

# SLN mapping in cervical cancer



**Dr Marie Plante**  
**Gynecologic Oncologist**  
**L'Hôtel-Dieu de Québec**  
**Laval University**

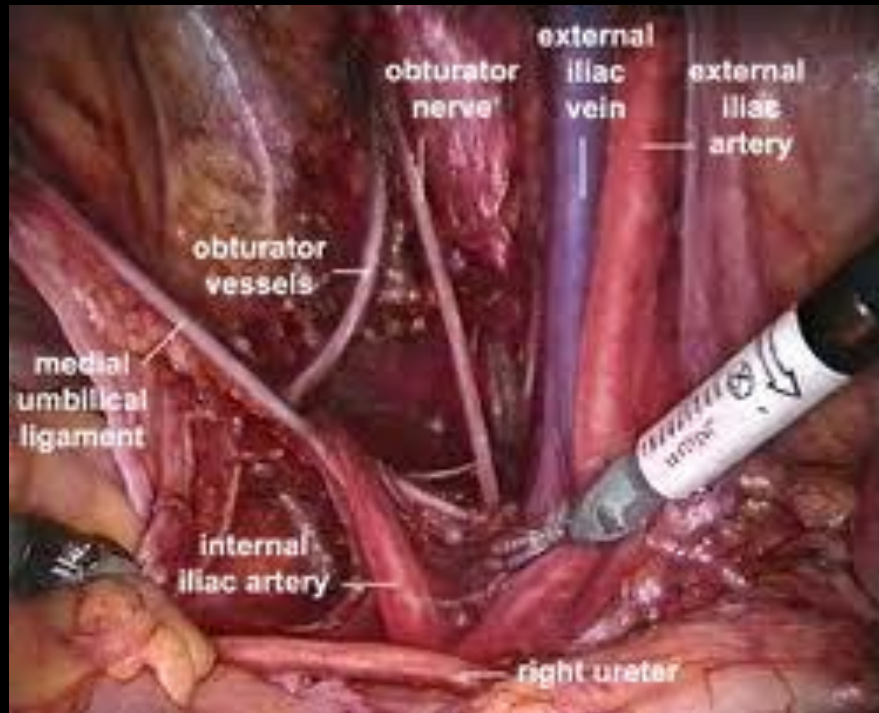


**Cervix Cancer Education Symposium, January 2017, Mexico**

# LN status

- Part of the **surgical staging** of all solid tumors
- One of the most important **prognostic factor**
  - | Predictor of outcome
  - | Need for adjuvant treatment

# LN dissection



**Pelvic LND**



**Para-aortic LND**

# LN dissection

## ⌘ Morbidity of the LN dissection

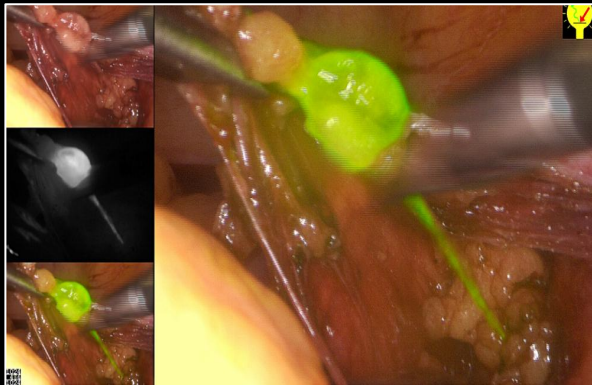
- | Nerve / vessels damage
- | **Lymphoedema**, lymphocele
- | Increased **OR time**
- | **Obese / elderly** patient population



# SLN mapping

≈ Logical / intelligent compromise

| Between no nodes at all and complete LND





VOLUME 29 • NUMBER 13 • MAY 1 2011

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY ORIGINAL REPORT

# Bilateral Negative Sentinel Nodes Accurately Predict Absence of Lymph Node Metastasis in Early Cervical Cancer: Results of the SENTICOL Study

*Fabrice Lécuru, Patrice Mathevet, Denis Querleu, Eric Leblanc, Philippe Morice, Emile Daraï, Henri Marret, Laurent Magaud, Florence Gillaizeau, Gilles Chatellier, and Daniel Dargent†*

**No false negative results were observed in the 104 patients (76.5%) in whom SLN were identified bilaterally**



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Gynecologic Oncology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno)



## Review Article

# The sentinel node procedure in early stage cervical cancer, taking the next step; a diagnostic review



Casper Tax<sup>a,\*</sup>, Maroeska M. Rovers<sup>a,b</sup>, Corine de Graaf<sup>c</sup>, Petra L.M. Zusterzeel<sup>c</sup>, Ruud L.M. Bekkers<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Radboud University Medical Centre, Radboudumc Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Operating Rooms, P.O. Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands

<sup>b</sup> Radboud University Medical Centre, Radboudumc Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Health Evidence, P.O. Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands

<sup>c</sup> Radboud University Medical Centre, Radboudumc Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Gynaecology, P.O. Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands

**Conclusions.** Early stage cervical cancer patients (FIGO IA2, IB1, IIA primary tumor size < 40 mm) who have no suspicious pre-, and per-operative lymph nodes, and have bilateral negative SLNs after ultra staging, have a residual risk of 0.08% (1/1257) on occult metastases. On the basis of these results we recommend not to perform a full PLND in these patients.

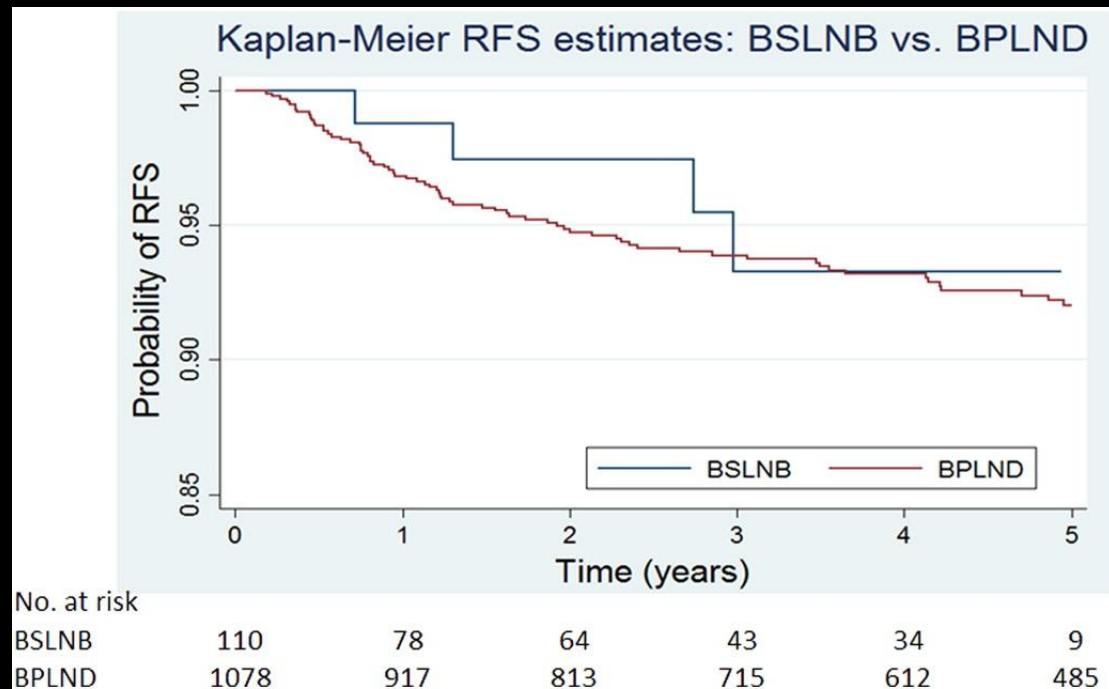


Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Gynecologic Oncology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno)

## Can sentinel lymph node biopsy replace pelvic lymphadenectomy for early cervical cancer?

Genevieve K. Lennox<sup>a</sup>, Allan Covens<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

**Node negative**  
**BPLND: 1078**  
**BSLNB : 110**



# NCCN guidelines

Printed by Mathieu Viau on 10/29/2016 1:37:01 PM. For personal use only. Not approved for distribution. Copyright © 2016 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc., All Rights Reserved.



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®

## NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2017 Cervical Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Discussion](#)

### CLINICAL STAGE<sup>b</sup>

### PRIMARY TREATMENT (NON-FERTILITY SPARING)

Stage IB1  
and Stage IIA1

Radical hysterectomy + pelvic lymph node dissection<sup>h</sup>  
(category 1)  
± para-aortic lymph node sampling (category 2B)  
(Consider SLN mapping)<sup>n,i</sup>  
or  
Pelvic EBRT<sup>j,k</sup>  
+ brachytherapy (total point A dose: 80–85 Gy)<sup>l,k</sup>  
± concurrent cisplatin-containing chemotherapy<sup>n</sup>

[See Surgical Findings \(CERV-5\)](#)

[See Surveillance \(CERV-10\)](#)

Stage IB2 and Stage IIA2  
(also see CERV-6 for additional  
recommendations for non-primary  
surgery patients)

Definitive pelvic EBRT<sup>k</sup>  
+ concurrent cisplatin-containing chemotherapy<sup>n</sup>  
+ brachytherapy (total point A dose ≥85 Gy)<sup>l,k</sup>  
(category 1 for primary chemoradiation)  
or  
Radical hysterectomy  
+ pelvic lymph node dissection<sup>h</sup>  
± para-aortic lymph node sampling (category 2B)  
or  
Pelvic EBRT<sup>k</sup>  
+ concurrent cisplatin-containing chemotherapy<sup>n</sup>  
+ brachytherapy<sup>l,o,k</sup>  
+ adjuvant hysterectomy<sup>p</sup>  
(category 3)

[See Surveillance \(CERV-10\)](#)

[See Surgical Findings \(CERV-5\)](#)

[See Surveillance \(CERV-10\)](#)

# NCCN guidelines

Printed by Mathieu Viau on 10/29/2016 1:37:01 PM. For personal use only. Not approved for distribution. Copyright © 2016 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc., All Rights Reserved.



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®

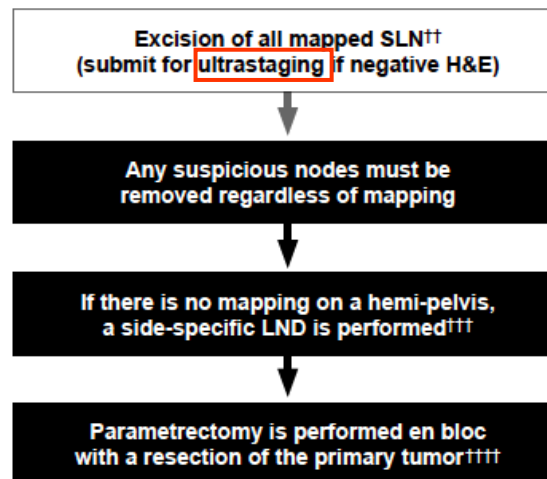
## NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2017 Cervical Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Discussion](#)

### PRINCIPLES OF EVALUATION AND SURGICAL STAGING WHEN SLN MAPPING IS USED

The key to a successful SLN mapping is adherence to the SLN algorithm, which requires the performance of a side-specific nodal dissection in cases of failed mapping and removal of any suspicious or grossly enlarged nodes regardless of mapping (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Surgical/SLN Mapping Algorithm for Early-Stage Cervical Cancer†



H&E: Hematoxylin and eosin staining  
LND: Lymphadenectomy  
SLN: Sentinel lymph node

# NCCN guidelines

Printed by Mathieu Viau on 10/29/2016 1:37:01 PM. For personal use only. Not approved for distribution. Copyright © 2016 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc., All Rights Reserved.



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®

## NCCN Guidelines Version 1.2017 Cervical Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Discussion](#)

### PRINCIPLES OF EVALUATION AND SURGICAL STAGING

#### Sentinel Lymph Node Mapping for Cervical Cancer:

• SLN mapping as part of the surgical management of select stage I cervical cancer is considered in gynecologic oncology practices worldwide. While this technique has been used in tumors up to 4 cm in size, the best detection rates and mapping results are in tumors less than 2 cm.<sup>9-12</sup> This simple technique utilizes a direct cervical injection with dye or radiocolloid Technetium-99 (99Tc) into the cervix, usually at 2 or 4 points as shown in Figure 1 (below). The SLNs are identified at the time of surgery with direct visualization of colored dye, a fluorescent camera if indocyanine green (ICG) was used, or a gamma probe if 99Tc was used. SLNs following a cervical injection are commonly located medial to the external iliac vessels, ventral to the hypogastric vessels, or in the superior part of the obturator space (Figure 2). SLNs usually undergo ultrastaging by pathologists, which allows for higher detection of micrometastasis that may alter postoperative management.<sup>2,13</sup>

Figure 1: Options of SLN Cervical Injection Sites†

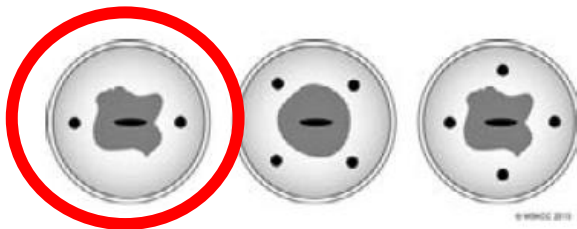


Figure 2: SLNs (blue, arrow) After Cervical Injection Are Commonly Located Medial to the External Iliac, Ventral to the Hypogastric, or in the Superior Part of the Obturator Space†

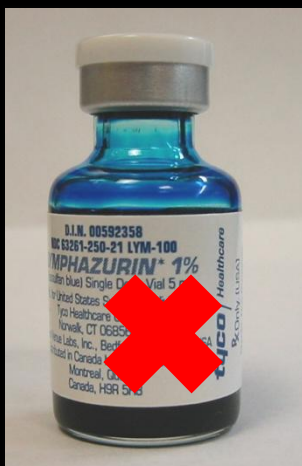
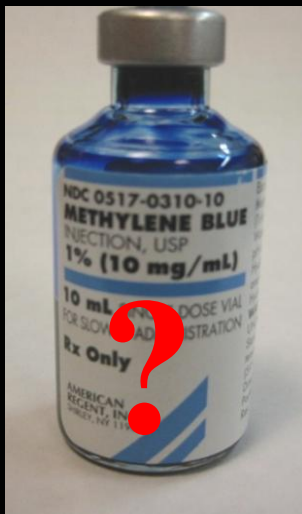


