The potential damage of laparoscopic electrocoagulation on ovarian reserve in endometriomas reduced in benign ovarian cysts: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Tsung-Hsien Lee¹, Yu-Hsuan Lin¹, Li-Hsin Hsia¹, Yun-Yao Huang¹, and Hao-Jung Chang¹

¹Chung Shan Medical University Hospital

April 24, 2024

Abstract

Background Laparoscopic cystectomy for ovarian endometriomas and benign ovarian cysts often involves the use of hemostatic methods, with electrocoagulation using bipolar energy as a common approach. This study aimed to assess the impact of electrocoagulation compared to nonthermal hemostatic methods on ovarian reserve during such surgeries. Objectives To evaluate the influence of electrocoagulation using bipolar energy versus nonthermal hemostatic methods on ovarian reserve in patients undergoing laparoscopic cystectomy for endometriomas and benign ovarian cysts. Search Strategy A systematic review with meta-analysis was conducted by searching the Cochrane Library, PubMed, EMBASE, and Web of Science databases. Entry terms associated with MeSH terms, such as "ovarian cysts," "laparoscopy," "electrocoagulation," and "anti-Müllerian hormone" or "antral follicle count" were used for articles published before October 2022. Selection Criteria Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) comparing the impact of nonthermal hemostatic methods with electrocoagulation on ovarian reserve during laparoscopic cystectomy were included. The Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool for Randomized Controlled Trials (ROB 2.0) was utilized to assess the quality of included studies. Data Collection and Analysis Thirteen RCTs involving 1043 patients were included in the meta-analysis. Postoperative serum anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) levels and antral follicle counts (AFC) were analyzed using Review Manager ver. 5.4. Main Results In patients with endometriomas, the nonthermal hemostatic group exhibited significantly higher postoperative AMH levels at one, three, six, and 12 months compared to the bipolar group. Conversely, no significant differences in AMH levels were observed in patients with benign ovarian cysts. Similarly, the AFC levels showed no significant differences, except for a lower postoperative AFC in the electrocoagulation group for endometrioma cases. Conclusions Nonthermal hemostatic methods are associated with better preservation of ovarian reserve compared to bipolar electrocoagulation in laparoscopic cystectomy for ovarian endometriomas. However, no significant impact on ovarian reserve was observed with bipolar electrocoagulation in patients with benign ovarian cysts.

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Running title: Effects of Electrocoagulation on Ovarian Reserve

Yu-Hsuan Lin, MD¹

Li-Hsin Hsia, MD¹

Yun-Yao Huang, MD^{1,2}

Hao-Jung Chang, MD^1

Tsung-Hsien Lee, MD, Ph.D.^{1,2,3}

¹ Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chung Shan Medical University Hospital, Taichung 40203, Taiwan

²Institute of Medicine, Chung Shan Medical University, Taichung 40203, Taiwan

³Division of Infertility, Lee Women's Hospital, Taichung 40602, Taiwan

Corresponding author:

Tsung-Hsien Lee, MD, Ph.D.

Chung Shan Medical University Hospital, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

No. 110, Section 1, Jianguo N Rd, South District, Taichung City, 402

Tel: +886-4-2473-9595 #801091

jackth.lee@gmail.com

The authors report no conflict of interest.

Word Count: Abstract-489; Manuscript-3438; Tables-2; Figure-4

Supplementary material: Figure-1; Table-2; search strategy-1

Registered in PROSPERO on April 10, 2023; ID # CRD42021269360

ABSTRACT

Background

Laparoscopic cystectomy for ovarian endometriomas and benign ovarian cysts often involves the use of hemostatic methods, with electrocoagulation using bipolar energy as a common approach. This study aimed to assess the impact of electrocoagulation compared to nonthermal hemostatic methods on ovarian reserve during such surgeries.

Objectives

To evaluate the influence of electrocoagulation using bipolar energy versus nonthermal hemostatic methods on ovarian reserve in patients undergoing laparoscopic cystectomy for endometriomas and benign ovarian cysts.

Search Strategy

A systematic review with meta-analysis was conducted by searching the Cochrane Library, PubMed, EM-BASE, and Web of Science databases. Entry terms associated with MeSH terms, such as "ovarian cysts," "laparoscopy," "electrocoagulation," and "anti-Müllerian hormone" or "antral follicle count" were used for articles published before October 2022.

Selection Criteria

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) comparing the impact of nonthermal hemostatic methods with electrocoagulation on ovarian reserve during laparoscopic cystectomy were included. The Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool for Randomized Controlled Trials (ROB 2.0) was utilized to assess the quality of included studies.

Data Collection and Analysis

Thirteen RCTs involving 1043 patients were included in the meta-analysis. Postoperative serum anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH) levels and antral follicle counts (AFC) were analyzed using Review Manager ver. 5.4.

Main Results

In patients with endometriomas, the nonthermal hemostatic group exhibited significantly higher postoperative AMH levels at one, three, six, and 12 months compared to the bipolar group. Conversely, no significant differences in AMH levels were observed in patients with beingn ovarian cysts. Similarly, the AFC levels showed no significant differences, except for a lower postoperative AFC in the electrocoagulation group for endometrioma cases.

Conclusions

Nonthermal hemostatic methods are associated with better preservation of ovarian reserve compared to bipolar electrocoagulation in laparoscopic cystectomy for ovarian endometriomas. However, no significant impact on ovarian reserve was observed with bipolar electrocoagulation in patients with benign ovarian cysts.

