

CROSSROADS of HISTORY...

POWER of CHANGE...



36th IASGO WORLD CONGRESS

OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS,
GASTROENTEROLOGISTS AND ONCOLOGISTS

17th - 19th September 2025 / Belgrade, Serbia

Artery first and total mesopancreas excision for pancreatic head adenocarcinoma

Orlando Jorge M. Torres

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Most Pancreatic Cancer Resections are R1 Resections

Medial margin: Mesopancreas

Irene Esposito, MD,^{1,3} Jörg Kleeff, MD,^{2,4} Frank Bergmann, MD,¹ Caroline Reiser, MD,^{2,4}
 Esther Herpel, MD,¹ Helmut Friess, MD,^{2,4} Peter Schirmacher, MD,¹ and
 Markus W. Büchler, MD²

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY

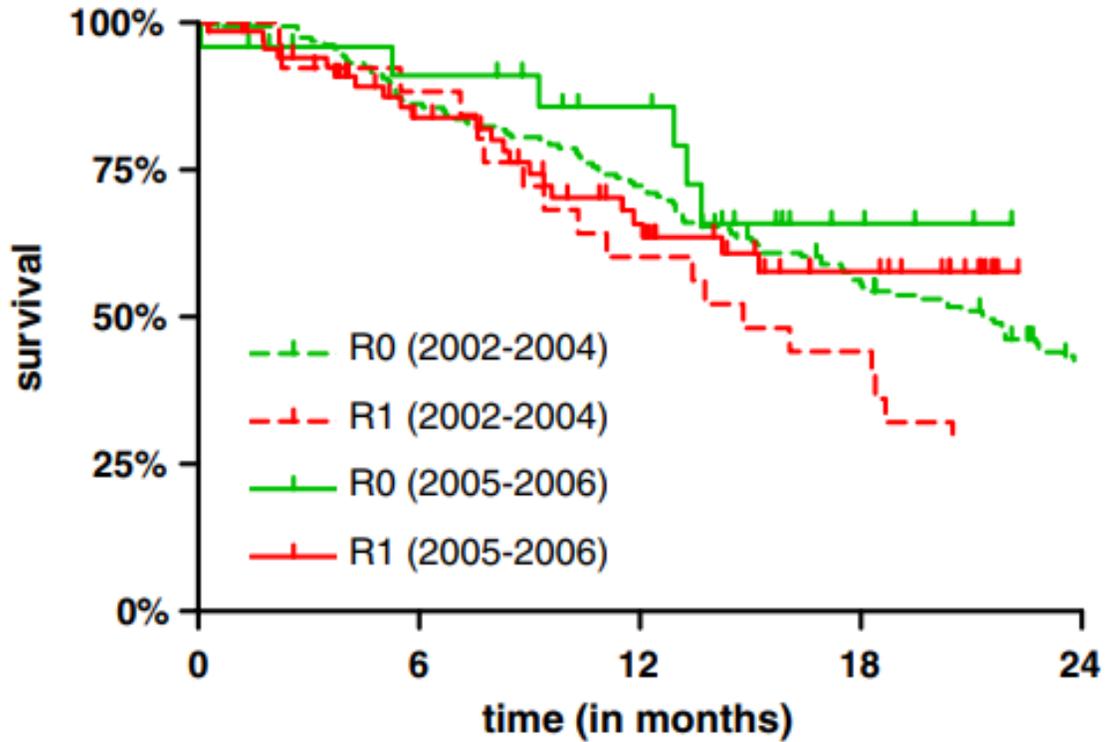
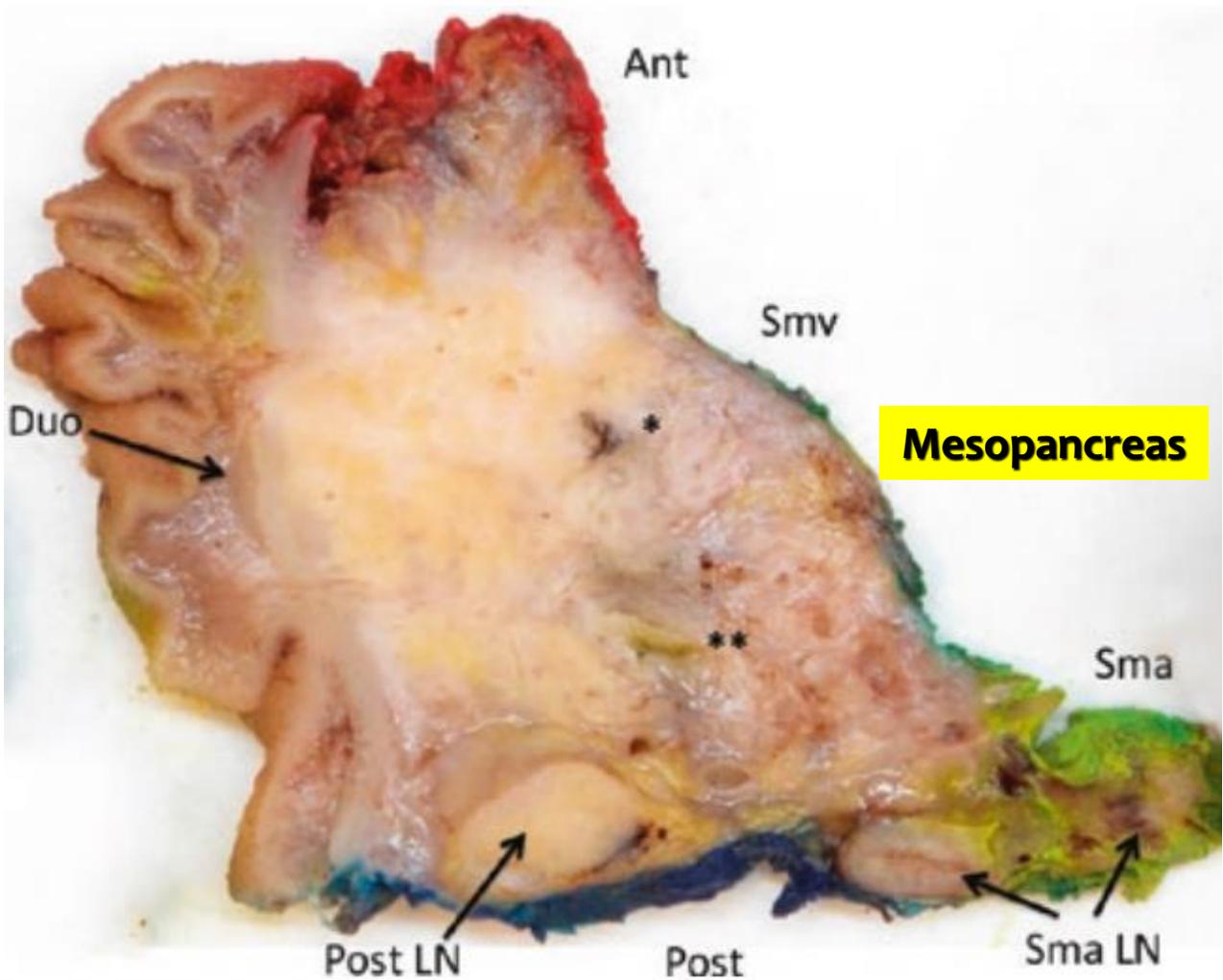
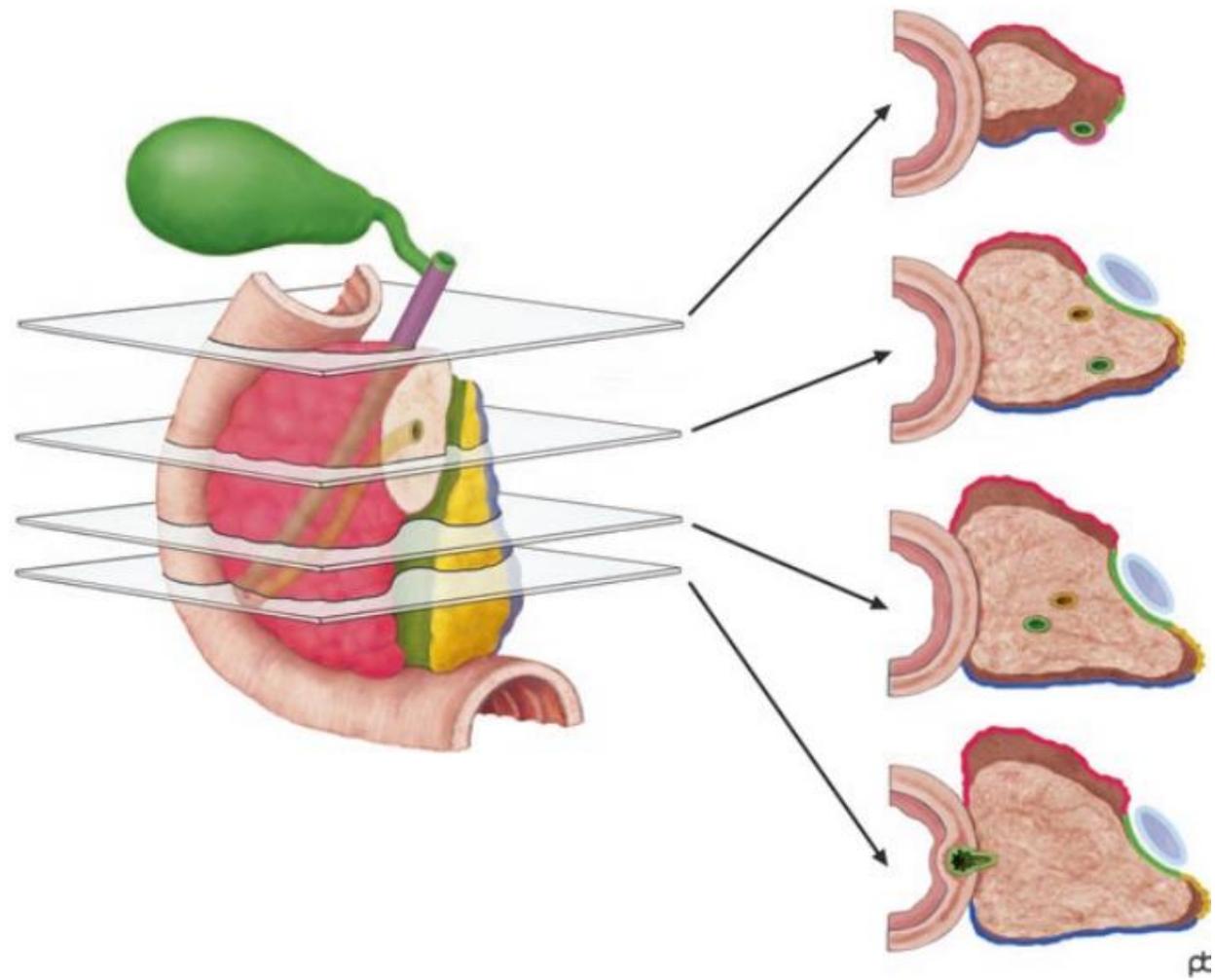


TABLE 3. Tumor margin characteristics of 111 consecutive macroscopic complete resections for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (2005–2006)

Characteristic	Value, n (%)
R classification	
R0	27 (24%)
R1	84 (76%)
RM involvement	
Posterior	39 (47%)
Medial	57 (68%)
Anterior surface	8 (10%)
Superior	0
Transection (pancreas)	3 (4%)
Bile duct	4 (5%)
Stomach/duodenum	3 (4%)
Number of margins	
1	56 (68%)
2	22 (26%)
3 or more	5 (6%)
Type of involvement	
Direct extension	78 (93%)
Locoregional spreading	6 (7%)

RM, resection margin.

