

Vol 4, No 5 (2017)

May 2017

Table of Contents

Original Research Articles

[Effect of dexmedetomidine as adjuvant in supraclavicular block for upper limb orthopedic surgeries](#)

Dixitkumar B. Modh, Manthan Parmar, Shilpin Solanki

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171589](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171589)

[Measurement of intact parathormone after one hour of total thyroidectomy: a predictor of symptomatic hypocalcemia](#)

Nabeel T. P., Jose Gamalial, Jacob Thomas

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171598](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171598)

[Outcome of skin incision by cautery versus steel scalpel in hernia surgery: a prospective cohort study at a tertiary medical college hospital in South India](#)

Ragesh K. V., Mahendran S., Siddarth Mathad

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171519](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171519)

[Evaluation of suspicious Hirschsprung disease in children using radiologic investigation method: a prospective observational study](#)

Ramesh Kumar Sahu, Sanjay Kothari, Sk. Rafikul Rahaman, Abhishek Chattopadhyay, Sayandev

Dasgupta, Shipra Sen

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171514](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171514)

[Efficacy of closed internal sphincterotomy using von grafae knife in the management of chronic anal fissures](#)

Chandrashekar S., Aravind N., Veeresh Kumar Ireddy, Vijay Kumar Patil, Raghavendra Prabhu

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171590](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171590)

[Ligation of the intersphincteric fistula tract technique in the treatment of anal fistula](#)

Hassan E. A. Younes

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171540](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171540)

[The incidence of postoperative infection in tertiary rural hospital](#)

Meghraj Chawada, Shobha S. Nisale, Ganesh K. Kharkate, Sudhir B. Deshmukh

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171542](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171542)

[Ultrasonography as a diagnostic tool in acute appendicitis: Rural setup](#)

Yamanur P. Lamani, Bhimanagouda V. Goudar, Eshwar B. Kalburgi, Bheemappa K. Bhavi,

Mohammedgouse Karikazi

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171592](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171592)

Comparison of conventional and ultrasonologically guided fine needle aspiration cytology of the solitary nodule of the thyroid gland

Sajikumar N. R., Ramkumar V.

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171464

A study on diabetes mellitus among diabetic foot ulcer patients in a tertiary care centre

Vinu Gopinath, S. Soundara Rajan

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171518

A comparative study of tension band wiring and encirclage in treating transverse fractures of patella

Subrat Mohapatra, Pulin Bihari Das, R. V. Krishnakumar, Sibanarayan Rath, Rabindra N. Padhy

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171517

Axillary lymph node status, age at presentation and menopausal status in female breast cancer patients attending a government tertiary care teaching hospital in Mysore, Karnataka, India

Chandrashekar S., Ajith V. L., Ashwin Raghavendra A.

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171510

A study of preoperative, intra-operative and postoperative factors responsible for postoperative wound infection

Shobha S. Nisale, Meghraj Chawada, Ganesh K. Kharkate, Sudhir B. Deshmukh

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171541

Assessment of different stress responses after laparoscopic and open cholecystectomy in patients attending tertiary care hospital, Bhuj, Gujarat, India: a prospective study

Bhavin Kothari, Gyaneshwar Rao

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171516

Comparison of nebulized ketamine and ketamine with clonidine in postoperative sore throat

Sunita Jain, Hari Prasad Bendwal, Sarita Gohiya, Neil Alwani, Santosh Pancholi, Rakesh Romday

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171515

Correlation of intra-abdominal pressure with the outcome of perforation peritonitis

Saurabh Agrawal, Tarun Chaudhary, Shantanu Kumar Sahu

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171601

Single incision laparoscopic appendicectomy versus conventional laparoscopic appendicectomy- a prospective study

Rohit Kumar, Rajan Vaithianathan, Vinoth Sundaresan

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171602

Corrosive injury of upper gastrointestinal tract and its outcome

Uday Shankar Baluni, Tejas Mistry, Ankur Kothari, Tejas Patel

DOI: 10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171603

A comparison of left ventricular function in patients undergoing beating heart bypass surgery using mixed versus pure venous conduits

Tarun Chaudhary, Hemant Kumar Nautiyal, Aratratran Nahak, Shantanu Sahu

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171604](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171604)

[Predicting difficulty of thyroidectomy preoperatively](#)

Alex Oommen, Vaisagh Remin

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171605](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171605)

[Acute urinary retention in children](#)

Brijesh Kumar Agarwal, Namita Agarwal

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171606](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171606)

[A comparative study to evaluate the efficacy of the USG and USG guided FNAC of axillary lymph node of carcinoma breast in clinically node negative cases](#)

Ramesh H., Praveen K. N., Akshay V. Gokak, Abhijit D. H.

