

# World Journal of *Clinical Cases*

*World J Clin Cases* 2020 November 6; 8(21): 5070-5495



## Contents

Semimonthly Volume 8 Number 21 November 6, 2020

## REVIEW

- 5070** Strategies and challenges in the treatment of chronic venous leg ulcers  
*Ren SY, Liu YS, Zhu GJ, Liu M, Shi SH, Ren XD, Hao YG, Gao RD*
- 5086** Peripheral nerve tumors of the hand: Clinical features, diagnosis, and treatment  
*Zhou HY, Jiang S, Ma FX, Lu H*

## MINIREVIEWS

- 5099** Treatment strategies for gastric cancer during the COVID-19 pandemic  
*Kang WZ, Zhong YX, Ma FH, Liu H, Ma S, Li Y, Hu HT, Li WK, Tian YT*

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Retrospective Cohort Study

- 5104** Oncological impact of different distal ureter managements during radical nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma  
*Lai SC, Wu PJ, Liu JY, Seery S, Liu SJ, Long XB, Liu M, Wang JY*
- 5116** Clinical characteristics and survival of patients with normal-sized ovarian carcinoma syndrome: Retrospective analysis of a single institution 10-year experiment  
*Yu N, Li X, Yang B, Chen J, Wu MF, Wei JC, Li KZ*

## Retrospective Study

- 5128** Assessment of load-sharing thoracolumbar injury: A modified scoring system  
*Su QH, Li YC, Zhang Y, Tan J, Cheng B*
- 5139** Accuracy of endoscopic ultrasound-guided needle aspiration specimens for molecular diagnosis of non-small-cell lung carcinoma  
*Su W, Tian XD, Liu P, Zhou DJ, Cao FL*
- 5149** Application of hybrid operating rooms for clipping large or giant intracranial carotid-ophthalmic aneurysms  
*Zhang N, Xin WQ*
- 5159** Magnetic resonance imaging findings of carcinoma arising from anal fistula: A retrospective study in a single institution  
*Zhu X, Zhu TS, Ye DD, Liu SW*
- 5172** Efficacy and safety of S-1 maintenance therapy in advanced non-small-cell lung cancer patients  
*Cheng XW, Leng WH, Mu CL*

- 5180** Analysis of 234 cases of colorectal polyps treated by endoscopic mucosal resection  
*Yu L, Li N, Zhang XM, Wang T, Chen W*
- 5188** Epidemiological and clinical characteristics of fifty-six cases of COVID-19 in Liaoning Province, China  
*Wang JB, Wang HT, Wang LS, Li LP, Xu J, Xu C, Li XH, Wu YH, Liu HY, Li BJ, Yu H, Tian X, Zhang ZY, Wang Y, Zhao R, Liu JY, Wang W, Gu Y*
- 5203** Radiomics model for distinguishing tuberculosis and lung cancer on computed tomography scans  
*Cui EN, Yu T, Shang SJ, Wang XY, Jin YL, Dong Y, Zhao H, Luo YH, Jiang XR*
- 5213** Influence of transitional nursing on the compliance behavior and disease knowledge of children with purpura nephritis  
*Li L, Huang L, Zhang N, Guo CM, Hu YQ*
- Randomized Controlled Trial**
- 5221** Wavelet and pain rating index for inhalation anesthesia: A randomized controlled trial  
*Zhang JW, Lv ZG, Kong Y, Han CF, Wang BG*

**SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS**

- 5235** Essential phospholipids for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease associated with metabolic syndrome: A systematic review and network meta-analysis  
*Dajani AI, Popovic B*
- 5250** Cardiovascular impact of COVID-19 with a focus on children: A systematic review  
*Rodriguez-Gonzalez M, Castellano-Martinez A, Cascales-Poyatos HM, Perez-Reviriego AA*
- 5284** Anterior bone loss after cervical disc replacement: A systematic review  
*Wang XF, Meng Y, Liu H, Hong Y, Wang BY*

**CASE REPORT**

- 5296** Submicroscopic 11p13 deletion including the elongator acetyltransferase complex subunit 4 gene in a girl with language failure, intellectual disability and congenital malformations: A case report  
*Toral-Lopez J, González Huerta LM, Messina-Baas O, Cuevas-Covarrubias SA*
- 5304** Pancreatic panniculitis and elevated serum lipase in metastasized acinar cell carcinoma of the pancreas: A case report and review of literature  
*Miksch RC, Schiergens TS, Weniger M, Ilmer M, Kazmierczak PM, Guba MO, Angele MK, Werner J, D'Haese JG*
- 5313** Diffusion-weighted imaging might be useful for reactive lymphoid hyperplasia diagnosis of the liver: A case report  
*Tanaka T, Saito K, Yunaiyama D, Matsubayashi J, Nagakawa Y, Tanigawa M, Nagao T*
- 5320** Nafamostat mesylate-induced hyperkalemia in critically ill patients with COVID-19: Four case reports  
*Okajima M, Takahashi Y, Kaji T, Ogawa N, Mouri H*

- 5326** Arthroscopic treatment of iliopsoas tendinitis after total hip arthroplasty with acetabular cup malposition: Two case reports  
*Won H, Kim KH, Jung JW, Kim SY, Baek SH*
- 5334** Successful treatment of a high-risk nonseminomatous germ cell tumor using etoposide, methotrexate, actinomycin D, cyclophosphamide, and vincristine: A case report  
*Yun J, Lee SW, Lim SH, Kim SH, Kim CK, Park SK*
- 5341** Donepezil-related inadequate neuromuscular blockade during laparoscopic surgery: A case report  
*Jang EA, Kim TY, Jung EG, Jeong S, Bae HB, Lee S*
- 5347** Successful treatment of relapsed acute promyelocytic leukemia with arsenic trioxide in a hemodialysis-dependent patient: A case report  
*Lee HJ, Park SG*
- 5353** Treatment of afferent loop syndrome using fluoroscopic-guided nasointestinal tube placement: Two case reports  
*Hu HT, Ma FH, Wu ZM, Qi XH, Zhong YX, Xie YB, Tian YT*
- 5361** Emergency surgical workflow and experience of suspected cases of COVID-19: A case report  
*Wu D, Xie TY, Sun XH, Wang XX*
- 5371** Seven-year follow-up of the nonsurgical expansion of maxillary and mandibular arches in a young adult: A case report  
*Yu TT, Li J, Liu DW*
- 5380** Pancreatic cancer with ovarian metastases: A case report and review of the literature  
*Wang SD, Zhu L, Wu HW, Dai MH, Zhao YP*
- 5389** Early ultrasound diagnosis of conjoined twins at eight weeks of pregnancy: A case report  
*Liang XW, Cai YY, Yang YZ, Chen ZY*
- 5394** Supermicroscopy and arterio-venolization for digit replantation in young children after traumatic amputation: Two case reports  
*Chen Y, Wang ZM, Yao JH*
- 5401** Candidal periprosthetic joint infection after primary total knee arthroplasty combined with ipsilateral intertrochanteric fracture: A case report  
*Xin J, Guo QS, Zhang HY, Zhang ZY, Talmy T, Han YZ, Xie Y, Zhong Q, Zhou SR, Li Y*
- 5409** Aspiration pneumonia during general anesthesia induction after esophagectomy: A case report  
*Tang JX, Wang L, Nian WQ, Tang WY, Xiao JY, Tang XX, Liu HL*
- 5415** Large and unusual presentation of gallbladder adenoma: A case report  
*Cao LL, Shan H*
- 5420** Rare narrow QRS tachycardia with atrioventricular dissociation: A case report  
*Zhu C, Chen MX, Zhou GJ*

