

Management of intraoperative bleeding during minimally-invasive thoracic surgery

Video-assisted thoracic surgery has become the leading surgical approach for thoracic surgery in Asia, as it has previously been the case for many Western countries. Unexpected bleeding during minimally-invasive thoracic surgery may quickly turn into a fatal situation unless a recovery is successfully achieved. The best solution is primarily to avoid critical circumstances by means of preoperative simulation and intraoperative navigation with the implementation of new technologies, i.e., 3D imaging and virtual reality. However, surgeons still need to be prepared for a potential crisis.

This special issue will cover the everlasting theme of intraoperative bleeding. We mainly focused on management of bleeding encountered during minimally-invasive thoracic surgery. We asked expert surgeons from Asia to show how they tackle this problem from their various viewpoints; that is, the different surgical approach, procedure, or infrastructural background. We hope that the knowledge shared by the authors through these manuscripts will enable the readers to achieve the mental and technical preparations necessary in face of a critical intraoperative bleeding. Also, it was of note that the development of effective sealants has eventually led to cases of hemostasis that do not require suturing.

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Page 2 of 2



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