Stepwise Approach to the Rectovaginal Nodule

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Endometriosis is a common disorder, and the most severe form is deeply infiltrating endometriosis. Medical management may provide partial or no improvement in symptoms, but surgical excision of deeply infiltrating endometriosis can be challenging, especially disease affecting the rectovaginal septum as this significantly increases the risk of inadvertent bowel injury. Currently, there is no evidence-based, superior technique for excision of deeply-infiltrating endometriosis; this video presents a safe and effective stepwise approach to excision of the rectovaginal endometriotic nodule with a focus on demonstrating important anatomic structures and surgical principles. The surgical steps consist of optimizing visualization, developing the pararectal spaces, mobilizing the rectovaginal space and then excising the nodule.

Keywords : Laparoscopy, Endometriosis, Deeply infiltrating endometriosis, Rectovaginal nodule

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