# SLN mapping

## ✧ Tracers

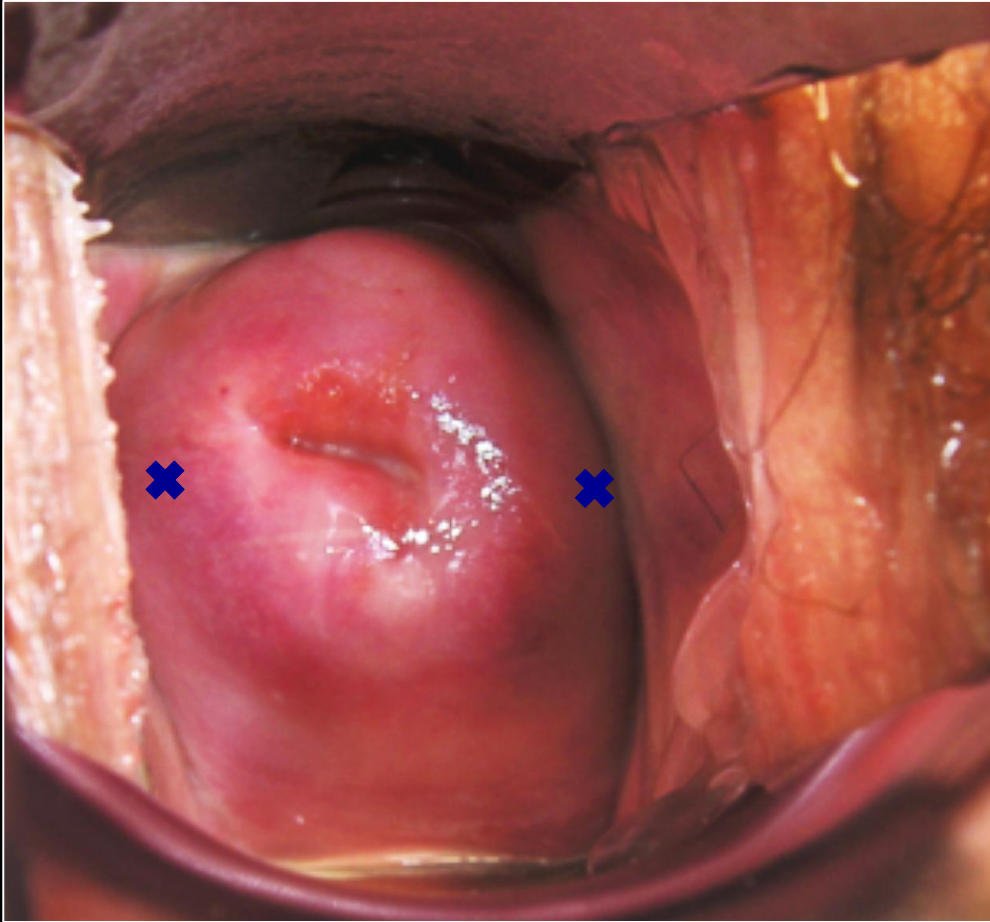
- | Blue dye
- | Tc-99
- | ICG

# Blue Dye

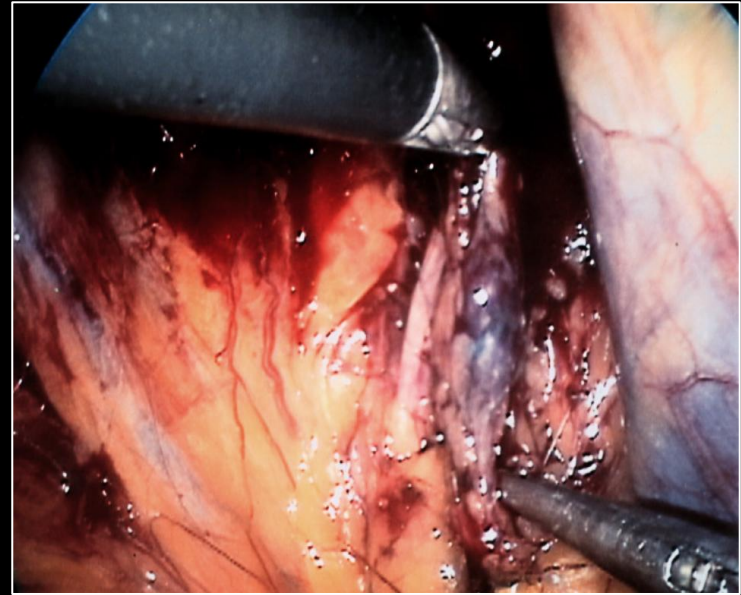
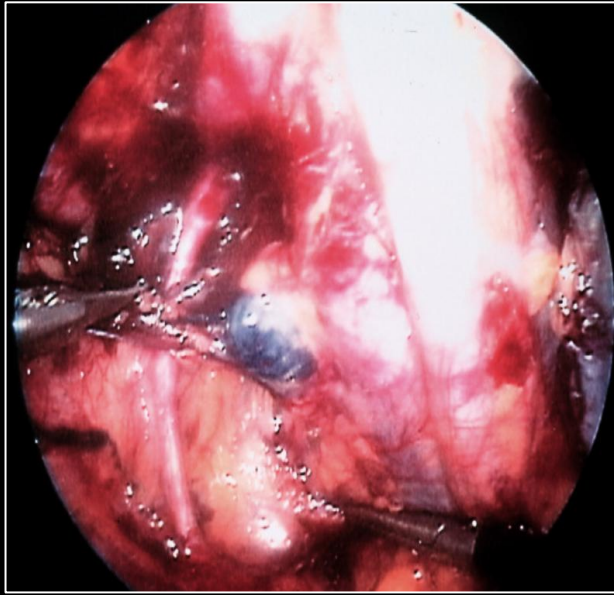
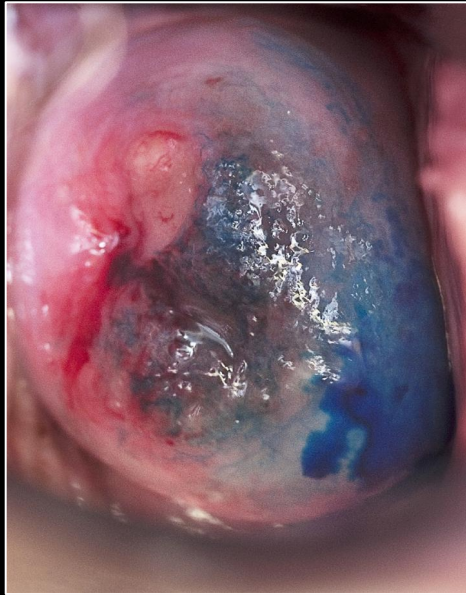




# Blue Dye

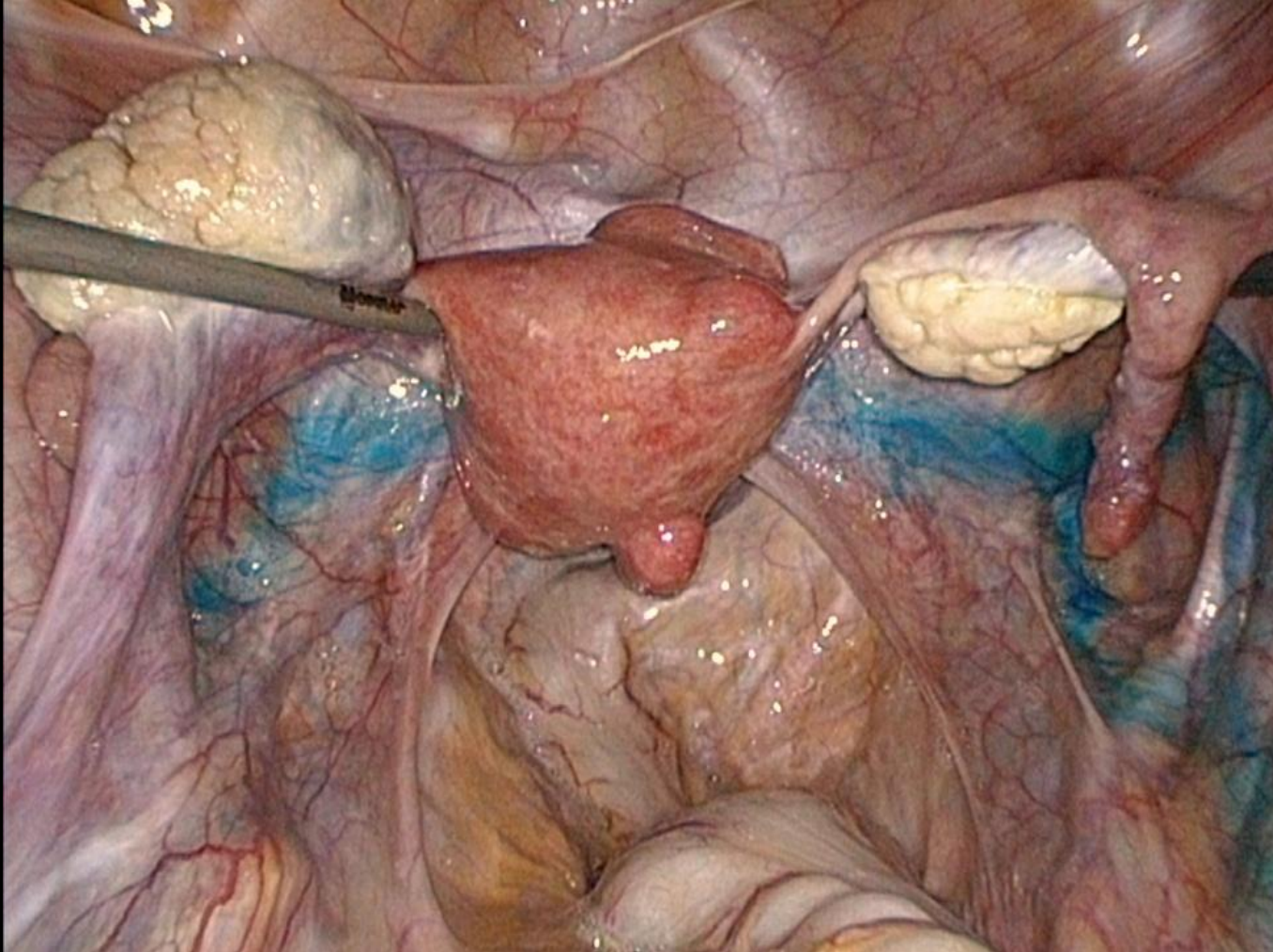


# Blue Dye

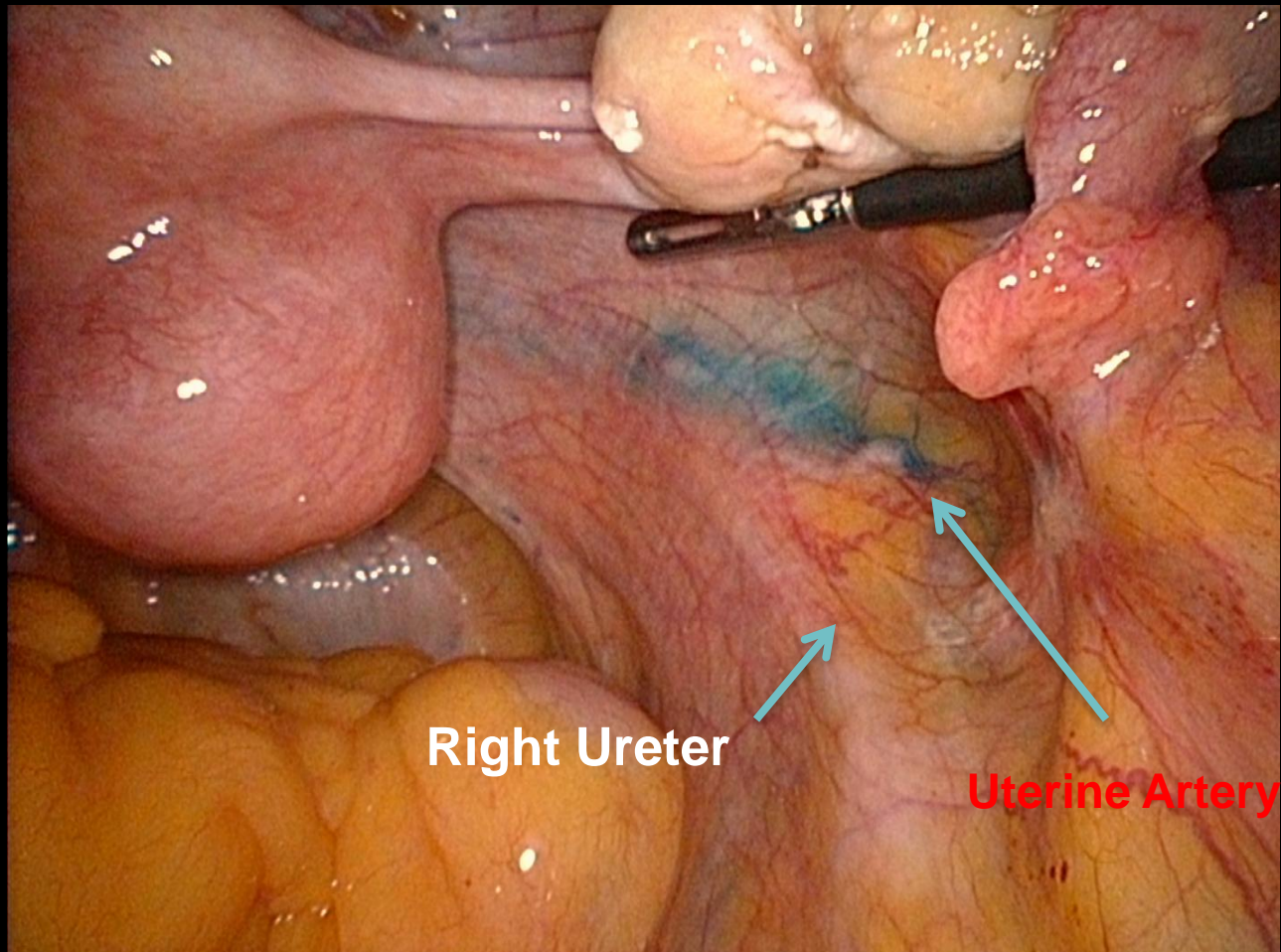




# Sentinel node mapping

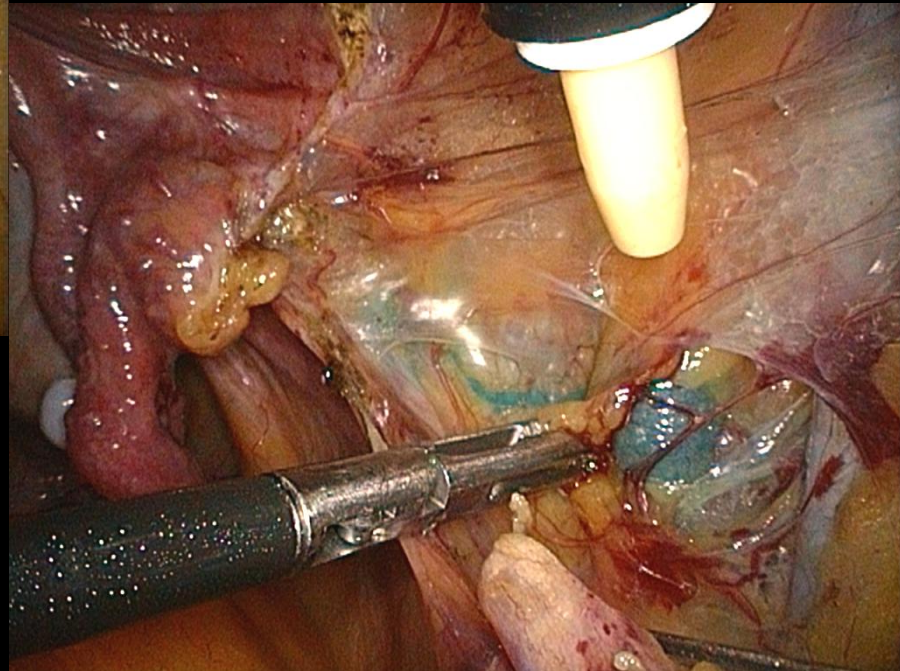
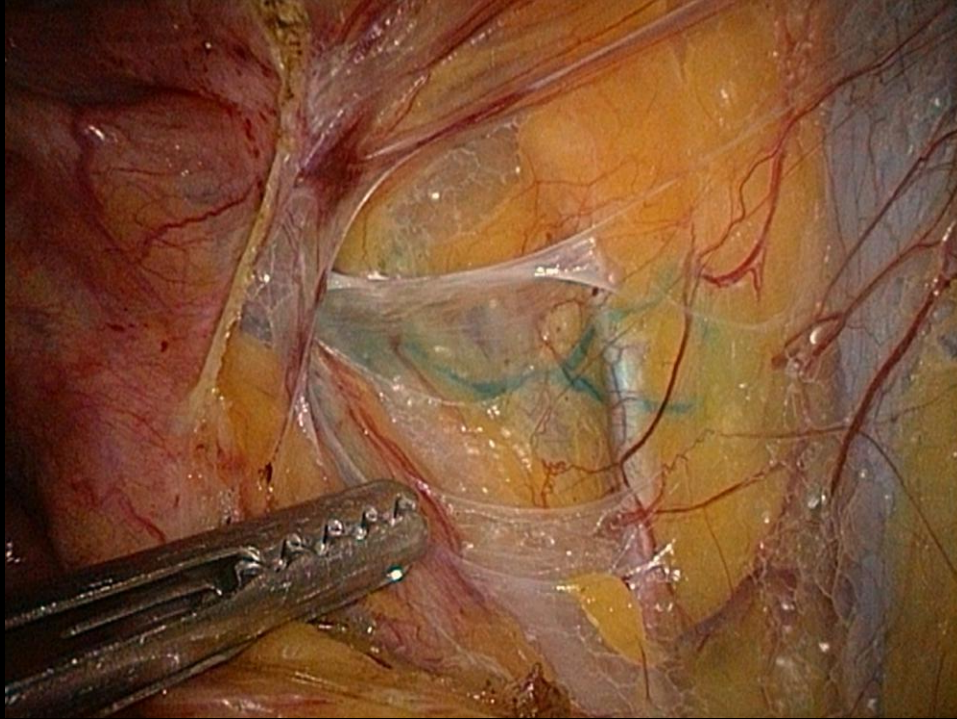