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171607](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171607)

[Thoracic approaches in atrial septal defect closure a comparative study](#)

Manju Gupta, Pankaj Kumar Mishra, Amit Bathla, Mohd Shoeb, Jagdish Prasad

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171608](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171608)

[Comparison between laparoscopic and open appendectomy in pregnant women](#)

Subba Rao Dova, Sankara Rao Pagoti, Manoj Kumar Mannem

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171609](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171609)

[Harmonic scalpel versus conventional haemorrhoidectomy for grade III and IV haemorrhoids: a randomized controlled trial](#)

Atul Philipose, Murtaza Akhtar, Divish Saxena, Siddharth Keswani

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171610](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171610)

[Clinical study of hernia in females](#)

Vijaykumar S. Kappikeri, Puneeth Thalasta

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171611](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171611)

[A clinico-pathological study and management of cystic swellings of scrotum](#)

N. Prince Deva Ruban, P. Naresh Kumar, G. P. Sekar

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171612](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171612)

[Epidemiology of major limb amputations: a cross sectional study from a South Indian tertiary care hospital](#)

Unnikrishnan E. P., Rakesh Rollands, Sasi M. Parambil

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171613](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171613)

[A clinico pathological study of acute appendicitis with special reference to ultrasonography](#)

Mohammed Faheem Inamdar, Sali Manjappa, N. M. Inamdar

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171614](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171614)

[Clinical profile and surgical management of primary vaginal hydrocele: our experience in a rural India](#)

Mohd Hamid Shafique Ahmed, Bankar S. S., Gosavi V. S., Dalavi S. B., Gurav P. D.

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171615](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171615)

Clinical study and management of incisional hernias: a prospective monocenter experience

Santoshkumar N. Deshmukh, Anagha S. Varudkar, Anant V. Chopde

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171616](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171616)

Evaluation of hyperbilirubinemia as an innovative diagnostic marker for acute appendicitis and its role in the prediction of appendicular perforation

Veerabhadra Radhakrishna, S. M. Patil, Rajshekhar S. Patil

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171639](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171639)

Modified Graham's repair for peptic ulcer perforation: reassessment study

Bhavinder K. Arora, Rachit Arora, Akshit Arora

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171618](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171618)

Stapled haemorrhoidopexy versus open haemorrhoidectomy: our initial experience

Mir Mujtaba Ahmad, Raja Nadeem, Musharraf Husain, Irfan Nazir, Manzoor Ahmad

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171619](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171619)

Lumbodorsal flap for repair of meningocele- a procedure matched controlled study

Gungi Raghavendra Prasad, Deepak Sharma, J. V. Subba Rao, P. Siva Kumar, Amtul Aziz

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171620](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171620)

Topical phenytoin dressing versus conventional dressing in diabetic ulcers

Pankaj B. Bharadva, Dilip B. Choksi, Sushil Damor, Jigar Shah

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171621](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171621)

Imaging and cytopathological correlation of space occupying lesions in liver: a prospective observational study

Sachinkumar Patel, P. B. Nichkaode, Prasad Y. Bansod, Murtaza Akhtar

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171622](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171622)

A study of VP shunt in management of hydrocephalus

Sudhir Singh Pal, Saurabh Dubey

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171623](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171623)

Clinical study of diabetic foot with different treatment modalities at Medical College Hospital Bikaner, Rajasthan, India

Kartik Thurwal, Manohar Lal Dawan, Ashok Parmar

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171624](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171624)

Strategies for optimizing surgical outcome in patients with esophageal atresia with tracheo-esophageal fistula

Rajashekhar T. Patil, Advait Prakash

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171625](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171625)

Diagnostic value of serum hyperbilirubinemia in acute appendicitis and its complications

Farooq A. Mir, Shaugfta Aara, Masrat Jan, Nisar A. Wani

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171626](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171626)