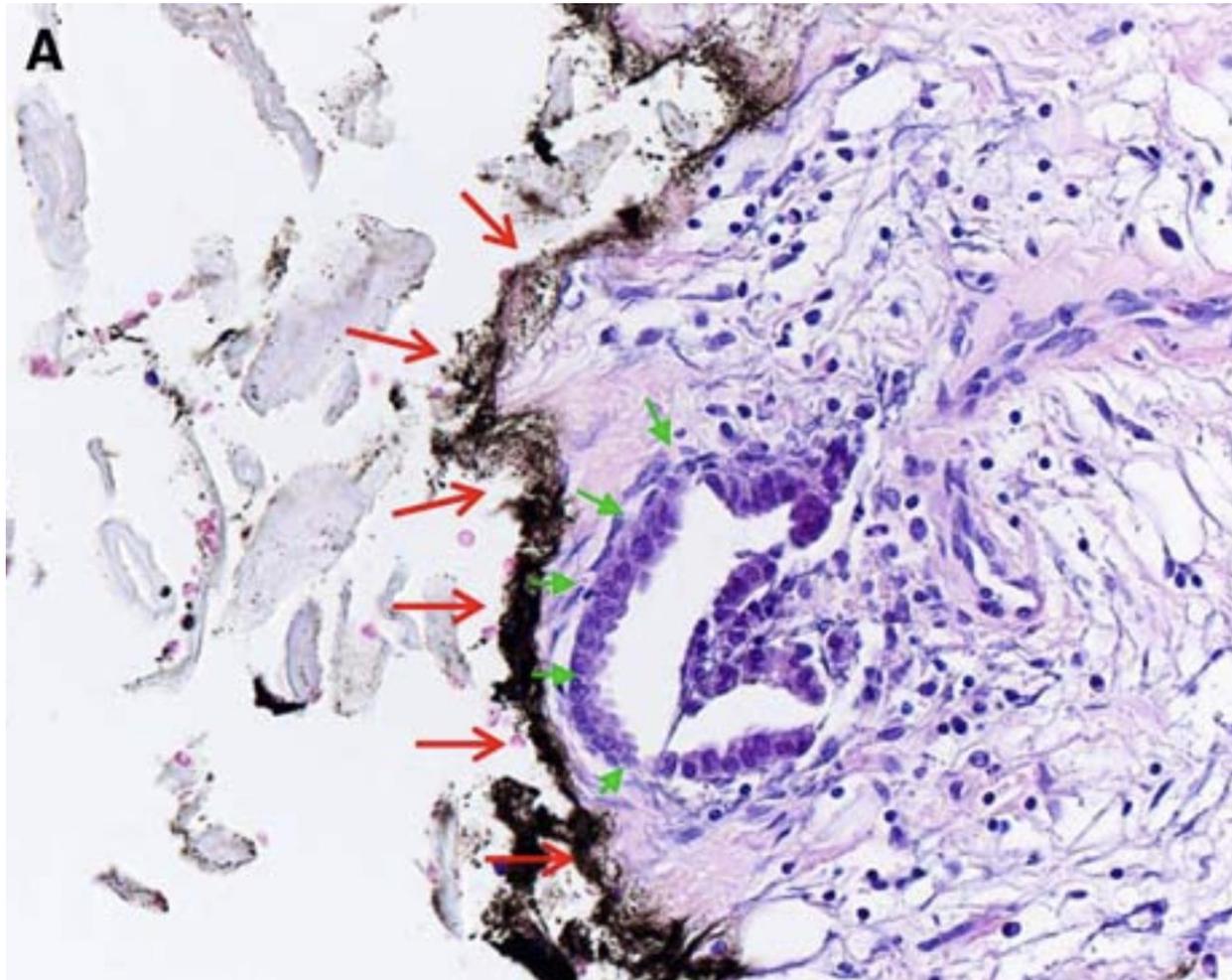
SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY



Superior mesenteric vein (SMV)
Superior mesenteric artery (SMA)

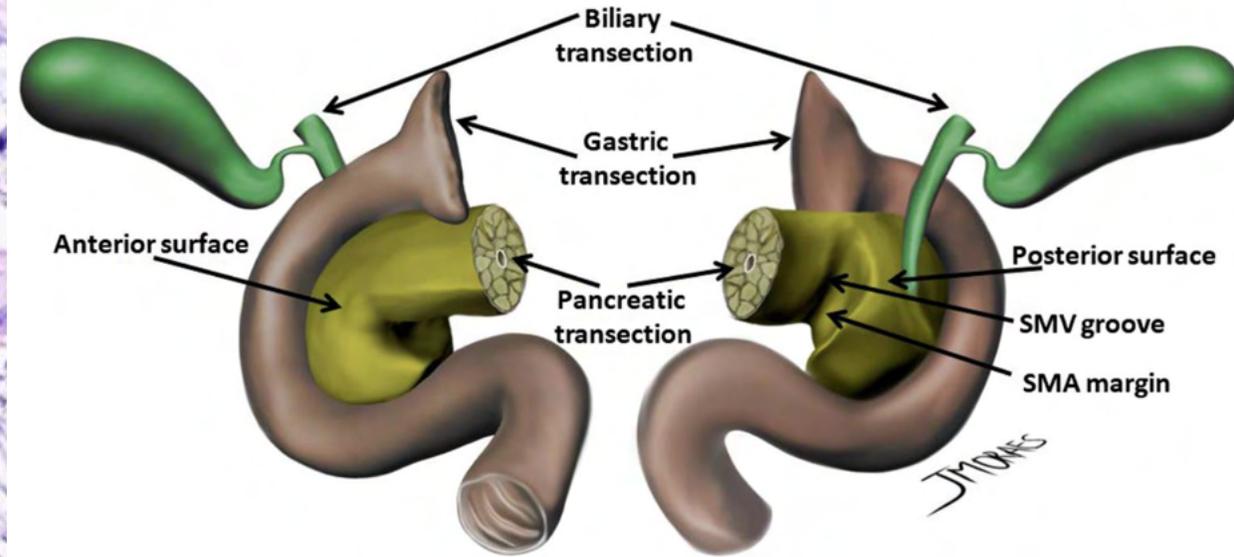
Most Pancreatic Cancer Resections are R1 Resections

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Esposito I, et al. Ann Surg Oncol 2008; 15:1651–60

Mesopancreas



Fernandes ESM, et al. Langenbeck's Arch Surg 2021

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY

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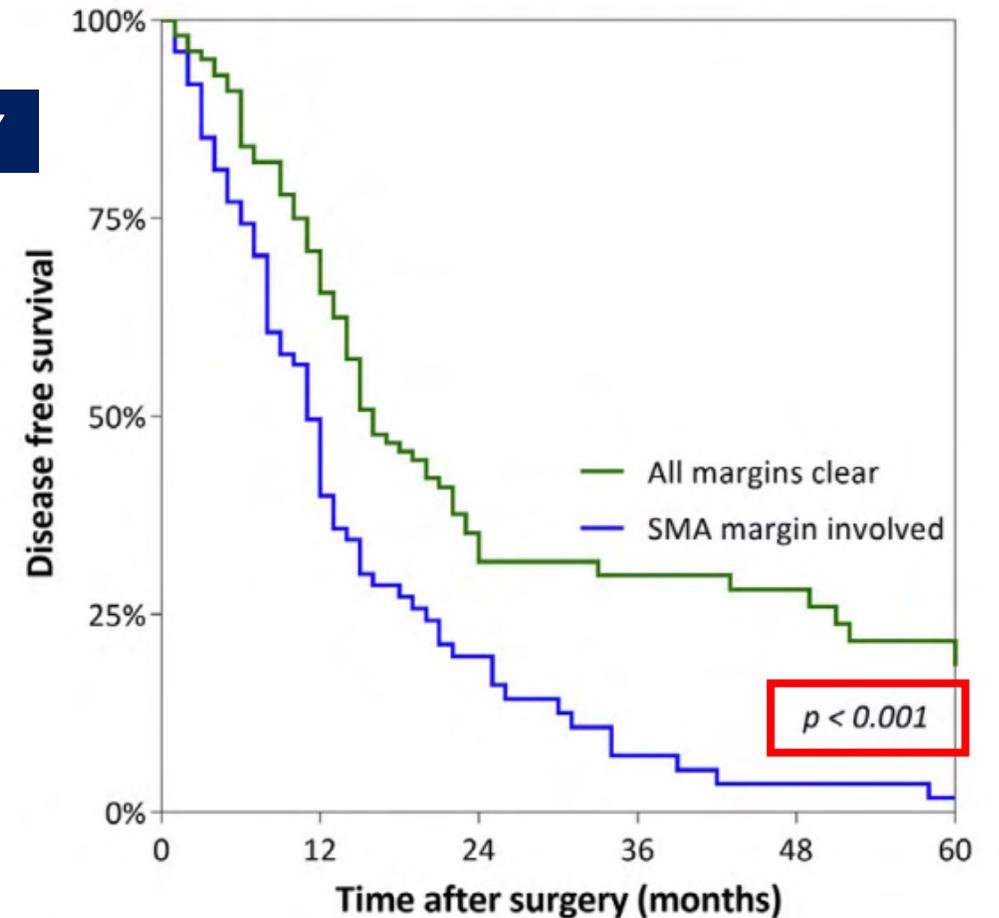
17th - 19th September 2025
Belgrade, Serbia

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Recurrence patterns of pancreatic cancer after pancreatoduodenectomy: systematic review and a single-centre retrospective study

d - SMA margin clearance & disease free survival

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY



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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Recurrence patterns of pancreatic cancer after pancreatoduodenectomy: systematic review and a single-centre retrospective study

Conclusion: Local recurrence of pancreatic cancer is common and associated with similar mortality rates as those who present with simultaneous or metastatic recurrence. Involvement of the SMA margin is an independent predictor for disease progression

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY



Optimal Lymphadenectomy of the Mesopancreas Based on Fluorescence Imaging During Pancreaticoduodenectomy

Ryota Matsuki¹ · Masanori Sugiyama² · Masaharu Kogure¹ · Masaaki Yokoyama³ · Tetsuya Nakazato¹ · Yutaka Suzuki¹ · Toshiyuki Mori¹ · Nobutsugu Abe¹ · Yoshihiro Sakamoto¹

SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY

Fig. 1 Lymphatic pathways from the pancreatic head. The first JA is taped. Fluorescence is seen in the mesentery of the IPDA and first JA (arrow), but not in that of the second JA or more distant

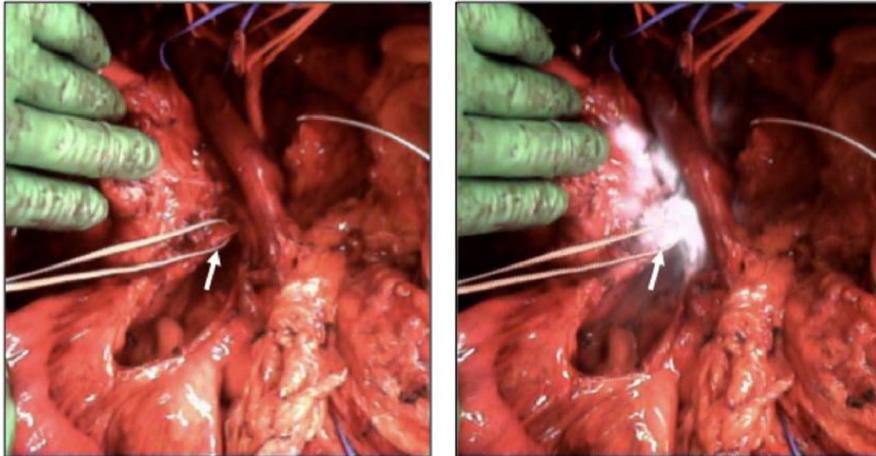


Table 2 Lymphatic pathways around the mesopancreas in the patients injected with ICG