- 5426** Synchronous parathyroid adenoma, papillary thyroid carcinoma and thyroid adenoma in pregnancy: A case report  
*Li Q, Xu XZ, Shi JH*
- 5432** Pseudohyperkalemia caused by essential thrombocythemia in a patient with chronic renal failure: A case report  
*Guo Y, Li HC*
- 5439** Acute leukemic phase of anaplastic lymphoma kinase-anaplastic large cell lymphoma: A case report and review of the literature  
*Zhang HF, Guo Y*
- 5446** Chinese patient with cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis confirmed by genetic testing: A case report and literature review  
*Cao LX, Yang M, Liu Y, Long WY, Zhao GH*
- 5457** Incomplete Kawasaki disease complicated with acute abdomen: A case report  
*Wang T, Wang C, Zhou KY, Wang XQ, Hu N, Hua YM*
- 5467** Fanconi-Bickel syndrome in an infant with cytomegalovirus infection: A case report and review of the literature  
*Xiong LJ, Jiang ML, Du LN, Yuan L, Xie XL*
- 5474** Benign symmetric lipomatosis (Madelung's disease) with concomitant incarcerated femoral hernia: A case report  
*Li B, Rang ZX, Weng JC, Xiong GZ, Dai XP*
- 5480** Potential protection of indocyanine green on parathyroid gland function during near-infrared laparoscopic-assisted thyroidectomy: A case report and literature review  
*Peng SJ, Yang P, Dong YM, Yang L, Yang ZY, Hu XE, Bao GQ*
- 5487** New treatment of patellar instability after total knee arthroplasty: A case report and review of literature  
*Shen XY, Zuo JL, Gao JP, Liu T, Xiao JL, Qin YG*

**CORRECTION**

- 5494** Erratum: Author's Affiliation Correction. Type II human epidermal growth factor receptor heterogeneity is a poor prognosticator for type II human epidermal growth factor receptor positive gastric cancer (World J Clin Cases 2019; Aug 6; 7 (15): 1964-1977)  
*Kaito A, Kuwata T, Tokunaga M, Shitara K, Sato R, Akimoto T, Kinoshita T*



**ABOUT COVER**

Peer-reviewer for *World Journal of Clinical Cases*, Dr. Karayiannakis is Professor of Surgery at the Medical School of Democritus University of Thrace. He received his MD from the Medical Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria (1985), an MSc in Surgical Science from University of London (1996), and a PhD from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) (1993). After completing training at the NKUA Medical School in 1993, Dr. Karayiannakis undertook postgraduate training at St George's and Hammersmith Hospitals (London), the Institute for Digestive Diseases (Serbia), the University of Verona (Italy), and the Technical University of Munich (Germany). His clinical practice interests and research emphasis are in the field of hepato-pancreato-biliary diseases and gastrointestinal tract surgery, surgical oncology and laparoscopic surgery. (L-Editor: Filipodia)

**AIMS AND SCOPE**

The primary aim of *World Journal of Clinical Cases* (*WJCC*, *World J Clin Cases*) is to provide scholars and readers from various fields of clinical medicine with a platform to publish high-quality clinical research articles and communicate their research findings online.

*WJCC* mainly publishes articles reporting research results and findings obtained in the field of clinical medicine and covering a wide range of topics, including case control studies, retrospective cohort studies, retrospective studies, clinical trials studies, observational studies, prospective studies, randomized controlled trials, randomized clinical trials, systematic reviews, meta-analysis, and case reports.

**INDEXING/ABSTRACTING**

The *WJCC* is now indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded (also known as SciSearch®), Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, PubMed, and PubMed Central. The 2020 Edition of Journal Citation Reports® cites the 2019 impact factor (IF) for *WJCC* as 1.013; IF without journal self cites: 0.991; Ranking: 120 among 165 journals in medicine, general and internal; and Quartile category: Q3.

**RESPONSIBLE EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE**

Production Editor: Yan-Xia Xing; Production Department Director: Yun-Xiaojuan Wu; Editorial Office Director: Jin-Lai Wang.

**NAME OF JOURNAL**

*World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**ISSN**

ISSN 2307-8960 (online)

**LAUNCH DATE**

April 16, 2013

**FREQUENCY**

Semimonthly

**EDITORS-IN-CHIEF**

Dennis A Bloomfield, Sandro Vento, Bao-Gan Peng

**EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/2307-8960/editorialboard.htm>

**PUBLICATION DATE**

November 6, 2020

**COPYRIGHT**

© 2020 Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

**INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/204>

**GUIDELINES FOR ETHICS DOCUMENTS**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/287>

**GUIDELINES FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>

**PUBLICATION ETHICS**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/288>

**PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/208>

**ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGE**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>

**STEPS FOR SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS**

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/239>

**ONLINE SUBMISSION**

<https://www.f6publishing.com>



Retrospective Cohort Study

# Oncological impact of different distal ureter managements during radical nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma

Shi-Cong Lai, Peng-Jie Wu, Jian-Yong Liu, Samuel Seery, Sheng-Jie Liu, Xing-Bo Long, Ming Liu, Jian-Ye Wang

**ORCID number:** Shi-Cong Lai 0000-0003-2172-6583; Peng-Jie Wu 0000-0002-9798-3060; Jian-Yong Liu 0000-0001-7667-8481; Samuel Seery 0000-0001-8277-1076; Sheng-Jie Liu 0000-0002-0107-9713; Xing-Bo Long 0000-0002-5918-687X; Ming Liu 0000-0002-0944-9600; Jian-Ye Wang 0000-0002-5110-2731.

**Author contributions:** Lai SC, Wu PJ, and Wang JY designed the study; Lai SC, Wu PJ, Liu JY, Liu SJ, and Long XB participated in collecting the data; Lai SC and Wu PJ participated in interpreting the data; Lai SC and Seery S drafted and revised the paper; Liu M and Wang JY participated in critically reviewing the paper; All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

**Supported by** the Capital Clinical Characteristics Applications Research Program, No. Z171100001017201; the Beijing Hospital Clinical Research 121 Project, No. BJ-2018-090; and the Beijing Hospital Clinical Research, No. BJ-2015-098.

**Institutional review board statement:** This study was approved by the institutional research ethics committee of our

Shi-Cong Lai, Peng-Jie Wu, Jian-Yong Liu, Sheng-Jie Liu, Xing-Bo Long, Ming Liu, Jian-Ye Wang, Department of Urology, Beijing Hospital, National Center of Gerontology, Institute of Geriatric Medicine, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing 100730, China

Shi-Cong Lai, Jian-Yong Liu, Xing-Bo Long, Ming Liu, Jian-Ye Wang, Graduate School of Peking Union Medical College and Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing 100730, China

Samuel Seery, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100730, China

**Corresponding author:** Jian-Ye Wang, MD, Professor, Surgeon, Surgical Oncologist, Department of Urology, Beijing Hospital, National Center of Gerontology, Institute of Geriatric Medicine, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, No. 1 Dahua Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100730, China. [wangjy@bjhmoh.cn](mailto:wangjy@bjhmoh.cn)

## Abstract

### BACKGROUND

The current standard surgical treatment for non-metastatic upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma (UTUC) is radical nephroureterectomy (RNU) with bladder cuff excision (BCE). Typically, BCE techniques are classified in one of the following three categories: An open technique described as intravesical incision of the bladder cuff, a transurethral incision of the bladder cuff (TUBC), and an extravesical incision of the bladder cuff (EVBC) method. Even though each of these management techniques are widely used, there is no consensus about which surgical intervention is superior, with the best oncologic outcomes.