# Sentinel node mapping





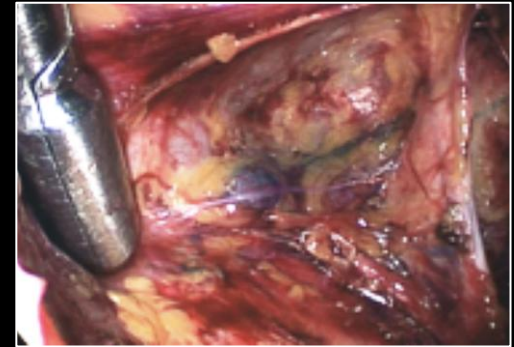
# Sentinel node mapping



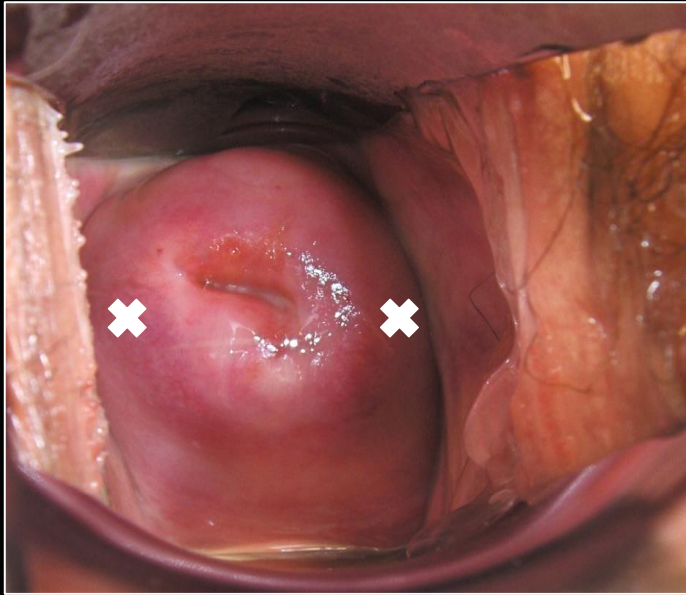


# Blue Dye

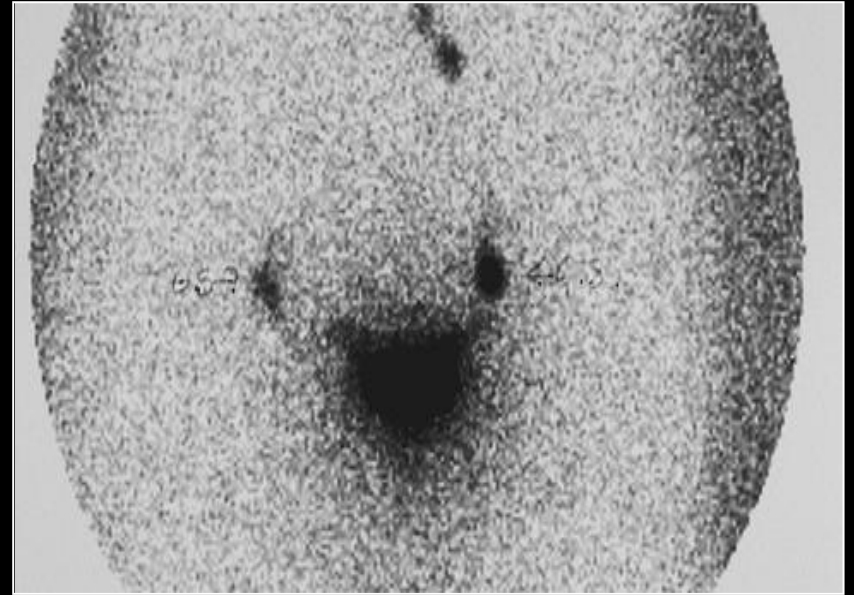
- ⌘ Cheap and easy to inject
- ⌘ **Rapid transit** to nodes
- ⌘ **Leakage**
- ⌘ Blood less dissection
- ⌘ Less reliable in **obese** patients
- ⌘ Allergic reaction (1-2%)



# Technetium - 99

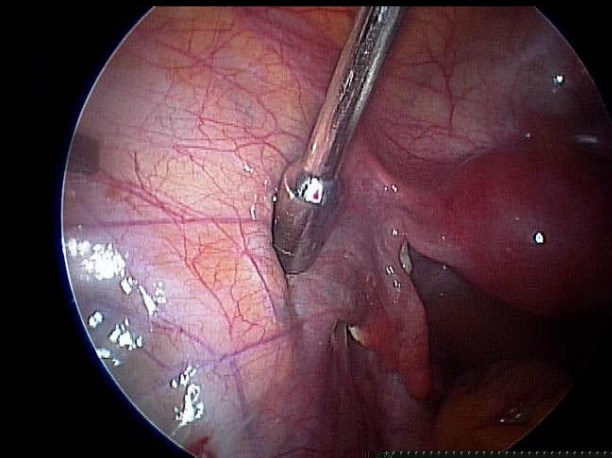
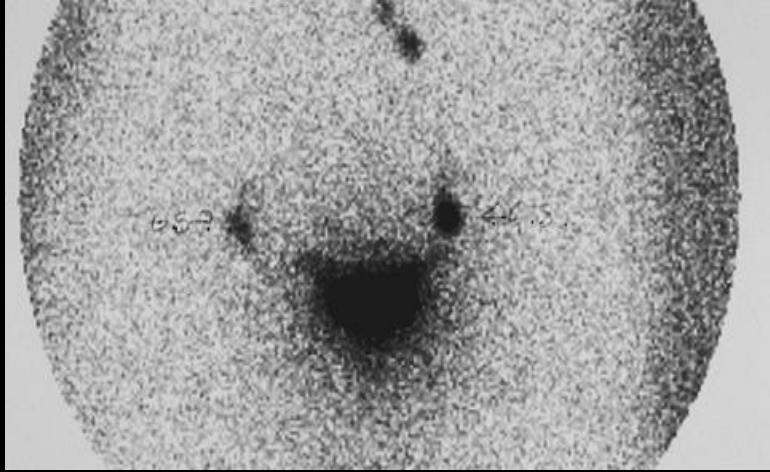


**Intracervical injection  
2 cc, 3 and 9 o'clock**



- In nuclear medicine
- The morning of surgery
- Lymphoscintigram
- 20-30 min later

# Technetium - 99



# Technetium - 99

- ⌘ Semi-quantitative method (count)
- ⌘ Ex-vivo confirmation
- ⌘ Preop LSG pictures
- ⌘ Probably the “gold standard” method
- ⌘ But...

# Technetium - 99

⌘ Patients' concerns vs **radioactive agent**

⌘ **Availability** of Tc-99

⌘ **Coordinating** injection times in nuclear medicine suite vs OR slate

⌘ Wait time for the **LSG**

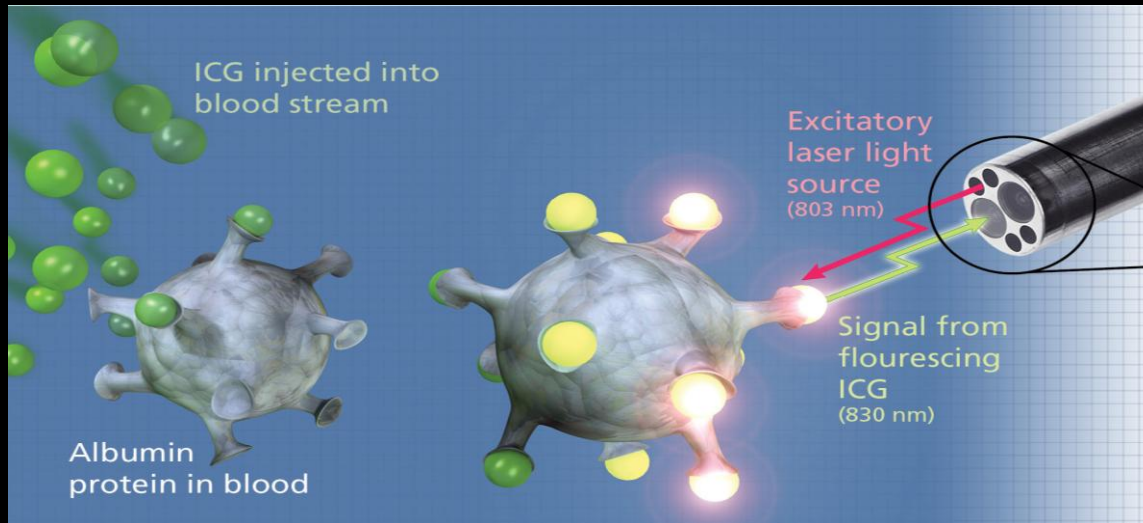
⌘ Need for **gamma probe** and **gamma counter**

⌘ **Costly**



# IndoCyanine Green (ICG)

- Developed by KODAK (1950)
- Protein-bound (albumin)
- Hepato-biliary excretion
- Laser illumination (803 nm)

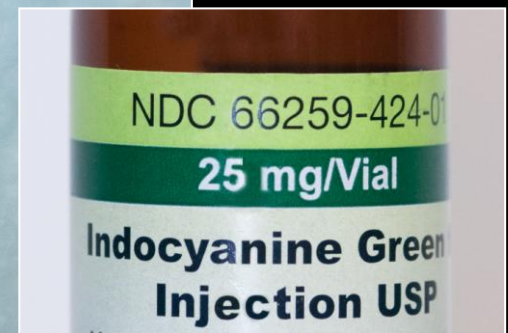
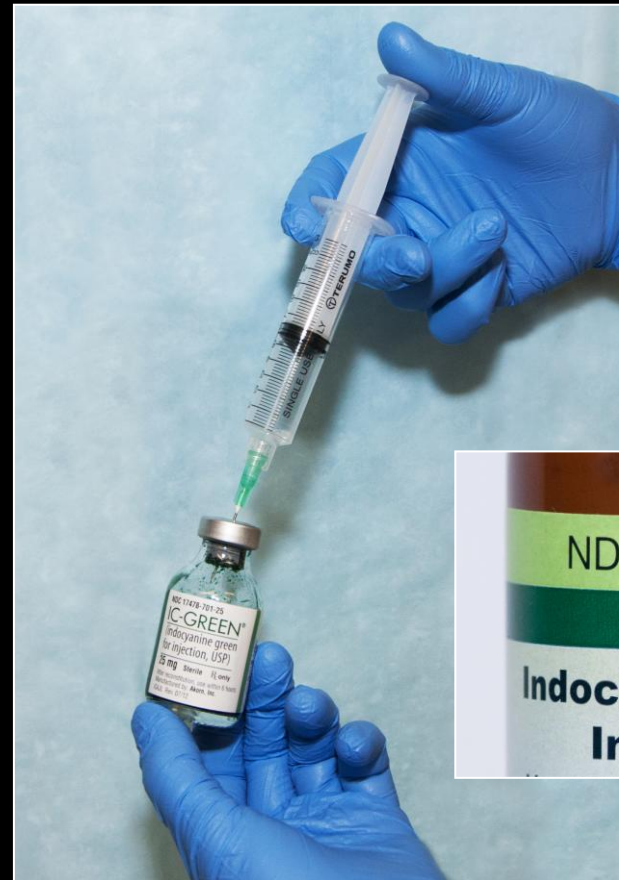


# Fluorescence imaging (ICG)

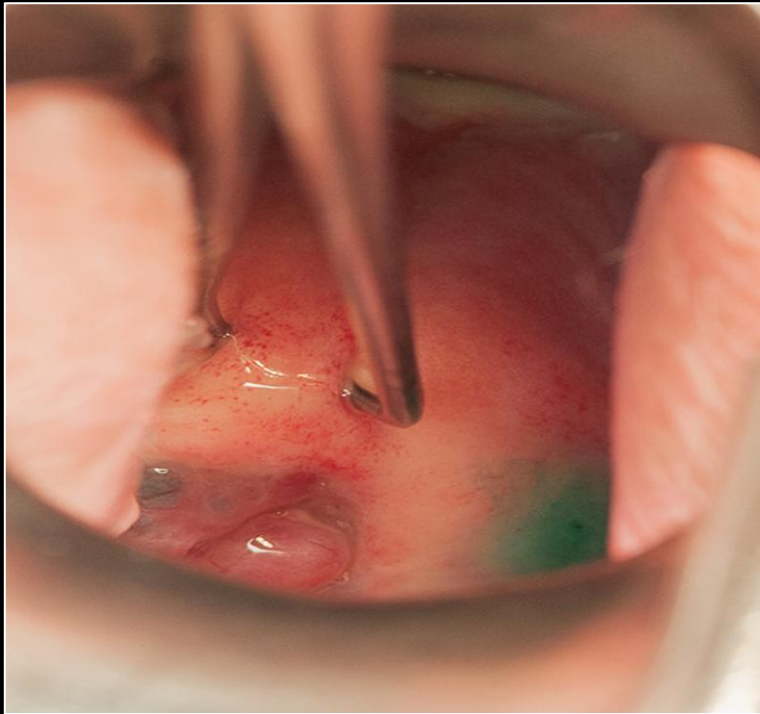
## ∞ Variety of applications

- | Vascular anatomy
- | Anastomosis integrity
- | Plastic reconstructive surgery
- | Wound care
- | Acute care surgery/trauma injuries
- | **Oncology**
  - **SLN mapping**

# ICG preparation



# ICG injection

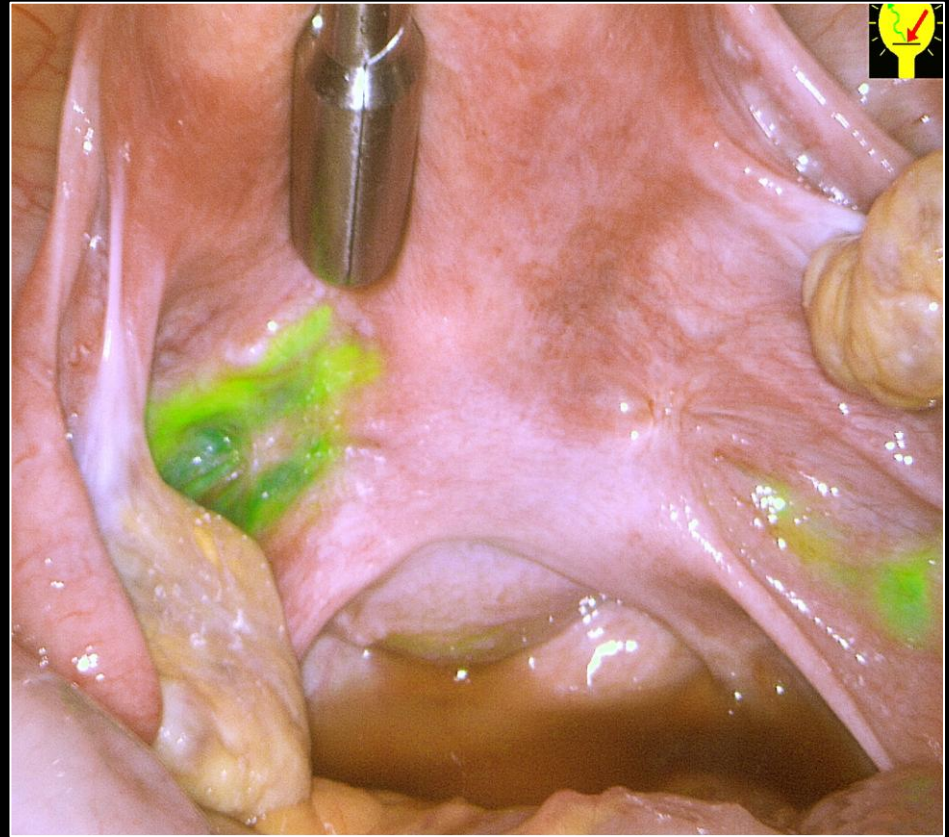
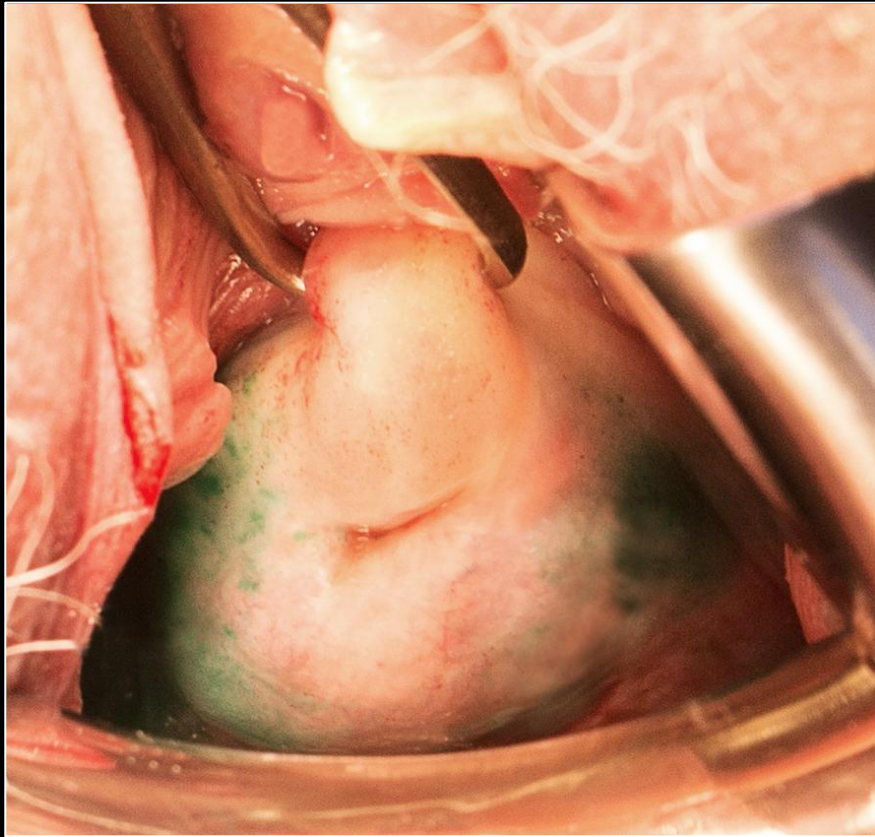