No	Time after injection of ICG (min)	Mesentery along the IPDA-J1A	Mesentery along the J2A	Mesentery along the middle colic artery	Along the SMA
1	112	○	×	×	○
2	117	○	×	×	○
3	145	○	×	×	○
4	217	○	×	×	○
5	170	○	×	×	○
6	246	○	×	×	○
7	157	○	×	×	○
8	175	×	×	×	○
9	280	○	×	×	○
10	180	○	×	×	○

○: Positive staining

×: Negative staining

ICG indocyanine green, IPDA inferior pancreaticoduodenal artery, JA jejunal artery, SMA superior mesenteric artery

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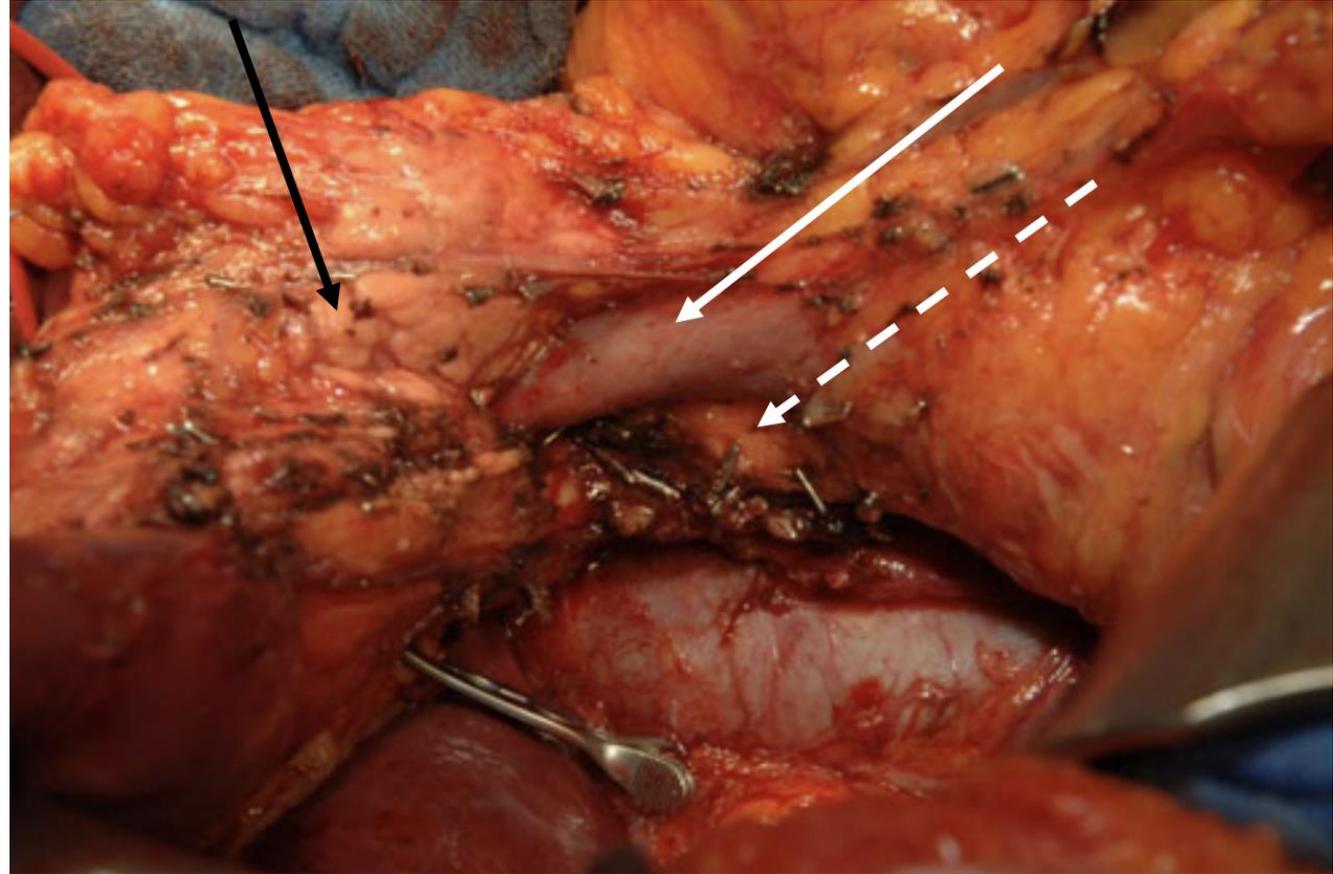


Langenbecks Arch Surg (2010) 395:1161–1164
DOI 10.1007/s00423-010-0663-9

HOW TO DO IT

ARTERY FIRST

Uncinate process first—a novel approach for pancreatic head resection



Hackert T, et al. Langenbecks Arch Surg 2010; 395:1161–4

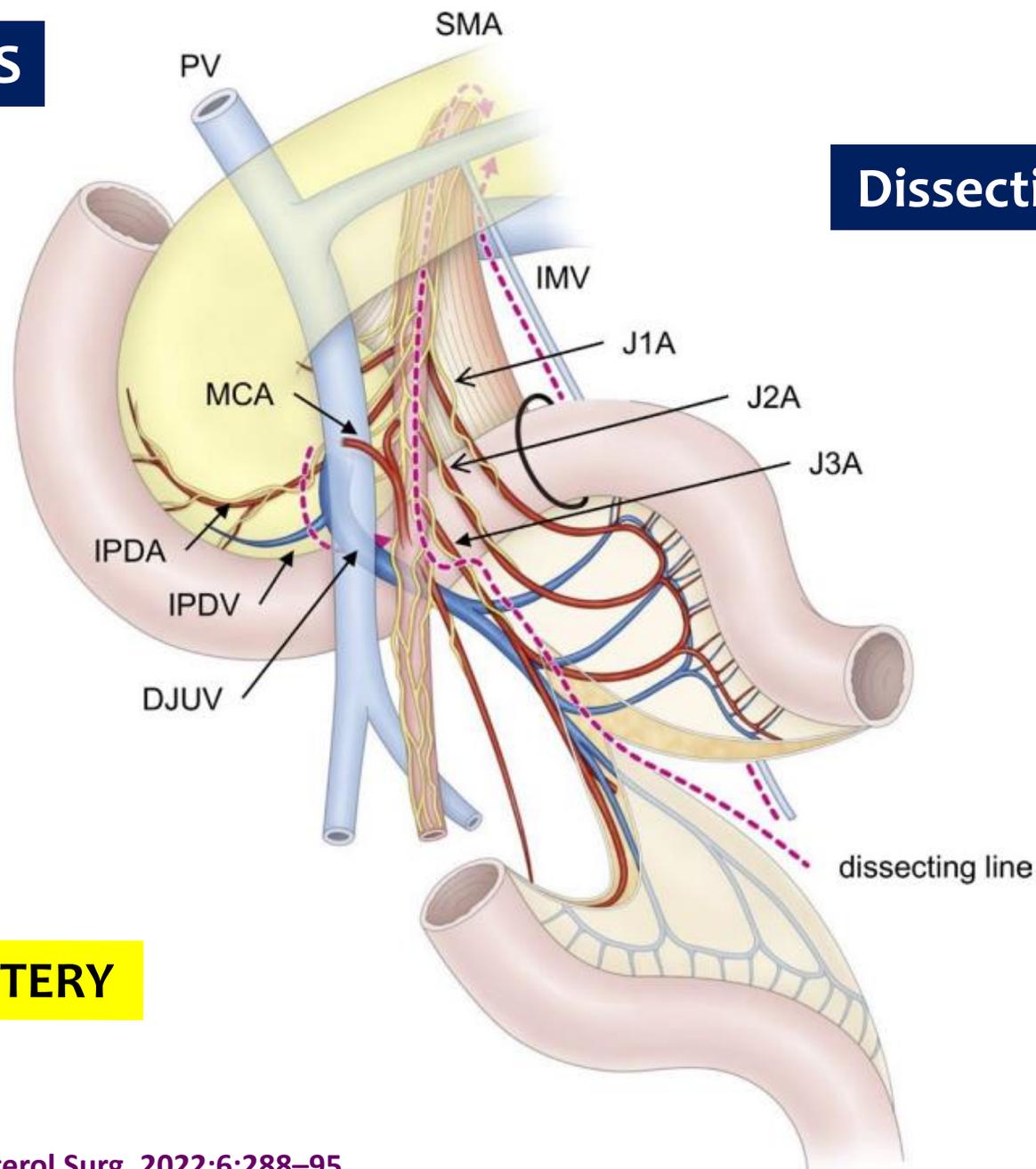
UNCINATE FIRST

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MESOPANCREAS

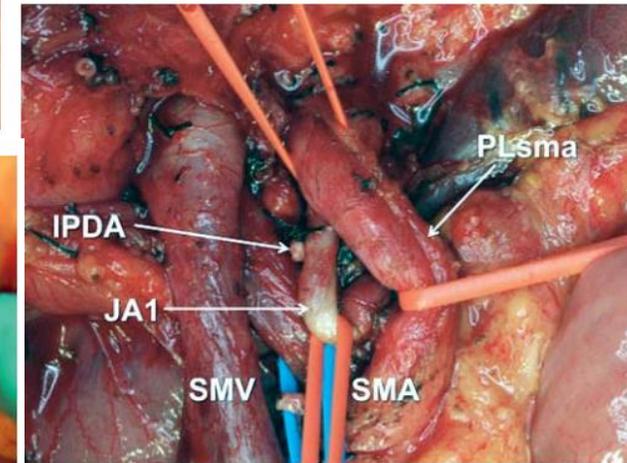
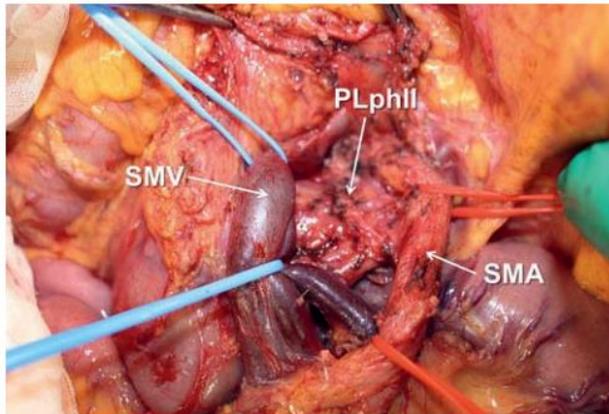
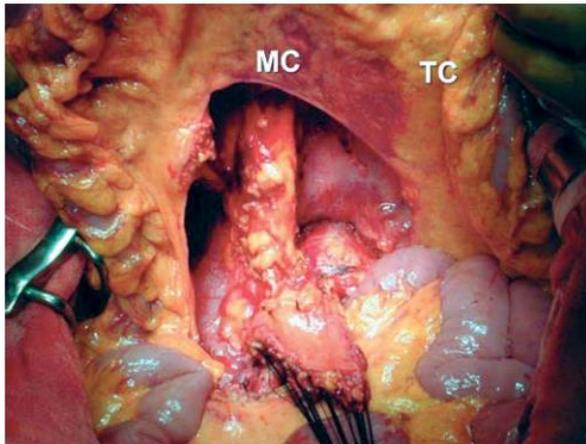
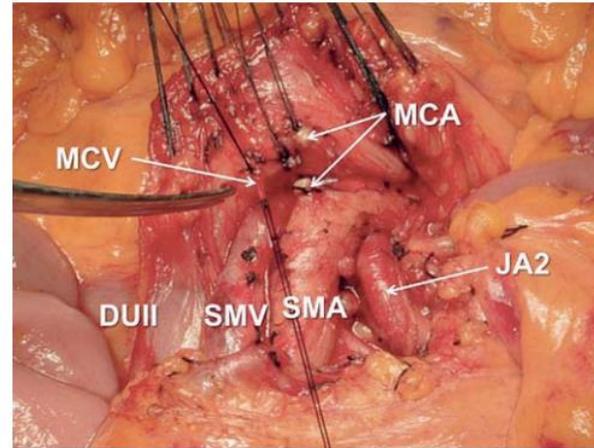
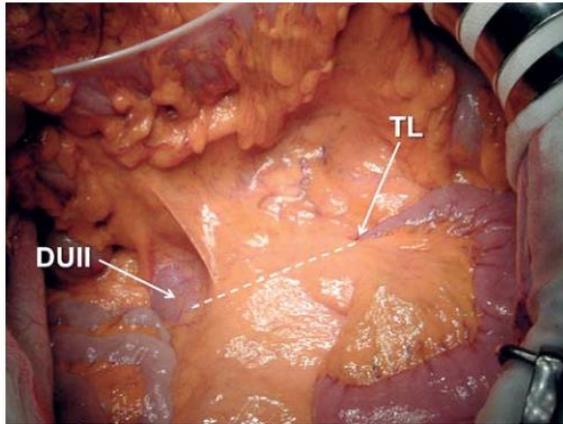


Dissecting line

FIRST JEJUNAL ARTERY

Honjo M, et al. *Ann Gastroenterol Surg.* 2022;6:288–95.