Funding

This study was supported by Chung Shan Medical University Hospital grant number CSH-2021-C-008. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

Keywords

electrocoagulation, nonthermal hemostasis, laparoscopic ovarian cystectomy, endometrioma, benign ovarian cysts, ovarian reserve, anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH), antral follicle count (AFC)

Introduction

Benign ovarian cysts are common gynecological problems in approximately 7 % of women during procreative age^1 . Laparoscopic ovarian cystectomy, rather than oophorectomy, has been considered the surgical treatment of benign ovarian cysts in patients who desire further fertility. Surgeons perform excision of ovarian cysts by stripping the cyst wall, and the subsequent bleeding may be controlled using electrocoagulation, a hemostatic agent, or suturing². The ovarian reserve may be affected by mechanical injury or thermal damage during laparoscopic cystectomy. Mechanical injury is often caused by the removal of healthy ovarian tissue close to the lesion ³. Furthermore, hemostasis achieved with electrical energy increases the risk of thermal damage to the surrounding ovarian tissue ⁴.

Treating benign ovarian cysts has become an issue for patients desiring fertility. Previous studies had reported reduced ovarian reserve after laparoscopic cystectomy ^{5, 6}. Varied types of hemostatic agents have been developed and introduced in surgical intervention to avoid using bipolar coagulation and reduce thermal damage ⁷. The hemostatic matrix commonly used is comprised of a gelatin-based matrix and a human-derived thrombin component. When the gelatin granules contact the bleeding site, they swell to tamponade the bleeding. Then, they interact with thrombin and induce clot formation, achieving rapid hemostasis. Studies have been conducted to compare the preservation of ovarian reserve in laparoscopic cystectomy when using nonthermal hemostatic methods versus bipolar coagulation.

Previous studies employed the ovarian reserve to define the functional potential of the ovary and reflect the number and quality of oocytes remaining in the ovary. Several measurements, such as anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH), antral follicle count (AFC), and basal follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) level, are used to evaluate ovarian reserve ⁸⁻¹⁰. Among these ovarian reserve markers, AMH and AFC are the most accurate ones for representing the functional potential of the ovary^{11, 12}.

A meta-analysis in 2018, including three randomized controlled trials (RCTs), showed a significant adverse effect of bipolar electrocoagulation on postoperative ovarian reserve three months after laparoscopic surgery for endometrioma compared to nonthermal hemostatic methods ¹³. In another meta-analysis conducted in 2022, RCTs comparing at least two hemostatic approaches in laparoscopic excision of endometrioma were included. It concluded that suturing is an effective hemostatic method for maintaining a higher ovarian reserve¹⁴. Naturally, endometrioma is close to the ovarian cortex, where the primordial follicles reside. Consequently, inadvertent damage of the cortex during surgical intervention can result in a more significant loss of follicles. By contrast, other benign ovarian cysts are not located beside the ovarian cortex¹⁵. Since the detrimental effect of mechanical or thermal injury on other benign ovarian cysts is unclear, we performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to analyze the impact of nonthermal hemostatic methods on ovarian reserve during laparoscopic cystectomy compared to electrocoagulation. We undertook a comprehensive

analysis of follow-up data at postoperative 3, 6, and 12 months, providing insights into both short-term and long-term effects of thermal injury induced by electrocoagulation. In contrast to prior meta-analyses, we also conducted separate subgroup analyses on the data for endometriomas and other benign ovarian cysts.

Materials and methods

Objectives

This systematic review and meta-analysis aims to provide a comprehensive summary of the current evidence regarding the impact on ovarian reserve when using nonthermal hemostatic methods compared to electrocoagulation with bipolar current during laparoscopic cystectomy for both endometriomas or benign ovarian cysts.

Study selection

We searched the databases PubMed/Medline, Cochrane Library, Web of Science/Knowledge, and Embase. We searched associated terms on the PubMed MeSH database for "ovarian cysts," "laparoscopy," "electrocoagulation," and "anti-Müllerian hormone," or "antral follicle count." Then, we searched for articles in the mentioned databases to find those published before October 2022. We also hand-searched the bibliographies of included studies and previous systematic reviews to identify further relevant trials. We included RCTs that evaluate the impact of bipolar coagulation on postoperative ovarian reserve in comparison to nonthermal hemostasis methods during laparoscopic surgery. The included studies measured preoperative and postoperative AMH or AFC in premenopausal women who underwent laparoscopic cystectomy. The two authors (LHH and YHL) independently screened the titles and abstracts of the studies under consideration for inclusion and eliminated the ineligible ones. The selection process did not involve the use of any automation tool. The eligible studies' entire texts were examined to determine their suitability for inclusion. Any disagreements concerning the inclusion of a study were resolved by discussing the matter or consulting with a third author (THL).

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria: Studies that met all of the following criteria were eligible for the analysis: (1) RCTs; (2) patients with a diagnosis of endometrioma or other benign ovarian cysts who underwent laparoscopic surgery; (3) compare the different impacts on the ovarian reserve between nonthermal hemostatic methods and electrocoagulation during laparoscopic surgery; (4) measurements of preoperative and postoperative AMH, or AFC levels.

Exclusion criteria: Studies that met any of the following criteria were excluded: (1) animal studies; (2) non-randomized-controlled studies; (3) patients with solid tumors, e.g. thecoma, fibroma, etc., or suspected malignancy; (4) abstracts, letters, editorials, expert opinions, reviews, and case reports (5) studies that did not evaluate ovarian function, did not specify their hemostatic method, or did not meet all the inclusion criteria (6) articles that are not written in English; (7) Studies published before 1990.