**Intraoperative cervical injection  
2cc, at 3 and 9 o'clock  
25-gauge spinal needle**





# ICG SLN mapping





# Endoscopy Unit



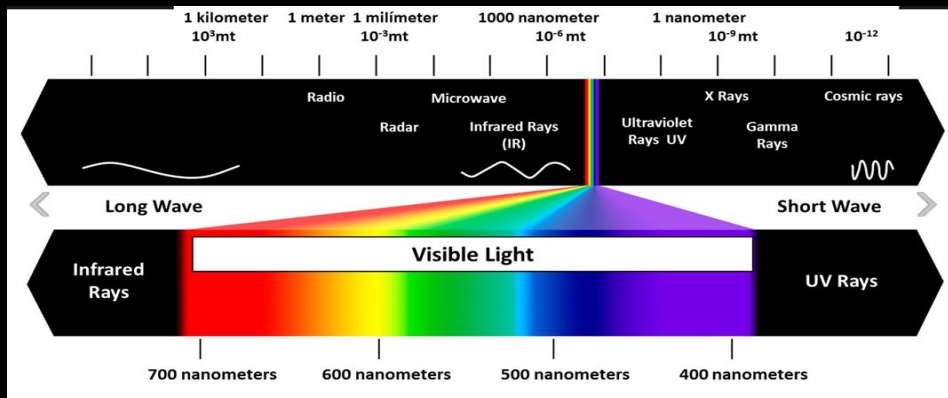
# Endoscopy Unit



0 or 30° scope



“pinpoint” button



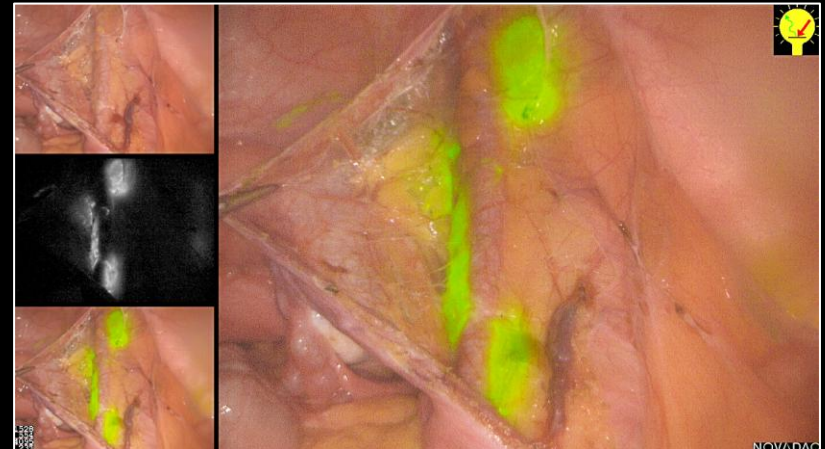
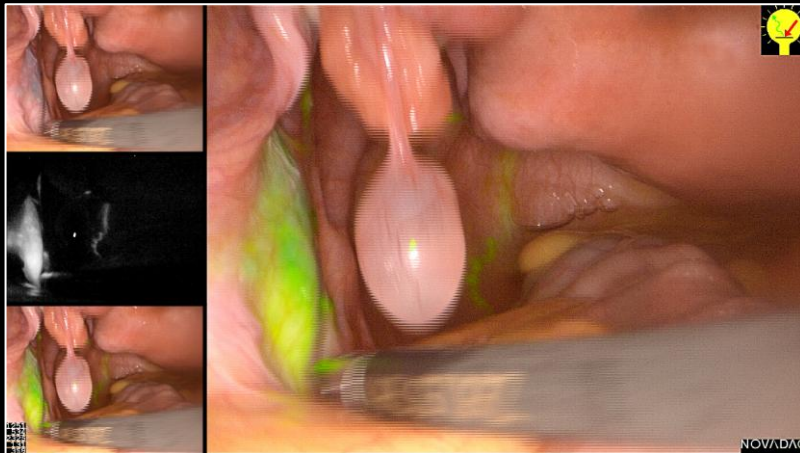
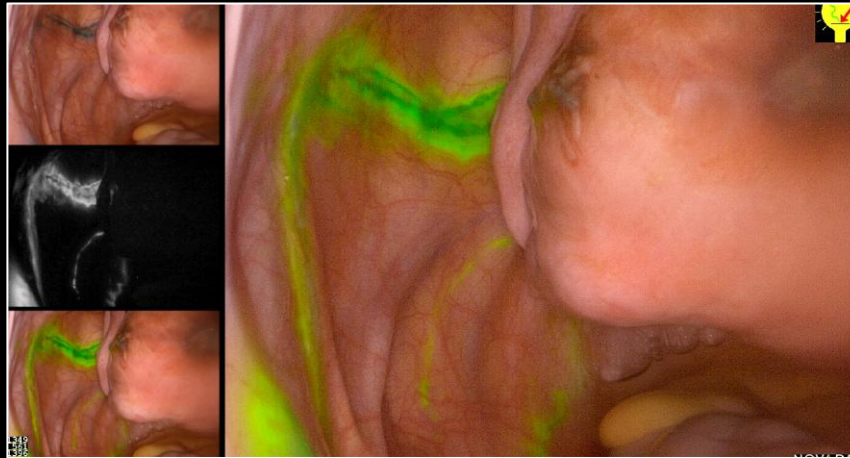
activates NIR mode

# ICG SLN mapping

**Normal mode**

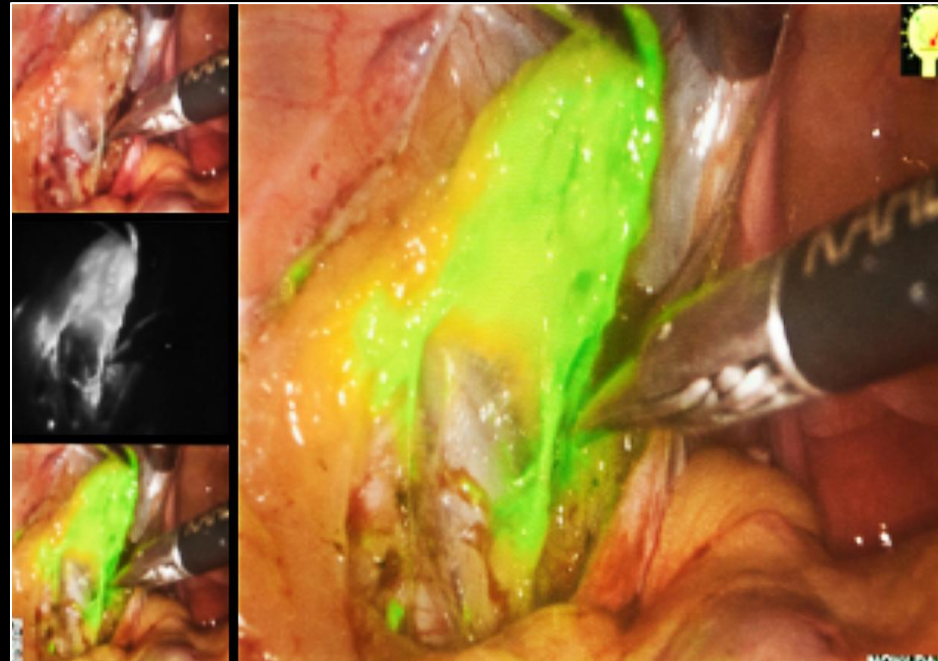
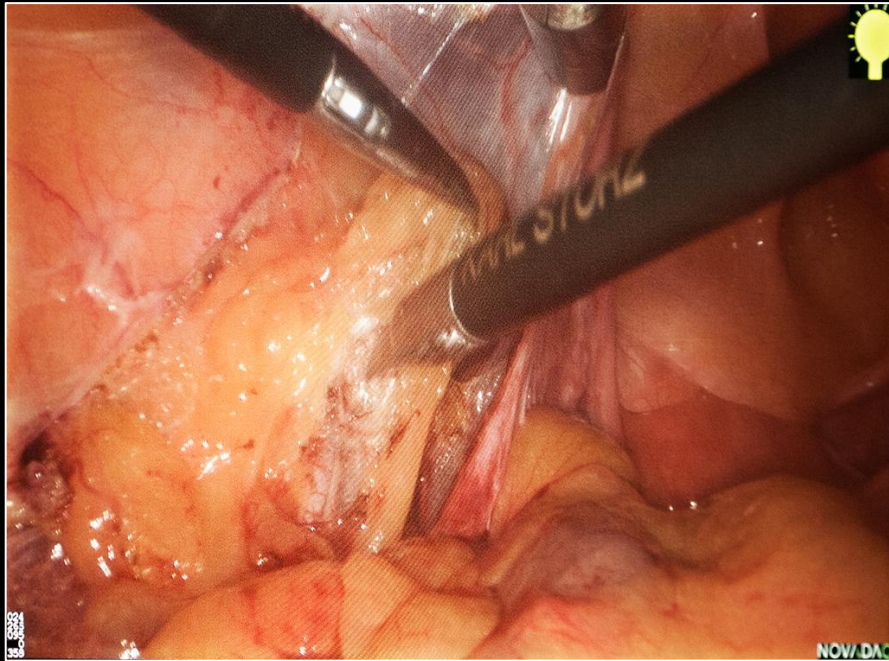
**Spy mode**

**NIR mode**



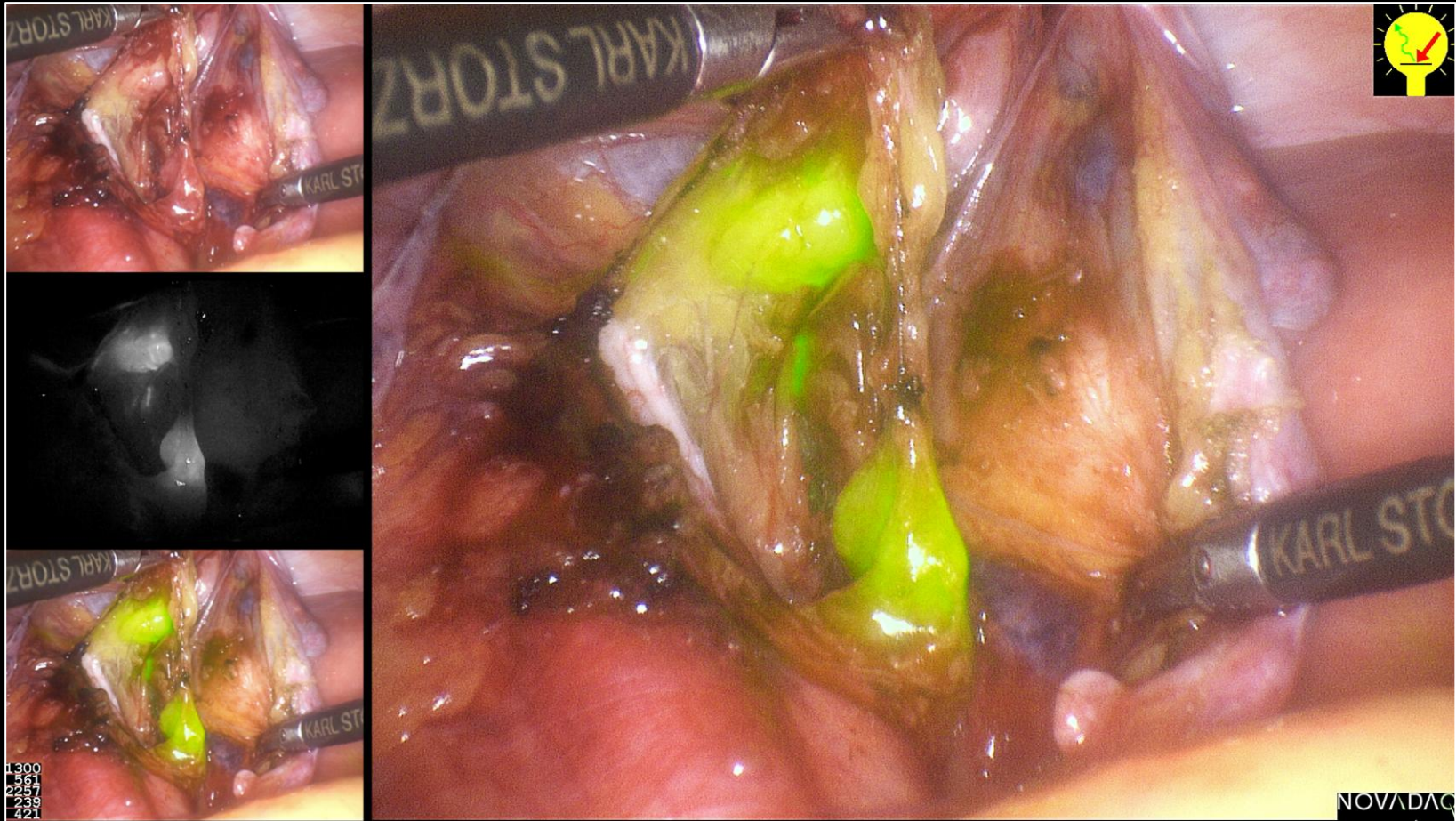


# ICG SLN mapping



**Maintains normal tissue color**  
**Can switch mode as often as needed**

# ICG SLN mapping



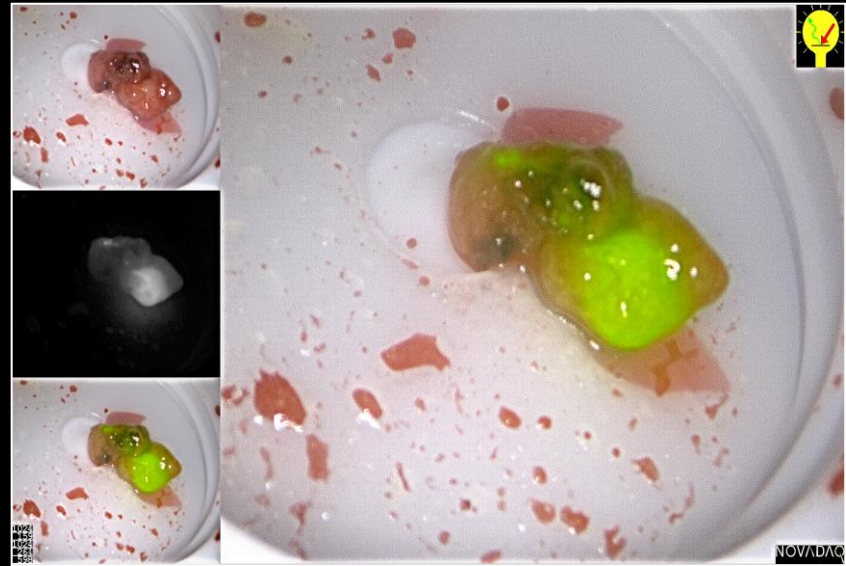
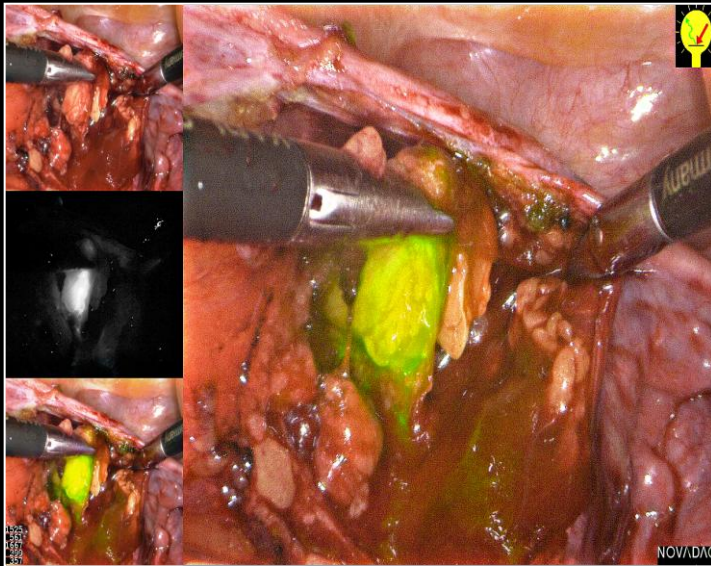


# ICG SLN mapping



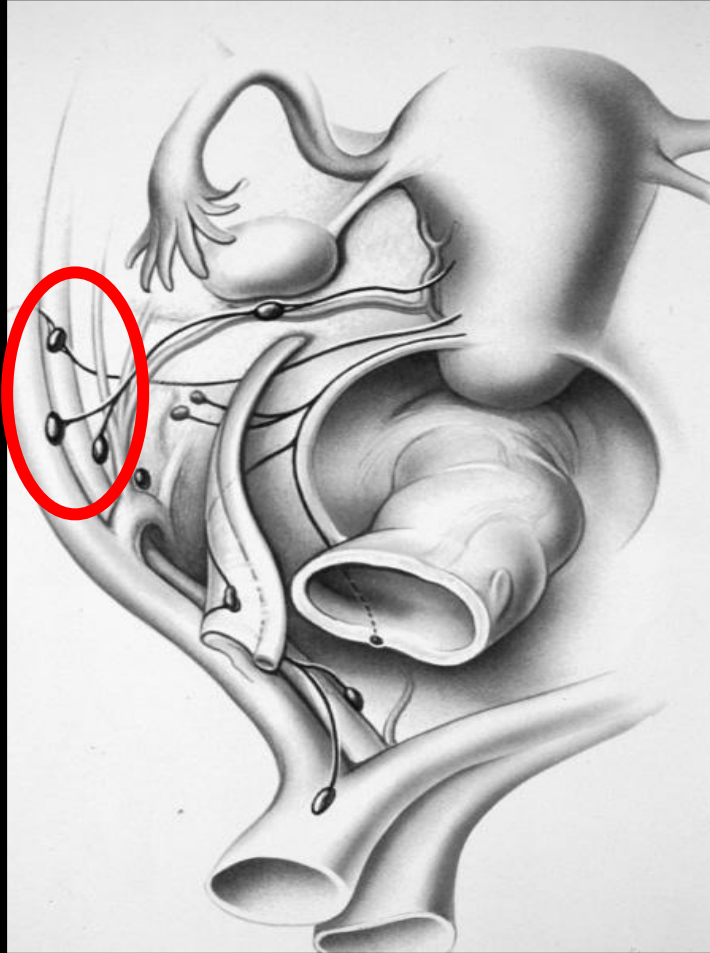
ICG does not tend to “leak out”  
Detection rate **much better** in **obese** patients

