

Supplementary Table 1 Details of the studies used in the mini review

References	Country	Number	Design Control Group	Conclusion
Cholecystectomy <i>Meta-analysis</i>				
Moody <i>et al.</i> 2019	United Kingdom	N=629	RCT meta-analysis Early versus delayed cholecystectomy Mild pancreatitis	Reduction of recurrent biliary events that required readmission in early cholecystectomy arm (OR 0.17, 95% CI 0.09 to 0.33). No difference in the rate of intraoperative (OR 0.58, 0.17 to 1.92) or postoperative complications (OR 0.78, 0.38 to 1.62)
Prasanth <i>et al.</i> 2022	India	N=1176	RCT meta-analysis Early versus delayed cholecystectomy Mild and moderate pancreatitis	Reduction in the risk for recurrent biliary events in favour of early cholecystectomy (RR 0.10, 95% CI 0.05 to 0.19). No increased risk of surgical complications with EC (RR 1.04, 95% CI 0.47 to 2.26).

Kamarajah <i>et al.</i> 2020	United Kingdom	N= 326517	RCT meta-analysis and non-RCT meta-analysis	Increasing age was significantly associated with increased rates of overall complications (OR 2.37, 95% CI 2.00-2.78), major complication (OR 1.79, 95% CI 1.45-2.20), risk of conversion to open cholecystectomy (OR 2.17, 95% CI 1.84-2.55), risk of bile leaks (OR 1.50, 95% CI 1.07-2.10), risk of postoperative mortality (OR 7.20, 95% CI 4.41-11.73) and was significantly associated with increased length of stay 2.21 days, 95% CI 1.24-3.18).
			Cholecystectomy in the elderly population compared to younger patients	Higher odds of short-term mortality (OR: 5.54, 95% CI: 1.65-18.60, p = 0.006), postoperative morbidity (OR: 2.65, 95% CI: 1.51-4.64, p = 0.001), major morbidity (OR: 3.61, 95% CI: 1.52-8.59), and respiratory failure (OR: 3.85, 95%CI: 1.08-13.79) among
Niknami <i>et al.</i> 2024	Iran	N= 128421	Cohort studies meta-analysis	
			Impact on frailty on postoperative outcomes following cholecystectomy	

frail patients.

Randomized clinical trials

Da Costa <i>et al</i> 2015	Netherlands	N=266	Same-admission versus delayed cholecystectomy (25-30 days after randomization)	Reduction of recurrent gallstone-related complications or mortality within 6 months after randomisation (risk ratio 0.28, 95% CI 0.12-0.66; $P=0.002$) with EC
Da Costa <i>et al</i> 2016	Netherlands	N=264	Mild pancreatitis Same-admission versus delayed cholecystectomy (25-30 days after randomization)	Mean total costs from a societal perspective were €234 (95%CI 1249 to 738) less per patient in the same-admission cholecystectomy group.
Aboulian <i>et al</i> . 2010	USA	N=50	Mild pancreatitis Early cholecystectomy group (within 48 hours of admission) versus a control cholecystectomy group (performed after resolution of abdominal pain and normalizing trend of laboratory enzymes)	Shorter hospital length of stay in EC group (mean: 3.5 [95%CI, 2.7-4.3], versus 5.8 [95%CI, 3.8-7.9], $P=0.0016$)
			Mild pancreatitis	

Kelly <i>et al.</i> 1988	USA	N=165	Early surgery (less than 48 hours after admission) versus delayed surgery (more than 48 hours after admission) Mild pancreatitis Ranson ≤ 3	EC had minimal effect on outcomes in patients with ≤ 3 Ranson criteria.
Mueck <i>et al.</i> 2019	USA	N=97	Severe pancreatitis Ranson > 3 Early cholecystectomy group (within 48 hours of admission) versus a control cholecystectomy group (performed after clinical resolution)	30-day length of stay (hours) including readmissions 30 h (27–82) IQR vs 77 h (52–111) IQR ($P < 0.005$)
Riquelme <i>et al.</i> 2019	Chile	N=52	Mild pancreatitis Early cholecystectomy within 72 h from admission versus delayed cholecystectomy (after 72h)	Significantly shorter length of stay (median 58 versus 167 h; $P=0.001$) No differences in postoperative complications
			Mild pancreatitis	

