

Trocars assisted distal shunt tube placement

Osman et al., reported the experience with **trocars** assisted distal shunt tube placement with intraoperative x-ray to rule-out misplacement.

Patients having peritoneal distal catheter site placement for ventriculo-peritoneal or lumbo-peritoneal shunts presenting to Dr. Soliman Fakeeh Hospital, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, over 27 months' period between October 2016 and December 2018.

They performed 65 procedures on 58 patients with mean age of 11 years. The main etiology was congenital hydrocephalus with and without meningocele followed by post hemorrhagic hydrocephalus and idiopathic intracranial hypertension. Two patients developed shunt infection and one case was complicated by bowel injury. No patient showed pre-peritoneal shunt tube malposition.

Trocar-assisted distal shunt tube insertion is a good option in shunt procedures for operation time and infection risk. However, we do not recommend usage of trocars in patients with previous abdominal surgery as adhesions may increase the risk of visceral perforation ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Osman M, Diraz A, Wild A. Trocars assisted distal shunt tube insertion with intra-operative X-Ray confirmation. Br J Neurosurg. 2019 Mar 5;1-4. doi: 10.1080/02688697.2019.1579890. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30836022.

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