

structures of Calot's triangle correctly secondary to severe inflammation or dense adhesions. Postoperative follow up for all patients was done and postoperative events were recorded for every patient on preforma, statistical analysis was done by the measurement of the *P* value. A *P* value below 0.05 was regarded as significant.

Results

There were 140 patients in this study 90 patients in group 1, 13 (14.4%) of them converted to open cholecystectomy and 50 patients in group 2, 17 (34%) of them converted to open. Males show a significantly higher conversion rate than females in patients with chronic cholecystitis as shown in table 1.

Table 1. Relation between the sex and conversion into OC

Sex	Lapchole		Conversion	
	No.	%	No.	%
Male	25	27.8	9	69.2
Female	65	72.2	4	30.8
Total	90	100	13	100

P = 0.003

While the age showed no significant difference in the conversion rate as shown in table 2.

Table 2. Relation between age and conversion

Age	Lapchole		Conversion	
	No.	%	No.	%
≥ 40 years	48	53.3	8	61.5
< 40 years	42	46.7	5	38.5
Total	90	100	13	100

Table 3. Relation between clinical history and conversion

Clinical history		Lapchole		Conversion		<i>P</i> value
		No.	%	No.	%	
Pain	Positive	80	88.9	11	13.8	0.653
	Negative	10	11.1	2	20	
Murphy's sign	Positive	60	66.7	9	15	0.854
	Negative	30	33.3	4	13.3	
Temp. > 37.5 °C	Positive	8	8.9	1	12.5	0.886
	Negative	82	91.1	12	14.6	
Onset of symptoms	> 3 days	70	77.8	11	15.7	0.574
	< 3 days	20	22.2	2	10	

Table 4. Relation between the results of abdominal ultrasound and conversion rate

US results		Lapchole		Conversion		<i>P</i> value
		No.	%	No.	%	
Wall thickness	> 3mm	20	22.2	8	40	0.003
	< 3mm	7	77.8	5	7.1	
Distended gallbladder	Positive	50	55.6	6	12	0.525
	Negative	40	44.4	7	17.5	
Number of gallstones	Multiple	67	74.4	8	11.9	0.328
	Single	23	25.6	5	21.7	

There was no significant statistical difference in the conversion rate in relation to the clinical history as shown in table 3. There was statistically significant difference in conversion

rate in relation to ultrasonic findings of increased wall thickness of the gall bladder as shown in table 4.