### AIM

To investigate the oncological outcomes of three BCE methods during RNU for primary UTUC patients.

### METHODS

We retrospectively analyzed the data of 248 primary UTUC patients, who underwent RNU with BCE between January 2004 to December 2018. Patients were analyzed according to each BCE method. Data extracted included patient demographics, perioperative parameters, and oncological outcomes. Statistical

hospital (2019BJYYEC-237-01) and all procedures were conducted in accordance with Helsinki Declaration principles.

**Conflict-of-interest statement:** All authors report no conflicts of interest regarding this study or report.

**Data sharing statement:** The original anonymous dataset is available on reasonable request from the corresponding author.

**STROBE statement:** The guidelines provided in the STROBE Statement have been adopted.

**Open-Access:** This article is an open-access article that was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

**Manuscript source:** Unsolicited manuscript

**Specialty type:** Medicine, research and experimental

**Country/Territory of origin:** China

**Peer-review report's scientific quality classification**

Grade A (Excellent): 0  
Grade B (Very good): 0  
Grade C (Good): 0  
Grade D (Fair): 0  
Grade E (Poor): 0

**Received:** May 15, 2020

**Peer-review started:** May 15, 2020

**First decision:** September 12, 2020

**Revised:** September 14, 2020

**Accepted:** September 23, 2020

**Article in press:** September 23, 2020

**Published online:** November 6, 2020

**P-Reviewer:** Patel HR

analyses were performed using chi-square and log-rank tests. The Cox proportional hazards regression model was utilized to identify independent predictors.  $P < 0.05$  was considered statistically significant.

## RESULTS

Of the 248 participants, 39.9% ( $n = 99$ ) underwent intravesical incision of the bladder cuff, 38.7% ( $n = 96$ ) EVBC, and 21.4% ( $n = 53$ ) TUBC. At a median follow-up of 44.2 mo, bladder recurrence developed in 17.2%, 12.5%, and 13.2% of the cases, respectively. Cancer-specific deaths occurred in 11.1%, 5.2%, and 7.5% of patients, respectively. Kaplan-Meier survival curves with a log-rank test highlighted no significant differences in intravesical recurrence-free survival, cancer-specific survival, and overall survival among these approaches with  $P$  values of 0.987, 0.825, and 0.497, respectively. Multivariate analysis showed that the lower ureter location appears to have inferior intravesical recurrence-free survival ( $P = 0.042$ ). However, cancer-specific survival and overall survival were independently influenced by tumor stage (hazard ratio [HR] = 8.439; 95% confidence interval: 2.424-29.377;  $P = 0.001$ ) and lymph node status (HR = 14.343; 95%CI: 5.176-39.745;  $P < 0.001$ ).

## CONCLUSION

All three techniques had comparable outcomes; although, EVBC and TUBC are minimally invasive. While based upon rather limited data, these findings will support urologists in blending experience with evidence to inform patient choices. However, larger, rigorously designed, multicenter studies with long term outcomes are still required.

**Key Words:** Bladder cuff excision; Prognosis; Upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma; Radical nephroureterectomy; Technique; Survival

©The Author(s) 2020. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

**Core Tip:** In this work, by focusing on a Chinese population, we intended to evaluate the oncological outcomes of three bladder cuff excision methods during radical nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma patients. Survival analysis suggests all three techniques had comparable outcomes, although, extravesical incision of the bladder cuff and transurethral incision of the bladder cuff are minimally invasive. We hope that current comparative knowledge can add further sophistication to the evidence base for this disease and intervention. Generating accurate estimations using long-term morbidity data benefits both clinicians and patients in terms of disease management and for shared decision-making.

**Citation:** Lai SC, Wu PJ, Liu JY, Seery S, Liu SJ, Long XB, Liu M, Wang JY. Oncological impact of different distal ureter managements during radical nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma. *World J Clin Cases* 2020; 8(21): 5104-5115

**URL:** <https://www.wjgnet.com/2307-8960/full/v8/i21/5104.htm>

**DOI:** <https://dx.doi.org/10.12998/wjcc.v8.i21.5104>

## INTRODUCTION

Upper urinary tract urothelial carcinomas (UTUC) is a relatively uncommon disease, which accounts for only 5%-10% of all urothelial carcinomas<sup>[1-3]</sup>. The current standard surgical treatment for non-metastatic UTUC is radical nephroureterectomy (RNU) with bladder cuff excision (BCE) which consists of two separate procedures, i.e. the removal of the ipsilateral distal ureter and partial cystectomy along with the ureteral orifice<sup>[3,4]</sup>. Previous literature and the European Association of Urology guidelines purport that laparoscopic RNU has equivalent oncological efficacy compared to open RNU when adhering to strict oncological principles<sup>[1,5]</sup>. However, the safety and efficacy of the second step involved in the BCE method have been debated by urologists for a number of years<sup>[6]</sup>.



**S-Editor:** Zhang L  
**L-Editor:** Filipodia  
**P-Editor:** Liu JH



Typically, methods are classified in one of following three categories: An open technique described as intravesical incision of the bladder cuff (IVBC), transurethral incision of the bladder cuff (TUBC), and extravesical incision of the bladder cuff (EVBC)<sup>[7]</sup>. Even though each of these management techniques are widely used, there is no consensus about which surgical intervention is superior, leading to the best oncologic outcomes<sup>[1,6]</sup>. In a previous related meta-analysis, we found that IVBC was more strongly associated with improved intravesical recurrence-free survival (IRFS) compared to EVBC and TUBC<sup>[8]</sup>. However, the findings from that study can be criticized because pooled analysis did not adjust for other important clinicopathological parameters such as tumor multiplicity, location, stage, grade, and gender. Additionally, the prevalence, biological behavior, and UTUC prognosis differ among nationalities and ethnicities<sup>[1]</sup>. That study generated only tentative recommendations since most of the included studies were conducted in western populations, preventing generalizations to Asian and other populations.

As such, there is still a need to fill this knowledge gap. Thus, the aim of this study was to retrospectively collate data from a nationwide tertiary care center in mainland China, in order to investigate the oncological impact of the three, different BCE techniques on primary UTUC patients following RNU in this Asian population.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Population

This monocentric, retrospective cohort study was approved by the institutional research ethics committee of our hospital (2019BJYYEC-237-01), and all procedures were conducted in accordance with Helsinki Declaration principles.

We retrospectively analyzed the prospectively collected data of patients with primary UTUC, who underwent RNU with BCE in our hospital from January 2004 to December 2018. Patients who had previous or concomitant bladder cancer, systemic metastasis at presentation, bilateral synchronous UTUC, or prior cystectomy, ureterectomy, or nephrectomy were excluded. In addition, patients whose follow-up period was less than 12 mo were also excluded, with exceptions for those who, within this time frame, encountered tumor recurrence or in the case of death.

### Surgical techniques

RNU was performed either openly or laparoscopically at the discretion of the surgeon. The distal bladder cuff was removed using either an IVBC, EVBC, or TUBC approach.

The intravesical method is performed *via* a lower quadrant or midline incision after radical nephroureterectomy. This procedure involves creating an anterior cystotomy around the intramural ureter and ureteric orifice while confirming the contralateral ureteral orifice. Then, the nephroureterectomy specimen with the bladder cuff is removed *en bloc*, and the anterior cystotomy and residual defect is closed in two layers (Figure 1A).

In the extravesical technique on the other hand, the ureter is ligated or clamped early using a Ham-Lock, below the level of the tumor, and then the intramural ureter is completely dissected with the bladder cuff approximately 1 cm around the ureteral orifice, extravesically after radical nephroureterectomy (Figure 1B).