Assessment of risk of bias

We assessed the risk of bias in the RCTs with the Cochrane Risk of Bias Tool for Randomized Controlled Trials (ROB 2.0). The bias was classified into five domains, including (1) Bias arising from the randomization process; (2) Bias due to deviations from intended interventions; (3) Bias due to missing outcome data; (4) Bias in measurement of the outcome; (5) Bias in selection of the reported result. Two authors (YHL, LHH) independently evaluated bias in each RCT; a third author (THL) would be consulted if no consensus was reached.

Data extraction and assessment

After independently reviewing all the abstracts, two authors (YHL, LHH) agreed on their potential relevance. If any discrepancies could not be resolved, a third author (THL) was present to settle them. One author performed the data extraction (YYH), and a second author (HJC) verified it. Study characteristics were extracted, together with the results that were of interest.

Statistical analysis and data synthesis

The outcomes of the present meta-analysis included mean serum AMH levels (in ng/mL) and mean AFC counts, along with their respective standard deviations, both preoperatively and at postoperative 1,3,6 and 12 months. These measures were utilized to evaluate ovarian reserve. AMH decline rate was also evaluated. The datasets of comparable outcome measures were pooled for meta-analysis using standard statistical procedures in RevMan 5.4 (Review Manager (RevMan). Version 5.4. The Cochrane Collaboration, 2020. Available at revman.cochrane.org). To assess the impact of continuous outcomes represented as mean and standard deviation, we calculated the mean difference along with a 95% confidence interval. P<0.05 was considered statistically significant. Statistical heterogeneity was determined by examining the results of the I² statistics. A random-effect model was used for meta-analysis with high heterogeneity (I²>50), and a fixed-effect model was used with low heterogeneity. We employed a funnel plot to assess publication bias for the primary outcome. The certainty of evidence for various outcomes was evaluated by two reviewers using the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) system. The GRADE approach categorizes the level of evidence into four grades: high, moderate, low, and very low.

Result

Study selection

Initially, we identified 318 articles. After deduplication (n=93) based on title and abstracts, we excluded 193 irrelevant papers and two studies without full articles available.

Full texts of 30 articles were selected for detailed evaluation, of which 17 randomized trials were eligible for analysis. Three studies were excluded because we could not obtain sufficient information for comparison, and two had an overlap population. Thirteen papers that met the inclusion criteria were left ^{2-4, 16-25}. The flow diagram illustrating the information extracted from a review of potentially relevant articles can be observed in Figure 1.

Study characteristics

The characteristics of the included studies are given in Table 1. The age of patients was between 18 and 45 years old, and the sizes of ovarian cysts in the selected studies were similar, mainly at a diameter of 3-10 cm. Five of the selected studies included patients with various kinds of ovarian cysts², ⁴, ¹⁹, ²², ²³, while the others included patients with only endometriomas^{3, 16-18, 20, 21, 24, 25}. As for intervention, we defined nonthermal hemostatic method as the experimental group. Six studies used suturing as the nonthermal hemostatic method^{4, 16-19, 22}, another six used hemostatic matrix or sealants^{2, 3, 20, 21, 23, 24}, and one study combined suturing with hemostatic matrix²⁵. The control group received electrocoagulation using bipolar current. The bipolar current used in all included studies had a power range of 20 to 40 watts. The basal serum AMH level before surgery did not differ significantly between the two groups.

Risk of bias of included studies

The risk of bias in the 13 studies was generally low (Figure 2). Two studies did not use computerized random group allocation^{4, 22}, leading to some concerns in bias arising from the randomization process.

Synthesis of results

The postoperative serum AMH levels (Figure 3) of the endometrioma patients in the electrocoagulation group were significantly lower than those of the nonthermal hemostatic method group at postoperative one month (mean difference [MD] 0.72, 95% confidence interval (CI) [0.42, 1.03]), three months ([MD]0.68, 95% CI [0.27, 1.09]), six months ([MD] 0.65, 95% CI [0.27, 1.03]), and 12 months ([MD] 0.86, 95% CI [0.69, 1.04]). These findings suggest a more pronounced negative impact of electrocoaguation on the ovarian reserve of endometrioma patients ^{3, 16, 17, 20, 24, 25}. However, when analyzing patients with benign ovarian cysts, no

significant difference was found between the two groups at postoperative three months ([MD] -0.13, 95%CI [-1.61, 1.35]), six months ([MD] 0.3, 95% CI [0.02, 0.59]), and 12 months ([MD] 0.39, 95% CI [-1.13, 1.91]). The funnel plot indicated the absence of significant publication bias for the outcome of postoperative 3-month serum AMH.

When comparing the two groups with regard to AFC ^{4, 17, 19, 22, 24} (Figure 4.), a statistically significant decrease was observed in the endometrioma subgroup at postoperative months 1, 3, and 12. Nevertheless, the AFC difference was insignificant in the studies including various types of benign ovarian cysts ^{4, 19}.

Discussion

Laparoscopic cystectomy is the gold standard for managing benign ovarian cystic tumors²⁶. Electrocoagulation using bipolar current is commonly employed for achieving ovarian hemostasis during surgery. The potential impact of various hemostatic techniques on ovarian reserves has become topic of concern. Previous systematic reviews ^{13, 27} discovered a significant reduction in postoperative ovarian reserve when comparing electrocoagulation with nonthermal hemostatic methods three months after laparoscopic surgery for endometrioma. In our meta-analysis, we included studies on not only endometriomas but also other benign ovary cysts undergoing laparoscopic cystectomy. We also searched for the latest relevant studies until 2022.

