



3.6.7 Translational Research and Innovation in General and Digestive Surgery



Publications: 46 | Q1: 29

COMPOSITION

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- **Jordi Vengohechea Llorens.** *Investigador Predoctoral. Universidad de Barcelona*
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STRATEGIC OBJETIVES

- **PROBLEM:** Surgery and perioperative care encompass one of the most expensive and resource-intensive areas of clinical medicine. Surgical patients undergo complex interventions, with the goal of curing or at least relieving distressing symptoms from different medical conditions. These same interventions, however, may sometimes result ineffective in achieving this goal. Additionally, they can provoke complications (morbidity) and further affect a patient's physical, mental, and emotional states.
- **APPROACH:** The Translational Research & Innovation in General Surgery Group (GITIC) is a multidisciplinary group comprised of surgeons, nurses, and biologists, with various areas of dedication and expertise. The GITIC team works together with the common goal of using surgical innovation and diverse research initiatives to offer the highest level of patient care possible today.
- Given its broad knowledge base and skill set, projects that GITIC currently develops include lines of basic science and experimental research, translational and pre-clinical surgical models, clinical investigation, analysis of post-surgical outcomes, studies involving economic evaluation, the creation of mathematical models, and surgical device design and implementation.
- In order to fulfill its broad research interests and initiatives, GITIC actively collaborates not only with other groups within Hospital Universitario La Paz and IdiPAZ but also other hospitals and public and private research institutions in Spain and abroad. The following is a list of some of GITIC's current collaborations:
 - Donation & Transplantation Institute (DTI), Barcelona, España
 - Guanguong Shunde Innovative Design Institution, Guangdong, China
 - Hospital Virgen de la Salud, Toledo, España
 - Universidad Internacional de Catalunya (UIC), Sant Cugat, España
 - Policlinico Universitario "A. Gemelli", Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Roma, Italia
 - Instituto de Empresa (IE), Madrid, España.
 - Tekniker, Gipuzkoa, España.

RESEARCH LINES

Injury, inflammation, organ failure, & transplantation:

- Assessment and implications of chronic inflammation in obesity
- Experimental models of end-stage liver disease and portal hypertension
- Applicability and results of liver transplantation in the treatment of acute-on-chronic liver failure
- Approaches to transplantation in patients with complex portal vein thrombosis
- Translation and clinical research in ischemia-reperfusion injury
- Novel preservation solutions and techniques of in situ and ex situ organ machine perfusion
- Clinical outcomes and strategies for improvement in donation after circulatory death (DCD) organ transplantation

3 Research areas and groups

- Assessment and clinical implications of markers of allograft dysfunction following liver transplantation

Surgical oncology:

- Evaluation of a novel polyfunctional immune liquid biopsy platform to predict and improve responses to cancer immunotherapy using innate immunomodulators
- Evaluation of the utility of cryoablation to provoke immune activation and response to immunotherapy in primary breast tumors
- Evaluation of the diagnostic and therapeutic role of novel immune checkpoints in colon cancer
- Development of three-dimensional in vitro organoid biomodels of colon cancer
- Combination of "omic" and imaging techniques to identify markers associated with response to neoadjuvant therapy in rectal cancer patients
- Effectiveness and safety of hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy in the prevention of peritoneal recurrence in high-risk colorectal cancer patients
- Immunological and molecular predictors of ovarian cancer arising in the background of endometriosis (Collaboration with H.U. La Paz Gynecology Service)

Surgical technology & innovation:

- Development and pre-clinical evaluation of a novel device for ex situ liver machine perfusion
- Development and clinical trial assessment on the safety and feasibility of a novel rectoscope for rectal cancer surgery
- Development and utility assessment of novel surgical drains
- Evaluation of novel surgical techniques strategies to reduce drainage following axillary lymphadenectomy in breast cancer therapy

Value-based care:

- Patient safety and prevention of perioperative infection
- Evaluation of "best possible outcomes" (benchmarks) in surgical care
- Assessment of perioperative complications, patient quality of life, and postoperative disability following general surgical operations
- Cost-effectiveness and cost-utility of postoperative cancer surveillance strategies
- Economic evaluation of novel surgical approaches and technologies

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Doctoral Theses

- **del Castillo Díez F.** Abordaje endoscópico peritoneal ascendente suprapúbico para la reparación de hernias anteriores y laterales de la pared abdominal: reparación de hernias anteriores y laterales de la pared abdominal[dissertation]. Madrid: Universidad Autónoma de Madrid: 2024(19/09/2024). Director: Pascual Migueláñez I
- **Ramos Rubio D.** Valor diagnóstico de los niveles séricos de marcadores inflamatorios agudos como indicadores precoces de fugas anastomóticas post-gastrectomía[dissertation]. Madrid: Universidad de Alcalá: 2025(07/05/2024). Director: García-Moreno F