Incidence of human epidermal growth factor receptor-2 expression and its correlation with clinicopathological characteristics in gastric cancer at tertiary care centre at IGMC Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India

Vishal Thakur, Puneet Mahajan, Neelam Sharma, Ved Kumar Sharma, Tushar Patial, Biplav Singh, Nidhi Raina

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171627](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171627)

Role of tamsulosin in the management of lower ureteric stone at tertiary care hospital in Western Rajasthan, India

Parikshit Singh Chandawat, Ashok Kumar, Mahendra Kumar, Lalit Kumar, Sunder Kishore, Mohd. Rafik Rao

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171628](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171628)

Is the laparoscopic approach superior to open approach for treatment of acute appendicitis? A hospital based experience

Anil Reddy Pinate, Mohammad Fazelul Rahman Shoeb, Shiva Kumar C. R.

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171629](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171629)

A case series of urogenital fistulas

Dhananjay Selukar, Amit Narayan Pothare, Kunal Meshram, Nikhilesh Jibhkate, Vinay Rahangdale, Shrikant Perka

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171630](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171630)

Lactate clearance: its relationship with the success of non-operative management in patient with blunt abdominal trauma

Reno Rudiman, Nova Saragih, Andriana Purnama

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171631](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171631)

Factors predicting difficult laparoscopic cholecystectomy: a single institution experience

Shiv K. Bunkar, Sushil Yadav, Amit Singh, Kalpana Agarwal, Preeti Sharma, Amar C. Sharma

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171632](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171632)

Rheumatic mitral valve surgery: about 1025 cases

M. Amellal, L. Mermad, S. Moughil, Y. Bjjjou, El Bouchikhi

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171633](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171633)

Comparison of Alvarado and RIPASA scoring systems in diagnosis of acute appendicitis and correlation with intraoperative and histopathological findings

Mahendra Kumar Regar, Ganpat Singh Choudhary, Chandrakanta Nogia, Dharmendra Kumar Pipal, Anand Agrawal, Harshit Srivastava

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171634](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171634)

Primary closure versus T-tube drainage after laparoscopic choledocholithotomy: a prospective randomized study

Jugendra Pal Singh Shakya, Neelabh Agrawal, Arun Kumar, Archana Agrawal, Akash Singh, Kunwar Vishal Singh, Charu Yadav

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171635](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171635)

Laparoscopic repair of primary unilateral inguinal hernia is it to pamper the ego of the surgeon  
Suresh Kalyanasundar, Pradeep Kumar Bandi  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171636](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171636)

The role of ultrasonography in acute appendicitis  
Yashwant R. Lamture, Varsha P. Gajbhiye, Vinay V. Shahapurkar  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171637](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171637)

Clinical study and management of hollow viscus perforation of abdomen  
Dhanapal Pattanam Velappan, Selvam Kaveri  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171638](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171638)

## Case Reports

Testicular gangrene complicating strangulated groin hernia in an adult  
Olaogun Julius Gbenga, Adegun Patrick Temi, Omotayo John Adetunji, Areo Peter Olufemi, Dada Samuel Ayokunle  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171650](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171650)

An aggressive case of sclerosing mucoepidermoid carcinoma with eosinophilia of thyroid: a case report  
James R. Eason, Robert Allison  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171509](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171509)

Bipedicle flap for reconstruction of post-electric scalp burn defect  
Kaushik Paul, Saurabh Sharma, Deepashree Paul  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171588](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171588)

Malignant adnexal tumors: a rare case of cutaneous malignancy  
Shwetha Venugopal, C. P. Madhu, Akshata Kamath B.  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171591](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171591)

Appendiceal neuroendocrine tumour presenting as bilateral ovarian and breast metastasis  
Julie Joseph, Bindu C. S., Saikiran Reddy, Sathi P. P.  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171484](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171484)

Laparoscopic management of renal and hepatic hydatidosis in a child: a case report and review of literature  
Rajashekhar T. Patil, Sandesh V. Parelkar, Beejal Sanghvi  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171640](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171640)

A rare case of pseudocyst in remnant pancreas after classical pancreaticoduodenectomy- treated by endoscopic drainage  
Senthilkumar Perumal, Jeswanth Sathyanesan, Ravichandran Palaniappan  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171641](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171641)

Successful surgical management of post-traumatic cirroid aneurysm  
N. R. Sajikumar, Jolhf Koshy Mathai, Dimmy Harold  
DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171642](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171642)

[Ruptured amoebic liver abscess with empyema thoracis - a case report](#)

Danny Darlington C., Fatima Shirly Anitha G.