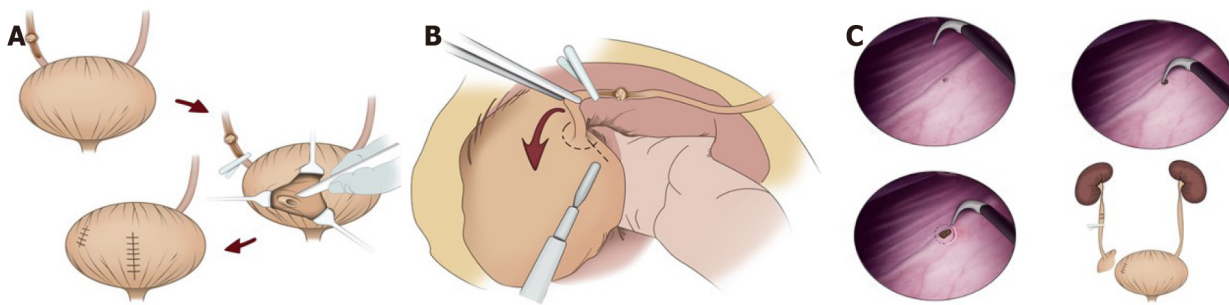
The endoscopic approach is performed prior to nephroureterectomy. During this step, the ipsilateral ureteral orifice is endoscopically electrocauterized and a circumferential 10-mm cuff of bladder mucosa around the ureteral orifice is incised down to the perivesical fat using a resectoscope (Figure 1C). Then the patient is repositioned and the ureter below the distal border of the tumor is also ligated before performing nephrectomy.

None of the included patients received neo-adjuvant chemotherapy or radiotherapy, while adjuvant chemotherapy was administered at the clinicians' discretion based on tumor stage and overall health status as well as patient preference.

### Tumor stage and follow-up

Tumors are generally staged according to the 2004 Union for International Cancer Control tumor node metastasis classification. Tumor grade is determined according to the 2004 World Health Organization classification.

Postoperative follow-up generally includes interval history and physical examination, routine blood analysis, urine cytology, chest radiography, and computed tomography urograms. Cystoscopic evaluation and urinary cytology are performed every 3 mo for the first 2 years following RNU, and every 6 mo thereafter until 5 years.



**Figure 1 Surgical procedure.** A: An overview of the surgical procedure of intravesical incision of the bladder cuff; B: An overview of the surgical procedure of extravesical incision of the bladder cuff; C: An overview of the surgical procedure of transurethral incision of the bladder cuff.

Thereafter check-ups take place annually. Additional imaging such as chest computed tomography (CT), bone scans, or position emission tomography/CT examination are also performed when clinically required.

### Outcomes and data collection

Oncological outcome parameters were assessed for IVR, as well as other recurrences (*i.e.* operative field which includes ureteric stump, retroperitoneum or renal fossa, regional lymph nodes, contralateral recurrences, and/or distant metastasis), disease-specific mortality, and deaths related to other causes. Other demographic and clinicopathologic data including patient age, gender, American society of anesthesiologists scores, smoking status, distal ureter management approach, tumor side, tumor location, tumor stage, tumor grade, and lymph nodal status were systematically recorded.

### Statistical analysis

Data were collated using Excel 2013 (Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA, United States) and all statistical analyses were performed with SPSS (version 20, IBM, Armonk, NY, United States). Fisher's exact and chi-square tests were used to assess associations between clinicopathological variables and the three procedures. Survival curves were generated using the Kaplan-Meier method, and the log rank test was used to compare oncological outcomes such as IRFS, cancer-specific survival (CSS), and overall survival (OS). Multivariate survival analysis was assessed using the Cox proportional hazard regression model (a forward likelihood ratio-based model) to evaluate the risk of several independent factors. Statistical significance was determined around the standard threshold,  $P < 0.05$ .

## RESULTS

### Baseline characteristics of the study population

A total of 248 patients were included, of which 49.2% ( $n = 122$ ) were men. The remaining 50.8% ( $n = 126$ ) were women. All participants underwent RNU for UTUC and met the predefined eligibility criteria. The median age was 69 years, ranging from 32 to 88 years. The most common symptom was gross hematuria (68.1%) and flank pain occurred in approximately 20% of cases. Among these patients, 39.9% ( $n = 99$ ) underwent IVBC, 38.7% ( $n = 96$ ) received EVBC, and 21.4% ( $n = 53$ ) utilized TUBC. Detailed demographics and clinicopathological characteristics including patient age, gender, American society of anesthesiologists score, gross hematuria history, lymph node status, tumor side, location, stage, and grade of the entire populations are provided in Table 1.

All patients received successful operations with negative surgical margins. None of the patients received neo-adjuvant chemotherapy, while 30 patients had previously received adjuvant chemotherapy with or without radiotherapy for advanced stage carcinomas. After surgery, 25 patients received a single dose of intravesical instillation and 52 received at least four doses of chemotherapy weekly.

### Long-term oncological outcomes

With a median follow-up of 44.2 mo (ranging from 3.4 to 172.1 mo), 76.6% ( $n = 190$ ) of patients were alive and disease-free. Thirty-one (*i.e.* 12.5%) patients died, of which

**Table 1** Baseline characters of all patients treated with radical nephroureterectomy for upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma

Variable	All patients (n = 248)	IVBC group (n = 99)	EVBC group (n = 96)	TVBC group (n = 53)	P value
Age					
< 70 yr	128 (51.6)	51 (51.5)	56 (58.3)	21 (39.6)	0.09
≥ 70 yr	120 (48.4)	48 (48.5)	40 (41.7)	32 (60.4)	
ASA					
I	23 (9.3)	9 (9.1)	10 (10.4)	4 (7.5)	0.07
II	167 (67.3)	68 (68.7)	70 (72.9)	29 (54.7)	
III	58 (23.4)	22 (22.2)	16 (16.7)	20 (37.7)	
Gender					
Male	122 (49.2)	52 (52.5)	46 (47.9)	24 (45.3)	0.66
Female	126 (50.8)	47 (47.5)	50 (52.1)	29 (54.7)	
Smoke					
No	204 (82.3)	79 (79.8)	83 (86.5)	42 (79.2)	0.39
Yes	44 (17.7)	20 (20.2)	13 (13.5)	11 (20.8)	
Gross hematuria					
No	79 (31.9)	31 (31.3)	28 (29.2)	20 (37.7)	0.56
Yes	169 (68.1)	68 (68.7)	68 (70.8)	33 (62.3)	
Urinary cytology					
Negative	77 (31.0)	28 (28.3)	34 (35.4)	15 (28.3)	0.50
Positive	171 (69.0)	71 (71.7)	62 (64.6)	38 (71.7)	
Tumor side					
Left	134 (54.0)	50 (50.5)	52 (54.2)	32 (60.4)	0.51
Right	114 (46.0)	49 (49.5)	44 (45.8)	21 (39.6)	
Tumor location					
Renal pelvis	111 (44.8)	37 (37.4)	42 (43.8)	32 (60.4)	0.03
Upper and middle ureter	66 (26.6)	25 (25.3)	25 (26.0)	16 (30.2)	
Lower ureter	49 (19.8)	26 (26.3)	20 (20.8)	3 (5.7)	
Multiple	22 (8.9)	11 (11.1)	9 (9.4)	2 (3.8)	
pT stage					
pT0-pTa-pT1-pTis	69 (27.8)	27 (27.3)	23 (24.0)	19 (35.8)	0.17
pT2	69 (27.8)	31 (31.3)	22 (22.9)	16 (30.2)	
pT3	107 (43.1)	39 (39.4)	51 (53.1)	17 (32.1)	
pT4	3 (1.2)	2 (2.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (1.9)	
LN status					
LN-negative	238 (96.0)	94 (94.9)	93 (96.9)	51 (96.2)	0.787
LN-positive	10 (4.0)	5 (5.1)	3 (3.1)	2 (3.8)	
Tumor grade					
Low	29 (11.7)	14 (14.1)	9 (9.4)	6 (11.3)	0.58
High	221 (88.3)	85 (85.9)	87 (90.6)	47 (88.7)	
LVI					
Negative	223 (89.9)	92 (92.9)	84 (87.5)	47 (88.7)	0.43
Positive	25 (10.1)	7 (7.1)	12 (12.5)	6 (11.3)	