# ICG SLN mapping

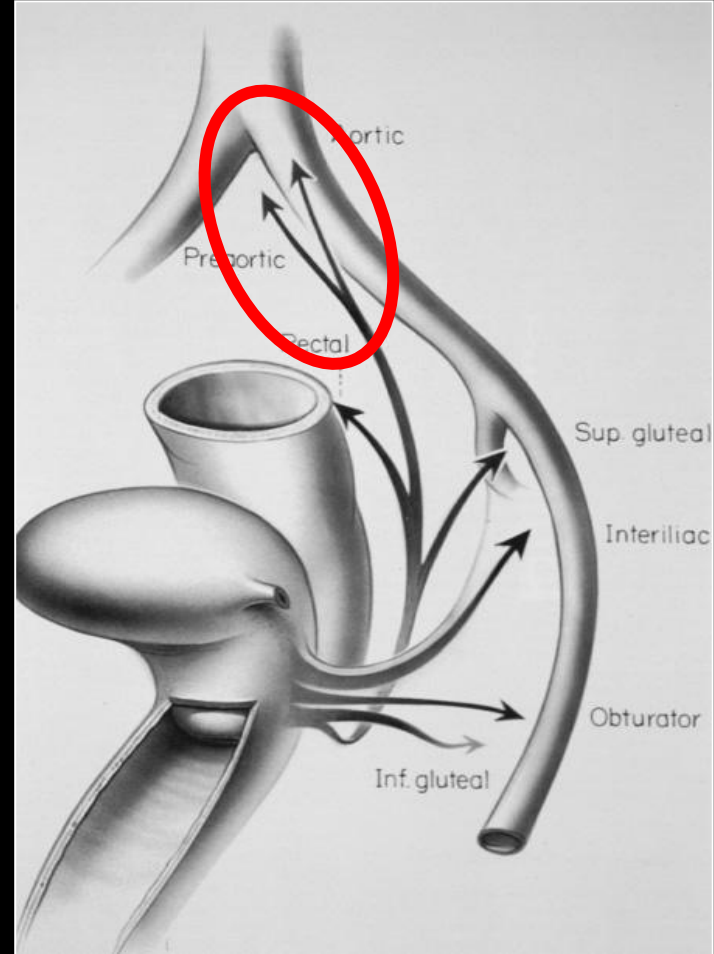


Detection rate **much better** in **bloody surgical field**

# Lymphatic drainage



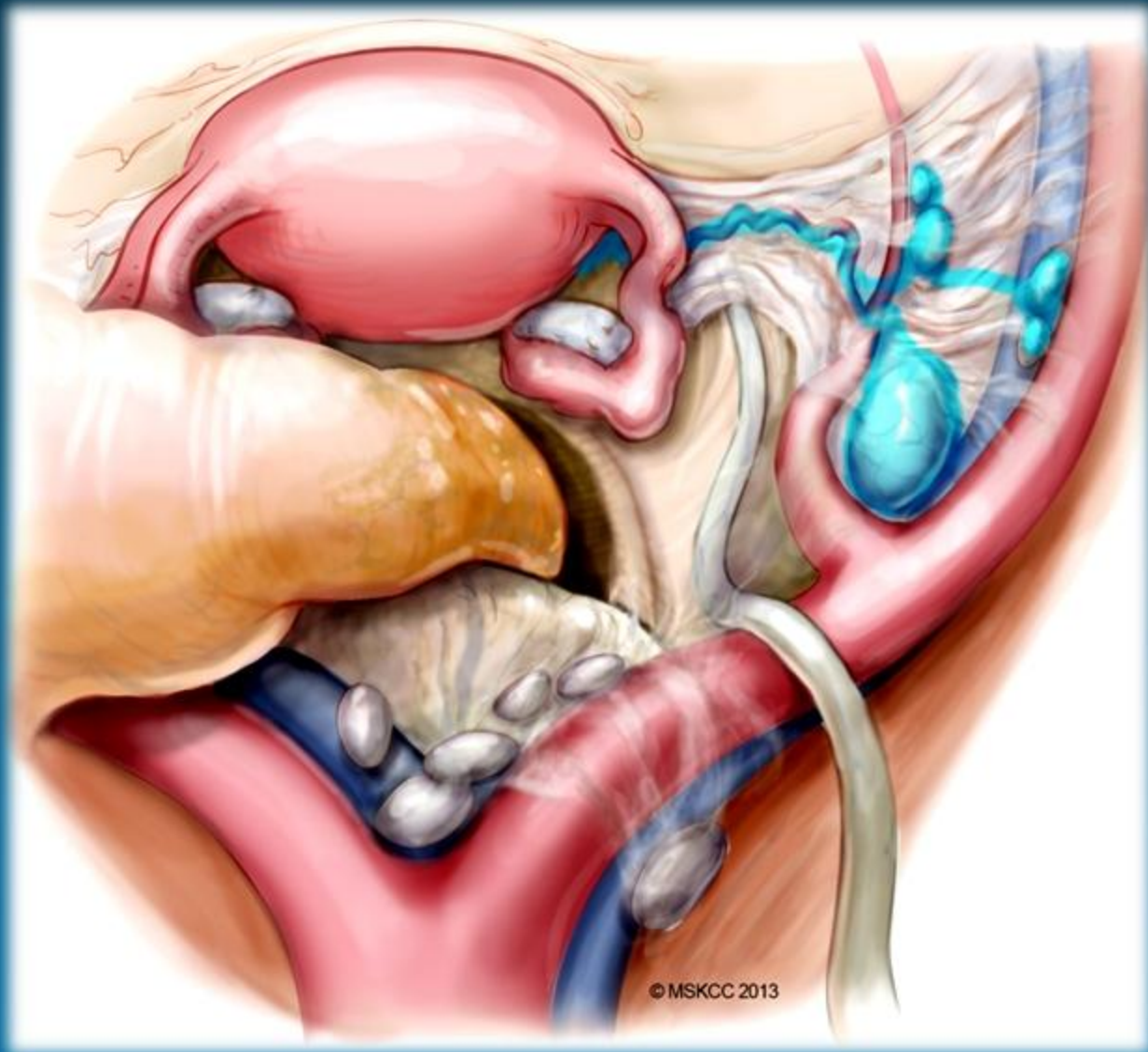
**Pelvic nodes**



**Paraaortic nodes**

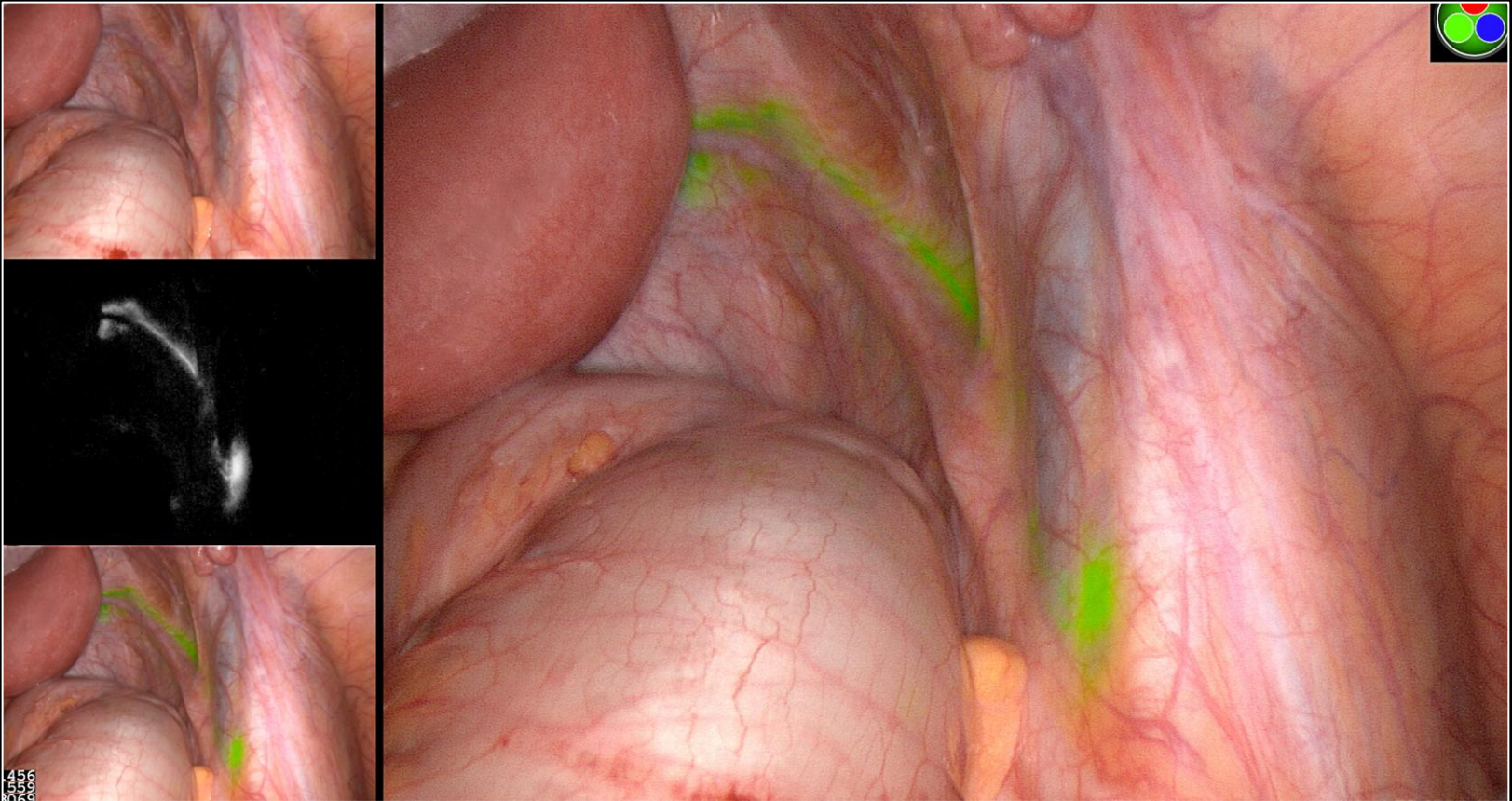


# Hints to Drainage



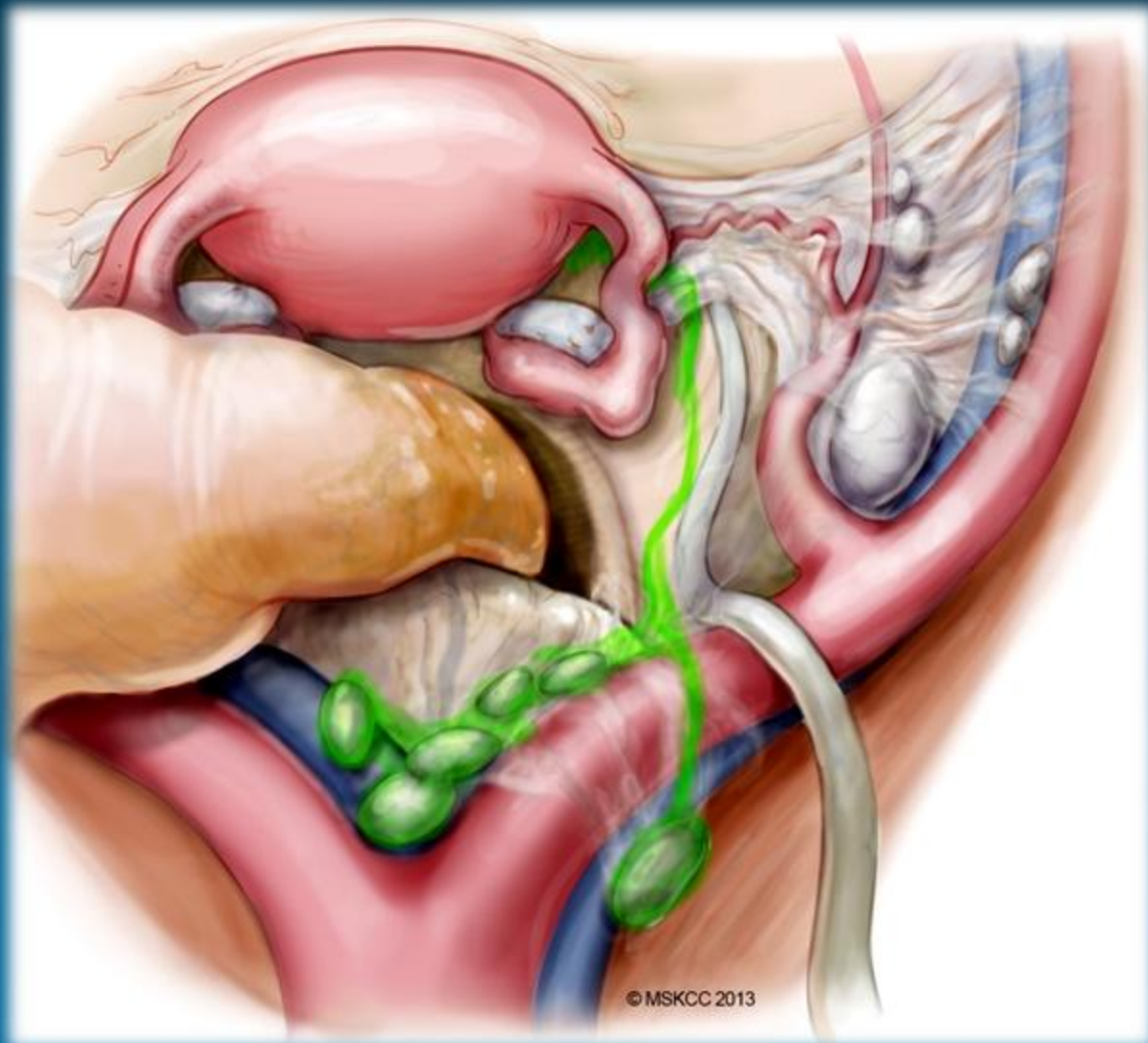
Abu-Rustum NR. MSKCC 2013

# ICG SLN localisation



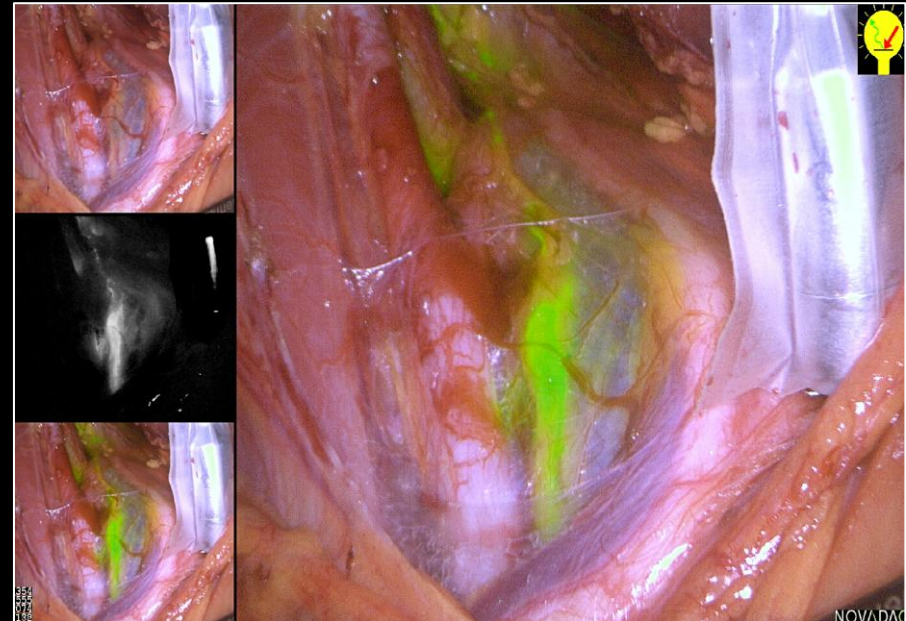
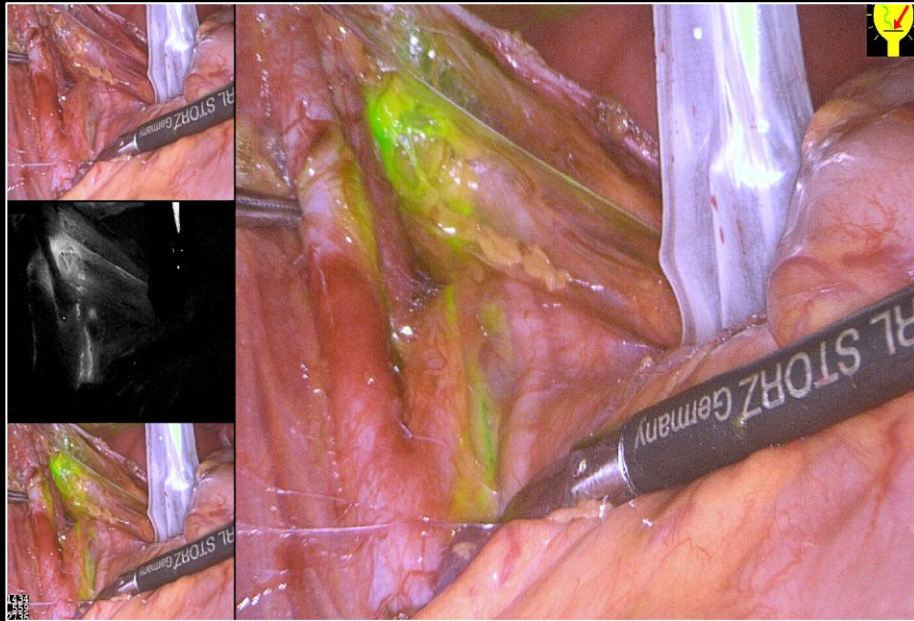


