

Umbilical Keloids Following Laparoscopic Surgery

Asako Fukuju¹, Risa Murakami¹, Sakurako Murata¹, Hirotaka Suga¹

¹Department of Plastic Surgery, Teikyo University School of Medicine, Mizonokuchi Hospital, Kanagawa, Japan

The umbilicus is frequently used for port insertion due to its discreet scarring and anatomical accessibility, making it ideal for minimally invasive procedures. This study reports on the management of umbilical port-site keloids following laparoscopic surgery. Between 2017 and 2023, our department treated 14 cases of umbilical keloids. Most patients presented months or years after undergoing laparoscopic surgery. Treatments included topical and/or intralesional steroids and surgical excision. In three of five surgically treated cases, epidermal cysts were found within the keloid tissue. Our findings suggest that umbilical keloids can develop even in individuals without a predisposition to keloid formation and may be aggravated by local factors such as moisture and improper wound edge alignment. Conservative therapy has proven effective in the early stages. We stress the importance of increased awareness among surgical teams regarding the potential for umbilical keloid formation and the need for early referral to plastic surgeons. Proper incision planning that balances safety and aesthetics can enhance outcomes. This report underscores the increasing relevance of umbilical keloids as postoperative complications in the era of minimally invasive surgery.