The Mesenteric Approach in Pancreatoduodenectomy



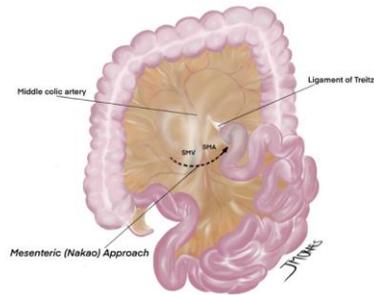
MESENTERIC APPROACH

A more radical perspective on surgical approach and outcomes in pancreatic cancer—a narrative review

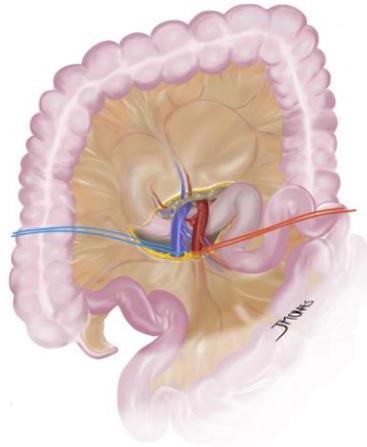
MESENTERIC APPROACH

Eduardo de Souza M. Fernandes^{1,2,3}, Felipe Pedreira T. de Mello^{1,2}, Eduardo Pinho Braga¹, Gabrielle Oliveira de Souza¹, Ronaldo Andrade^{1,2}, Leandro Savatone Pimentel^{1,2}, Camila Liberato Girão^{1,2}, Munique Siqueira^{1,2}, José Maria A. Moraes-Junior^{6,7}, Romulo Varella de Oliveira⁴, Nicolas Goldaracena⁵, Orlando Jorge M. Torres^{6,7}

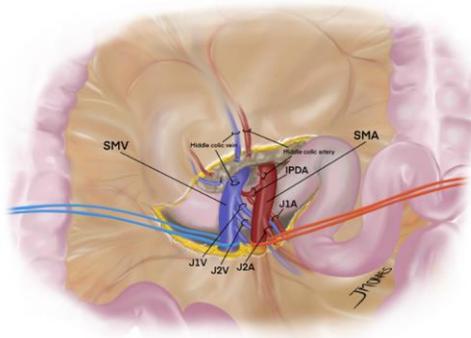
A



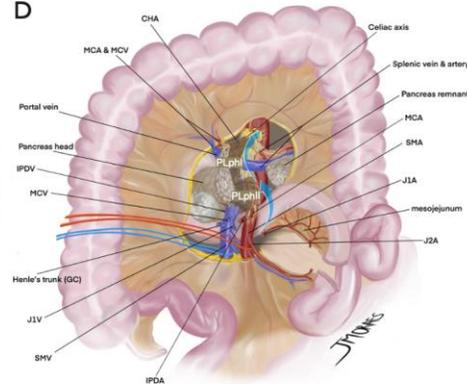
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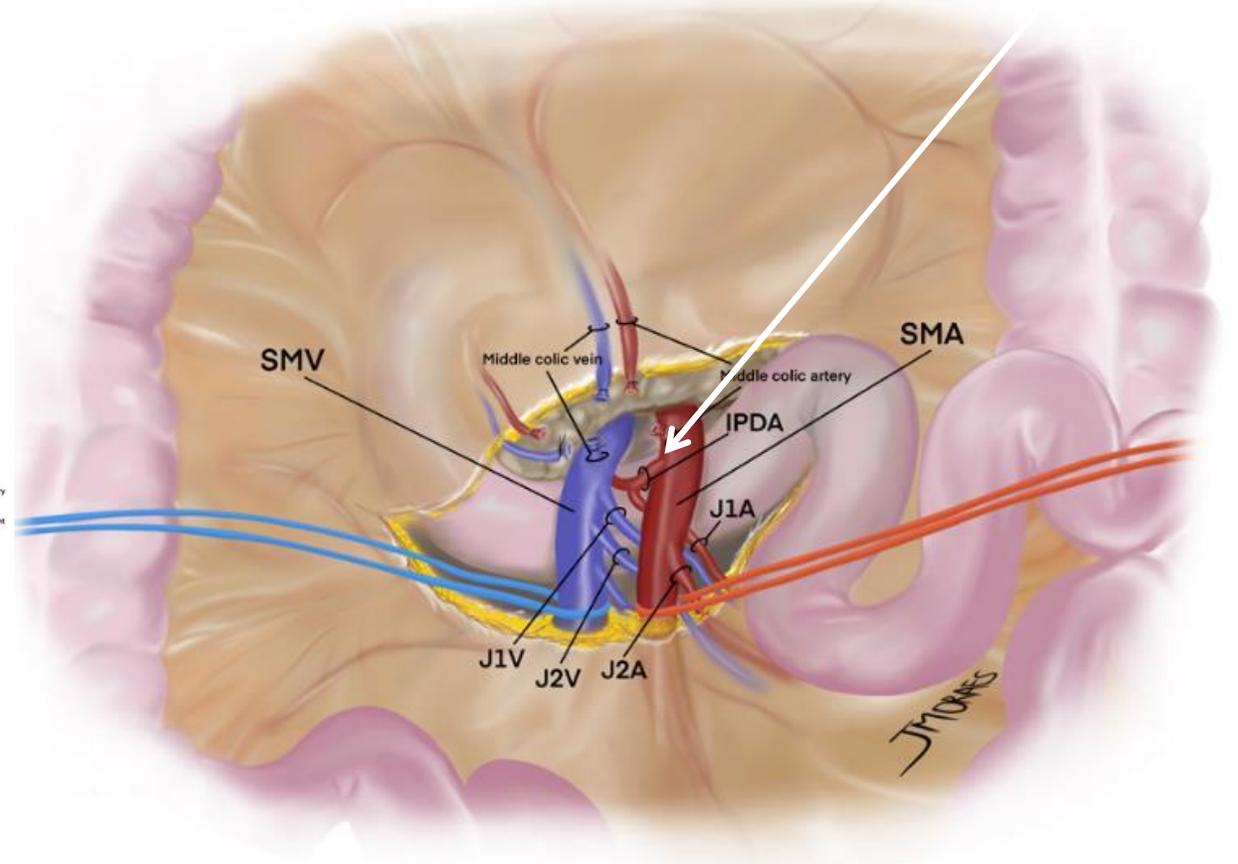
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D



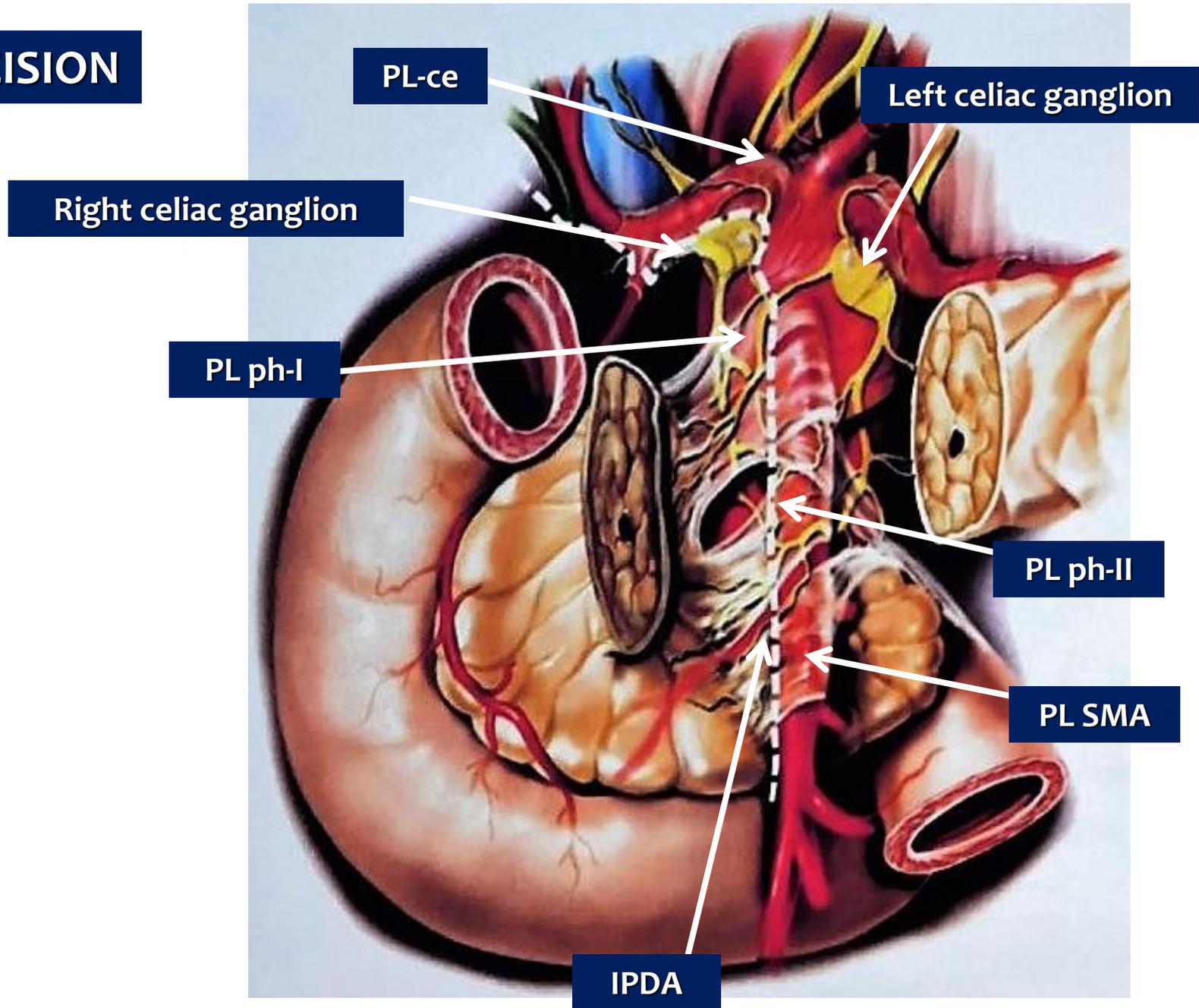
Inferior pancreaticoduodenal artery (IPDA)



