



## **Training Course in Colorectal Surgery Report on a session of advanced Experimental Laparoscopy.**

The first experimental course in colorectal surgery was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2011, as was the award for the six best Podium Presentations and abstract of the Educational Meeting of the 13-14<sup>th</sup> December in Rome.

The event stemmed from the idea of wanting to replace the conventional economical award of the congress in order to show a renewed interest of the society in training and education.

The course was held in the experimental operating theatre of the department of Bioscience of Rome (Consorzio Tecnopolo of Castel Romano); five colleagues participated in it:

- Dr Fabrizio Cereatti
- Dr Paolo Gazzetta
- Dr Caterina Neri
- Dr Andrea Massorbio
- Dr Giulio Paolo Angelucci

Under the supervision and tutoring of Professor Marco Catani and myself.

The course lasted one entire day, and consisted in a brief theoretical-didactic introduction, which was necessary to illustrate the surgical procedures that had been planned and their application and transposition to the animal model, and in a practical session of the duration of six hours dedicated exclusively to laparoscopic surgery.

During the session each participant acquired or made perfect their manual ability in carrying out the following laparoscopic operations:

1. colorectal resection with colorectal mechanical trans-anal anastomosis.
2. Mechanical intestinal resection
3. Mechanical and manual intestinal anastomosis

Participants also carried out

1. cholecystectomies
2. ovariectomy ( since a young colleague gynaecologist was present at the course).

During the course the colleagues learned and put into practice the different phases of a surgical intervention, from its preparation to its conclusion; they understood the importance of exposition of laparoscopic surgery and of the

correct placement of the trocars, they became familiar by using different surgical means ( such as staplers, mono-bipolar dissectors and also ultrasound) with complex surgical procedures, all carried out in time with a accuracy which is considered completely acceptable.

Participants acquired also manual skills by means of intra-corporal laparoscopic intestinal sutures, acquiring the tips and tricks of movements that aren't always empiric.

Last but not least they experimented how to gain autonomy in the operating theatre.

The enthusiasm of the learners, the structures and materials of the operating theatre, which were at disposal and the general organization of the course justify the excellent acknowledgement received on behalf of the tutors. As to the participants, I would like to cite as follows some of their comments, in addition to some photos taken during the event.

*"Dear Marco,*

*My impressions on Friday's course are solely positive. I believe it was the type of training necessary and useful to acquire in a short time and thoroughly, the basic competences that allow to face with sensible confidence even the first phases of professional growth. As to Friday, I appreciated the fact that we were only a few people and in friendly and relaxing surroundings, as required in this kind of training courses. I hope that the experience be repeated with other training opportunities, in which case I will be very willing to participate again, even more intensively. In the meantime I would like to thank you and all the committee responsible for the organization for your helpfulness.*

*Best regards*

*Paolo Gazzetta*

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*" I would like to thank The SICCR and all the organizers of the advanced course in experimental laparoscopic colorectal surgery and in particular Professor Catani and Dr. La Torre for having offered me the opportunity to participate in this important event for professional growth. It was a*



*very interesting experience. I believe that being able to put into practice, in a protected environment which is also well tutored, one's own theoretical knowledge in the field of surgery is essential in the professional growth of every surgeon. I also believe that such an experience should become a means of growth and formation in every doctor specializing in general surgery.*

*Dr F. Cereatti*

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*"Hi Marco*

*I'm writing with regard to the course in experimental laparoscopic colorectal surgery held on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> February. According to me, the course was of great interest and in particular was an excellent alternative to the traditional courses that are proposed to young specializing doctors. I am obviously referring to myself as a first year post graduate doctor who has had no previous experience in this field. I would have extended the course, which is a demonstration of my acknowledgement and involvement.*

*The only criticism I would add, but more than a criticism I would consider it a suggestion, is to prepare a proper plan of the practical session. Let me give an example; in a first phase it should be possible to carry out intestinal resection, in a second phase practice exclusively on suture (both theoretical and practical, since, they are according to me, the most difficult aspect of laparoscopy),*

*then in a third phase, leave the participants free to enjoy concentrating on whatever they like. In fact this took place during the course and was much appreciated.)*

*The work carried out by us tutors was excellent both in terms of helpfulness and in terms of professionalism and preparation.*

*For this reason and for the opportunity offered by the SICCR to participate in this course (something that must not be taken for granted) I thank you again.*

*Hope to see you soon, I wish you all the best in your work.*

*Caterina Neri*

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Taking into consideration the general approval and outcome of the course, it is the SICCR's greatest wish to put together and make formal (as well as the session regarding the award for the educational meetings) a project of experimental training on colorectal laparoscopy, organized in theoretical courses and mainly practical courses on experimental surgery, dedicated to all young members and post-graduate doctors with the objective of investing concretely in divulgation and teaching and especially the training of the younger members.

***Dr Marco La Torre***

