



SICCR Abruzzo–Lazio–Molise tripartite regional meeting: “Reality and concrete perspectives in daily coloproctology: surgical techniques and patient management”

D. Ceccarelli¹ · L. Basso² · D. Passannanti¹ · F. Gaj¹

Published online: 13 August 2019
© Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2019

The tripartite regional meeting of the Società Italiana di Chirurgia Coloretale (Italian Society of Colorectal Surgery: SICCR) was held in Rome on May 18th, 2019, at the Courtyard by Marriot Rome Central Park, with the participation of delegates from Lazio, Abruzzo and Molise. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss management and treatment of the most common colorectal conditions, such as acute diverticulitis, hemorrhoids, anal Crohn’s disease (especially in relation to perianal fistulas), anal cancer, pilonidal disease, fecal incontinence and condylomatosis. The organizers of the meeting included Dr. Alessandro Testa from the San Pietro Fatebenefratelli Hospital in Rome who was president of the congress, Dr. Marco La Torre from the Città di Pomezia Polyclinic (Rome), Prof. Renato Pietroletti from the “Val Vibrata” Hospital, Sant’Omero (Teramo) and Dr. Antonella Veglia from the Cardarelli Polyclinic (Campobasso) all members of the Scientific Committee and representing the three regions of Lazio, Abruzzo and Molise, respectively. Speakers at the conference consisted not only of general surgeons and of proctologists, but also of other specialists, including gastroenterologists, endoscopists, radiologists, radiotherapists and infectivologists, so that it was possible to have a multidisciplinary approach to the various conditions discussed and to propose alternative therapies to surgery alone, ensuring a better outcome for the patient.

The meeting opened with Dr. Alessandro Testa welcoming and thanking delegates and addressing the “Roman column” that has been hosting this meeting for some time, and

with the wishes of Dr. Antonella Veglia to organize a future edition in the Adriatic area.

The first subject was acute diverticulitis, with Dr. Giacomo Forti from the Santa Maria Goretti Hospital in Latina as moderator.

Dr. Giuseppe Pianese from the Santa Maria Goretti Hospital in Latina presented “The point of view of the gastroenterologist: how far to go”, which analyzed the various classifications of acute diverticulitis, including Hinchey’s and the Diverticular Inflammation and Complication Assessment (DICA) and how the most suitable therapy for each patient can be planned, based on these classifications. Medical treatment can involve a number of products, including antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, probiotics and fiber. Later, Dr. Cristiano Cantone from the San Pietro Hospital in Rome classified diverticular disease from the radiologist’s point of view, explaining the different radiodiagnostic approaches to chronic diverticular disease and acute diverticulitis, the various radiological techniques, the use of computed tomography (CT) of the abdomen, virtual colonoscopy and ultrasound scanning. Dr. Cantone also described the role of interventional radiology techniques, including angiography for diverticular hemorrhage and CT-guided drainage of diverticular abscess. Following this, Dr. Fabio Castaldi from the Sant’Eugenio Hospital in Rome analyzed “the point of view of the surgeon: what to do if medical treatment fails”, presenting the various surgical techniques of resection and anastomosis in elective surgical procedures. Dr. A. Veglia, on the other hand, presented “What to do in Hinchey stages III and IV?” analyzing surgical operations to be performed in these cases, including Hartmann’s procedure (without mobilization of the splenic flexure), resection–anastomosis (with or without protective ileostomy) and laparoscopic drainage/washing. Dr. Francesco Cammilleri from the San Timoteo Hospital in Termoli, with his presentation “Benefits and dangers of endoscopy”, analyzed the pros and cons of colonoscopy in case of acute diverticulitis, to achieve

✉ D. Ceccarelli
danielececcarelli88@gmail.com

¹ Department of General Surgery and Surgical Specialties “Paride Stefanini”, Sapienza, University of Rome, Viale del Policlinico 155, Rome, Italy

² Department of Surgery “Pietro Valdoni”, Sapienza, University of Rome, Viale del Policlinico 155, Rome, Italy

differential diagnosis with other colorectal conditions and to treat diverticular bleeding.

The second part of the meeting focused on hemorrhoidal disease. Prof. Filippo La Torre, from the Department of Emergency Surgery of the Umberto I Polyclinic in Rome, presented his work “A landmark: which resective surgery in grade 4”, defining the 4 degrees of severity of hemorrhoidal disease, etiology, risk factors, treatment (hygienic/dietetic, pharmacological, mechanical and surgical), stressing the fact that, to date, the Milligan–Morgan procedure is still considered as the gold standard treatment for the most severe hemorrhoidal disease.