TOTAL MESOPANCREAS EXCISION

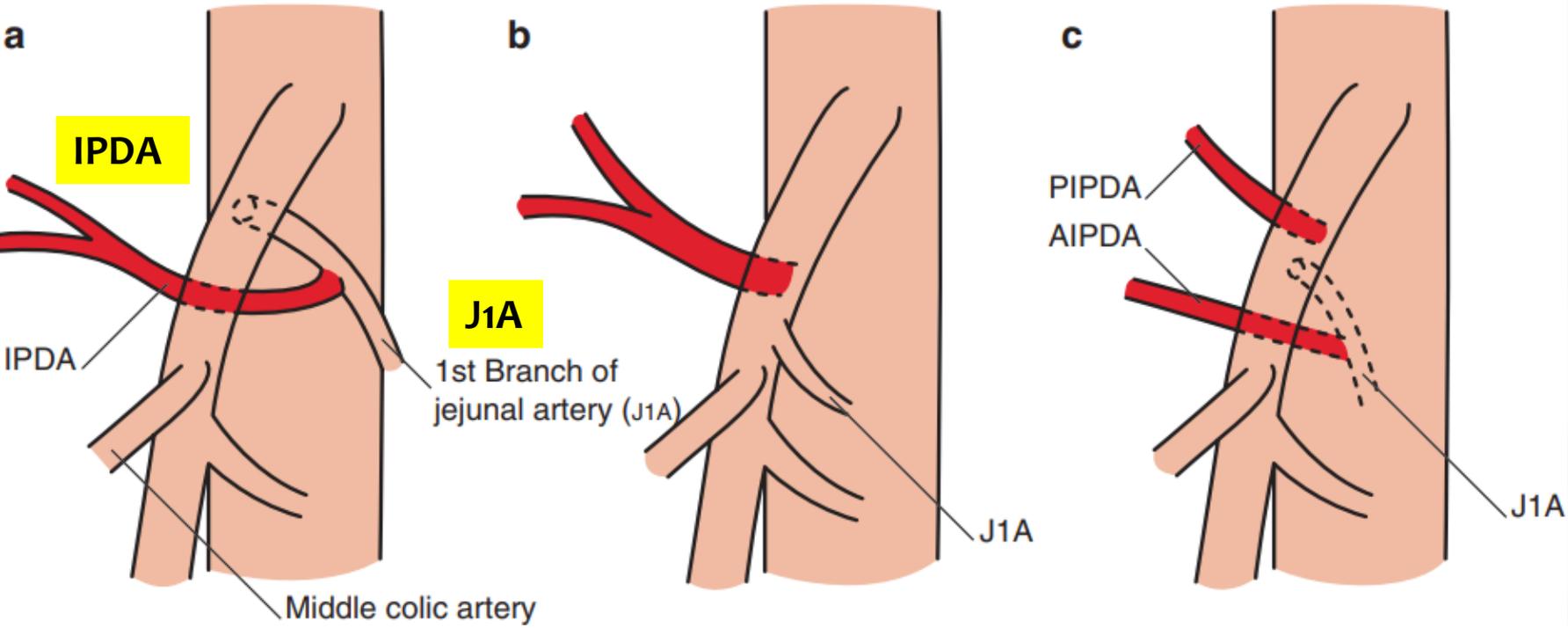
MESOPANCREAS

- PLPh-I
- PLPh-II
- IPDA
- Jejunal arteries
- Jejunal veins
- Lymph nodes



ARTERIES

INFERIOR PANCREATODUODENAL ARTERY (IPDA)



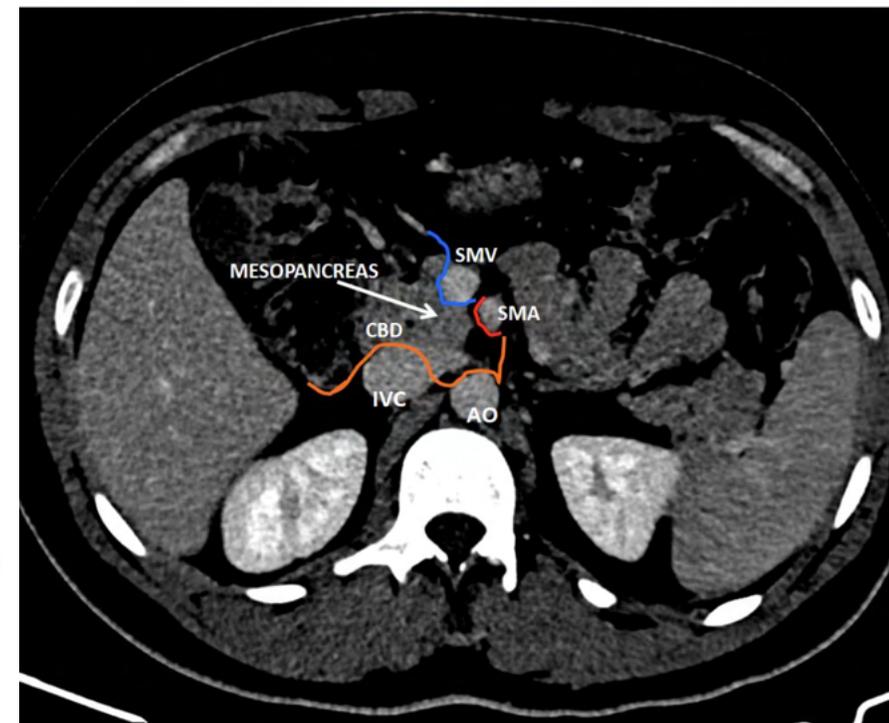
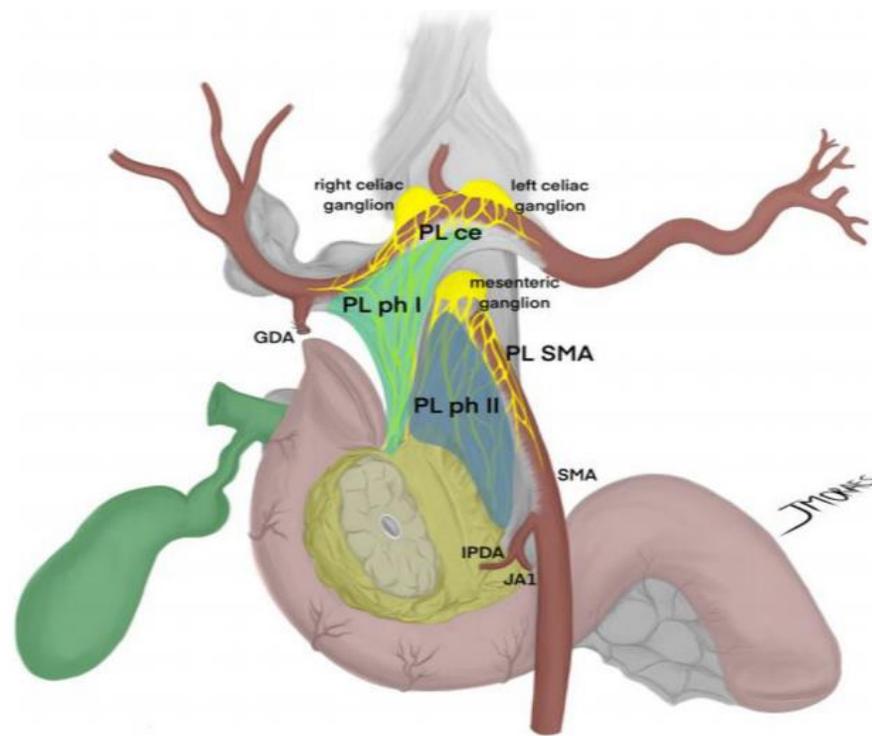
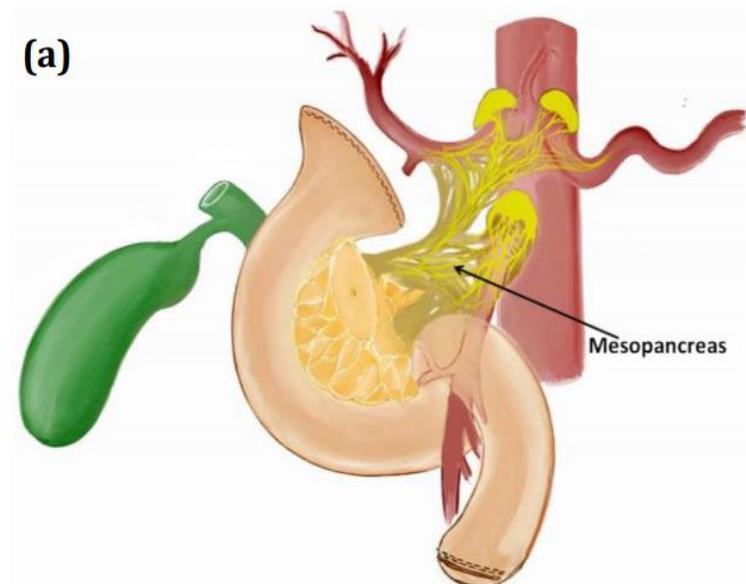
Common trunk

EPICENTER



What do surgeons need to know about the mesopancreas

Eduardo de Souza M. Fernandes^{1,2} · Oliver Strobel^{3,4} · Camila Girão^{1,2} · Jose Maria A. Moraes-Junior^{5,6} · Orlando Jorge M. Torres^{5,6} 



PANCREATIC HEAD PLEXUS (PL ph)

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ADVANTAGES OF ARTERY FIRST APPROACH

Table 3 Advantages of the artery-first approach (SHARMA) [35]

1. Resection without breaching the tumor extension plane, thereby minimizing cell spillage
2. Increases curative (R0) resection, decreases local recurrence
3. Complete resection of peripancreatic retroperitoneal tissue around the plexuses
4. Increased lymph nodal clearance
5. Early assessment of non-resectability (SMA involvement), avoiding useless R2 resections
6. Better delineation of SMA and identification of RHA anomalies
7. Easier en bloc resection and reconstruction of SMV-PV by “no touch” technique
8. Reduced need for graft substitutions
9. Reduced operative time and blood loss (early ligation of IPDA/JA1)

Superior mesenteric artery

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ARTERY FIRST

International Journal of Surgery 73 (2020) 14–24



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International Journal of Surgery

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijso



Review

Superior mesenteric artery first approach can improve the clinical outcomes of pancreaticoduodenectomy: A meta-analysis



- Higher R0 resection rate ($p < 0.001$)
- Lower local recurrence rate ($p < 0.0001$)
- Higher overall survival:
 - 1-year $p=0.015$
 - 2-year $p=0.005$
 - 3-year $p=0.001$

Meta-analysis - 18 studies

Complete Lymphadenectomy Around the Entire Superior Mesenteric Artery Improves Survival in Artery-First Approach Pancreatoduodenectomy for T3 Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

