

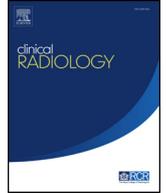


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Retrograde Stents as Alternative to Nephrostomy in Ureteral Obstruction in Cancer Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis



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Category: GI/GU

Purpose: The aim of managing neoplastic ureteral obstruction is to preserve renal function; intervention allows any systemic treatment to begin and improve quality of life. This study evaluates the Peri-operative outcomes in ureteral obstruction in cancer patients by comparison of retrograde ureteral stenting and nephrostomy techniques.

Methods: Systematic review of all studies up to July 2018, without language restriction were identified from MEDLINE, Cochrane (1960–2018), and EMBASE (1991–2018). All studies reporting a comparison between the

two for alleviation of ureteral obstruction in cancer patients were searched. Peri-operative outcomes were recorded; procedure failure rate was the primary outcome, secondary outcomes were infection rates and blockage rates.

Results: After duplicates, 2330 articles were screened. Using PRISMA guidelines, final analysis was performed on 7 studies which included 716 patients. Retrograde Stenting when compared to nephrostomy showed no difference in blockage rates ($p=0.32$). There was no difference in infection rates between the two groups ($p=0.23$). Finally, no significant differences in blockage rates were found between both groups ($p=0.87$)

Conclusion: Retrograde stents offer similar outcomes compared to nephrostomy in urinary diversion for ureteral obstruction in cancer patients. However, considerations of quality of life need to be taken into account when considering management options. A large multi-centre randomised controlled trial is recommended to confirm findings.