# Hints to Drainage



Abu-Rustum NR. MSKCC 2013

# ICG SLN localisation



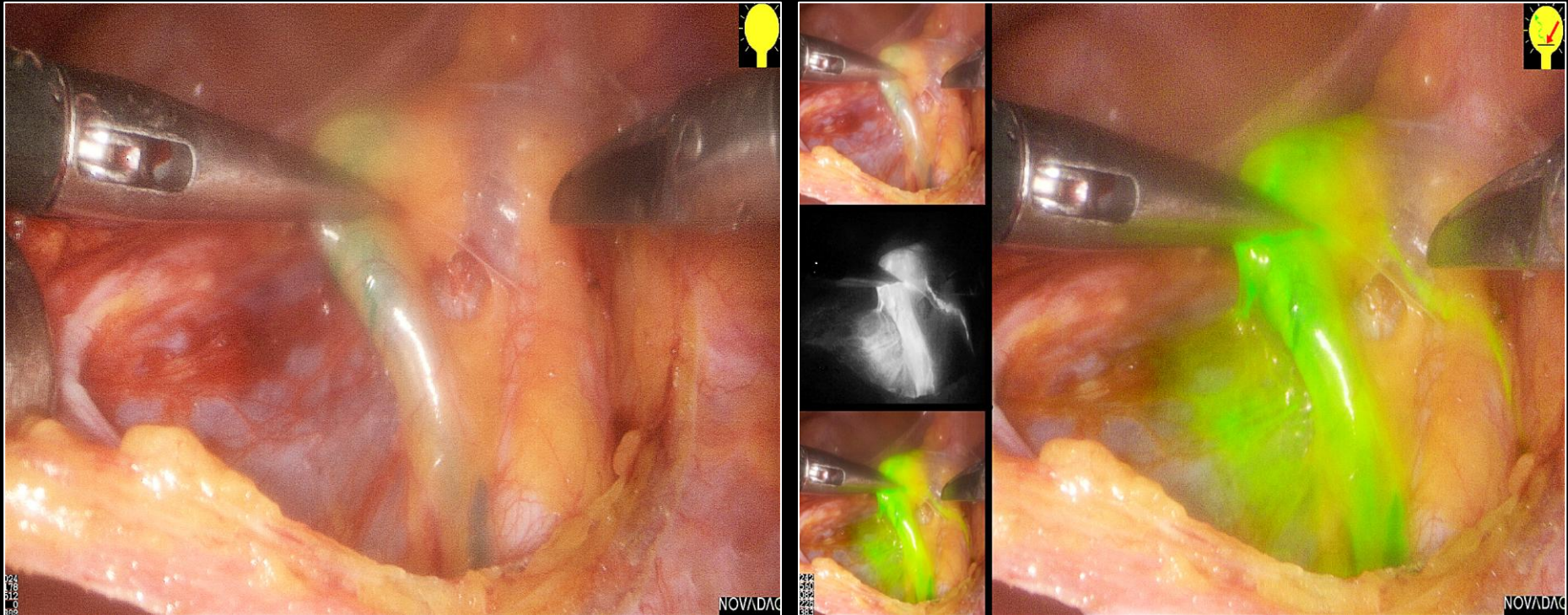
# ICG SLN mapping: pitfalls

⌘ Lymph nodes or swollen lymphatics ??

⌘ Smear effect

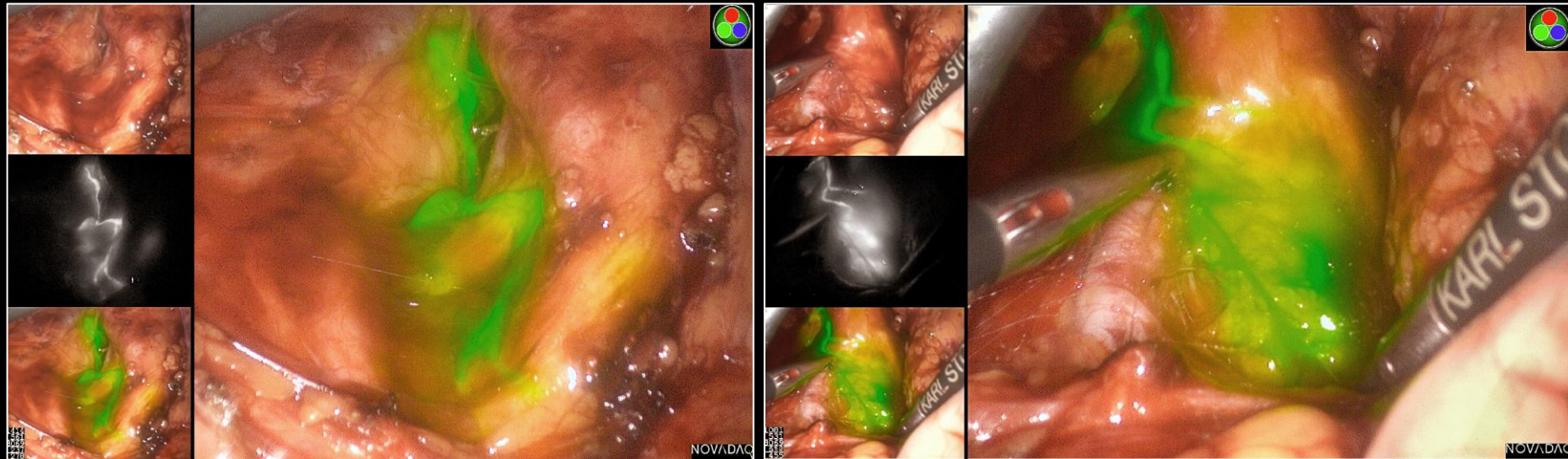


# Lymph nodes vs. swollen lymphatics



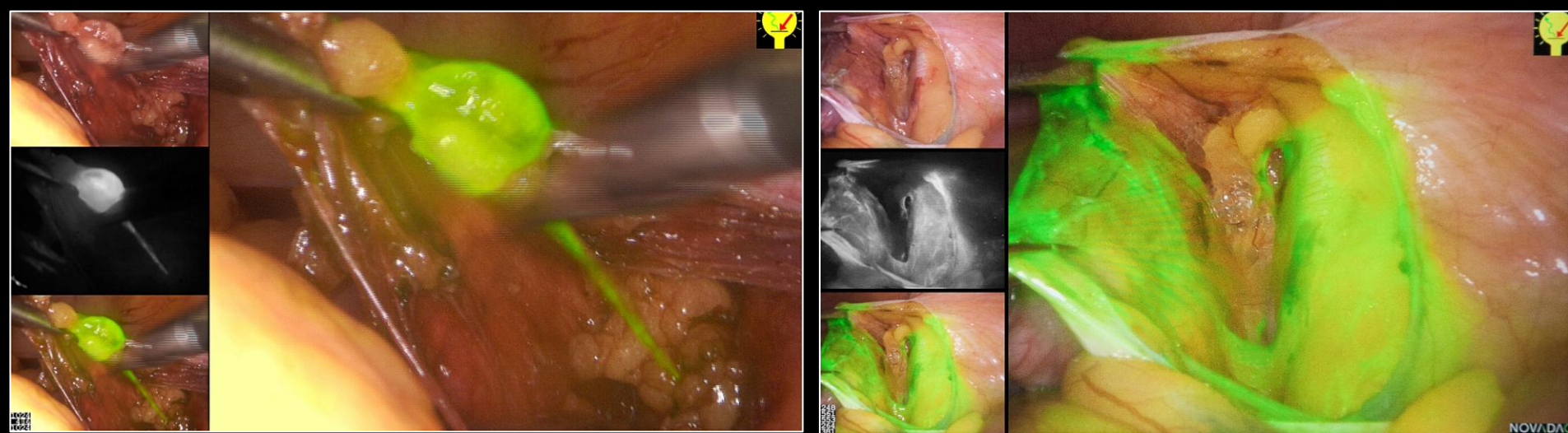


# Lymph nodes vs. swollen lymphatics



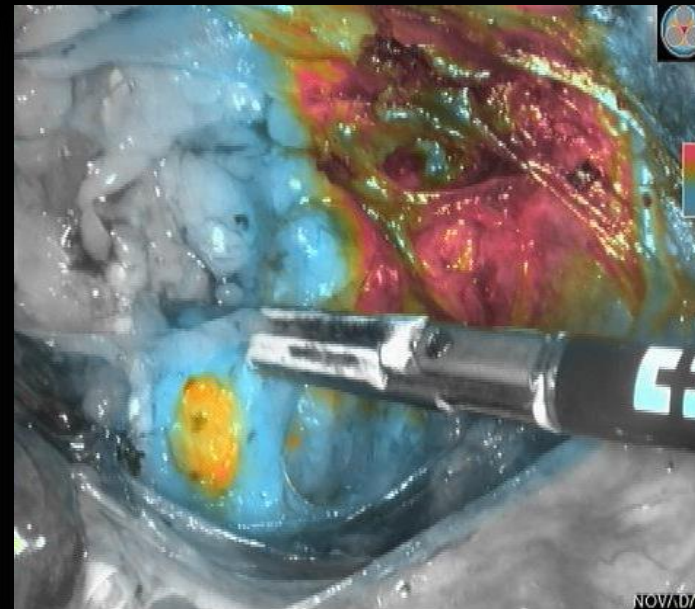
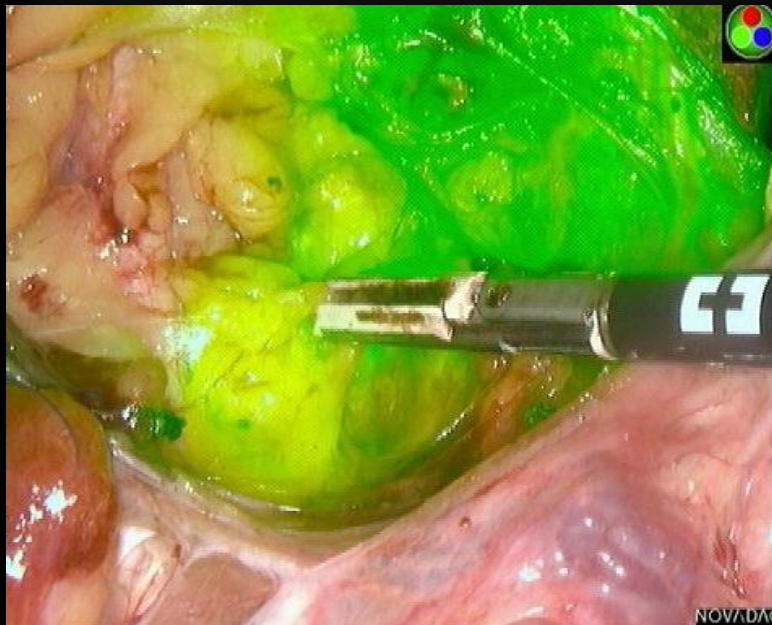
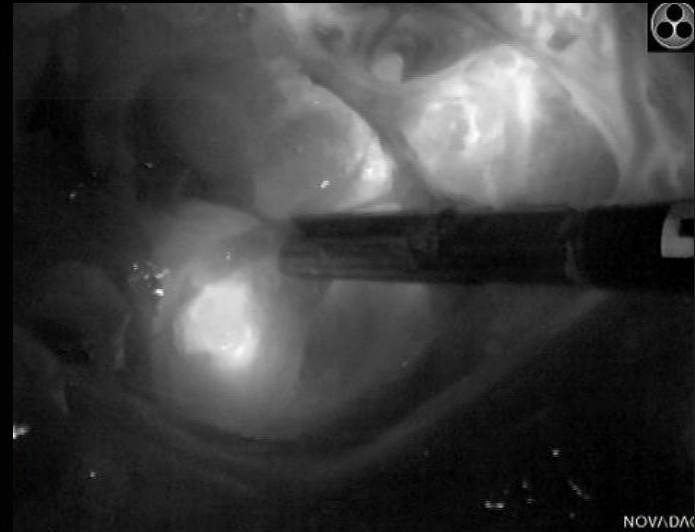
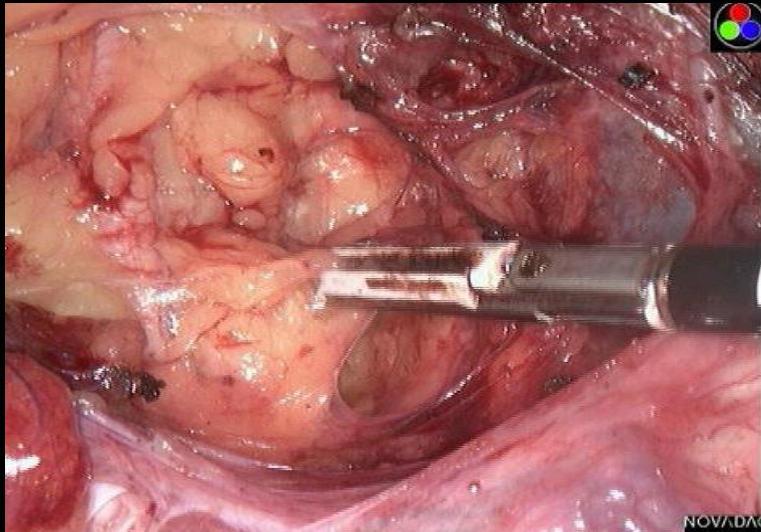
**SPY mode - NIR mode**

# Smear effect

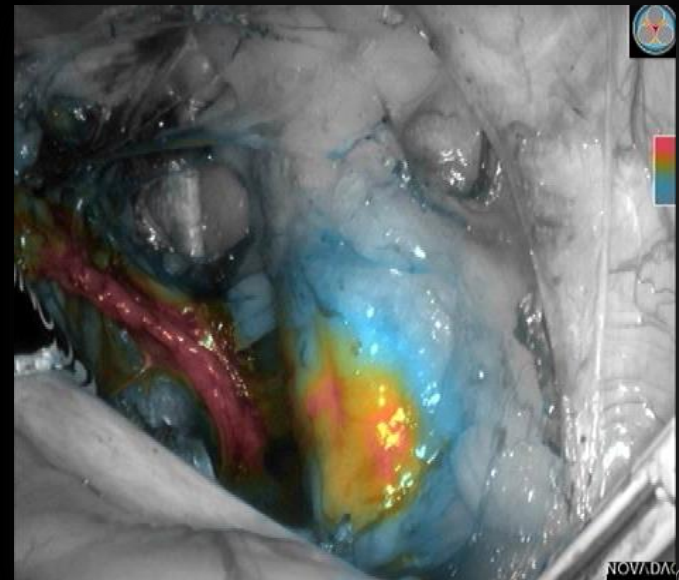
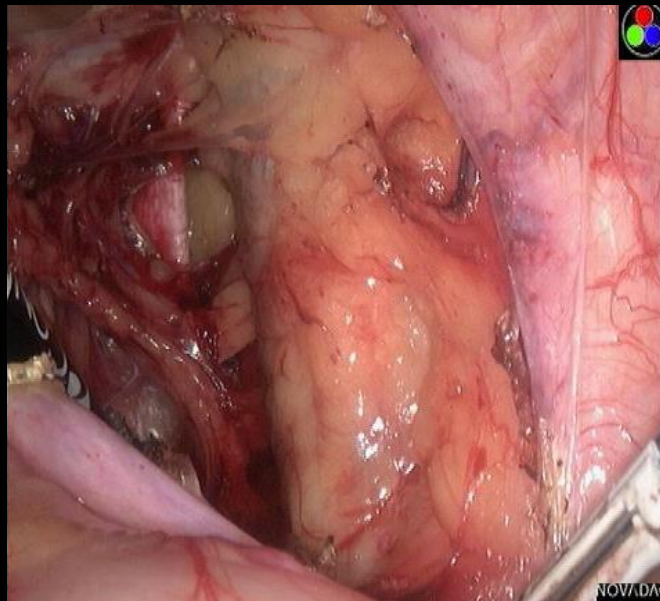