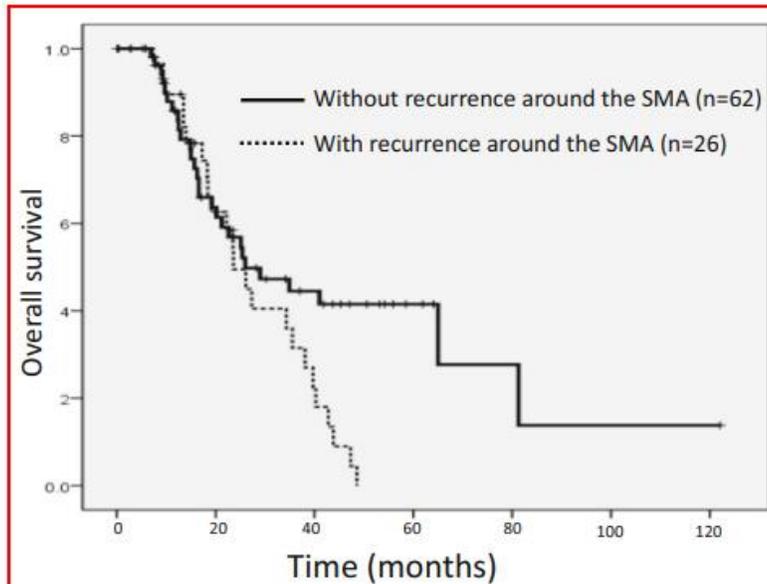


Fig. 1 Overall survival according to recurrence around the SMA. The median survival was 23.6 months in patients with recurrence around the SMA and 26 months in patients without recurrence around the SMA ($p = 0.0367$) SMA: superior mesenteric artery

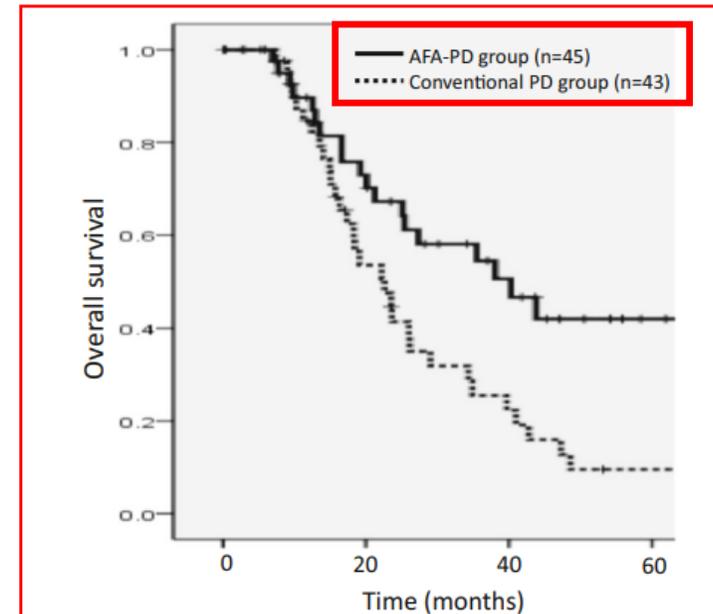


Fig. 2 Overall survival according to the type of the surgery. The median survival was 40.3 months in the AFA-PD group and 22.6 months in the conventional PD group ($p = 0.005$) AFA-PD: artery-first approach pancreatoduodenectomy

40.3 months vs 22.6 months ($p= 0.005$)

OVERALL SURVIVAL

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PANCREATIC HEAD PLEXUS (PL ph)

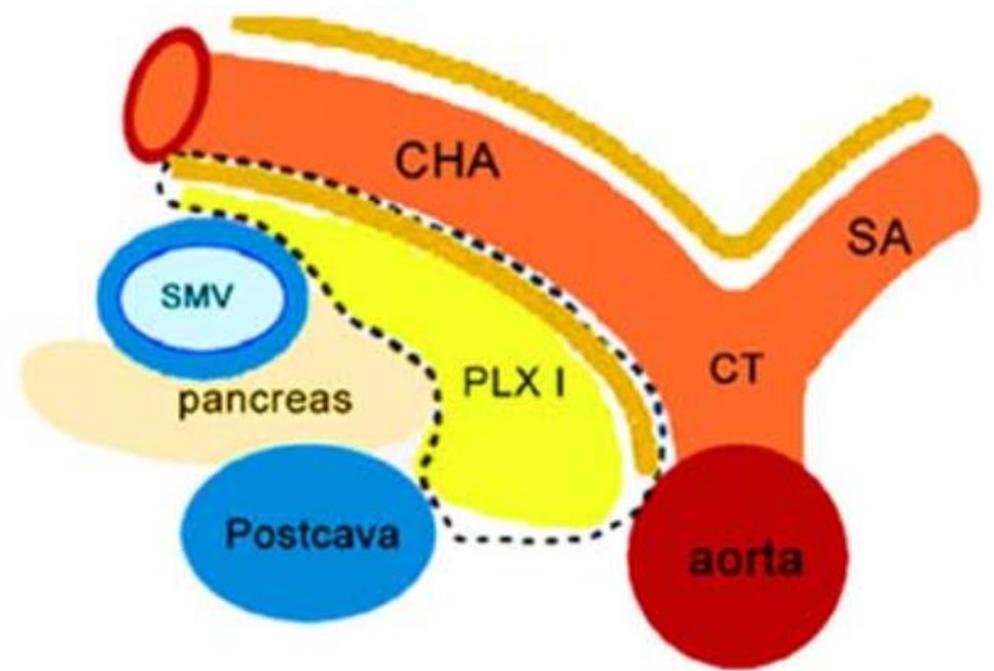
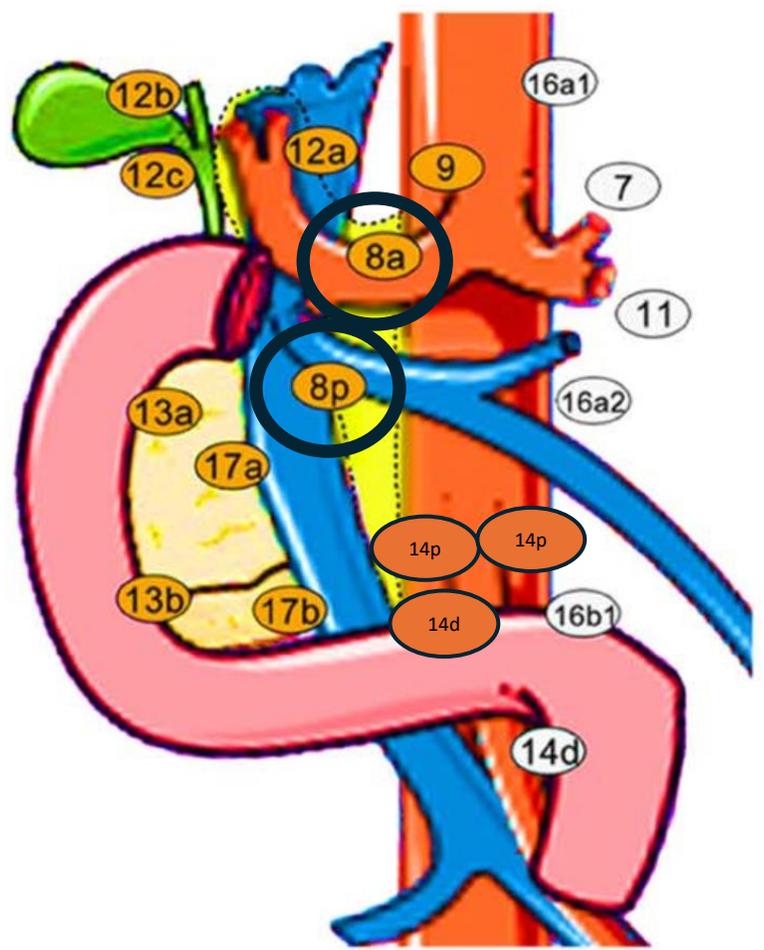
ARTERY FIRST

COMMON HEPATIC ARTERY LYMPH NODES

□8a

□8p

A



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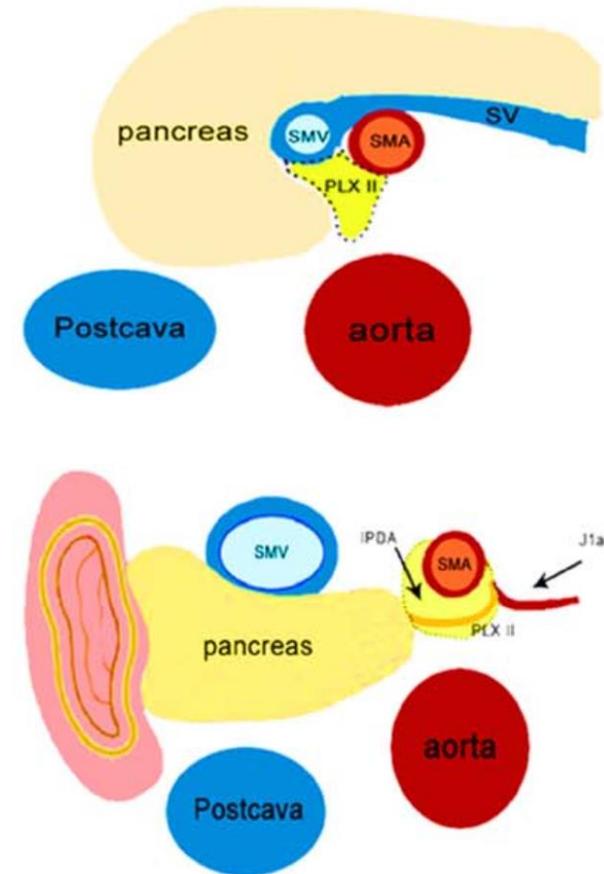
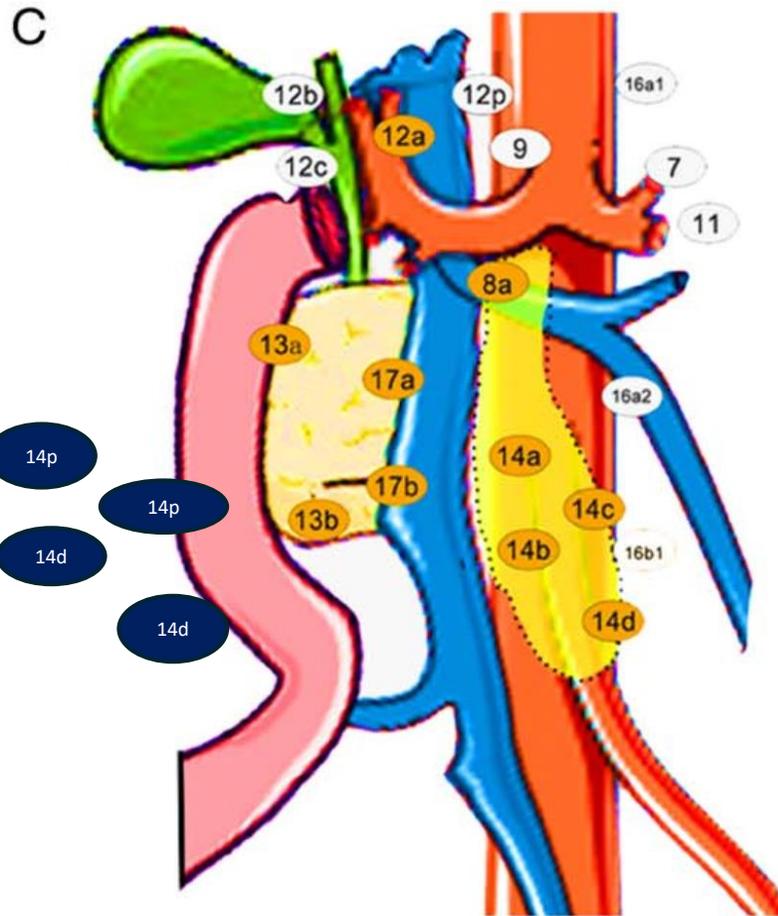
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SUPERIOR MESENTERIC ARTERY LYMPH NODES