Observational or retrospective studies

			Post hoc analysis of a multicentre prospective cohort	Overall recurrent biliary events risk prior to cholecystectomy significantly lower before 10 weeks after discharge (risk ratio 0.49 (95% CI 0.27 to 0.90); $P=0.02$).
			Necrotising biliary pancreatitis	
Hallensleben <i>et al.</i> 2022	Netherlands	N=248	Outcome: optimal timing of cholecystectomy in patients with necrotising biliary pancreatitis, defined as: the optimal point in time with the lowest risk of recurrent biliary events and the lowest risk of complications of cholecystectomy.	Recurrent pancreatitis rate significantly lower before 8 weeks after discharge (risk ratio 0.14 (95% CI 0.02 to 1.0); $P=0.02$). Complication rate of cholecystectomy did not decrease over time.
			US Nationwide Readmissions Database	
Cho <i>et al.</i> 2023	USA	N= 129451	Timing of laparoscopic cholecystectomy was divided into Early (within 2 days of admission)	Late cholecystectomy was associated with higher risk of major adverse events (adjusted odds ratio 1.40, 95% CI 1.29-1.51)

and Late (>2 days after admission)
cohorts

Mild gallstone

Retrospective analysis

Severe pancreatitis

Early defined as a cholecystectomy
performed within 14 days of
admission versus delayed
cholecystectomy

EC was associated with higher
mortality (16 [15.6%] vs 2 [1.2%], $P < .001$), morbidity (30 [30.3%] vs 17 [10.3%], $P < .001$), and infections (12 [14.6%] vs 2 [1.3%], $P < .001$) compared with patients with moderately severe and severe ABP who underwent DC.

Di Martino *et al.* International N=378

Decision model study

Siddiqui *et al.* USA
2006 -

Decision model study

Endoscopic sphincterotomy alone
versus Endoscopic sphincterotomy
followed by Cholecystectomy

For age 80+ years, Sphincterotomy
was dominant with an incremental
success rate of 8%. Mortality in the
Endoscopic sphincterotomy followed
by Cholecystectomy was 7.6 times
that of Endoscopic sphincterotomy.

ERCP

Meta-analysis

			RCT meta-analysis	The use of EUS significantly reduced the risk of overall complications (RR 0.35 (95% CI 0.20 to 0.62); $P<0.001$) and post-ERCP acute pancreatitis (RR 0.21 (95% CI 0.06 to 0.83); $P=0.030$).
Petrov <i>et al.</i> 2009	New-Zealand	N=213	EUS-guided ERCP versus ERCP alone	
Aksintala <i>et al.</i> , 2023	USA	N=19038	RCT meta-analysis Incidence of post-ERCP pancreatitis	The overall cumulative incidence of post-ERCP pancreatitis was 10.2% (95% CI, 9.3-11.3)
Iqbal <i>et al.</i> 2022	USA	N=5521	Non RCT trials meta-analysis ERCP in nonagenarians compared to younger patients	There was no significant difference in technical success rate and overall rate of adverse events comparing ERCP outcomes in nonagenarians. ERCP-related mortality was also significantly higher in nonagenarians compared to younger patients with OR = 4.720 [1.368-16.289]
Singh <i>et al.</i> 2018	India	N=1513	RCT meta-analysis	No significant difference in mortality [OR 0.37, 95% CI (0.09, 1.51), $p =$

Laparoscopic common bile duct exploration and cholecystectomy versus ERCP followed by cholecystectomy 0.17], morbidity [OR 0.97, 95% CI (0.70, 1.33), $P=0.84$], cost [MD -379.13, 95% CI (- 784.80, 111.2), $p = 0.13$] or recurrent/retained stones [OR 1.01, 95% CI (0.38, 2.73), $P=0.98$].