Intravesical chemotherapy					
No	171 (69.0)	75 (75.8)	66 (68.8)	30 (56.6)	0.05
Yes	77 (31.0)	24 (24.2)	30 (31.2)	23 (43.4)	
Adjuvant therapy					
No	218 (87.9)	90 (90.9)	80 (83.3)	48 (90.6)	0.21
Yes	30 (12.1)	9 (9.1)	16 (16.7)	5 (9.4)	

Data are shown as *n* (%). ASA: American society of anesthesiologists; EVBC: Extravesical incision of the bladder cuff; IVBC: Intravesical incision of the bladder cuff; TUBC: Transurethral incision of the bladder cuff; LN: Lymph node; LVI: Lymphovascular invasion; pT: Pathological tumor.

8.1% (*n* = 20) deaths were attributed to UTUC, whereas 11 died from other causes. 19.4% (*n* = 48) of the patients had some form of disease recurrence during follow-up, of which 14.5% (*n* = 36) had recurrence within the bladder.

To analyze the factors associated with the oncology outcomes, univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses were conducted (Table 2). Kaplan-Meier analysis suggested that patients with lower ureter tumor location had significantly higher IVR (*P* = 0.042; Figure 2A), while the tumor stage and BCE methods appeared to have no influence on IRFS (all *P* > 0.05; Figure 2B and C).

Regarding CSS, pathological tumor stage and lymph node status were identified as significant predictors by univariate analysis (Figure 2D and E). Similarly, multivariate analysis also identified tumor stage *i.e.* ≤ T2 *vs* > T2 (hazard ratio [HR] = 8.439; 95% confidence interval (CI), 2.424-29.377; *P* = 0.001) and lymph node status *i.e.* negative *vs* positive (HR: 14.343; 95%CI: 5.176-39.745; *P* < 0.001) as independent predictors of CSS, even when adjusting for other important demographic and clinicopathological parameters such as age, gender, tumor location, tumor grade, and lymphovascular invasion. Nevertheless, the BCE methods evaluated here with additional variables did not appear to have little impact on CSS (all *P* > 0.05; Figure 2F, Table 2).

Likewise, Kaplan-Meier analysis suggested that the aforementioned two factors were significantly associated with OS (all *P* < 0.05; Figure 2G and H). By multivariate analysis, high tumor stage (≤ T2 *vs* > T2) had an HR = 2.891 and 95%CI: 1.364-6.128 (*P* = 0.006) and positive lymph node status *i.e.* negative *vs* positive with an HR = 9.473 and 95%CI: 3.75-23.926 (*P* < 0.001) have poorer OS. However, the BCE method evaluated here with additional variables did not appear to be associated with CSS and OS, all having *P* values below the predetermined threshold (*i.e.* *P* > 0.05). Please see Figure 2I and Table 2 for more details.

## DISCUSSION

Although RNU with *en bloc* resection of the ipsilateral bladder cuff is the standard surgical practice for patients with non-metastatic UTUC, the optimal BCE approach remains controversial<sup>[1,6,9]</sup>. To the best of our knowledge, open removal of the distal ureter is traditionally used as the standard comparison for other techniques, because this not only guarantees complete resection of the distal ureter but also does not damage the contralateral ureteric orifice<sup>[7,10]</sup>. While this approach is associated with a lower IVR rate, it has been criticized because of the significant postoperative complication and morbidity such as larger wounds, increased analgesic requirements and prolonged periods of hospitalization. While minimally invasive technology and equipment are under development, endoscopic and laparoscopic methods for resecting the distal ureter and bladder cuff have been proposed to complement RNU because these techniques reduce the number of abdominal incisions<sup>[1,7]</sup>. Although these techniques continue to be widely used, current evidence does not overwhelmingly favor one technique over the others regarding oncological safety<sup>[6,7]</sup>.

We compared the oncological outcomes of three different techniques with a comparatively large cohort, over an adequate follow-up period in our hospital. Findings were generally consistent with the results of several previous studies, which found that minimally invasive technologies (*i.e.* EVBC and TUBC) are not inferior in terms of oncological outcomes when compared to IVBC. Li *et al*<sup>[11]</sup> performed a large sample size retrospective study with 301 patients who underwent BCE with either IVBC, EVBC or the TUBC technique. They found that the three techniques had equivalent oncological outcomes including IVR, distant metastasis, and CSS. In a

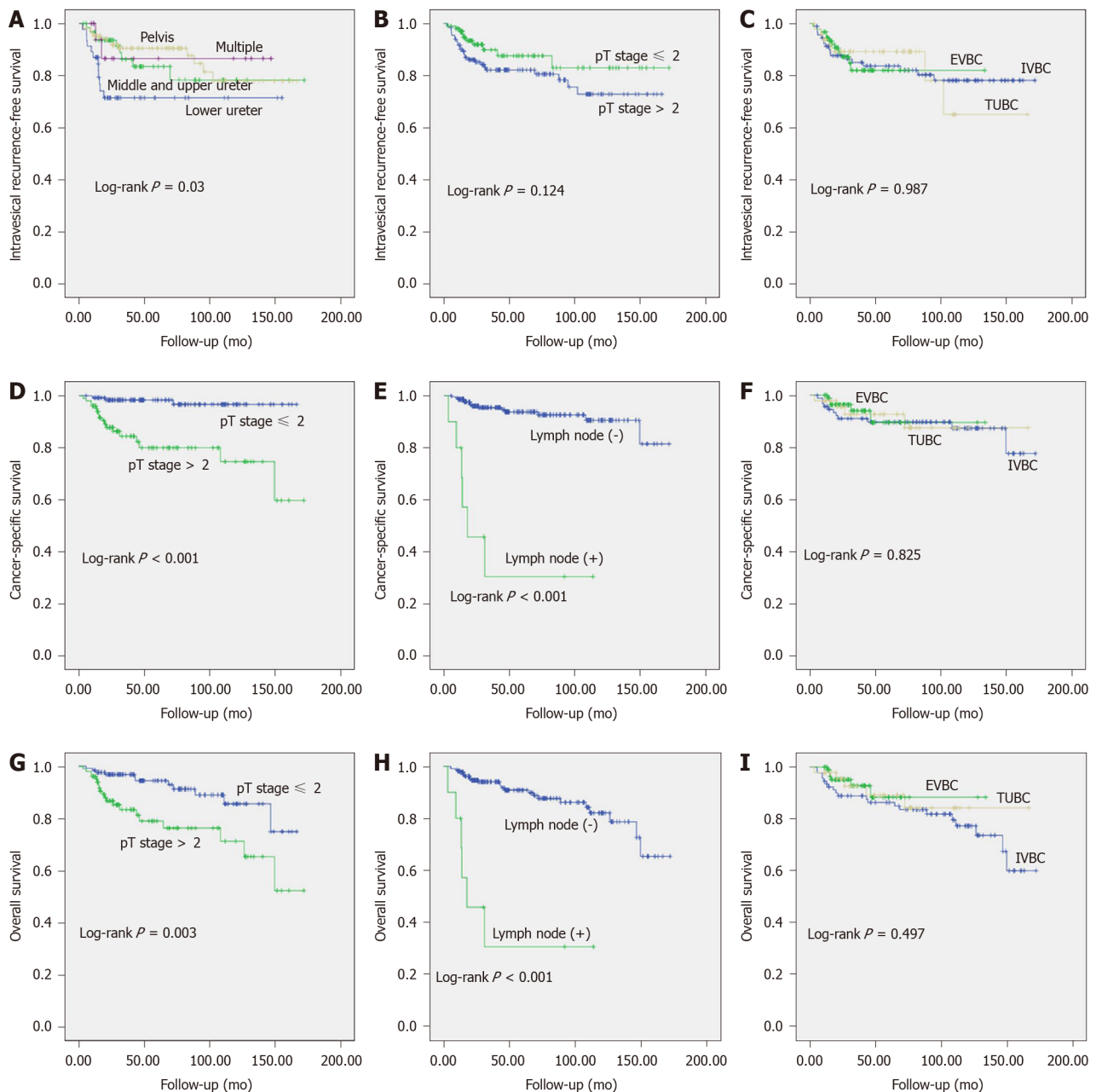
**Table 2 Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses for predicting oncological outcomes in patients treated with radical nephroureterectomy for upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma**