Principal findings

As demonstrated in the Results section, our study found no significant difference in long-term follow-up of postoperative AMH and AFC levels between the two groups when focusing on benign ovarian cysts. In contrast, the significant difference in postoperative AMH and AFC between the two groups is consistent with previous systemic reviews^{13, 28} for patients with endometrioma. Such findings favor using nonthermal hemostatic methods over electrocoagulation using bipolar current when considering ovarian reserve for patients with endometrioma. However, this benefit is reduced for other benign ovarian cysts. The findings might prove that nonthermal hemostatic methods are less destructive in maintaining the cortical blood supply in the residual ovaries and retaining the ovarian function during laparoscopic ovarian cystectomy for endometrioma.

Comparison with Existing Literature

Since the type of ovarian cyst may also impact the ovarian reserve^{29, 30}, we categorized the studies into subgroups: those focused exclusively on endometriomas and those that examined various types of benign ovary cysts. Eight of the RCTs exclusively included only endometriomas $^{3, 16, 17, 20, 21, 24, 25}$. And the remaining five RCTs investigated patients with various types of benign ovary cysts $^{2, 4, 19, 22, 23}$. Previous studies indicated that endometriosis is also a risk factor for infertility, which might decrease ovarian reserve since the endometriotic cyst wall is formed by the invagination of the ovarian cortex³¹. A previous study found that the morphology pattern of the ovarian tissue adjacent to the endometrioma wall did not display standard follicular patterns. In contrast, the ovarian cortex surrounding other benign ovarian cysts is usually normal³².

Furthermore, Park et al. presumed that the ovarian reserve is more affected in patients with endometriomas, who tend to have pelvic adhesion. The vascular system within the ovarian cortex or surrounding the ovary could be injured during adhesiolysis ²³. This might explain why the decline in serum AMH levels was more significant in the electrocoagulation group when comparing patients with endometriomas.

On the other hand, we found that the patients with benign ovarian cysts had a smaller decline in AMH and AFC after surgery, with no significant difference between the electrocoagulation group and nonthermal hemostasis group. We could surmise that if we exclude patients with endometrioma from overall patients with non-specific benign ovarian cysts, the result of the forest plot will show a shift to the left side, indicating a decreased effect size in favor of the nonthermal group, signifying no significant difference in AMH and AFC between the two groups, even in the long-term follow-up extending to 12 months. Since endometriomas inherently have an adverse impact on ovarian reserve, coupled with the significant detrimental effect of electrocoagulation during surgery in women with endometriomas, it is advisable to refrain from employing electrocoagulation using bipolar current. Additionally, surgeons should exercise caution to prevent injury to the ovarian cortex injury during surgeries for endometriomas.

AMH production initiates with the growth of primordial follicles into small antral follicles, a process that takes at least three months³³. Thus, most studies ^{2-4, 16-20, 23, 24} measured AMH levels at the 3-month follow-up. We also compared outcomes at 1, 6, 12 months ^{3, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25}, since the longer follow-up time allows for a more comprehensive understanding of the sustained change of AMH and AFC and addresses any immediate postoperative concerns. Some studies ³presumed that more primordial follicles might have started to grow to compensate for the acute ovarian damage after surgery. Therefore, the secretion of AMH from those newly developed follicles might lead to similar results in both treatment groups. Nonetheless, we didn't find the decline of AMH and AFC by electrocoagulation in endometrioma patients to become normal after a long-term follow-up of 12 months. The results of this present study found no significant difference in the postoperative AMH and AFC between the two treatment groups at long-term follow-up to postoperative 12 months for patients with benign ovarian cysts ^{2, 4, 19, 23}. However, the results showed the beneficial effect of nonthermal hemostatic agents on preserving ovarian reserve after surgery in endometrioma patients.

In order to investigate the long-term influence of the surgical hemostatic method on the ovarian reserve, we also analyzed the outcomes of postoperative 1, 3, 6, and 12 months. The impact on ovarian reserve would change over time. The AMH levels might decrease transiently or consistently after surgery ³⁴. Previous papers have found a significant reduction in AMH levels in patients at 1- and 3-months post-surgery ³⁵. However, the AMH levels in some of the patients might subsequently recover after a year³⁶. Some studies³ presumed that more primordial follicles might have started to grow to compensate for the acute ovarian damage after surgery. The recovery of AMH is presumed to be associated with reperfusion of treated ovaries ³⁷ and folliculogenesis from primordial follicles to preovulatory follicles, which takes about 180 days ³⁶. In Zhang's¹⁷ and Chung's²⁴ studies, the mean AMH level of the two groups in endometrioma patients had not decreased during 3-12 months. However, the AMH level in the electrocoagulation group is still significantly lower than that of the nonthermal group at 12 months post-operation. Thus, we consider that electrocoagulation using bipolar current might have a sustained effect on the ovarian reserve in patients with endometrioma, which may act directly on destroying a substantial portion of primordial follicles.

Strengths and Limitations

There are some limitations of our study. First, ovarian reserve may also be affected by the mechanical nature of performing cystectomy in an endometrioma versus a dermoid cyst or cystadenoma or by whether unilateral or bilateral cystectomy was performed ³⁸. Some RCTs included patients with both unilateral and bilateral ovarian cysts undergoing surgery ^{2, 4, 16-18, 20, 21, 24}, we could not analyze the data separately. However, our results suggest that the detrimental effect of electrocoagulation compared to the nonthermal method remains consistent, regardless of whether cystectomy was performed unilaterally or bilaterally. Furthermore, some patients underwent repeated laparoscopic cystectomy, although the studies did not provide specific data on these cases. It's also worth noting that the inflammatory factors associated with endometriosis can impact ovarian reserve. Moreover, it's important to acknowledge that blinding surgeons in these studies is challenging, potentially introducing performance and detection biases. However, it's noteworthy that in the majority of the included RCTs, surgical procedures were carried out by either a single surgeon or a limited number of surgeons, effectively mitigating performance bias. Ultimately, it's essential to acknowledge the presence of substantial heterogeneity, potentially stemming from variations in nonthermal hemostatic methods, the sizes and histologic types of ovarian cysts across the studies. We performed a comprehensive, broad, and systematic search for the present report, with hand-searching of some references of included studies and previous systematic reviews. Further studies with double-blinded RCTs and long-term follow-up may be needed to define better the impact of different hemostatic techniques on ovarian reserve.

