 day readmission.

Glove Finger Technique

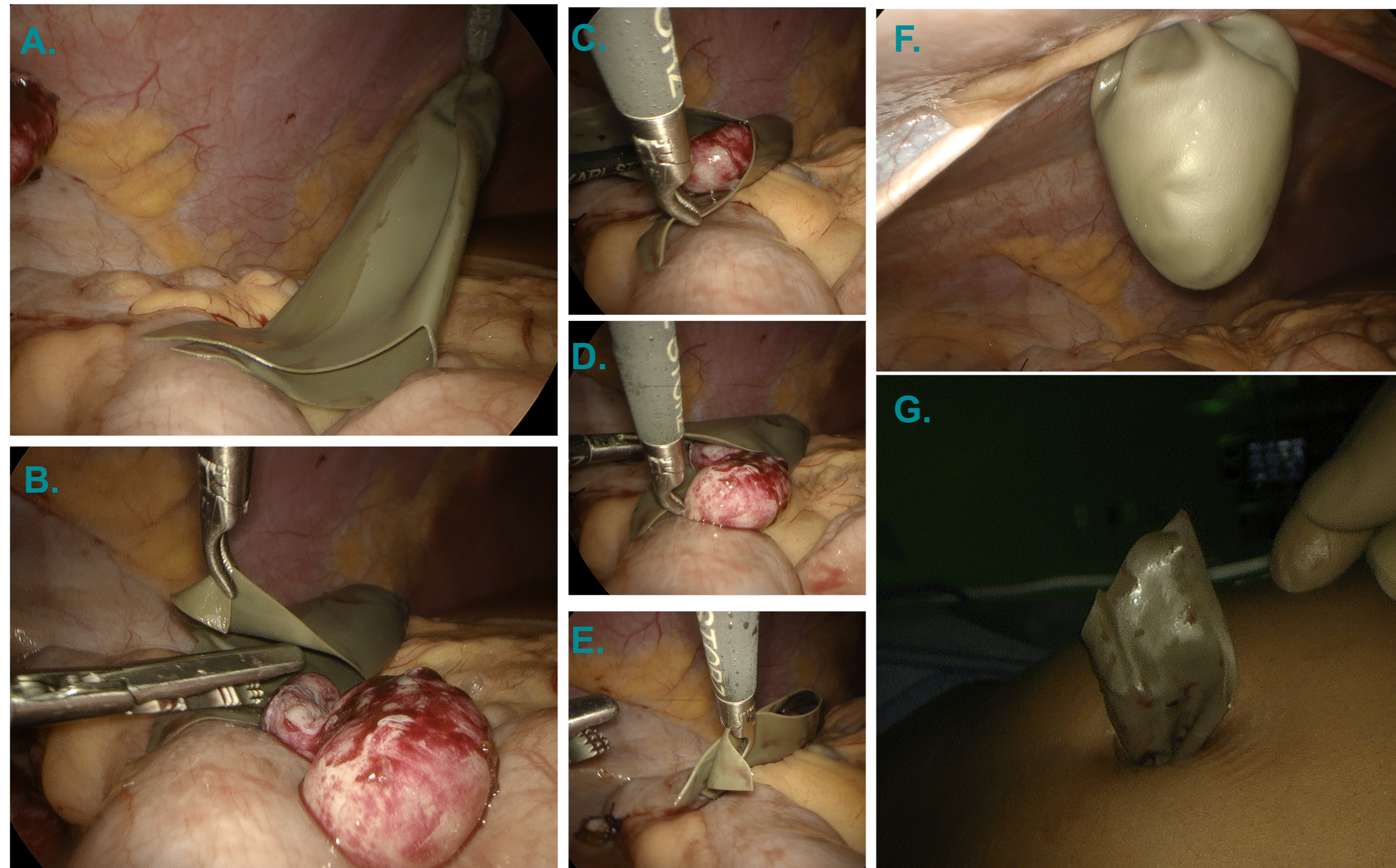


Figure 1: Appendix retrieval using glove finger. A. Glove finger introduced in the field. C-E: Laparoscopic insertion of appendix in the glove finger. F-G: Retrieval of the glove finger containing the appendix through the umbilical trocar site.

Results

- Among the 100 patients, none of them developed a surgical site infection at discharge or at postoperative follow-up.
- None of the patients experienced a delay in discharge due to concerns for SSI. Further, none of the patients were readmitted for SSI.

Discussion

- **The use of surgical glove for extraction of appendix decreases the cost of laparoscopic appendectomy, is safe and does not add to the morbidity of the patient.**
- **Surgeon's awareness of cost effectiveness is essential in the era of modern medicine.**