

## Intrahepatic Glissonian approach for anatomical resection of left liver segments

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To the Editor:

We read with great interest the article by Chen and Qiu [1]: in the “How I Do It” *Langenbeck’s Archives of Surgery* 2008;393:227–230 entitled “A simple technique ligating the corresponding inflow and outflow vessels during anatomical left hepatectomy.”

Our interest in reading the technique description and its results in the paper now published by Chen and Qiu relates to the fact that we had the opportunity to propose and publish this very same modality of approach to the Glissonian sheath 4 years ago in *Archives of Surgery* [2]. Another use for this approach is during anatomical left trisectionectomies as published in 2005 [3]. The application of our technique was also feasible in cirrhotic livers and our preliminary results were published in 2006 [4].

The description of techniques of left liver resections is of utmost importance as they represent a significant technical advance in performing anatomical resection of left liver segments. The knowledge and use of Glissonian pedicles of liver segments is a logical approach in modern liver surgery [2]. It precludes the tedious dissection of hilar structures as we already discussed in previous papers [2–8].

Chen and Qiu’s technique is very similar with ours; however, they stress the outflow control of the correspondent hepatic veins (left hepatic vein or common trunk). We also think that outflow control is very important and we cited in our article a technique described elsewhere [9–10]. The Fig. 2 that appeared in our article [2] is an intraoperative photograph identical to the drawing present in their paper (as Fig. 1). Similar figures also appeared in other papers [3, 4].

Although the authors stated that they have been using this technique for the last 18 years, this approach has never been published before and therefore we believe that the author should have mentioned our technique in their paper since our technique has been published in impact medical journals. Nevertheless, we still think that this is a very important technique and should be used worldwide.

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