Conclusions and Implications

Our study demonstrated that there is no significant difference in the preservation of ovarian reserve when employing nonthermal hemostatic methods compared to electrocoagulation using bipolar current during laparoscopic surgery for benign ovarian cysts, except in cases of endometrioma. Therefore, we suggest that when performing laparoscopic surgery for benign ovarian cysts, electrocoagulation with bipolar current can still be used if necessary.

Author's roles

YHL: Study design, screening, data extraction, data analysis, quality assessment, and writing. LHH: Conception of the idea, screening, data extraction, quality assessment, and writing. YYH: Data extraction, and writing. HJC: Data extraction, and writing. THL: Quality assessment, screening, data extraction, and writing.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge Yung-Liang Liu, MD, Ph.D. who helped us with the writing.

Funding

This study was supported by Chung Shan Medical University Hospital grant number CSH-2021-C-008.

Conflicts of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest.

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Study and year	Age (ys)	Study design	Method of randomization	He
Sönmezer et al., 2013	19-35	Prospective randomized study	Simple randomization	hen
Tanprasertkul et al., 2014	18-45	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut
Song et al., 2014	18-45	randomized controlled trial	Block randomization	hen
Zhang et al., 2016	18-45	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut
Asgari et al., 2016	18 - 42	randomized controlled trial	Block randomization	sut
Sahin et al., 2017	18 - 40	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut
Choi et al., 2018	19 - 45	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	hen
Owczarek et al., 2018	20-35	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut
Shaltout et al., 2019	20-35	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	Sur
Xiao et al., 2019	21-36	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut
Park et al., 2021		randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	hen
Chung et al., 2021	18-40	randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	Flo
Araujo et al., 2022	18-menopaused	open-label, randomized controlled trial	Simple randomization	sut

Table 1. documents the main findings of the included papers.

Abbreviation: BE, bipolar electrocoagulation; AMH, anti-Müllerian hormone; AFC, antral follicle count; FSH, Follicle-stimulating hormone;

Table 2. summarized inclusion and exclusion criteria of studies

	Sönmezer 2013
Inclusion criteria	regular menstrual cycles
	infertility and/or severe dysmenorrhea/dyspareunia
	appropriate medical condition for laparoscopic surgery
Exclusion criteria	previous adnexa surgery/ excision or hysterectomy and adnexa
	Pregnancy/lactation
	other endocrine disorders such as diabetes mellitus, thyroid dysfunction, hyperprolactinemia, congenita suspicion or history of malignancy
	the use of medication that affect ovarian function within the last 6 months (oral contraceptive, GnRH a

Abbreviation: PCOS, polycystic ovary syndrome; GnRH, Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone; AMH, anti-Müllerian hormone; AFC, antral follicle count

Figure

Figure 1. Flow chart of the study selection process. Abbreviations: RCT, randomized controlled trial.



Figure 2. Risk of bias assessment summary in the included studies.

			R	isk of bia	as domain	IS	
		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	Overall
	Sönmezer et al., 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Tanprasertkul et al., 2014	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Song et al., 2014	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Zhang et al., 2016	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Asgari et al., 2016	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Sahin et al., 2017	+	+	+	+	+	+
Study	Choi et al., 2018	+	+	+	+	+	+
0)	Owczarek et al., 2018	-	+	+	+	+	-
	Shaltout et al., 2019	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Xiao et al., 2019	-	+	+	+	+	-
	Park et al., 2021	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Chung et al., 2021	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Araujo et al., 2022	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bias	Bias arising from the randomization pro s due to deviations from intended interven Bias due to missing outcome Bias in measurement of the outc	Cess data	rising from the ue to deviatio ue to missing measuremen selection of	e randomiza ns from inter outcome da nt of the outo the reported	tion process. nded interven ta. some. result.	tion s	Some concerna
	Bias in selection of the reported r Overall risk of	esult bias					
		0%	25%	6	50%	75%	100%
				Low risk	Some cond	cerns	

Figure 3. Forest plots of the (A) 1-month; (B) 3-month; (C) 6-month; (D) 12-month postoperative AMH.



Figure 4. Forest plots of the (A) 3-month; (B) 6-month ;(C) 12-month postoperative AFC. Abbreviations: AFC, antral follicle count; CI, confidence interval.



Supplementary material

Supplementary Figure 1. Funnel plot of the 3-month postoperative AMH.