Variable	IRFS						CSS						OS					
	Univariate analysis			Multivariate analysis			Univariate analysis			Multivariate analysis			Univariate analysis			Multivariate analysis		
	HR	95%CI	P value	HR	95%CI	P value	HR	95%CI	P value	HR	95%CI	P value	HR	95%CI	P value	HR	95%CI	P value
Age < 70 yr vs age ≥ 70 yr	0.799	0.412-1.550	0.507	-			0.968	0.398-2.353	0.943				1.340	0.656-2.737	0.421			
Male vs female	0.535	0.273-1.047	0.068	-			0.820	0.339-1.986	0.661				0.644	0.315-1.319	0.229			
BCE methods			0.987	-					0.826						0.503			
IVBC	1	Reference	-	-			1	Reference	-				1	Reference	-			
EVBC	1.032	0.474-2.246	0.937				0.707	0.235-2.128	0.537				0.587	0.223-1.542	0.280			
TUBC	0.954	0.392-2.323	0.917				0.879	0.276-2.797	0.828				0.695	0.256-1.884	0.474			
Tumor location			0.042			0.042			0.564						0.161			
Lower ureter	1	Reference	-	1	Reference	-	1	Reference	-				1	Reference	-			
Middle and upper ureter	0.421	0.177-1.002	0.051	0.421	0.177-1.002	0.051	0.930	0.295-2.933	0.901				1.148	0.451-2.920	0.772			
Renal pelvis or calyx	0.339	0.153-0.750	0.008	0.339	0.153-0.750	0.008	0.505	0.160-1.598	0.245				0.466	0.176-1.230	0.123			
Multiple	0.315	0.007-1.416	0.132	0.315	0.007-1.416	0.132	0.459	0.053-3.973	0.479				0.500	0.102-2.462	0.394			
pT ≤ 2 vs pT > 2	0.567	0.273-1.178	0.128				9.156	2.673-31.358	0.000	8.439	2.424-29.377	0.001	2.970	1.417-6.225	0.004	2.891	1.364-6.128	0.006
LN (-/x) vs LN (+)	0.901	0.123-6.586	0.918				16.793	6.328-44.568	0.000	14.343	5.176-39.745	< 0.001	9.917	3.995-24.621	0.000	9.473	3.75-23.926	< 0.001
Tumor grade	0.988	0.383-2.547	0.980				25.367	0.083-7755.852	0.268				0.981	0.341-2.826	0.972			
LV (-) vs LV (+)	0.611	0.146-2.552	0.499				2.933	0.969-8.881	0.057				2.385	0.907-6.273	0.078			
Urinary cytology	0.993	0.478-2.064	0.986				1.474	0.492-4.419	0.488				1.446	0.592-3.532	0.418			
Intravesical chemotherapy (yes vs no)	1.023	0.503-2.081	0.950				0.606	0.202-1.816	0.371				0.852	0.380-1.909	0.697			

CSS: Cancer-specific survival; EVBC: Extravesical incision of the bladder cuff; IVBC: Intravesical incision of the bladder cuff; IRFS: Intravesical recurrence-free survival; OS: Overall survival; TUBC: Transurethral incision of the bladder cuff; LN: Lymph node; pT: Pathological tumor; LVI: Lymphovascular invasion; HR: Hazard ratio; CI: Confidence interval.

similar study that compared the efficacy of TUBC and IVBC across a sample of 138 patients researchers found no significant differences in RFS and CSS between the two





**Figure 2** Survival curves for 248 primary urinary tract urothelial carcinoma patients. A: Intravesical recurrence-free survival (IRFS) by tumor location; B: IRFS by pathological tumor (pT) stage; C: IRFS by different bladder cuff excision (BCE) techniques; D: Cancer-specific survival (CSS) by pT stage; E: CSS by lymph node status; F: CSS by different BCE techniques; G: Overall survival (OS) by pT stage; H: OS by lymph node status; I: OS by different BCE techniques. EVBC: Extravesical incision of the bladder cuff; IVBC: Intravesical incision of the bladder cuff; TUBC: Transurethral incision of the bladder cuff.

methods<sup>[12]</sup>. Likewise, the specific BCE method adopted during laparoscopic RNU appears to be associated with a higher risk of tumor recurrence and metastases. For example, Allard *et al*<sup>[13]</sup> conducted a retrospective review of all laparoscopic RNU performed within their center over a 10 year period. Their results further suggest that these three methods are oncologically valid with similar recurrence and metastases rates; however, conclusions are not consistent across all studies.

Xylinas *et al*<sup>[10]</sup> conducted a multi-center study involving 2681 patients whom underwent RNU for UTUC between 1987 and 2007. Evidence from their study suggests that the TUBC technique is associated with a higher incidence of IVR (HR: 1.74,  $P = 0.01$ ). Equally controversial, the results from the Kapoor study found inferior RFS for patients undergoing TUBC compared to IVBC (HR: 1.488,  $P = 0.0424$ )<sup>[14]</sup>. These inconsistencies may manifest through several factors. For example, one potential criticism may be that the sample size in TUBC groups in both studies mentioned were relatively small, representing only 12.0% (98/820) and 3.2% (85/2681) of the total sample, respectively. These groups were also very different in terms of primary tumor location, tumor multifocality, pathologic staging and grade, which logically reduces

the generalizability of findings. Some of the studies also included patients with bladder tumor history which is likely to have greatly influenced IVR outcomes. In fact, even though the multicenter study involved dozens of international clinics and urology departments which would generally yield strong evidence, there were technical discrepancies regarding BCE methods within groups<sup>[6]</sup>. Moreover, there is likely to have been variability in surgical skill and surgeons' experience which greatly influences outcomes.