# ICG – Color Segmented Fluorescence

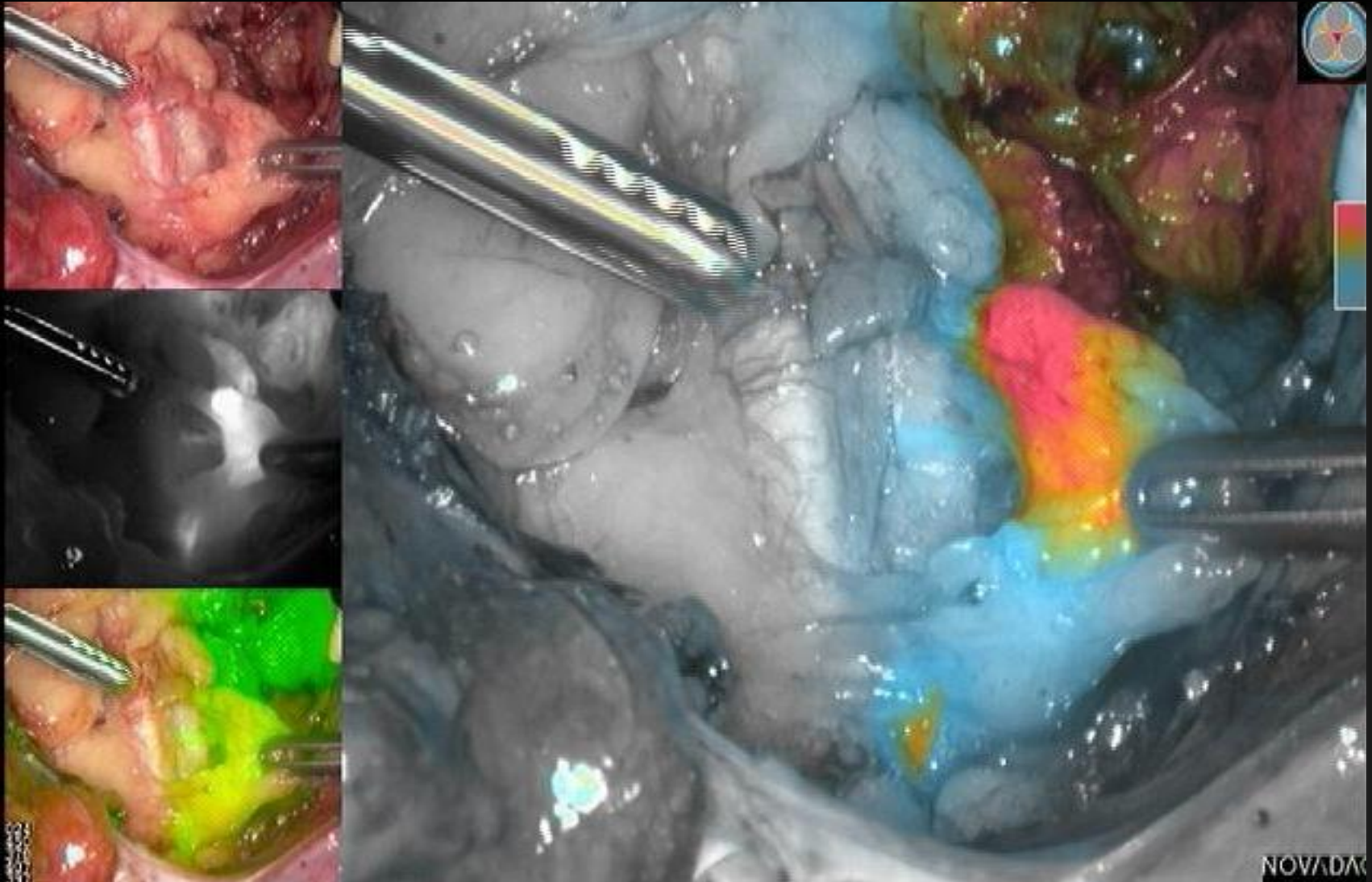


# ICG – Color Segmented Fluorescence

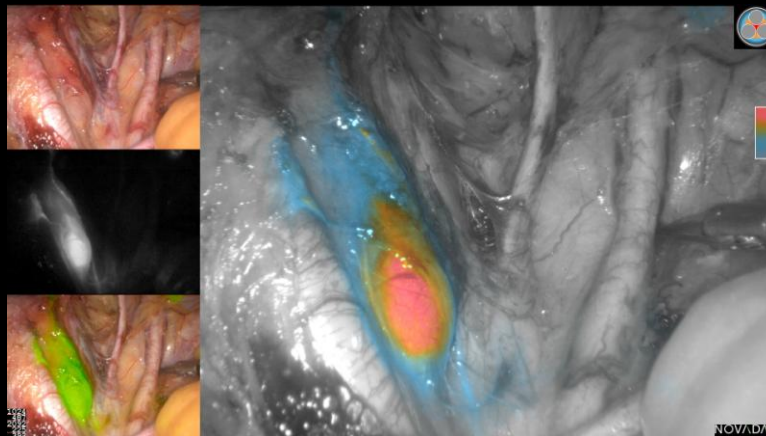
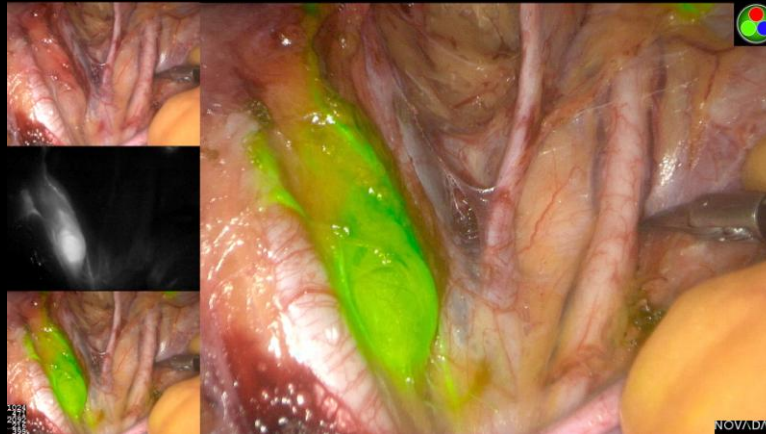
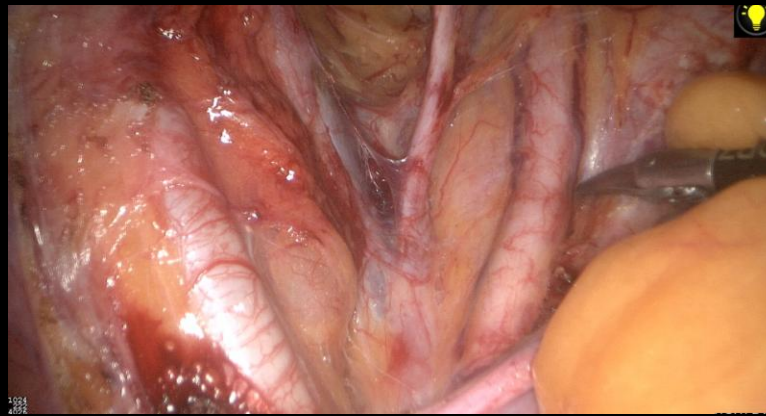




# ICG – Color Segmented Fluorescence



# CSF mode



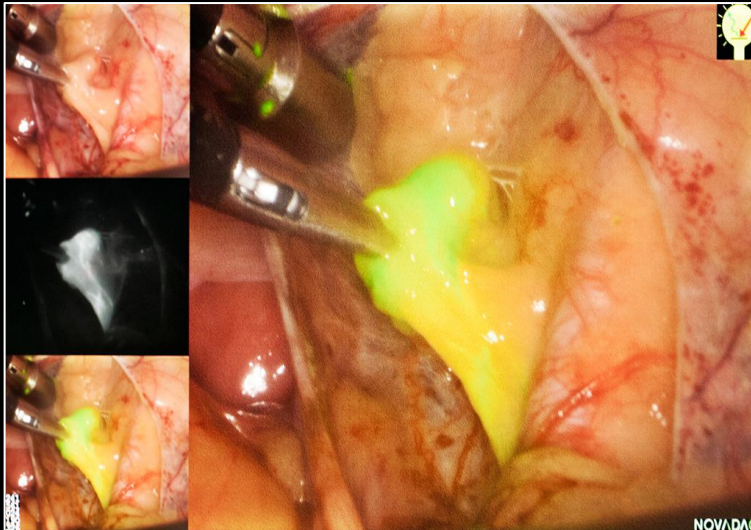
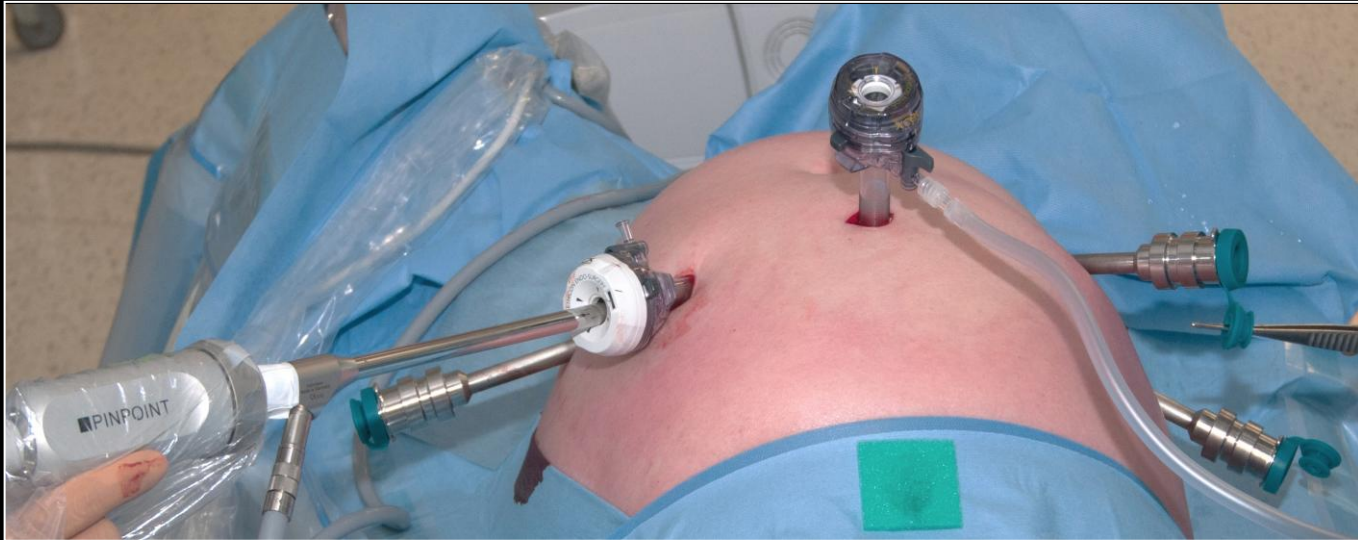
# ICG SLN mapping

➤ Different **applications** of the endoscopic pinpoint system

- | Laparoscopy
- | Prior to robotic surgery
- | Combined with robotic surgery
- | Laparotomy

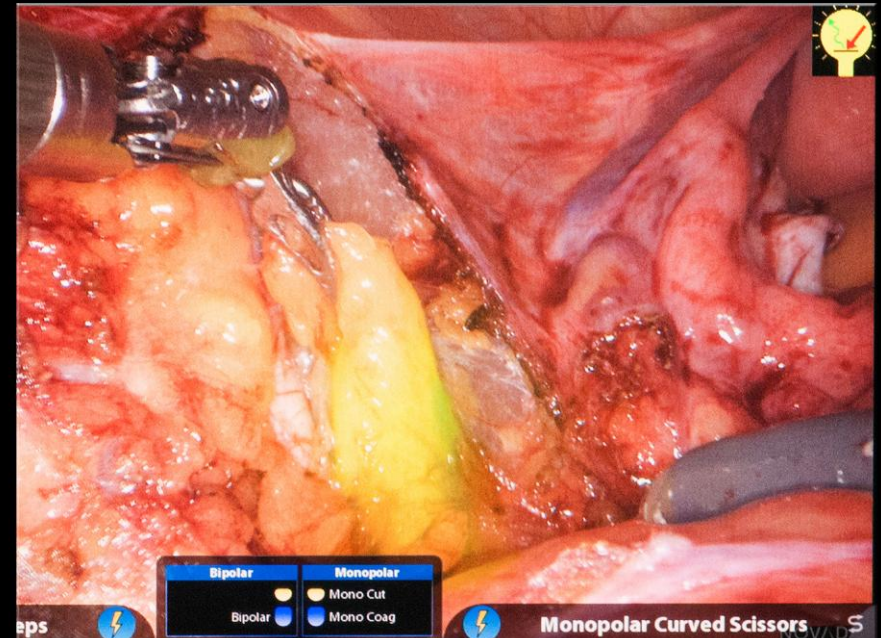
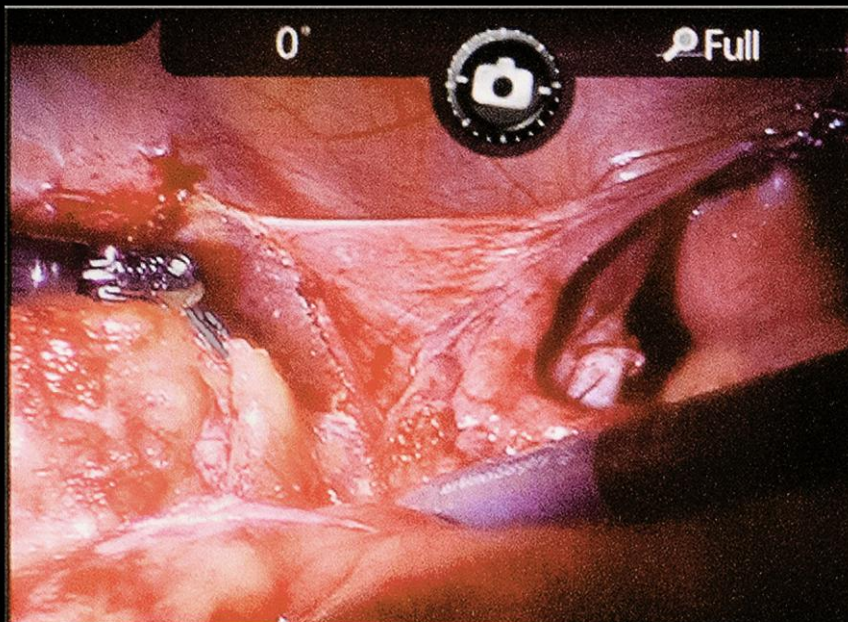


# Pinpoint combined with robotic sx





# Pinpoint combined with robotic sx



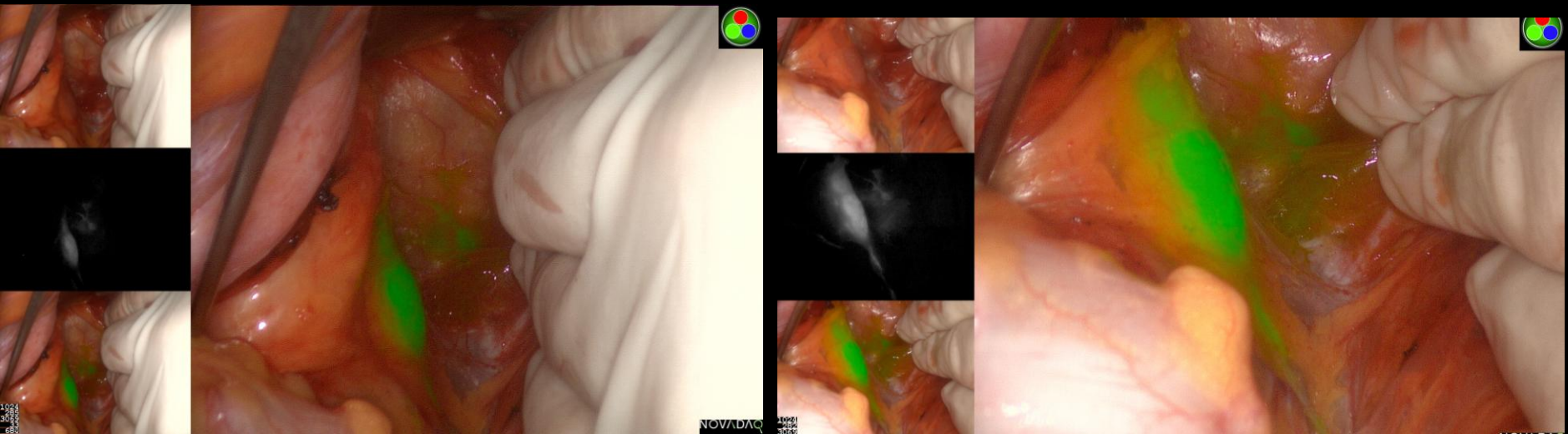


# Pinpoint and laparotomy





# Pinpoint and laparotomy



# IndoCyanine Green (ICG)

## ∞ Safety

- | Allergy to **iodides**
- | May contain **< 5% iodides**
- | Risk of anaphylactic reaction **VERY low**