Study and year	Ovarian cysts type	Non thermal method N $(\%)$	Electrocoagulation using bipolar curre
Sönmezer et al., 2013	Endometrioma	13	15
Tanprasertkul et al., 2014	Endometrioma	25	25
Song et al., 2014	Endometrioma	28	28
	Mature cystic teratoma	16	11
	others	6	11
Zhang et al., 2016	Endometrioma	65	65
Asgari et al., 2016	Endometrioma	45	47
Sahin et al., 2017	Endometrioma	19~(65.5%)	16(53.3%)
	Non-endometrioma	10 (34.5%)	14 (46.7%)
Choi et al., 2018	Endometrioma	40	40
Owczarek et al., 2018	Endometrioma	24 (72.8%)	16 (48.5%)
	Dermoid cyst	6 (18.2%)	8 (24.2%)
	Simple cyst	3 (9%)	9 (27.3%)
Shaltout et al., 2019	Endometrioma	50	50
Xiao et al., 2019	Endometrioma	13 (32.5%)	13 (32.5%)
	Dermoid cyst	13 (32.5%)	16 (40%)
	other	14 (35%)	11 (27.5%)
Park et al., 2021	Endometrioma	12(46.2%)	14 (53.8%)
	Mature cystic teratoma	8 (30.8%)	10 (38.5%)
	Serous cystadenoma	2 (7.7%)	0 (0%)
	Mucinous cystadenoma	1(3.8%)	0 (0%)
	Functional cyst	2(7.7%)	2(7.7%)
	others	1 (3.8%)	0 (0%)
Chung et al., 2021	Endometrioma	39	36
Araujo et al., 2022	Endometrioma	50	27

Supplementary Table 1. Histologic types of the ovarian cysts in the two groups of included studies.

Supplementary Table 2. The certainty of evidence for various outcomes was evaluated by GRADE system

Certainty assessment	Certainty assessment	Certainty assessment	Certainty assessment	Certainty asse
of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness
6	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
8	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
5	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
3	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
4	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
1	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
1	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
4	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
3	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious
3	randomised trials	not serious	not serious	not serious

CI: confidence interval; MD: mean difference



			R	isk of bia	ls domain	S	
		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	Overall
	Sönmezer et al., 2013	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Tanprasertkul et al., 2014	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Song et al., 2014	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Zhang et al., 2016	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Asgari et al., 2016	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Sahin et al., 2017	+	+	+	+	+	+
Study	Choi et al., 2018	+	+	+	+	+	+
0,	Owczarek et al., 2018	-	+	+	+	+	-
	Shaltout et al., 2019	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Xiao et al., 2019	-	+	+	+	+	-
	Park et al., 2021	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Chung et al., 2021	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Araujo et al., 2022	+	+	+	+	+	+
		Domains: D1: Bias ar	ising from the	e randomizat	ion process.	Judge	ment
		D2: Bias du D3: Bias du	ue to deviatio ue to missing	ns from inter outcome da	nded interven ta.	tion. 🤭 🤅	Some concerns
		D4: Bias in D5: Bias in	measurements selection of the	nt of the outo the reported	ome. result.	•	



25%

0%

75%

100%

50%

Some concerns

Low risk

Bias arising from the randomization process Bias due to deviations from intended interventions Bias due to missing outcome data Bias in measurement of the outcome Bias in selection of the reported result Overall risk of bias