Our study was designed to overcome some of the more obvious limitations identified in the foundational research mentioned. All three methods analyzed were performed by experienced surgeons using the same surgical technique in one hospital. These control measures are likely to have reduced encroaching study biases. We found the IVR rate reached 15%, which is comparatively lower than the aforementioned related studies. One reason for this may be that patients with contamination/previous bladder tumor history were excluded according to our study protocol. Another reason for the lower IVR rate may be that the transurethral management techniques in our hospital are not identical to other techniques administered in the related foundational research. As a matter of course, during TUBC, we not only coagulated the ureteric orifice but also ligated the ureter below the distal border of the tumor prior to renal manipulation. Evidence and indeed surgical experience shows that early ligation of the ureter using a Ham-Lock provides superior closure of the ipsilateral collecting system which reduces the likelihood of urine leakage and prevents tumor seeding, thereby minimizing the postoperative risk of local tumor recurrence<sup>[15,16]</sup>. Furthermore, some of our sample had received at least one dose of prophylactic intravesical instillation postoperatively which can decrease tumor recurrence either<sup>[17,18]</sup>.

Evidence around independent risk factors for IVR in primary UTUC across the Chinese population involved in this study appears to verify previously published data which suggests that tumor lesions involving lower ureter are independently associated with increased IVR<sup>[19,20]</sup>. Tumor cell implantation may be the mechanism which increases recurrence risk which is currently estimated to be between 16%-58% in the ureteric remnant considering the proximity of the primary tumor to the resection site<sup>[13]</sup>. This infers tumors located in the lower ureter can easily invade bladder mucosa, and patients with distal ureter carcinoma may have residual microscopic tumor cells even after radical surgical interventions<sup>[19]</sup>. In our study, even though IVR after RNU did not appear to have a direct impact on survival across the sample, the relapse rate suggests urothelial carcinoma continue to proliferate. This appears to necessitate further adjuvant prophylactic intravesical instillation and continued close postoperative surveillance<sup>[21]</sup>.

Previous research has found that tumor stage and lymph node status are the most important predictors of CSS and OS in patients with UTUC<sup>[1,3,22]</sup>, and our findings appear to confirm this. Higher tumor stages are certainly associated with more adverse oncologic outcomes which necessitates raising public awareness of the early signs of this potentially life changing disease. While beyond the remit of this study, we would encourage complementary qualitative research into the experiential elements involved in healthcare seeking behaviors related to this disease. While adjuvant therapies such as radiotherapy and chemotherapy may significantly improve overall survival<sup>[1,22,23]</sup>, we must balance the system to reduce perceived social stigma and encourage early identification which will improve overall outcomes<sup>[23]</sup>.

### Limits of the study

Our study had several limitations. The main limitation is inherent to retrospective study designs and analyses. Potential biases such as selection bias, information bias, and other confounding factors cannot be ignored. However, it is difficult to randomize patients to different surgical approaches due to its rareness, and clinicians have a duty to inform patients to make their own choices. In addition, postoperative adjuvant intravesical instillation may lower the IVR rate, thereby influencing the effects observed in our study. Even though the multivariate analysis was performed to adjust for possible confounding, caution must be given when drawing conclusions. Therefore, further well-designed studies with an increased number of cases and a longer follow-up time are warranted.

## CONCLUSION

EVBC and TUBC appear to have equivalent oncologic outcomes to IVBC for treating UTUC when adhering to strict oncological principles, although these methods have

the advantage of being minimally invasive. Selecting which of these methods to implement is dependent upon a surgeon's experience, patient's individual characteristics, and imparting the best evidence to inform patient choices. This study adds to the evidence base and will support urologists; however, larger, rigorously designed, multicenter studies with long term outcomes are still required.

## ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS

### Research background

Upper urinary tract urothelial carcinomas (UTUC) is a relatively uncommon disease accounting for only 5%-10% of all urothelial carcinomas. The current standard surgical treatment is radical nephroureterectomy (RNU) with bladder cuff excision (BCE), which consists of two separate procedures, *i.e.* the removal of the ipsilateral distal ureter and partial cystectomy along with the ureteral orifice. Guidelines purport that laparoscopic RNU has equivalent oncological efficacy compared to open RNU when adhering to strict oncological principles. Although, the safety and efficacy of the second step involved in the BCE method, has been debated by urologists for a number of years.

### Research motivation

There is currently no consensus about which management technique is superior for treating primary UTUC. We previously found that intravesical incision of the bladder cuff (IVBC) is more strongly associated with improved intravesical recurrence-free survival, compared to EVBC and TUBC. Although, the findings can be criticized because pooled analysis did not adjust for other important clinicopathological parameters, such as tumor multiplicity, location, stage, grade, gender.

### Research objectives

To retrospectively collate data from a nationwide tertiary care center in mainland China, in order to investigate the oncological impact of the three, different BCE techniques on primary UTUC patients following RNU across this Asian population.

### Research methods

Data from 248 primary UTUC patients who underwent RNU with BCE between January 2004 to December 2018 were retrospectively analyzed. Patients were analyzed according to each BCE methods. Data extracted included patient demographics, perioperative parameters and oncological outcomes. Statistical analyses were performed using chi-square and log-rank tests. The Cox proportional hazards regression model was utilized to identify independent predictors.  $P < 0.05$  was considered statistically significant.

### Research results

Of the 248 participants, 39.9% ( $n = 99$ ) underwent IVBC, 38.7% ( $n = 96$ ) EVBC, and 21.4% ( $n = 53$ ) TUBC. At a median follow-up of 44.2 mo, bladder recurrence developed in 17.2%, 12.5%, and 13.2% of the cases, respectively. Cancer specific deaths occurred in 11.1%, 5.2%, and 7.5%, respectively. Kaplan-Meier survival curves with a log-rank test highlighted no significant differences in intravesical recurrence-free survival, cancer-specific survival, and overall survival among these approaches with  $P$  values of 0.987, 0.825 and 0.497, respectively. Under multivariate analysis, the lower ureter location appears to have inferior intravesical recurrence-free survival ( $P = 0.042$ ). However, cancer-specific survival and overall survival were independently influenced by tumor stage (HR: 8.439; 95%CI: 2.424-29.377;  $P = 0.001$ ) and lymph node status (HR: 14.343; 95%CI: 5.176-39.745;  $P < 0.001$ ).

### Research conclusions

EVBC and TUBC appear to have equivalent oncologic outcomes to IVBC for treating UTUC when adhering to strict oncological principles, although these methods have the advantage of being minimally invasive. Selecting which of these methods to implement is dependent upon a surgeon's experience, patient's individual characteristics and imparting best evidence to inform patient choices.

**Research perspectives**

This study adds to the evidence-base and will support urologists; however, larger, rigorously designed, multicenter studies with long-term outcomes are still required.