Publications

- **Åberg F, Sallinen V, Tuominen S, Adam R, Karam V, Mirza D, Heneghan MA, Line PD, Bennet W, Ericzon BG, Grat M, Lodge P, Rasmussen A, Schmelzle M, Thorburn D, Fondevila C, Helanterä I, Nordin A.** Cyclosporine vs. tacrolimus after liver transplantation for primary sclerosing cholangitis - a propensity score-matched intention-to-treat analysis. *J Hepatol.* 2024; 80(1): 99-108. Article. IF: 33.0; D1
- **Badia JM, Amador S, González-Sánchez C, Rubio-Pérez I, Manuel-Vázquez A, Juvany M, Membrilla E, Balibrea JM, Guirao X.** Appropriate Use of Antibiotics in Acute Pancreatitis: A Scoping Review. *Antibiotics (Basel).* 2024; 13(9): 894. Review. IF: 4.6; Q1
- **Bal P, Cheng JQ, Draman MR, Fadzli AN, Ghauth S, Hung WP, Jamaris S, Koh PS, Krishnasamy S, Lee YS, Liew YT, Lim JZK, Lim RCS, Lim HC, Pauzi SFM, Nah SA, Nair AK, Ng DSW, Yong YJNW, Ramayah K, Roslani AC, Saaïd R, Sanmugam**

- A, See MH, Seevalingam KK, Sethi N, Singaravel S, Zaidi SNSJH, Tang CY, Teoh LY, Wong KB, Xavier R, Yahaya AS, Marson FAL, Delibegovic S.** A prognostic model for use before elective surgery to estimate the risk of postoperative pulmonary complications (GSU-Pulmonary Score): a development and validation study in three international cohorts. *Lancet Digit Health.* 2024; 6(7): e507-19. Article. IF: 24.1; D1
- **Blay L, Larranaga I, Rabadan L, York E.** Endoscopic axillary lymphadenectomy: Tips & tricks. *Cir Espan.* 2025; 103(4): 220-1. Editorial Material. IF: 1.3; Q3
- **Blay L, Larranaga I, York E, Rabadán L.** Endoscopic mastectomy in 10 steps. *Cir Espan.* 2024; 102(2): 103. Editorial Material. IF: 1.3; Q3
- **Bustamante-Madrid P, Barbáchano A, Albadea-Rodríguez D, Rodríguez-Cobos J, Rodríguez-Salas N, Prieto I, Burgos A, de Villarreal JM, Real FX, González-Sancho JM, Larriba MJ, Lafarga M, Muñoz A, Fernández-Barral A.** Vitamin D opposes multilineage cell differentiation induced by Notch inhibition and BMP4 pathway activation in human colon organoids. *Cell Death Dis.* 2024; 15(4): 301. Article. IF: 9.6; Q1
- **Carbone M, Neuburger J, Rowe I, Polak WG, Forsberg A, Fondevila C, Mantovani L, Nardi A, Colli A, Rockell K, Schick L, Cristofori L, Oniscu GC, Strazzabosco M, Cillo U.** European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) Consensus Statement on Outcome Measures in Liver Transplantation According to Value-Based Health Care. *Transpl Int.* 2024; 36: 12190. Article. IF: 3.0; Q1
- **Casas IM, Del Pozo EP, Forssten MP, Munoz-Cruzado VD, Mohseni S, Bass A.**

Challenges in managing acute appendicitis differ across Europe: patient and system-level insights from observational cohort study data comparing two European countries. *Curr Prob Surg.* 2024; 61(11): 101597. Article. IF: 1.9; Q2

- **Cimino MM, Biloslavo A, Kurihara H, Bellio G, Porta M, Fattori S, Bass GA.** Practice patterns and clinical outcomes in acute appendicitis differ in the elderly patient. *Eur J Trauma Emerg S.* 2024; 50(5): 2155-64. Article. IF: 2.2; Q2
- **Cipriani F, Aldrighetti L, Ratti F, Wu AGR, Kabir T, Scatton O, Lim C, Zhang WG, Sijberden J, Aghayan DL, Siow TF, Dokmak S, Coelho FF, Herman P, Marino MV, Mazzaferro V, Chiow AKH, Sucandy I, Ivanecz A, Choi SH, Lee JH, Gastaca M, Vivarelli M, Giulianti F, Ruzzenente A, Yong CC, Yin MQ, Fondevila C, Efanov M, Morise Z, Di Benedetto F, Brustia R, Dalla Valle R, Boggi U, Geller D, Belli A, Memeo R, Gruttadauria S, Mejia A, Park JO, Rotellar F, Choi GH, Robles-Campos R, Wang XY, Sutcliffe RP, Pratschke J, Lai ECH, Chong CCN, D'Hondt M, Monden K, López-Ben S, Kingham TP, Ferrero A, Ettorre GM, Cherqui D, Liang X, Soubrane O, Wakabayashi G, Troisi RI, Cheung TT, Kato Y, Sugioka A, Han HS, Long TCD, Liu Q, Liu R, Edwin B, Fuks D, Chen KH, Abu Hilal M, Goh BKP.** Impact of Liver Cirrhosis, Severity of Cirrhosis, and Portal Hypertension on the Difficulty and Outcomes of Laparoscopic and Robotic Major Liver Resections for Primary Liver Malignancies. *Ann Surg Oncol.* 2024; 31(1): 97-114. Article. Not Indexed
- **Craus-Miguel A, Munar M, Moyà-Alcover G, Contreras-Nogales AM, González-Hidalgo M, Segura-Sampedro JJ.** Enhancing Surgical Wound Monitoring: A

