Table of contents

Chapter 1 Introduction 9

Chapter 2 State of the art in rectal cancer surgery: historical overview and new perspectives after the COLOR II trial Cir Esp 2016 Jan 19

PART I THE PAST & PRESENT: COLOR & COLOR II

Chapter 3 Ten-year outcomes of a randomised trial of laparoscopic versus open surgery for colon cancer Surg Endosc 2016 Oct 29

Chapter 4 A randomized trial of laparoscopic versus open surgery for rectal cancer N Engl J Med 2015 Apr 49


Chapter 5 Long-term outcomes of a randomized trial of laparoscopic versus open surgery for rectal cancer In preparation for publication 73

Chapter 6 Conversions in laparoscopic surgery for rectal cancer Surg Endosc 2016 Oct 91

PART II THE FUTURE: COLOR III

Chapter 7 Transanal total mesorectal excision for rectal carcinoma: short-term outcomes and experience after 80 cases Surg Endosc 2016 Feb 111
Chapter 8  Clinical outcomes and case volume effect of transanal total mesorectal excision for rectal cancer: a systematic review  
Tech Coloproctol 2016 Dec  

Chapter 9  COLOR III: a multicentre randomised clinical trial comparing transanal TME versus laparoscopic TME for mid and low rectal cancer  
Surg Endosc 2016 Aug  

Chapter 10  Discussion and future perspectives  

Summary  

Samenvatting  

List of publications  

Curriculum vitae  

Dankwoord