**REFERENCES**

- Rouprêt M**, Babjuk M, Compérat E, Zigeuner R, Sylvester RJ, Burger M, Cowan NC, Gontero P, Van Rhijn BWG, Mostafid AH, Palou J, Shariat SF. European Association of Urology Guidelines on Upper Urinary Tract Urothelial Carcinoma: 2017 Update. *Eur Urol* 2018; **73**: 111-122 [PMID: [28867446](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.eururo.2017.07.036](#)]
- Munoz JJ**, Ellison LM. Upper tract urothelial neoplasms: incidence and survival during the last 2 decades. *J Urol* 2000; **164**: 1523-1525 [PMID: [11025695](#)]
- Margulis V**, Shariat SF, Matin SF, Kamat AM, Zigeuner R, Kikuchi E, Lotan Y, Weizer A, Raman JD, Wood CG; Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma Collaboration. The Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma Collaboration. Outcomes of radical nephroureterectomy: a series from the Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma Collaboration. *Cancer* 2009; **115**: 1224-1233 [PMID: [19156917](#) DOI: [10.1002/ncr.24135](#)]
- Rouprêt M**, Zigeuner R, Palou J, Boehle A, Kaasinen E, Sylvester R, Babjuk M, Oosterlinck W. European guidelines for the diagnosis and management of upper urinary tract urothelial cell carcinomas: 2011 update. *Eur Urol* 2011; **59**: 584-594 [PMID: [21269756](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.eururo.2010.12.042](#)]
- Ni S**, Tao W, Chen Q, Liu L, Jiang H, Hu H, Han R, Wang C. Laparoscopic vs open nephroureterectomy for the treatment of upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma: a systematic review and cumulative analysis of comparative studies. *Eur Urol* 2012; **61**: 1142-1153 [PMID: [22349569](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.eururo.2012.02.019](#)]
- Lee SM**, McKay A, Grimes N, Umez-Eronini N, Aboumarzouk OM. Distal Ureter Management During Nephroureterectomy: Evidence from a Systematic Review and Cumulative Analysis. *J Endourol* 2019; **33**: 263-273 [PMID: [30793934](#) DOI: [10.1089/end.2018.0819](#)]
- Steinberg JR**, Matin SF. Laparoscopic radical nephroureterectomy: dilemma of the distal ureter. *Curr Opin Urol* 2004; **14**: 61-65 [PMID: [15075832](#) DOI: [10.1097/00042307-200403000-00003](#)]
- Lai S**, Guo R, Seery S, Wu P, Liu J, Zhang Y, Zhu S, Li X, Liu M, Wang J. Assessing the impact of different distal ureter management techniques during radical nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma on oncological outcomes: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Int J Surg* 2020; **75**: 165-173 [PMID: [31978650](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.ijso.2020.01.016](#)]
- Phé V**, Cussenot O, Bitker MO, Rouprêt M. Does the surgical technique for management of the distal ureter influence the outcome after nephroureterectomy? *BJU Int* 2011; **108**: 130-138 [PMID: [21070580](#) DOI: [10.1111/j.1464-410X.2010.09835.x](#)]
- Xylinas E**, Rink M, Cha EK, Clozel T, Lee RK, Fajkovic H, Comploj E, Novara G, Margulis V, Raman JD, Lotan Y, Kassouf W, Fritsche HM, Weizer A, Martinez-Salamanca JI, Matsumoto K, Zigeuner R, Pycha A, Scherr DS, Seitz C, Walton T, Trinh QD, Karakiewicz PI, Matin S, Montorsi F, Zerbib M, Shariat SF; Upper Tract Urothelial Carcinoma Collaboration. Impact of distal ureter management on oncologic outcomes following radical nephroureterectomy for upper tract urothelial carcinoma. *Eur Urol* 2014; **65**: 210-217 [PMID: [22579047](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.eururo.2012.04.052](#)]
- Li WM**, Shen JT, Li CC, Ke HL, Wei YC, Wu WJ, Chou YH, Huang CH. Oncologic outcomes following three different approaches to the distal ureter and bladder cuff in nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma. *Eur Urol* 2010; **57**: 963-969 [PMID: [20079965](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.eururo.2009.12.032](#)]
- Walton TJ**, Sherwood BT, Parkinson RJ, Obakponovwe O, Thomas SA, Taylor MC, England RC, Lemberger RJ. Comparative outcomes following endoscopic ureteral detachment and formal bladder cuff excision in open nephroureterectomy for upper urinary tract transitional cell carcinoma. *J Urol* 2009; **181**: 532-539 [PMID: [19084866](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.juro.2008.10.032](#)]
- Allard CB**, Alamri A, Dason S, Farrokhyar F, Matsumoto ED, Kapoor A. The method of bladder cuff excision during laparoscopic radical nephroureterectomy does not affect oncologic outcomes in upper tract urothelial carcinoma. *World J Urol* 2013; **31**: 175-181 [PMID: [22843075](#) DOI: [10.1007/s00345-012-0915-0](#)]
- Kapoor A**, Dason S, Allard CB, Shayegan B, Lacombe L, Rendon R, Jacobsen NE, Fairley A, Izawa J, Black P, Tanguay S, Chin J, So A, Lattouf JB, Bell D, Saad F, Drachenberg D, Cagiannos I, Fradet Y, Alamri A, Kassouf W. The impact of method of distal ureter management during radical nephroureterectomy on tumour recurrence. *Can Urol Assoc J* 2014; **8**: E845-E852 [PMID: [25485014](#) DOI: [10.5489/cuaj.1985](#)]
- Gill IS**, Soble JJ, Miller SD, Sung GT. A novel technique for management of the en bloc bladder cuff and distal ureter during laparoscopic nephroureterectomy. *J Urol* 1999; **161**: 430-434 [PMID: [9915419](#)]
- Kurzer E**, Leveillee RJ, Bird VG. Combining hand assisted laparoscopic nephroureterectomy with cystoscopic circumferential excision of the distal ureter without primary closure of the bladder cuff--is it safe? *J Urol* 2006; **175**: 63-7; discussion 67 [PMID: [16406870](#) DOI: [10.1016/S0022-5347\(05\)00046-7](#)]
- Wu P**, Zhu G, Wei D, Liu S, Walsh K, Li D, Harron U, Wang X, Ma H, Wan B, Sun L, Yang Z, Wang J. Prophylactic intravesical chemotherapy decreases bladder tumor recurrence after nephroureterectomy for primary upper tract urothelial carcinoma: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J BUON* 2015; **20**: 1229-1238 [PMID: [26537069](#)]
- Wu WJ**, Ke HL, Yang YH, Li CC, Chou YH, Huang CH. Should patients with primary upper urinary tract cancer receive prophylactic intravesical chemotherapy after nephroureterectomy? *J Urol* 2010; **183**: 56-61 [PMID: [19913833](#) DOI: [10.1016/j.juro.2009.08.154](#)]
- Luo HL**, Kang CH, Chen YT, Chuang YC, Cheng YT, Lee WC, Chiang PH. Oncological impact of endoscopic bladder cuff management during nephroureterectomy varies according to upper urinary tract tumor location. *Int J Urol* 2014; **21**: 366-369 [PMID: [24118071](#) DOI: [10.1111/iju.12285](#)]

- 20 **Zigeuner RE**, Hutterer G, Chromecki T, Rehak P, Langner C. Bladder tumour development after urothelial carcinoma of the upper urinary tract is related to primary tumour location. *BJU Int* 2006; **98**: 1181-1186 [PMID: 17125475 DOI: 10.1111/j.1464-410X.2006.06519.x]
- 21 **O'Brien T**, Ray E, Singh R, Coker B, Beard R; British Association of Urological Surgeons Section of Oncology. Prevention of bladder tumours after nephroureterectomy for primary upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma: a prospective, multicentre, randomised clinical trial of a single postoperative intravesical dose of mitomycin C (the ODMIT-C Trial). *Eur Urol* 2011; **60**: 703-710 [PMID: 21684068 DOI: 10.1016/j.eururo.2011.05.064]
- 22 **Chromecki TF**, Bensalah K, Remzi M, Verhoest G, Cha EK, Scherr DS, Novara G, Karakiewicz PI, Shariat SF. Prognostic factors for upper urinary tract urothelial carcinoma. *Nat Rev Urol* 2011; **8**: 440-447 [PMID: 21727942 DOI: 10.1038/nrurol.2011.96]
- 23 **Hasan MN**, Rouprêt M, Keeley F, Cracco C, Jones R, Straub M, Traxer O, Osther PJS, Brehmer M. Consultation on UTUC, Stockholm 2018 aspects of risk stratification: long-term results and follow-up. *World J Urol* 2019; **37**: 2289-2296 [PMID: 30944969 DOI: 10.1007/s00345-019-02739-1]





Published by **Baishideng Publishing Group Inc**  
7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

**Telephone:** +1-925-3991568

**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)

**Help Desk:** <https://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>

<https://www.wjgnet.com>

