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## Letter to the Editor

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## Clinical pathway for laparoscopic cholecystectomy

Sir.

We write this letter regarding the article retrospective analysis of clinical pathway in management of laparoscopic cholecystectomy in a tertiary care centre in South India, article we have read with interest, and because of the citation of our centre's article clinical pathway for laparoscopic cholecystectomy.<sup>1,2</sup> Since the implementation of laparoscopic cholecystectomy clinical pathway in our centre in 2002, many patients have been included, from 150 to 200 every year and level of goals achieving is very gratifying for us as doctors and also for them as patients and for our health system. In our service, we have also other clinical pathways as those for diabetic foot, colorectal surgery, major ambulatory surgery, thyroidectomy and laparoscopic bariatric surgery and all of them have achieved excellent results, so we encourage everyone to develop those guidelines, at least, for the most frequent procedures.<sup>3-7</sup>

In our opinion, the article published in your Journal, could be more complete, because only mean age, gender, stays and number of doses of antibiotics are analyzed, of course, with good results. They have many patients and in their form, there is a section to fill patient's adverse occurrences that made stay longer (fever, intolerance, pain) so it would be easy to determine results associated with those data. Also patient's compliance with the stay and cost efficiency analysis would be interesting.

Anyway, we congratulate hospitals in every attempt to systematize patients care plans for common procedures to decrease variability in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

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