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# Cryosurgery for Isolated Liver Tumors or Associated with Complex Liver Resection: A Series of 38 Patients

L. P. Mosoia[1], Th. Artenie[1], R. Petrescu[1], M. Bogdan[2], I. Câmpeanu[3]
[1]1st Department of General Surgery, Central University Emergency Military Hospital "Dr. Carol Davila", Bucharest, Romania
[2]Department of Surgery, Life Memorial Hospital, Bucharest, Romania
[3]Department of Surgery, "St. Mary" Hospital, Bucharest, Romania

**Abstract**
*Background:* The aim of this prospective study is to assess the outcomes of cryosurgery for liver tumors, as a single treatment or associated to liver resections in conjunction or not with other visceral resections.
*Material and Methods:* Between 2001 and 2011, in our institution, 70 hepatic tumors have been treated through cryosurgery in 38 patients. Complications and survival were assessed,
according to different types of hepatic tumors and treatment complexity.
*Results:* Operative mortality within 1 month was 2.6% related to cryosurgery. The median follow up was 25.8 months (range from 0-41.85 months). The number of complications was associated to complex treatment. The morbidity, mortality, disease-free and overall survival rates were not statistically significantly different between the different types of tumors (p value > 0.05). The median disease free survival was 9.5 months, with cryosite recurrent disease in 21.5% patients, and 28.9% recurrences in other liver sites.
*Conclusion:* Cryotherapy, single or associated with liver resections combined or not with other visceral resections is an effective procedure. The antitumoral effects of treatment were demonstrated, but complications and high local recurrence rate, especially in patients with extensive disease, should caution against its use.
**Key words:** hepatic cryosurgery, liver tumors, liver metastases, tumor ablation

Corresponding author: Mosoia P. Liviu, MD
1st Department of General Surgery, University Emergency Military Hospital
88 Mircea Vulcanescu street, sector 1, Bucharest, Romania
E-mail: liviumos@yahoo.com