

Cardiac surgery and COVID-19

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on "Cardiac surgery in patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection: early experience."¹ Surgery is usually considered a risky procedure for COVID-19 contact during this pandemic. In general, elective surgery is usually postponed but necessary/emergency surgery may be still indicated. Good prevention is important and the operation for COVID-19 patients does not mean there will be further disease spread. The operation in asymptomatic COVID-19 patients has been reported and there is no further transmission to anyone even though the diagnosis of COVID-19 is made after the operation.² The experience of Hussain et al¹ on cardiac surgery on patients with COVID-19 confirms that good planning and management are important for these operations. Furthermore, the surgeon is assured that COVID-19 patients who require cardiac surgery during this outbreak is feasible and can be done safely and effectively. Nevertheless, interesting data that Hussain et al¹ may have omitted is to report on the preparation of the patient before and after surgery, with isolation/surveillance procedures. For the management of a COVID-19 patient, the focus should be not only during the operation phase but also pre-and postsurgery.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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