

# Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy with a Dilated Cystic Duct using a 5mm Stapler

## A Case Study and Summary of Clinical Experience

### Case Study

---

Geoffrey Bloomfield, MD  
*Attending Surgeon, UM Upper Chesapeake Health*

#### Presentation:

A 27 year old presented with symptoms of cholecystitis, BMI 33.9. Abdominal ultrasound confirmed diagnosis and patient was scheduled for a cholecystectomy.

#### Procedure:

A 10mm camera was placed in the umbilicus port and three 5mm working ports were placed in the abdomen; one in the anterior axillary line, midclavicular line, and the subxiphoid area just to the right of midline. Dissection of the structures revealed a dilated cystic duct.

The JustRight™ 5mm stapler by Bolder Surgical™ was placed in the subxiphoid port so the stapler could be fired perpendicular to the mobilized cystic duct. The jaw length was suited to manage the size of this dilated duct and the tissue compressed to the appropriate thickness before firing. The images illustrate the JustRight™ 5mm Stapler being clamped across the distal end of the cystic duct (Figure 2) and the stapled and divided cystic duct (Figure 3). The image shows there was optimal hemostasis at the staple line.



Figure 1: Dilated cystic duct in a cholecystectomy for cholecystitis



Figure 2: JustRight™ 5mm Stapler applied to distal end of dilated cystic duct



Figure 3: Resulting staple line from JustRight™ 5mm Stapler

#### Conclusion:

The patient experienced a normal postoperative course and no complications. This experience demonstrates effective use of the 5mm stapler in cholecystectomy with a dilated cystic duct.

## Clinical Experience with a 5mm Stapler Interview with Dr. Bloomfield

### How do you decide which procedure to use the JustRight™ 5mm stapler on?

When there is a dilated duct I consider the stapler versus clip because the key outcome the surgeon wants to ensure after this procedure is that there is no leak from the cystic duct stump. Standard practice has been to place two clips across the diameter of the dilated cystic duct and risk a leak. The 5mm stapler provides a safer and secure way to deal with the dilated cystic duct and the recommended tissue thickness range is 0.75-1mm.

“The 5mm stapler provides a safer and secure way to deal with the dilated cystic duct.”

– Dr. Bloomfield

### What is the benefit of the size of the 5mm stapler in this procedure?

The 5mm stapler is appropriately sized for what you are doing in a cholecystectomy. Large stapling devices are designed for stapling and transecting large structures like the intestine, not delicate small structures such as the cystic duct. The 5mm stapler is also the only stapler which allows this surgery to be completed without upsizing one of the 5mm ports to a 12mm port. It allows the patient to experience the benefits of keeping a 5mm subxiphoid incision.

### Are there any other ergonomic benefits of the 5mm stapler for the surgeon and procedure set up?

It allows 5mm stapling through the subxiphoid port which is the most ergonomically advantageous port to work through while performing work on the cystic duct. This port enables good visualization of the cystic duct and the stapler.

### Do you notice any other benefits from not having to upsize ports?

Patients report less pain after surgery because they have a smaller incision near the chest. I observe there is decreased narcotic use after surgery when 5mm subxiphoid incision is not upsized to a 12mm incision.

*Interview with Dr. Bloomfield on 19 Sept 2019. The information provided here is a summary of Dr. Bloomfield's clinical experience with a 5mm stapler. Dr. Bloomfield is a board-certified general surgeon in a broad-spectrum general surgery practice.*

**BOLDER**<sup>™</sup>  
SURGICAL

331 S. 104th Street Suite 200, Louisville, CO 80027  
P: 720-287-7133 F: 720-287-7135  
[www.boldersurgical.com](http://www.boldersurgical.com)

© October 2019, Bolder Surgical Holdings, Inc.