Randomized clinical trials

Schepers <i>et al.</i> 2020	Netherlands	N=232	Urgent ERCP with sphincterotomy or conservative treatment	No difference in mortality or major complications (risk ratio [RR] 0.87, 95% CI 0.64-1.18; $P=0.37$)
			Predicted severe gallstone pancreatitis but without cholangitis	
Staubli <i>et al.</i> 2022	Switzerland	N=122	Intraoperative cholangiography (IOC) and laparoscopic cholecystectomy (LC), followed by ERCP versus MRCP followed by ERCP if needed, and LC	Overall length of hospitalization was shorter in this IOC+LC group ($P=0.0309$)

Prospective studies

Hallensleben <i>et al.</i> 2023	Netherlands	N=196	Multicentre, prospective cohort study	No difference in mortality or major complications (RR 0.93, 95% CI 0.67 to 1.29; $P=0.65$)
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Urgent EUS, followed by ERCP with ES in case of common bile duct stones/sludge in comparison to historical control group = APEC study conservative treatment arm

Observational or retrospective studies

Lee <i>et al.</i> 2024	Republic of Korea	N=162	Retrospective study with cholangitis who underwent urgent ERCP	Significantly higher rates of aspiration pneumonia (odds ratio [OR] 4.00, 95% CI 1.15-13.92, $P=0.021$) and post-ERCP hypotension (OR 11.9, 95% CI 1.39-101.33, $P=0.005$) were observed in the ≤ 18 -h group
			Acute biliary pancreatitis	
			Comparison ERCP within 18h versus after 18h	
			National Readmissions Database	In no cholecystectomy group, ERCP was associated with lower all-cause readmissions (adjusted hazard ratio, 0.80; 95% confidence interval, 0.76-0.83; $P<0.0001$) and pancreatitis readmissions rate (adjusted hazard ratio, 0.51; 95% confidence interval,
Qayed <i>et al.</i> 2018	USA	N=153480	Comparison of 3 groups: no cholecystectomy nor ERCP, no cholecystectomy with ERCP and cholecystectomy group Gallstone Pancreatitis	

				0.47-0.55; $P<0.0001$) compared with no ERCP.
Garci de la Filia Molina <i>et al.</i> 2019	Spain	N= 247	Retrospective study of patients admitted for a first episode of acute gallstone pancreatitis rejected for cholecystectomy.	In multivariate analysis, sphincterotomy showed a protective role for recurrence of pancreatitis (adjusted hazard ratio [HR]: 0.29, 95% CI: 0.08-0.92, $P=0.037$) and for any gallstone-related event (HR 0.46, 95% CI: 0.21-0.98, $P=0.043$)
			Evaluation of the role of endoscopic sphincterotomy	
			Multicenter retrospective cohort study	
Velamazán <i>et al.</i> 2024	Spain	N= 3016	First episode of symptomatic gallstone disease and no cholecystectomy during admission	Sphincterotomy was independently associated with lower risk of relapse (HR = 0.58, 95% CI: 0.49-0.68)
			Retrospective study	
Ridtitid <i>et al.</i> 2019	Thailand	N=266	Non-severe ABP	Recurrent ABP in the ES group was lower than those from the non-ES group (2% vs. 17%; $P=0.01$)
			Delayed cholecystectomy with	

			Endoscopic sphincterotomy versus delayed cholecystectomy without Endoscopic sphincterotomy Retrospective study	
Weissman <i>et al.</i> 2023	USA	N= 70030	Acute biliary pancreatitis without cholangitis	ERCP was associated with significantly lower all-cause inpatient mortality aOR: 0,6 P<0,05
			Impact of ERCP	
			Cohort study	Significantly more pancreatic guidewire manipulation (aOR 1.921 [1.24-2.97]) and prophylactic
Pecsi <i>et al.</i> 2021	Hungary	N=490	Prospectively collected data from the Hungarian ERCP Registry	pancreatic stent use (aOR 4.687 [2.42- 9.10]) in the ABP group.
			ERCP in Acute biliary pancreatitis versus Cholangitis	Average cannulation time in the ABP patients were longer (248 vs. 185 s; P=0.043).
Ramai <i>et al.</i> 2023	USA	N=5751	National Readmissions Database	frail patients experienced higher post-ERCP complications (6.20% vs 14.63%, P<0.001)
			ERCP for cholangitis in frail versus	

non-frail patients

EC: Early Cholecystectomy; OR: Odds ratio; CI: Confidence Interval; ERCP: Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography; ABP: Acute Biliary Pancreatitis, EUS: Endoscopic Ultrasound; ES: Endoscopic Sphincterotomy.