n	onthermal h	emostasis		bipolar ele	ctrocoagulati	on		Mean Difference		Mean Difference
1.2.1 Only Endometrioma	ng/mL1 SD	ngmu	Total	Mean Ing/mL1	SUINGIMLI	Total	weight	IV, Hxed, 95% CI	rear	IV, Fixed, 95% CI
Sönmezer 2013	2.72	1.49	13	1.64	0.93	15	5.0%	1.08 [0.14, 2.02]	2013	
Tanprasertkul 2014 Zhang 2016	2.09	1.62	25	1.76	1.5	25	5.9%	0.33 [-0.54, 1.20]	2014	
Araujo 2022	2.018	1.223	50	1.61	1.04	27	16.4%	0.41 [-0.11, 0.93]	2022	
Subtotal (95% CI)	2/0-025	12 - 270	154			134	47.6%	0.72 [0.42, 1.03]		-
Test for overall effect: Z = 4.65	(P < 0.00001)								
1.2.2 Banian Overian Overe										
Sahin 2017	3.24	3.01	29	2.32	2.01	30	2.6%	0.92 [-0.39, 2.23]	2017	
Xiao 2019	2.521	0.786	40	2.046	0.551	40	49.8%	0.48 [0.18, 0.77]	2019	1
Heterogeneity: Chi ² = 0.42. df =	1 (P = 0.52)	I ² = 0%	69			70	32.4%	0.50 [0.21, 0.79]		-
Test for overall effect: Z = 3.36	(P = 0.0008)									
Total (95% CI)			223			204	100.0%	0.60 (0.39, 0.81)		•
Heterogeneity: Chi# = 5.65, df =	5 (P = 0.34)	; I ^a = 12%								
Test for overall effect: Z = 5.64 Test for subgroup differences:	(P < 0.00001 CbP = 1.10) df=1 (P=	0.290 17=	9.3%						Favours (bipolar electrocoagulation) Favours (nonthermal hemostasis)
(A) 1-month postoperative AMH										
(A) 1-month postoperative AMH										
Study or Subgroup Mean [ng/ml] SD	ng/ml]	Total M	lean [ng/ml] S	D [ng/ml]	Total V	Veight N	, Random, 95% CI	Year	IV, Random, 95% Cl
1.3.1 Only Endometrioma Somerer 2012	2.07	1.42	12	2.94	1.12	15	12.1%	0.221.072.140	2012	
Tanprasertkul 2014	1.96	1.68	25	2.04	1.66	25	13.7%	-0.13 [-1.06, 0.80]	2013	
Zhang 2016	3	1.8	67	1.8	1	65	23.0%	1.20 [0.71, 1.69]	2016	
Choi 2018 Chung 2021	2.23	9.42	40	3.74	0.31	40 36 :	1.0%	0.71 [0.57, 0.85]	2018	
Subtotal (95% CI)			184	1104		181	82.2%	0.68 [0.27, 1.09]		◆
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.10; Ch Test for overall effect 7 = 2.26	i ² = 8.31, df = (P = 0.001)	= 4 (P = 0.0	18); I [#] = 52	%						
1001.01 Overall ellect. Z = 3.20	(- × 0.001)									
1.3.2 Benign Ovarian Cysts Solitio 2017	2.17	2.4	20	2.20	2.67	20	0.004	0 70 1 0 76 0 221	2017	
Owczarek 2018	3.92	5.1	33	3.5	2.97	33	4.4%	0.42 [-1.59, 2.43]	2018	
Park 2021	4.8	2.9	26	6.3	2.9	26	6.6%	-1.50 [-3.08, 0.08]	2021	
Heterogeneity Tau ² = 0.95; Ch	P=4.55 df:	2 (P = 0 1	88	96.		89	17.8%	-0.13 [-1.61, 1.35]		
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.17	(P = 0.86)		0/11 - 00							
Total (95% CI)			272			270 1	00.0%	0.51 [0.06, 0.97]		•
Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.17; Ch	i ² = 15.97, d	= 7 (P = 0	03); I ² = 5	6%						
Test for overall effect: Z = 2.20 Test for subgroup differences:	(P = 0.03) Chi ² = 1.07	df = 1 (P =	0.30) P=	6.8%						Favours (bipolar electrocoagulation) Favours (nonthermal hemostasis)
					(B) 3-ı	mont	h po	stoperativ	e AN	ин
	onthermal b	mostasis		hinolar ele	(B) 3-r	nont	h po	stoperativ Mean Difference	e AN	MH Mean Difference
ni 	onthermal he	mostasis ngimL]	Total M	bipolar ele Aean (ng/mL)	(B) 3-1 ctrocoagulatio SD [ng/mL]	nont	:h po: Weight	Stoperativ Mean Difference V, Random, 95% C	e AN	۸H Mean Difference M. Random, 55% CI
N Study or Subgroup Mean [r 1.4.1 Only Endometrioma Tengresericul 2014	onthermal he	mostasis ngimL1	Total M	bipolar ele Mean (ng/mL) 2.11	(B) 3-r	nont	h po: Weight	Mean Difference V. Random, 95% C		MH Mean Difference M. Random, 55% C
N <u>Study or Subgroup Mean Ir</u> 1.4.1 Only Endometrioma Tanprasetkul 2014 Zhang 2016	onthermal h agimL1_SD 1.72 3	mostasis ng/mL1 1.68 1.5	<u>Total N</u> 25 65	bipolar eler Mean (ng/mL) 2.11 1.9	(B) 3-r ctrocoagulatio <u>SD [ng/mL]</u> 1.84 0.8	nont Total	h po: <u>Weight</u> 8.1% 21.0%	Stoperativ Mean Difference V, Random, 95% C -0.39 (-1.37, 0.59 1.10 (0.69, 1.51)	e AN <u>Year</u> 2014	MH Mean Difference M. Random, 95% CI
Number of Subgroup Mean [1] 1,4.1 Only Endometrioma Tanpraserikul 2014 Zhang 2016 Chung 2021 denuic 2022	nthermal h ngimL1_SD 1.72 3 2.33 2.02	mostasis ing/ml.1 1.68 1.5 0.33	Total M 25 65 39	bipolar eler <u>Aean (ng/ml.)</u> 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.40	(B) 3-r ctroccoagulatio <u>SD (ng/mL)</u> 1.84 0.8 0.33 0.33	mont " <u>Total</u> 25 65 36	8.1% 21.0% 30.1%	Mean Difference V. Random, 95% C -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.69, 1.51] 0.68 [0.53, 0.63	e AN	MH Mean Difference M.Bandom, 505.cc
n <u>study or Subgroup</u> <u>Mean (r</u> 1.4.1 Only Endometrioma Tanprasertkul 2014 Zhang 2016 Chung 2021 Araujo 2022 Subtotal (95% Cl)	nthermal he agimL1 SD 1.72 3 2.33 2.03	mostasis ng/mL1 1.68 1.5 0.33 1.184	Total M 25 65 39 24 153	bipolar eler <u>Acan (ng/mL)</u> 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49	(B) 3-r etrocoagulatio <u>SD IngimL1</u> 1.84 0.83 0.99	n Total 25 65 36 27 153	Weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3%	Mean Difference V. Random, 95% Cl -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.69, 1.51] 0.68 [0.53, 0.83 0.54 [-0.66, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03]	e AN Year 2014 2016 2021 2022	MH Mean Difference M. Random, 95% CI