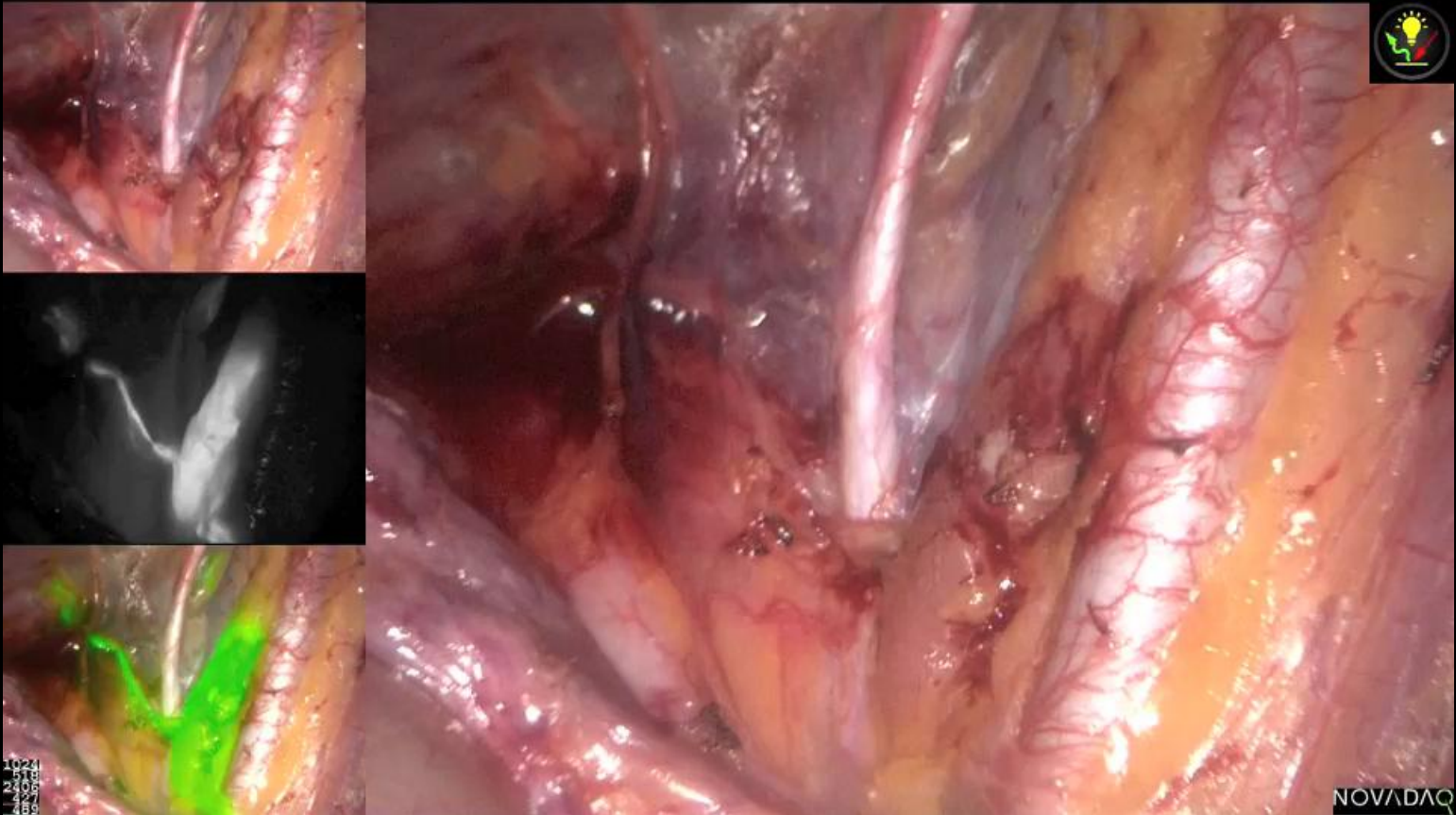
# VIDEOS



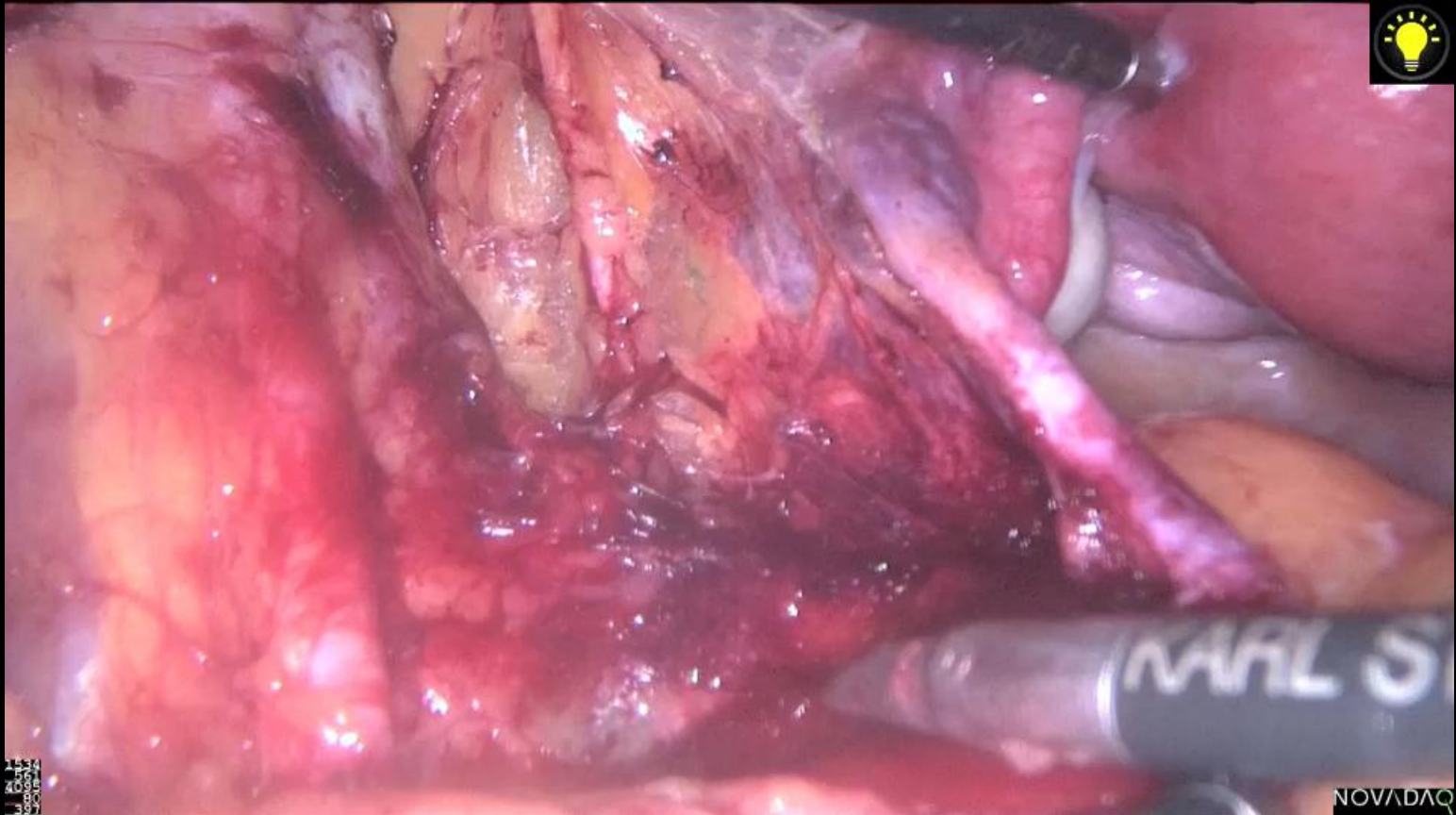
# Left side



# Right side



# Left side - bloody





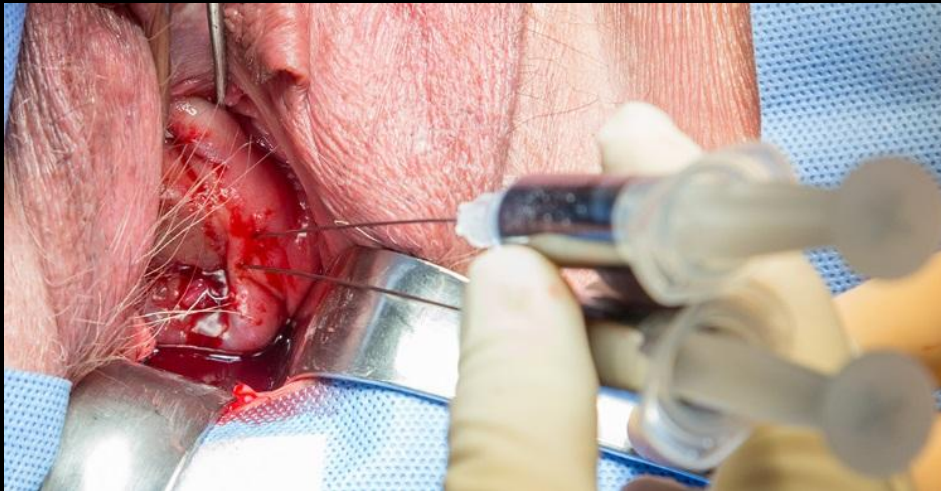
# SLN mapping

⌘ ICG currently **not FDA approved** for  
interstitial injection

- | Lymphatic mapping

# FILM Study

A Randomized, Prospective, Open Label, Multicenter Study Assessing the Safety and Utility of PINPOINT® Near Infrared Fluorescence Imaging in the Identification of Lymph Nodes in Subjects with Uterine and Cervical Malignancies who are Undergoing Lymph Node Mapping



Blue Dye  
ICG

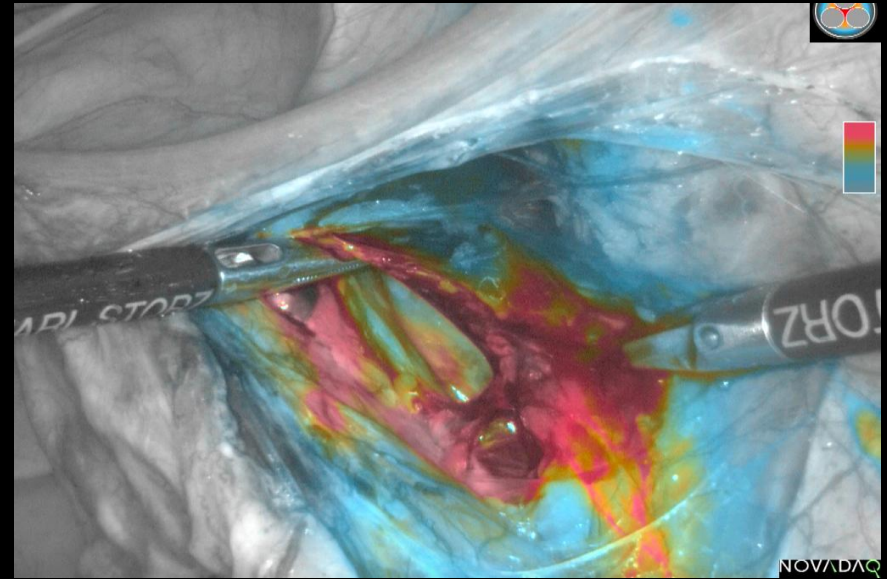
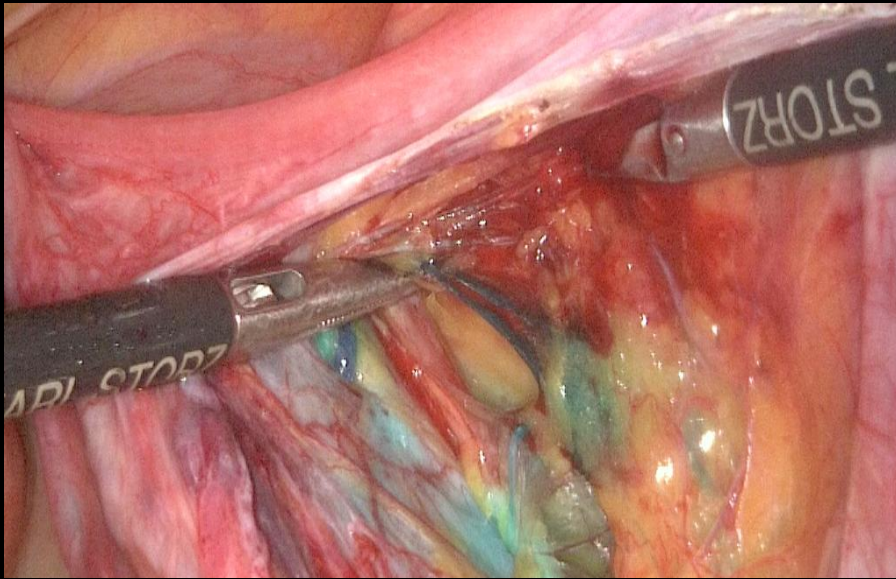
# The FILM study

## ∞ Study design

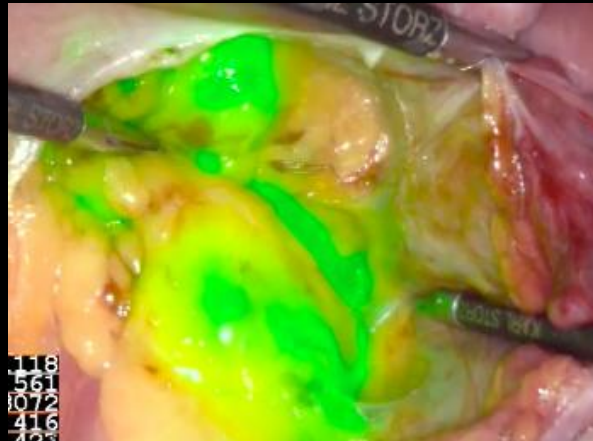
- | randomized prospective, open label, multicenter study
- | a **non-inferiority within-patient comparison** study to determine the effectiveness of **ICG** in the identification of LNs compared to LNs identified with **Blue dye**
- | Approximately **150 subjects**



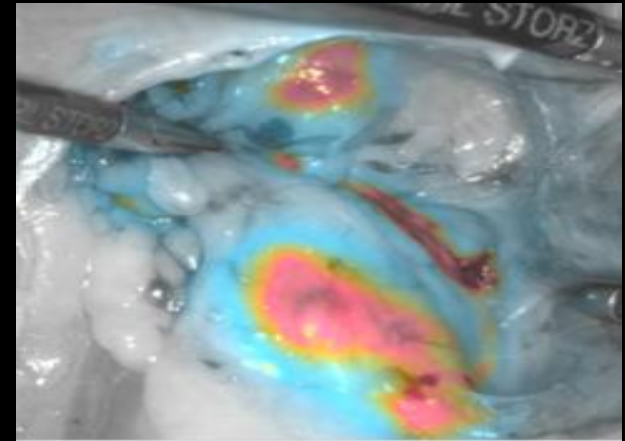
# FILM study



# FILM study



118  
561  
1072  
416  
458





ELSEVIER

Review Article

JMIG The Journal of  
Minimally Invasive  
Gynecology



# Role of Indocyanine Green in Sentinel Node Mapping in Gynecologic Cancers: Is Fluorescence Imaging the New Standard?

María Cecilia Darin, MD, Natalia Rodriguez Gómez-Hidalgo, MD, Shannon N. Westin, MD, Pamela T. Soliman, MD, Pedro F. Escobar, MD, Michael Frumovitz, MD, and Pedro T. Ramirez, MD\*



# Indocyanine green fluorescence-guided sentinel node biopsy **A meta-analysis on detection rate and diagnostic performance**

L. Xiong <sup>a</sup>, E. Gazyakan <sup>a</sup>, W. Yang <sup>b</sup>, H. Engel <sup>a</sup>, M. Hünnerbein <sup>c</sup>, U. Kneser <sup>a</sup>, C. Hirche <sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Hand, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Burn Center, BG Trauma Center Ludwigshafen, University of Heidelberg, Ludwig Guttman Str. 13, 67071 Ludwigshafen, Germany

<sup>b</sup>Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen, BG Trauma Center Tübingen, Siegfried Weller Institut, Schnarrenbergstr. 95, 72076 Tübingen, Germany

<sup>c</sup>Department of General, Visceral and Oncological Surgery, Helios Hospital Berlin-Buch, Berlin, Germany

Table 1

Patient characteristics and qualities of included studies.

Author	Year	Country	Sample size	Mean age	Tumor	Stage	QUADAS
T. Kitai	2005	Japan	18	56.9	Breast cancer	12 T1, 6 T2	9
K. Nagata	2006	Japan	48	—	Colorectal cancer	25 pT1, 4 pT2	11
K. Ishikawa	2007	Japan	16	57.0	Gastric cancer	14 pT1, 2 pT2.	11
N. Furukawa	2010	Japan	12	—	Cervical cancer	—	11
Y. Tajima	2010	Japan	77	57.2	Gastric cancer	52 pT1, 21 pT2, 4 pT3	11
S. Yamashita	2011	Japan	31	63.0	Lung cancer	27 pT1, 4 pT2	9
I. Miyashiro	2011	Japan	10	68.0	Gastric cancer	10 pT1	11
K. Yano	2012	Japan	130	—	Gastric cancer	109 pT1, 21 pT2	11
S. Jeschke	2012	Austria	26	62.0	Prostate cancer	13 pT2, 13 pT3	11
E. Rossi	2012	USA	20	61.0	4 cervical cancer 16 endometrial cancer	—	12
R. Holloway	2012	USA	35	63.4	Endometrial cancer	13I,4II,8III	11
C. Hirche	2012	Germany	34	—	Breast cancer	21 pT1, 24 pT2, 2 pT3/4	9
C. Hirche	2012	Germany	26	—	Colon cancer	6 pT1, 5 pT2, 15 pT3/4	11
Y. Yuasa	2012	Japan	20	65.3	Esophageal cancer	20 T1	9
J. Van der Vorst	2013	Netherlands	10	60.5	Oral cancer	—	11

QUADAS: Quality Assessment tool for Diagnostic Accuracy in Systemic reviews.

**N=513 (pooled data)**

**Detection rate: 96%**

**Sensitivity: 87%**

**Specificity: 100%**

# ICG - Pinpoint system

## ∞ Advantages

- | Excellent **safety profile**
- | Maintains **normal colored** anatomy
- | Switch **on/off NIR mode** easily
- | **CSF mode** very useful
- | System is **versatile**
  - Laparoscopic, robotic and open surgery

# Conclusion

➤ SLN mapping using endoscopic NIR fluorescence imaging with **ICG**

- | Simple, easy to learn
- | High overall / bilateral detection rate
- | **Cervical** injection works well
- | Most **practical approach** for large scale **worldwide** implementation