□14p

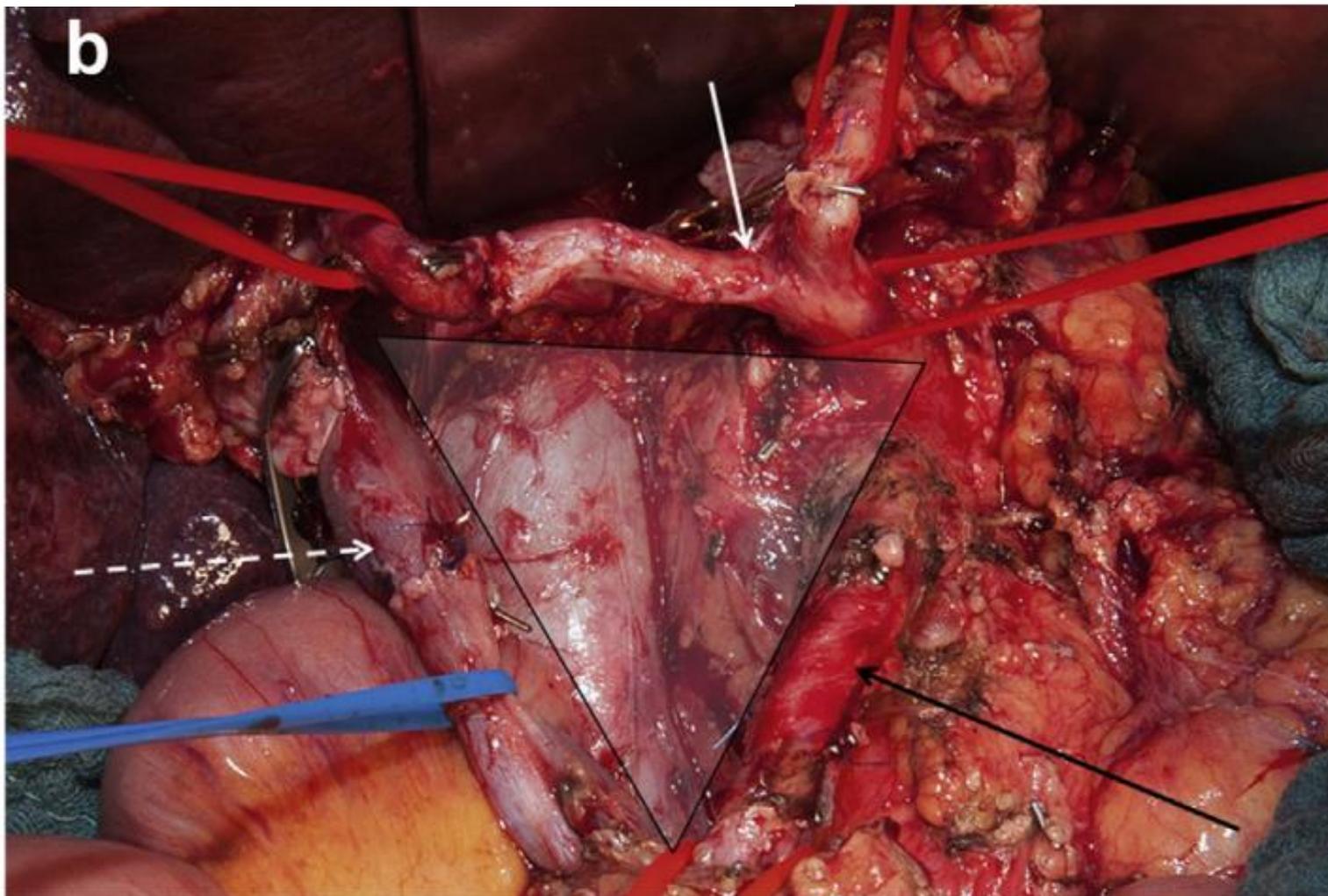
□14d



Guo X, et al. Int J Surg 2023.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The TRIANGLE operation – radical surgery after neoadjuvant treatment for advanced pancreatic cancer: a single arm observational study



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REVIEW ARTICLE

A systematic review of the role of periadventitial dissection of the superior mesenteric artery in affecting margin status after pancreatoduodenectomy for pancreatic adenocarcinoma

James R. Butler¹, Syed A. Ahmad², Matthew H. Katz³, Jessica L. Cioffi¹ & Nicholas J. Zyromski¹

¹Indiana University School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Indianapolis IN, ²The University of Cincinnati Cancer Institute, Cincinnati OH, and ³Department of Surgical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

- ❑ R0 resection 16–79%
- ❑ SMA most often positive (15–45%)
- ❑ Positive margin was associated with decreased survival.

Conclusions: Margin positivity in resectable pancreatic adenocarcinoma is associated with poor survival. Inability to clear the SMA margin is the most common cause of incomplete resection.

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-

ARTERY FIRST

LYMPHATICS

Lymph node stations pancreatic cancer

□ Hepatoduodenal ligament
12a, 12b1, 12b2, 12p, 12c

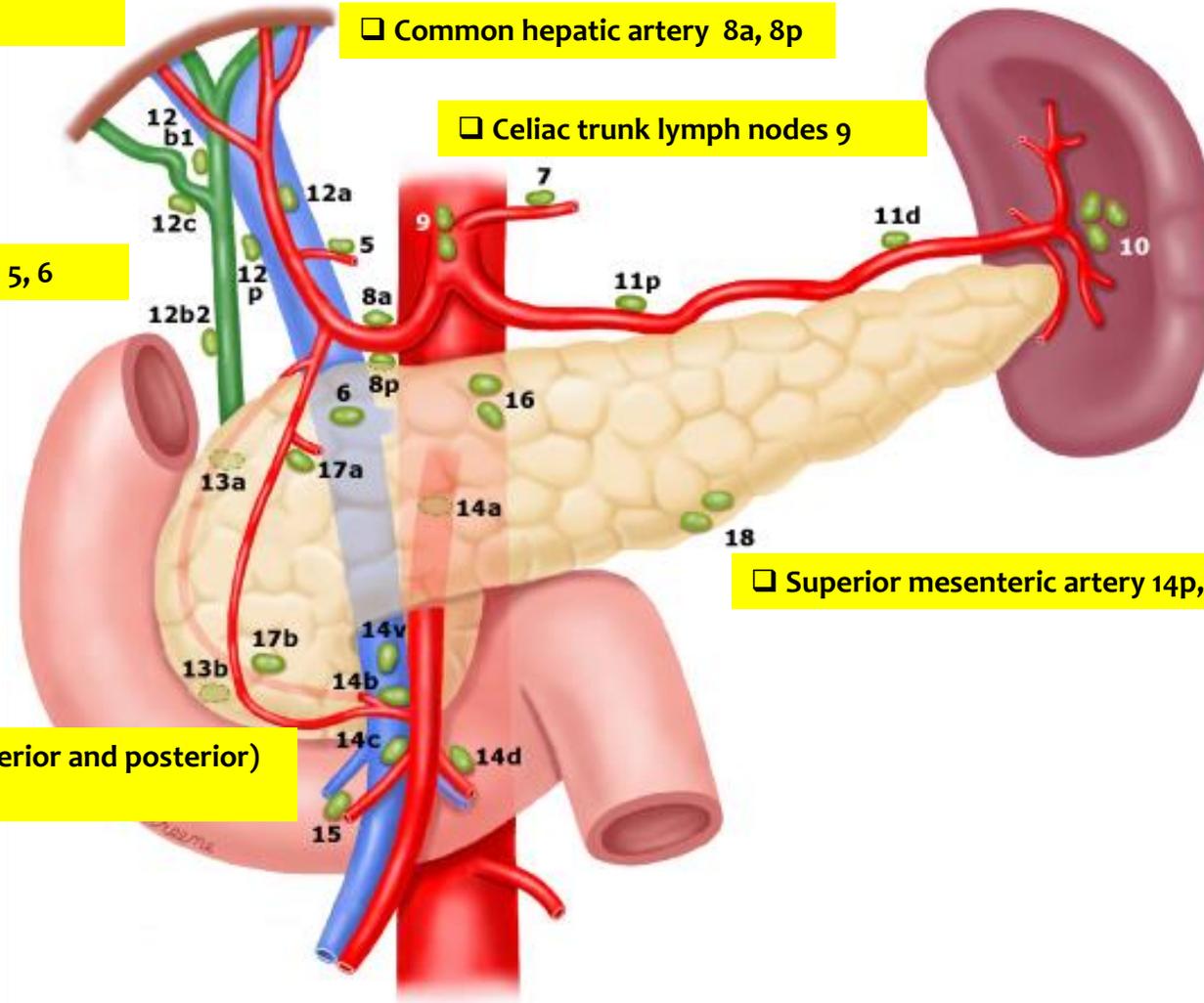
□ Common hepatic artery 8a, 8p

□ Celiac trunk lymph nodes 9

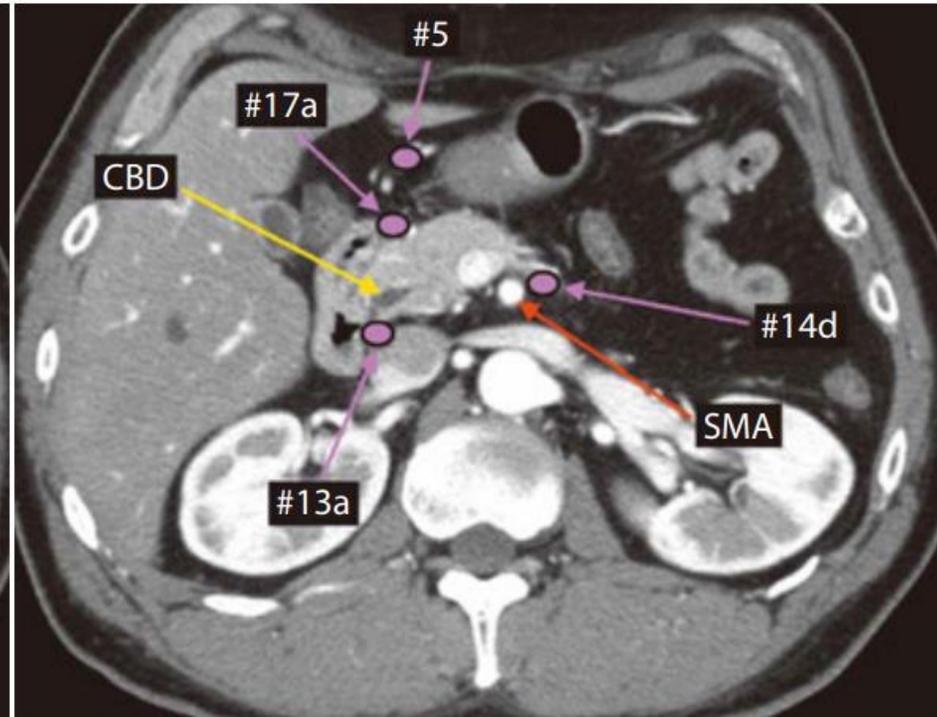
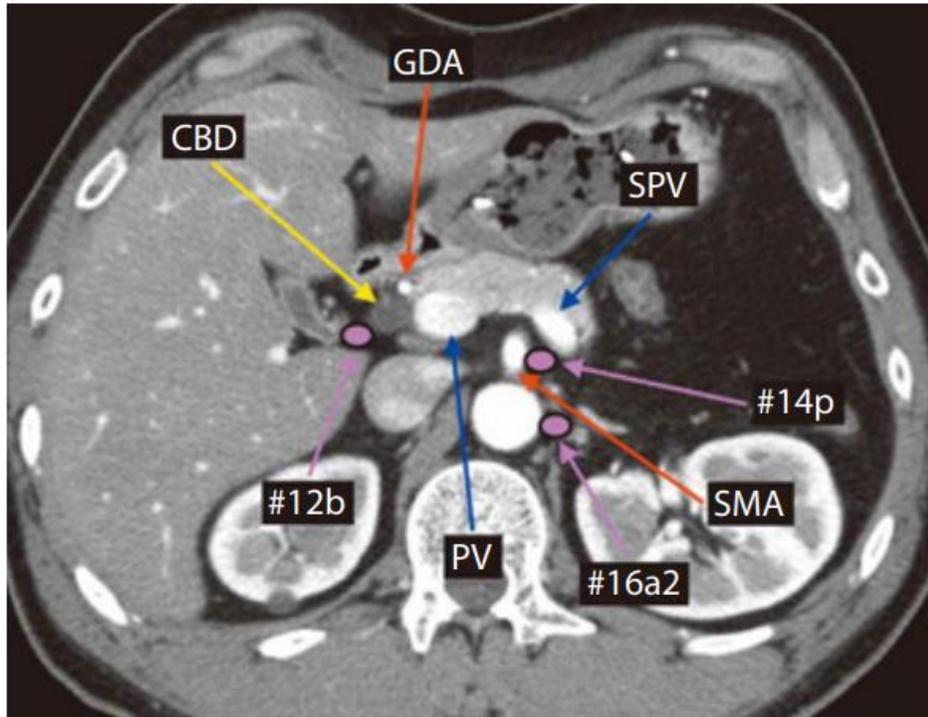
□ Pyloric 5, 6