After this, Prof. Claudio Mattana from the Gemelli Polyclinic in Rome moderated a session where two other surgical techniques were presented for surgical treatment of hemorrhoids: “prolapsectomy with stapler/STARR: still a very valid solution” presented by Dr. Elio D’Agostino from the Frascati Hospital (Rome) and “dearterialization and mucopexy”, presented by Dr. Alessandro Testa, who also paid attention to the use of doppler in dearterialization with mucopexy to perform a transanal hemorrhoidal dearterialization (THD) procedure. Following this, Dr. Claudio Elbetti from Piero Palagi Hospital in Florence, with his presentation “Outpatient tailored treatment”, gave a brief overview of how to correctly perform local anesthesia, and of the surgical procedures. Dr. Leoluca Vasapollo from the Pertini Hospital in Rome in his report “Hemorrhoidal thrombosis: when to operate” analyzed advantages and disadvantages of medical and surgical therapies for this condition.

Prof. Francesco Selvaggi from the University of Naples and current President of the SICCR explained the importance of ulcerative colitis in proctology and its surgical treatment, proctocolectomy with J-pouch anastomosis, and the related complications.

Perianal Crohn’s disease was the center point of the third part of the meeting, moderated by Prof. Domenico Mascagni from the Umberto I Polyclinic in Rome. Sharing the point of view of the gastroenterologist, Dr. Rita Marquez from the Clinica Polispecialistica Marciano in Formia (Rome) with her report: “biological therapy” described the role of new drugs such as infliximab and vedolizumab associated with surgical therapy. Surgical techniques for treating complex perianal fistulas that were discussed were: “VAAFT” (video-assisted anal fistula treatment), presented by Dr. Marco La Torre (treatment of the disease by means of insertion of a fistuloscope), “Stem cells to promote healing of the fistula” presented by Dr. Testa, “LIFT technique” (Ligation of intersphincteric fistula tract) presented by Dr. Campanelli (sphincter sparing technique), and the “FiLaC technique” (fistula laser closure) presented by Dr. Paolo Giamundo from the Polyclinic of Monza. Dr. Massimo Caporossi from the Frascati-Marino Hospital (Rome) provided an overview of all these surgical techniques and stressed the difficulty of

classifying these in the guidelines currently employed. The session ended with Dr. Petrillo, from the Cardarelli Polyclinic in Campobasso, comparing magnetic resonance imaging with endoanal ultrasound in the diagnosis of perianal fistulas.

The interest in technology was not missing, and Prof. Fabio Gaj from the Umberto I Polyclinic (Rome), presented a Web-App of his invention containing extensive information about proctology, to be used as a sort of handbook for both the patient and the doctor.

Prof. Pietroletti talked about different types of surgical techniques in case of complete rectal prolapse, making an important distinction between perineal approaches (Delorme and Altemeier) and abdominal approaches (rectopexy, rectopexy–resection). Furthermore, Prof. Pietroletti explained that the choice between these two types of surgical approaches depends on the characteristics of the individual patient.

The fourth part of the conference focused on anal cancer with Professor Claudio Coco from the Gemelli Polyclinic in Rome as moderator. Dr. Piercarlo Gentile, from the San Pietro Fatebenefratelli Hospital in Rome, explained the role of radiotherapy and how it has evolved, increasing in efficacy while reducing undesirable adverse effects. Dr. A. Pellegrino, from the San Pietro Fatebenefratelli Hospital in Rome, explained the oncological therapy for anal cancer, introducing new biological drugs that can be used in association with chemotherapy regimens. Later, the surgical point of view was discussed, analyzing which types of tumors may benefit from local treatment and which from radical treatment. Finally, Dr. Antonella Cingolani, an infectious disease specialist from the Gemelli Hospital in Rome, analyzed how anal cancer is increasing in people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and/or human papilloma virus (HPV) infection, and stressed the importance of vaccination in cancer prevention.

In the fifth part of the congress, the topic was pilonidal disease, with Dr. Testa as moderator. Prof. Luigi Basso from the Sapienza University of Rome (Polyclinic Umberto I) presented the history of the surgical techniques used to treat pilonidal disease, focusing on curettage, a minimally invasive technique. Dr. Marco La Torre, on the other hand, presented the minimally invasive endoscopic pilonidal sinus treatment (EPSiT) procedure. Dr. Domitilla Foghetti, from the United Hospitals of North Marche, then talked about the treatment of dehiscence of the surgical wound, after excision of the sinus using negative pressure therapy. Dr. Kenneth Zeri from Villa Tiberia Hospital in Rome discussed the treatment of recurrences, and Prof. Basso and Dr. Marco La Torre discussed which was the best surgical technique, complete excision, EPSiT or the Bascom technique.

Then fecal incontinence was discussed. This part of the meeting was moderated by Prof. Carlo Ratto from the

Gemelli Hospital in Rome and included the following topics: the Sphinkeeper system (reconstruction of the sphincter apparatus through prostheses) presented by Dr. Angelo Parello (Gemelli Hospital in Rome) “sacral neuromodulation” presented by Dr. Jacopo Martellucci from Careggi University Hospital in Florence, and “anus-perineal rehabilitation” by Dr. Antonio Giuliani from San Salvatore Hospital in L’Aquila.

At the end, Dr. Massimiliano Mistrangelo from the University of Turin gave a presentation on HPV and on anal

condylomatosis, focusing in particular on the importance of a multidisciplinary team that involves both the proctologist and the infectivologist for the treatment of this disease.

Publisher’s Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.