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171643](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171643)

[Phytobezoar: a rare late complication following laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy surgery](#)

Tair Ben-Porat, Ram Elazary, Ariela Goldenshluger, Shiri Sherf-Dagan, Ronit Grinbaum, Nahum Beglaibter

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171644](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171644)

[A rare case of jelly belly \(pseudomyxomaperitonei\)](#)

Uday Kiran Mokati, Kalandi Barik, L. Hari Prasada Rao, P. Vijaya, P. Avinash

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171645](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171645)

[Acute mesenteric ischemia with tuberculous mesenteric lymphadenitis in a young female](#)

Suruchi Shreshtha, Ashu K. Sekhose, Sujitha S.

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171646](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171646)

[Valentino's syndrome: the simulation of an appendicitis](#)

Alberto Manuel González Chávez, Alain Arturo García Vázquez, José Manuel Gómez López, Nicolás Leyva Pavón, José Luis Lemus Gómez, Diego Abelardo Álvarez Hernández, Mauricio Valdez Durón

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171647](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171647)

[Lymphoepithelial cyst of submandibular gland, a clinical dilemma- case report](#)

Robin Cheereth, Dheeraj Eldho Paulose, George Abraham Ninan

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171648](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171648)

[Isolated intraperitoneal rupture of the urinary bladder following blunt trauma abdomen](#)

Praveen Kumar Arumugam

DOI: [10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171649](https://doi.org/10.18203/2349-2902.isj20171649)

## Original Research Article

# Lactate clearance: its relationship with the success of non-operative management in patient with blunt abdominal trauma

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**Received:** 01 March 2017

**Accepted:** 29 March 2017

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Occult ongoing bleeding has become the second highest cause of death in blunt abdominal trauma. Undetected abdominal injury has caused morbidity and mortality in patients at the early phases of trauma. Non-operative Management (NOM) in solid organ trauma is safe and effective, and this strategy has become widely used. Lactate clearance (LC) has important clinical benefits in patients with acute trauma that is superior to initial lactate examination.

**Methods:** This study was a prospective cohort study of patients with history of hemorrhagic shock caused by blunt abdominal trauma that came to emergency room of Hasan Sadikin Hospital Bandung from August 2015 to July 2016. The tests were including initial blood lactate, 2 hours, and 4 hours post-resuscitation and then calculation of LC. Analysis using SPSS with chi square for the significance of relationships and Spearman correlation to determine the strength of the relationship between variables. Comparison test between LC2 and LC4 were calculated using Mann-Whitney tests.

**Results:** During one year period, from August 2015 to July 2016, there were 34 patients. Age was in the range of 15-65 years, with a range of 15-25 years were 19 (55.8%), 25-50 years were 11 (32.4%), and >50 years as many as four (11.8%). By sex, there were 28 (82.4%) male gender and 6 (17.6%) women. Based on the type of trauma, there were 11 (32.4%) single trauma patients and 23 (67.6%) multiple trauma patients. Based on the results of statistical analysis with chi square, there was a significant correlation between lactate clearance 2 hours (LC2) and lactate clearance 4 hours (LC4) with the success of NOM ( $p < 0.001$ ) with the Odds Ratio (OR) are 3.750 and 6.500 respectively. Based on non-parametric test (Mann Whitney) showed that there were no significant differences between the LC2 and LC4 in determining the successful of NOM ( $p > 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions:** There was a significant relationship between lactate clearance 2 hours (LC2) and lactate clearance 4 hours (LC4) in determining the success of non-operative management (NOM) in patients with history of hemorrhagic shock caused by blunt abdominal trauma. In addition, there are no significant differences between the LC2 and LC4 in determining the success of the NOM, so that either LC2 or LC4 may be used in predicting the success of NOM, as LC4 is the first preference. The low level of lactate clearance may be used as one of indicators to terminate non-operative management and proceed with surgery right before all symptoms of hemorrhagic shock arise.

**Keywords:** Blunt abdominal trauma, Lactate clearance, Non-operative management