□ Superior mesenteric artery 14p, 14d

□ Pancreatoduodenal (anterior and posterior)
13a, 13b, 17a, 17b



LYMPHADENECTOMY



14p, 14d

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Complete Lymphadenectomy Around the Entire Superior Mesenteric Artery Improves Survival in Artery-First Approach Pancreatoduodenectomy for T3 Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma

ARTERY FIRST

Table 2 Comparison of perioperative and oncological outcomes between the AFA-PD group and the conventional PD group

	AFA-PD group	Conventional PD group	<i>P</i>
	<i>n</i> = 45	<i>n</i> = 43	
Operative time, median (range), min	443 (390–497)	467 (414–530)	0.1312
Intraoperative blood loss, median (range), mL	811 (520–1150)	899 (720–1443)	0.0210
Transfusion, <i>n</i> (%)	19 (42.2)	22 (51.2)	0.5178
Portal vein resection, <i>n</i> (%)	12 (26.7)	13 (30.2)	0.8147
Postoperative complications, ≥ grade IIIa, <i>n</i> (%)	3 (6.7)	5 (11.6)	0.4794
Curative resection R0, <i>n</i> (%)	35 (77.8)	28 (65.1)	0.3423
No. harvested lymph nodes, median (range)	23 (14–37)	19 (12–22)	0.0165
No. harvested lymph nodes of #14p, median (range)	4 (2–5)	1 (0–3)	< 0.001
No. harvested lymph nodes of #14d, median (range)	4 (2–5)	2 (0–3)	0.0146
Lymph node metastasis, <i>n</i> (%)	27 (60)	30 (69.8)	0.3376

Bold values are statistically significant (*p* < 0.05)

AFA-PD - Artery first approach pancreatoduodenectomy

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ARTERY FIRST

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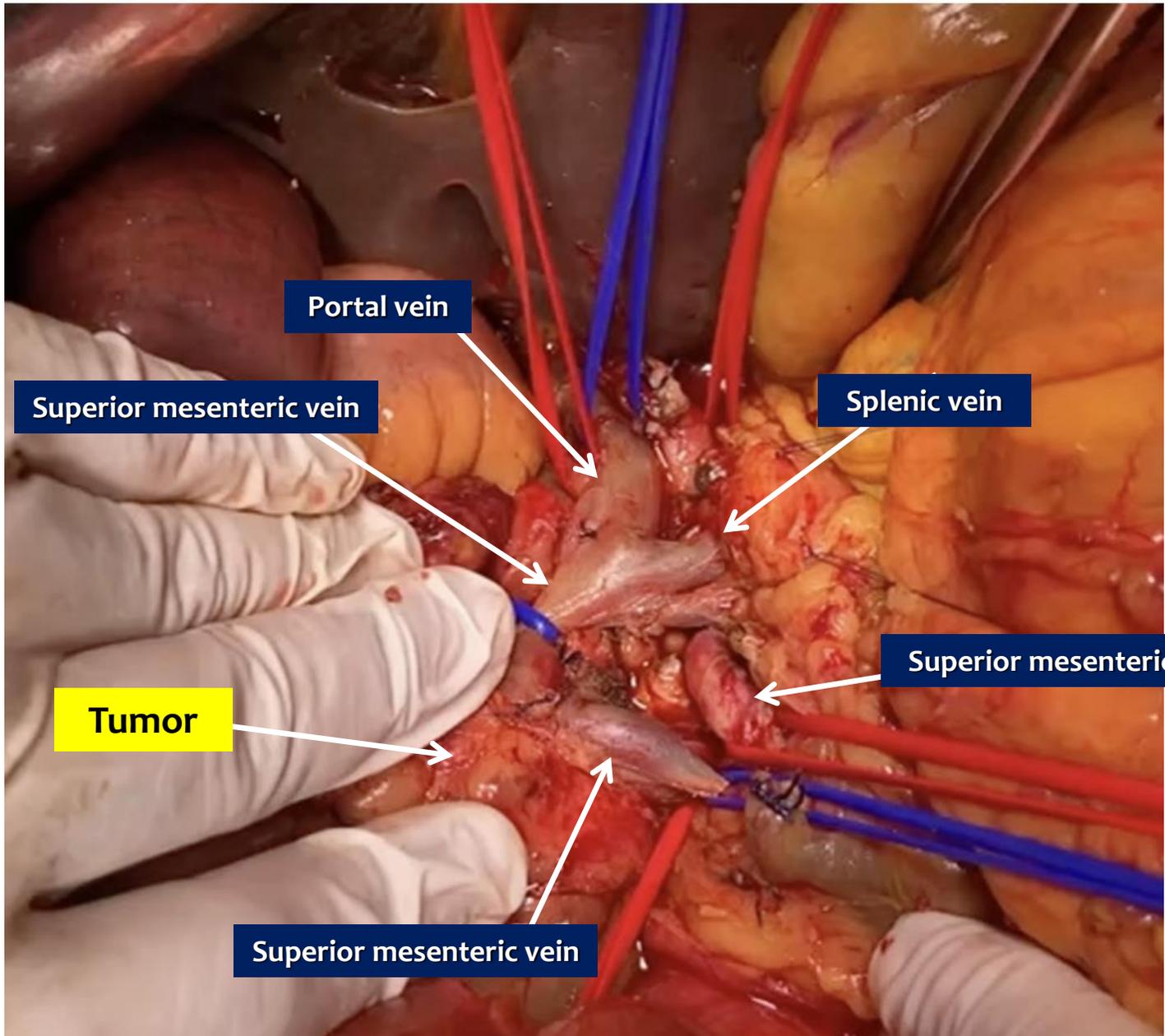


VASCULAR RESECTION

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VEIA PORTA/VEIA MESENTÉRICA SUPERIOR



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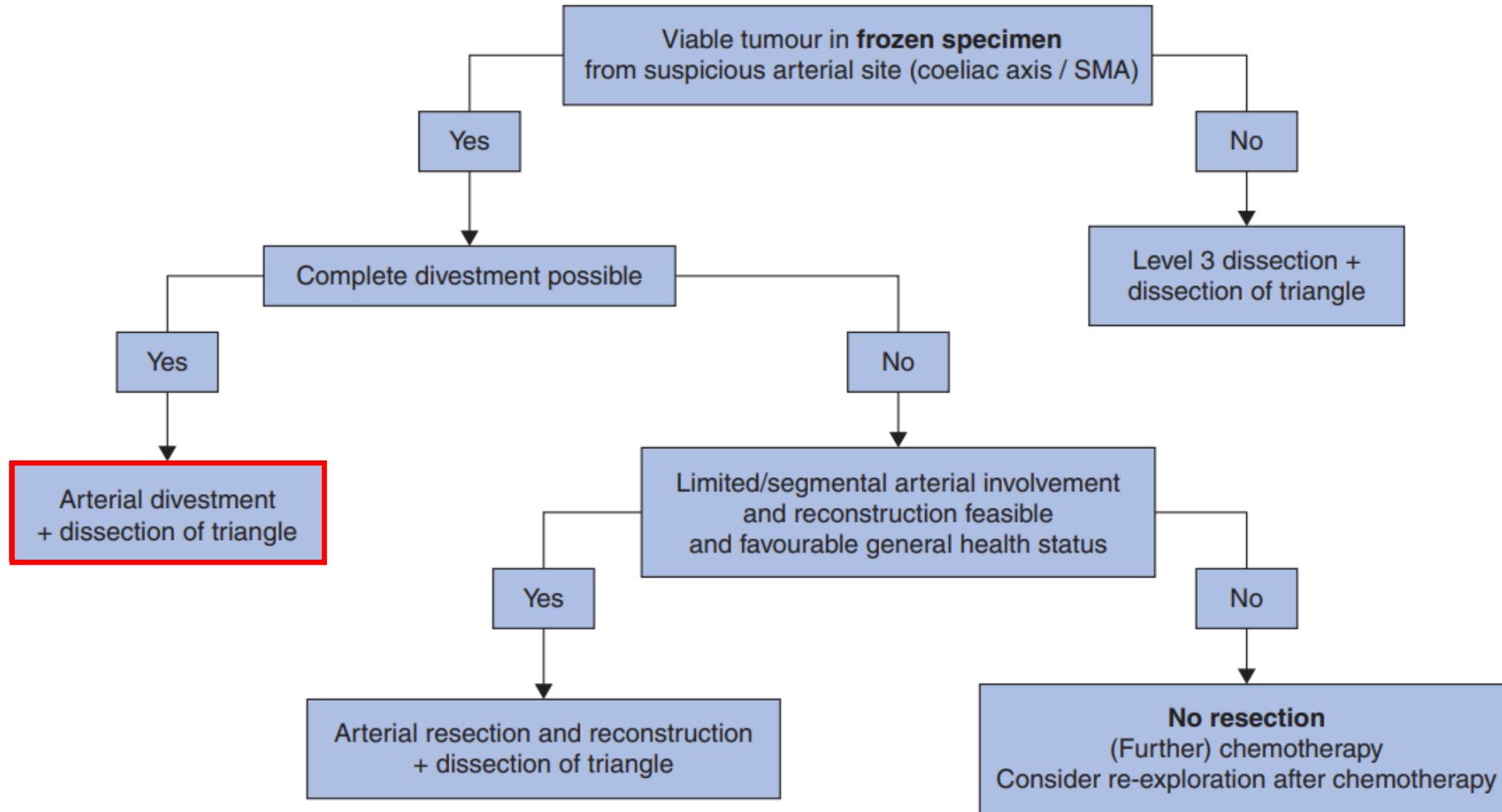


Table 3 Advantages of the artery-first approach (SHARMA) [35]

1. Resection without breaching the tumor extension plane, thereby minimizing cell spillage
2. Increases curative (R0) resection, decreases local recurrence
3. Complete resection of peripancreatic retroperitoneal tissue around the plexuses
4. Increased lymph nodal clearance
5. Early assessment of non-resectability (SMA involvement), avoiding useless R2 resections
6. Better delineation of SMA and identification of RHA anomalies
7. Easier en bloc resection and reconstruction of SMV-PV by “no touch” technique
8. Reduced need for graft substitutions
9. Reduced operative time and blood loss (early ligation of IPDA/JA1)

MENOR TEMPO OPERATÓRIO

DIVESTMENT



Contemporary artery-first approaches in pancreatoduodenectomy

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Conclusions

In modern pancreatic surgery, a thorough understanding of the various AFAs is of paramount importance, especially in advanced pancreatic head cancers or after neoadjuvant chemotherapy.

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Thanks!

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