3 Research areas and groups

Paired Cohort Study Evaluating a New AI-Based Application for Automatic Detection of Potential Infections. *J Clin Med.* 2024; 13(24): 7863. Article. IF: 2.9; Q1

- **del Castillo-Díez F, Pascual-Migueláñez I, Leivar-Tamayo A, Téllez LGS, Díaz-Domínguez J.** Fully endoscopic preperitoneal ascending suprapubic approach for minimally invasive repair of anterior and lateral abdominal wall hernias. *Hernia.* 2024; 28(5): 1755-68. Article. IF: 2.4; Q1
- **Fahy M, Kelly ME, Abecasis N, Akhtar SN, Akiyoshi T, Álvarez-Gallego M, Andric MD, Arteaga-Asensio P, Assi H, Austin KK, Ayub B, Aytac E, Bacalbasa N, Balescu , Baransi S, Baseckas G, Bedford MR, Berg P, Berle M, Bloemen JG, Borda-Arrizabalaga N, Bouyer B, Brannigan A, Breclj E, Brown K, Brunner M, Buchwald PL, Burger JWA, Burgess A, Burns EM, Byrne C, Carvalhal S, Cho J, Chong P, Connolly S, Coscia M, Cosimelli M, Coyne PE, Croner RS, Dattani M, Denost Q, Desouza AL, Drozdov ES, Edhemovic , Enriquez-Navascues JM, Espin-Basany E, Etxart A, Evans MD, Frizelle FA, García-Sabrido JL, Galbraith N, Gentilini L, Gill DR, Ginther DN, Glyn T, Gould L, Gronchi A, Grützmann R, Harris DA, Heriot AG, Hohenberger W, Ito M, Jenkins JT, Kanemitsu Y, Kazi MK, Keller JS, Ketelaers SHJ, Koh CE, Kokelaar R, Kontovounisios C, Carré MK, Kye BH, Lampe B, Larkin JO, Lasso JM, Lee PJM, Lee YS, Limbert M, Lydrup ML, Maciel J, Manfredelli S, Marques CFS, McArthur D, McCormick JJ, McCormick PH, Mehigan BJ, Merkel S, Mikalauskas S, Mulsow J, Nason G, Nieuwenhuijzen GAP, Nordkamp S, Ozer L, Quinn M, Paarnio K, Pascual-Migueláñez , Pellino G, Pezzuto P, Pfeffer F, Pinson J, Poggioli G, Proud D, Qiu S, Rasheed S, Rausa E, Regenbogen SE, Rintala JM, Robert G, Rogers AC, Románo A, Rothbarth J, Rottoli M, Roxburgh CS, Rutegard M, Rutten HJ, Saklani AP, Sammour T, Sayyed RH, Shaban MM, Smart P, Solomon MJ, Sorrentino L, Steele CW, Steffens D, Takala H, Tekkis P,**

Tsukada Y, Tsukamoto S, Tuech JJ, van Rees JM, Vásquez-Jiménez W, Vather R, Verhoef C, Vierimaa M, Wakeman CJ, Warrier SK, Waters P, Weber K, Williams A, Xavier B, Yildiz , Yoo RN, Winter DC. Contemporary results from the PelvEx collaborative: improvements in surgical outcomes for locally advanced and recurrent rectal cancer. *Colorectal Dis.* 2024; 26(5): 926-31. Article. IF: 2.7; Q1

