

# Feasibility of laparoscopic radical prostatectomy in complex surgical cases

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## Introduction

The laparoscopic radical prostatectomy (LRP) is a surgical technique that has gradually been extended as an alternative to open surgery in the treatment of localized prostate cancer. At our center is currently the standard surgical technique in all cases. Analyzing the literature describes two groups of special difficulty of LRP, due to anatomical conditions and the existence of previous prostate treatments.

## Purpose

To present the results and technical peculiarities of 50 LRP in complex surgical cases (obese patients and prostates higher than 100gm) and 14 LRP in very complex surgical cases (previous wide TURP and salvage prostatectomy).

## Material and methods

From November-2003 to May-2010, 325 patients underwent laparoscopic radical prostatectomy. Patients were divided into complex (patients with body mass index greater than 30kg/m<sup>2</sup> and prostates weight higher than 100gm) and very complex surgical cases (previous wide TURP and salvage prostatectomy).

## Results

Sixty-four (19.7%) of the 325 LRP performed in our department could be considered complex or very complex surgical cases of LRP. Forty patients with a body mass index greater than 30 (mean 34.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, range 30.3-43) and 10 patients with large prostate size more than 100 g (mean 120 g, range 101-170). Seven patients underwent LRP for T1b after wide TURP (20-70 g) and seven underwent salvage LRP. We describe the surgical skills of each group.

Table 1: LRP in complex surgical cases

Nº of Patients	Complexity factor
22	BMI>30
8	Prostate>100gm
3	After TURP
5	Salvage LRP

Table 2: Salvage LRP

Series	Nº of Patients
Montsouris	7
Stolzenburg	12
Nuñez C	9
Hospital del Mar (Barcelona)	5



Figure 1: Obese patient



Figure 2: Salvage LRP

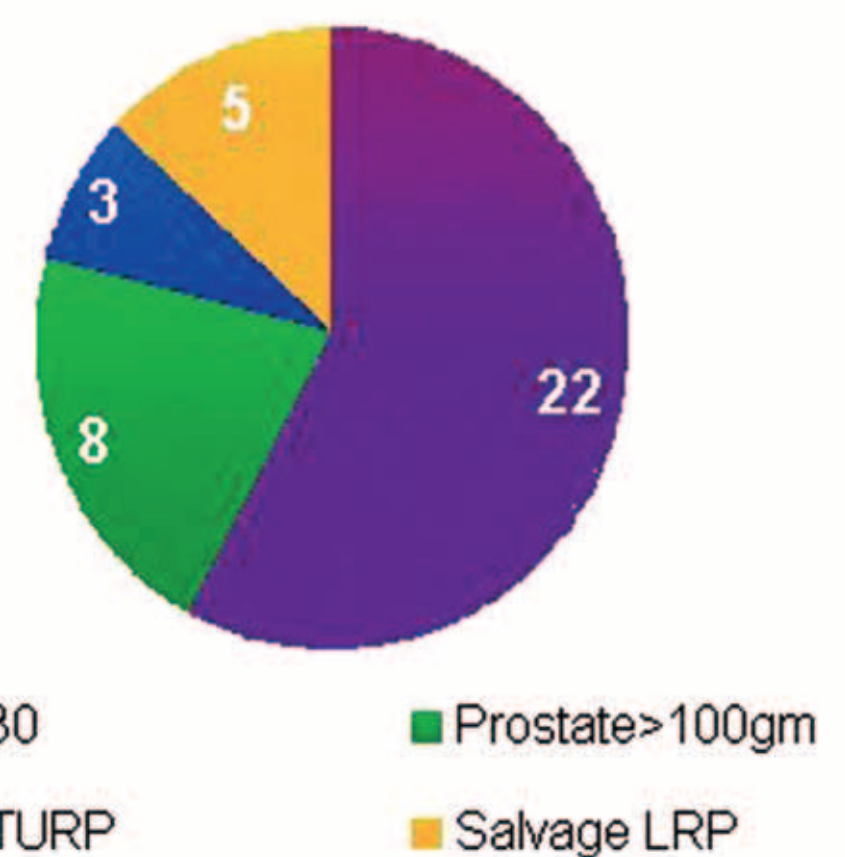


Figure 3: Complex surgical cases of LRP

## Conclusions

In experienced hands LRP in complex surgical cases is feasible and can be performed safely with a success rate similar to that of non-complex surgical cases.

## References

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