

SENTINEL LYMPH NODE IN GASTRIC CANCER

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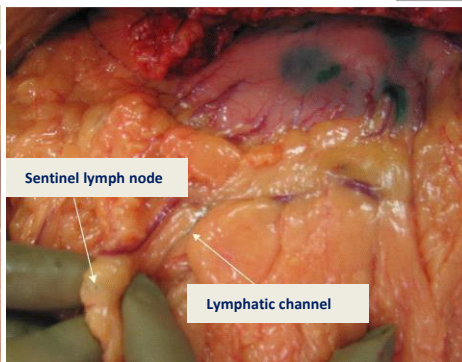
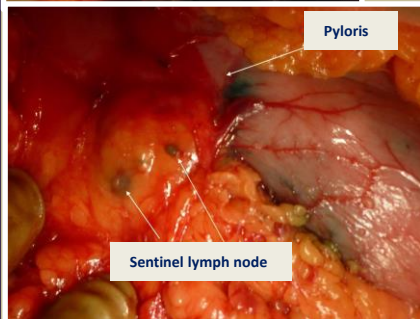
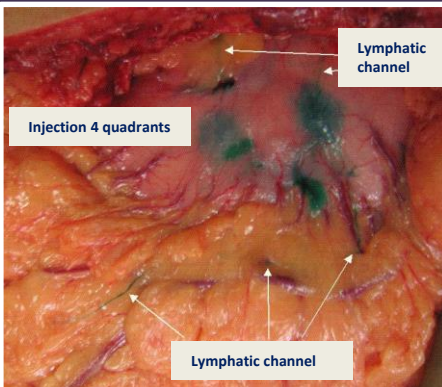
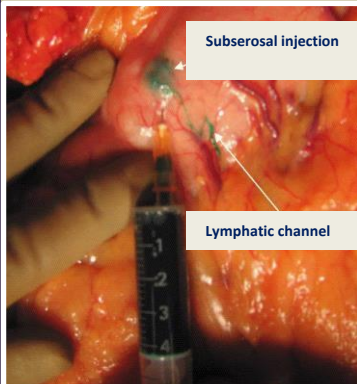
Introduction

Sentinel lymph node is the first lymph node that is in the line of the drainage of an identified tumor. It is assumed that, if this lymph node is negative for tumor cells the remaining lymph nodes will also be negative. This concept has been successfully and widely developed and applied in breast and melanoma tumors. In the beginning of the XXI century, the Japanese began to use and apply the concept of **sentinel lymph node** to gastric cancer.

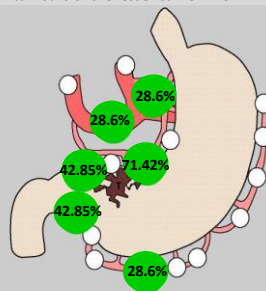
Objective

To apply the sentinel node technology to **portuguese patients with gastric cancer stages T1/T2, N0**. The authors use sub-serosal injection of **indocyanine green** in four cardinal points in the peritumoral area. The **identification and excision of the colored lymph nodes** occurs 5 minutes after the injection. The **surgical protocol included D2 dissection in all patients**.

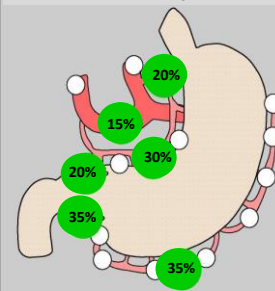
Results



Location of the sentinel lymph node in the tumours of the lesser curve - N8



Location of the sentinel lymph node N20



Tumor location	N
Incisura angularis	8
Distal third-pre pyloric	3
Distal third-greater curve	4
Middle third-anterior wall	4
Middle third-posterior wall	1

Mean number of lymph nodes dissected: **38**
 Mean number of sentinel nodes dissected: **4.65 (min: 1 ; max: 13)**

Lauren	N
Difuse	3
Intestinal	11
Mixed	6

Definition	N
True positive	6
True negative	13
False negative	1

CONCLUSIONS

The use of **indocyanine green** as a method to the **identification of the sentinel node in gastric carcinoma** showed **good results**. This is an area of very promising study results that could bring enormous advantages in the most accurate staging of gastric tumor. It can also contribute to a more individualized therapy of gastric carcinoma.