

# How Do We Apply Video-Assisted Retroperitoneal Necrosectomy with Minimal Access?

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## Key Words

Acute necrotizing pancreatitis · Teaching video · Retroperitoneal · Necrosectomy · Minimal access

## Abstract

**Background:** The conservative treatment of acute necrotizing pancreatitis has greatly improved due to broad antibiotic treatment and improved organ support in intensive care units. Nevertheless, infected necrosis or persistent multi-organ dysfunction are predictors of poor outcome. In these patients, there is still a need to perform necrosectomy. Open surgery results in extensive operative trauma and is associated with high morbidity and mortality. Therefore, several minimally invasive techniques have been developed recently. Retroperitoneal necrosectomy has been shown to be safe and to reduce morbidity and mortality compared to the open procedure. **Methods and Results:** In an instructive video, we show the technique of video-assisted retroperitoneal necrosectomy with minimal access, including the preoperative percutaneous drainage and several accesses to the necrosis. We discuss the indication for retroperitoneal necrosectomy as well as the optimal time point of the intervention. **Conclusion:** In the management of acute necrotizing pancreatitis, the multidisciplinary approach is crucial. The

initial treatment by the intensive care units should be extended to intervention or surgery in case of infected necrosis or persistent multi-organ dysfunction. We show here a minimal access solution with the placement of a percutaneous drain followed by video-assisted retroperitoneal necrosectomy.

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The video showing the technique of video-assisted retroperitoneal necrosectomy can be accessed via the following link: [www.karger.com/doi/10.1159/000345620](http://www.karger.com/doi/10.1159/000345620).

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## Disclosure Statement

None.

A.S.W. and E.A. contributed equally to this study.

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