

# Gynecological cancer and laparoscopic approach – state of the art EITS

Strasbourg, France

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About 40 participants from nearly as many countries attended this course in advanced laparoscopy in gynecological oncology in Strasbourg.

The course takes place over three days from 8.30 to 18.00. It combines state of the art lectures with hands-on practice in laparoscopy in pigs.

The facilities are located in a new building adjoined to the older Hôpital Civil, just outside the old and beautiful city center of Strasbourg. The lecture hall is very impressive with 5 video screens, microphones and voting buttons at every seat. The result of a voting is immediately displayed on the screen.

The operating theatre is likewise very well equipped, circular and with about 20 operating tables.

During the three days we saw three different live surgery transmitted to the lecture hall. The surgeon explained procedures, pointed out landmarks of anatomy, and answered questions during the session. It worked very well and was quite educating. The state of the art lectures were given by top people from around the globe. The lectures were both on basic subjects as anatomy and laparoscopic procedures, but also on the latest results and discussions on pro and cons in paraaortic lymphnode dissection in endometrical cancer and robot surgery.

Gyne-oncology subjects like borderline tumors were also discussed, although not eligible for laparoscopy. The speakers were very well prepared and gave good and interesting lectures.

Prior to the laparoscopic session, you had to name your level of laparoscopic experience in order to be set up with a co-assistant at the same level. For every two operating tables, one very skilled teacher was there to help out and teach the procedures. We went through stitching vertical with the right hand, horizontal with the left, tying different knots intraabdominally, hysterectomy, lymphadenectomy, and repairing an injured urether.

The course was very well planned and carried out, the speakers and teachers were enthusiastic and the hands-on training worked fine, although the pig anatomy only resembles human anatomy to some extent. The debates on pros and cons and lectures on the newest procedures in the gyne-oncology field were very good.

The overall atmosphere at the course was inspiring, and it was pleasant to meet colleagues from other mainly European institutes that shared your interests.

I can only recommend this course to others, who want to experience the state of the art in gyne-oncology and get hands-on training in laparoscopy.

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