IN Study or Subgroup Mean (1.4.1 Only Endometrioma Tanpraserisul 2014 Zhang 2016 Chung 2021 Arauja 2022 Subtotal (95% C) Heterogeneity: Tau ² = 0.08; Ch Teat for sensitive direct the 2.3 defined teat of the sensitive direct the 2.3 defined teat of teat of	nthermal he ngimL1 SD 1 1.72 3 2.33 2.03 F = 8.72, df =	1.68 1.5 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03	<u>Total</u> № 25 65 39 24 153 3); P = 669	bipolar ele Mean Ingimil 1 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49 %	(B) 3-r ctrocoagulatio <u>SD IngimL1</u> 1.84 0.8 0.33 0.99	n <u>Total</u> 25 65 36 27 153	Weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3%	Stoperativ Mean Difference V. Random, 95% CI -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.69, 1.51] 0.68 [0.53, 0.83 0.54 [-0.06, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03]	e AN	MH Mean Difference M. Random, 95% cl
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n <u>Study or Suburova</u> <u>Menuf</u> <u>14.41 Only Endometriona</u> Tangraserku 2014 Zhang 2016 Chung 2021 Araujo 2022 Subutota (19%) Heterogeneh; Tau ² = 0.0%, Ch Test for overall effect Z = 3.35 <u>14.23 Benign Overlan Cysts</u>	1.72 3 2.33 2.03 P = 8.72, df = P = 0.0008)	1.68 1.5 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03	<u>Total N</u> 25 65 39 24 153 3); ₽ = 669	bipolar ele- tean (ng/mL) 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49 %	(B) 3-r ctrocoagulatio <u>SD IngimL1</u> 1.84 0.8 0.33 0.99	n Total 1 Total 25 65 36 57 153	8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3%	Stoperativ Mean Difference V. Random, 95% C -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 (0.68, 1.51 0.68 (0.53, 0.83 0.54 [-0.66, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03]	e AN	MH Mean Difference M. Randem, 855; CI
Study or Subgroup Mean 1.1.1 Only Endometriona Tangraserkui 2014 Zhang 2016 Chung 2021 Araulo 2022 Stabitad (25% C) Heterogennik (Tar#= 0.08, Ch 1.4.2 Bengin Ovarian (45% C) Subtotal (95% C) Subtotal (95% C)	nthermal h namL1_S01 1.72 3 2.33 2.03 ₽ = 8.72, df = P = 0.0008) 2.751	1.68 1.5 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03 0.632	Total № 25 65 39 24 153 3); P = 669 40 40	bipolar ele- tean (ng/mL) 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49 % 2.45	(B) 3-r ctrocoagulatio <u>SD IngimL1</u> 1.84 0.8 0.33 0.99 0.672	mont n 25 65 36 27 153 40 40	weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3% 25.7%	Mean Difference V. Random, 95% C -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.69, 1.51 0.68 [0.53, 0.63 0.54 [-0.66, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03] 0.30 [0.02, 0.59	e AN	MH Mean Difference M. Readem, 50% Cl
ni Study of Suborcom (Inni) 1.4.1 Oby Gridometrionna 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 Arauja 2014 Arauja 2021 Arauja 2021 Arauja 2014 Heterogenehy Tauff = 0.09, Ch 14.2 Bengin Ovarian Cysts Xiao 2019 Subtola (5% Ch Heterogenehy Ti Nal applicable	nthermal h namL1 SD 1.72 3 2.33 2.03 P = 0.72, df= (P = 0.0008) 2.751	1.68 1.68 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03 0.632	<u>Total</u> № 25 65 39 153 3); P = 669 40 40	bipolar ele <u>tean (ng/mL)</u> 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49 %	(B) 3-r ctrocoagulatio <u>SD (nutrul</u> 1.84 0.83 0.33 0.99 0.672	mont <u>Total</u> 25 65 36 27 153 40 40	Weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3%	Mean Difference V. Random, 95% C -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.68, 1.51 0.68 [0.53, 0.83 0.54 [-0.66, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03] 0.30 [0.02, 0.59 0.30 [0.02, 0.59]	e AN Year 2014 2016 2021 2022	MH Mean Difference M.Random, 90% CL
ni Study of Subarces Mean I 1.4.1 Only Endometriona Tangradeful 2014 Zhang 2016 Craug 2022 Subtotal (95% Ct) Heterogenetic Tau ² = 0.09; Ct 1.4.2 Benign Ovarian Cysts Xiao 2019 Subtotal (95% Ct) Heterogenetic Tau ² = 0.09; Ct Subtotal (95% Ct) Heterogenetic Tau ² = 0.09; Ct Subtotal (95% Ct) Heterogenetic Tau ² = 0.09; Ct Heterogenetic Tau ² = 0.00; Ct Heterogenetic Nata policable	nthermal h asimL1 SD 1.72 3 2.33 2.03 P = 8.72, df= (P = 0.008) 2.751 (P = 0.04)	1.68 1.68 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03 0.632	<u>Total №</u> 25 65 39 24 153 3); P = 669 40 40	bipolar ele- dean (ngint.) 2.11 1.9 1.65 1.49 %	(B) 3-1 ctrocoagulatio <u>SD Instrul.</u> 1.84 0.33 0.99 0.672	mont <u>Total</u> 25 65 36 27 153 40 40	Weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3% 25.7%	Mean Difference W. Random, 95% C W. Random, 95% C W. Random, 95% C 100 089, 151 0.58 (053, 083 0.54 (-0.05, 1.14 0.65 (0.27, 1.03) 0.30 (0.02, 0.59) 0.30 (0.02, 0.59)	e AN	MH Mean Difference M.Random, 955.cc
Test for overall effect 2 = 2 of the second	2.751 (P = 0.04)	1.68 1.5 0.33 1.184 3 (P = 0.03 0.632	<u>Total №</u> 25 65 39 24 153 3); P = 669 40 40 40	bipolar ele <u>dean Ingint1</u> 2.11 1.9 1.85 1.49 %	(B) 3-r trocoagutatio <u>50 Ingini.1</u> 1.84 0.83 0.99 0.672	mont <u>Total</u> 25 65 36 27 153 40 40 40 193	 Weight 8.1% 21.0% 30.1% 15.1% 74.3% 25.7% 25.7% 100.0% 	Mean Difference W. Random, 95% C -0.39 [-1.37, 0.59 1.10 [0.69, 1.51 0.68 [0.53, 0.63 0.54 [-0.66, 1.14 0.65 [0.27, 1.03] 0.30 [0.02, 0.59] 0.56 [0.24, 0.88]	e AN	MH Mean Difference M.Random, 50% cl
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(C) 12-month postoperative AFC

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