- **Finotti M, Wall A, D'Alessandro A, Schwartz G, Sonnenday C, Goldberg D, Shah AS, Friend P, Orlowski JP, McKenna G, Newton S, Adams B, Chapman WC, Mathur A, Abouljoud M, Pruett T, Hessheimer A, Trotter JF, Asrani SK, Testa G.** The Dallas Donation after Circulatory Death Transplantation Summit: expanding donation after circulatory death procedures through process improvement, broader utilization, and innovation. *Hepatobiliary Surg Nutr.* 2024; 13(5): 824-36. Review. IF: 7.8; D1
- **Gallego MA, de las Casas SG, Serrano ED, Migueláñez IP.** Safety and feasibility of a new rectoscope in rectal cancer surgery. First clinical trial. *Cir Espan.* 2024; 102(10): 548-51. Article. IF: 1.3; Q3
- **Giglio MC, Dolce P, Yilmaz S, Tokat Y, Acarli K, Kilic M, Zeytunlu M, Unek T, Karam V, Adam R, Polak WG, Fondevila C, Nadalin S, Troisi RI.** Development of a model to predict the risk of early graft failure after adult-to-adult living donor liver transplantation: An ELTR study. *Liver Transplant.* 2024; 30(8): 835-47. Article. IF: 3.9; Q1
- **Gómez-Ramírez J, Jiménez RA.** Surgical tactics of parathyroidectomy: Should we abandon the use of ioPTH?. *Am J Surg.* 2024; 235: 115709. Editorial Material. IF: 2.7; Q1
- **Guerrero-Ortiz MA, Sánchez-Velázquez P, Burdío F, Gimeno M, Poddá M, Pellino G, Toledano M, Nunez J, Bellido J, Acosta-Mérida MA, Vicente E, López-Ben S, Pacheco D, Pando E, Jorba R, Trujillo JPA, Ausania F, Álvarez M, Fernandes N, Castro-Boix S, Gantxegu A, Carre MK, Pinto-Fuentes P, Bueno-Cañones A, Valdes-Hernandez J, Tresierra L, Caruso R, Ferri V, Tio B, Babiloni-Simon S, Lacasa-Martin**

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- **Hessheimer AJ, Flores E, Fondevila C.** No Evidence of Progressive Proinflammatory Cytokine Storm in Brain Dead Organ Donors: Should We Avoid the Rush to Flush?. *Transplantation.* 2024; 108(4): 839-40. Editorial Material. IF: 5.0; Q1
- **Hessheimer AJ, Flores E, Vengohechea J, Fondevila C.** Better liver transplant outcomes by donor interventions? *Curr Opin Organ Tran.* 2024; 29(4): 219-27. Review. IF: 1.9; Q3
- **Hoogteijling TJ, Abu Hilal M, Zimmitti G, Aghayan DL, Wu AGR, Cipriani F, Gruttadauria S, Scatton O, Long TCD, Herman P, Marino MV, Mazzaferro V, Chiow AKH, Sucandy I, Ivanecz A, Choi SH, Lee JH, Gastaca M, Vivarelli M, Giuliani F, Ruzzenente A, Yong CC, Yin MQ, Fondevila C, Efanov M, Morise Z, Di Benedetto F, Brustia R, Dalla Valle R, Boggi U, Geller D, Belli A, Memeo R, Gruttadauria S, Mejia A, Park JO, Rotellar F, Choi GH, Robles-Campos R, Wang XY, Sutcliffe RP, Hasegawa K, Tang CN, Chong CCN, Lee KF, Meurs J, D'Hondt M, Monden K, López-Ben S, Kingham TP, Ferrero A, Ettore GM, Pascual F, Cherqui D, Zheng JH, Liang X, Soubrane O, Wakabayashi G, Troisi RI, Cheung TT, Kato Y, Sugioaka A, Dokmak S, D'Silva M, Han HS, Nghia PP, Long TCD, Abu Hilal M, Chen KH, Fuks D, Aldrighetti L, Edwin B, Goh BKP.** Propensity Score-Matching Analysis Comparing Robotic Versus Laparoscopic Limited Liver Resections of the Posterosuperior Segments An International Multicenter Study. *Ann Surg.* 2024; 279(2): 297-305. Article. IF: 6.4; D1
- **Li E, Bengueddach A, Tidjane A, Tabeti B, Behilil C, Boudjennan-Serradj N, Bensafir S, Meharzi SE, Aissat A, Ghoulali AK, Larabi K, Riffi O, Kacimi SEO, Mesli SN, Rezoug W, Mitidieri A, José A, Pablo C, Rodríguez CA, Panettiere MF, Barbalace N, Juan T, Lucena J, Houdin A, Fernandez E, Lococo J, Pedro L, Loban M, Vecchio P, Grinblat A, Carrie A, Veracierto F, Santillan M, Napolitano M, Avellaneda N, La Rosa S, González CM, Ferro E, Muñoz JP, Ventrutti T, Cabrera C, Carrizo C, Mospane C, Leiro F, Espino J, Trama M, Bianchi R, Potolicchio A, Dindri F, Buey L, Lucas N,**

3 Research areas and groups

3.6.Surgery, Transplant and Health Technologies Area

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3.6. Surgery, Transplant and Health Technologies Area

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3.6. Surgery, Transplant and Health Technologies Area

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