

Author, year <i>country</i>	Study design	Randomization method	Surgeons' eligibility	Surgical quality control	Blinding	Power analysis
Huscher, 2005 <i>Italy</i>	nr	nr	Single experienced surgeon	nr	no	nr
Jin chen Hu, 2012 <i>China</i>	nr	nr	nr	nr	P: blind. S: not blind. Stat: blind	Y
Yanfeng Hu, 2016 <i>China</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Computer-based stratified (institution, age, histology preoperative TNM)	>50 ODG and >50 LADG >300 gastrectomies/year per institution, qualified surgeons based on National academic committee	Video review and photographic documentation resection margins, abdominal incisions, lymphadenectomy	no	Y
Shi, 2018 <i>China</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Block randomization (fixed block size=ABBA)	>50 LADG >50 ODG	Video review and photographic documentation	no	Y
Park, 2018 <i>Korea</i>	nr	Web-based randomization system with fixed block size 1:1 randomization	>30 LADG	Surgical checklist evaluation	no	Y
Wang, 2019 <i>China</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Computer-based non-stratified 1:1 randomization	>60 LADG >60 ODG	Video review and photographic documentation resection margins, abdominal incisions, lymphadenectomy	no	Y
Li, 2019 <i>China</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Computer-based stratified 1:1 randomization	>600 total LADG annual surgical volume of approximately 300 LADG/ODG	nr	no	nr
Lee, 2019 <i>Korea</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Stratified 1:1 randomization using a confidential block size	>50 LADG >50 ODG	Video review and photographic documentation resection margins, abdominal incisions, lymphadenectomy	no	Y
Lu, 2021 <i>China</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Computer-based stratified 1:1 (LDG vs. RDG) ratio	>300 LADG >50 RDG	Video review and photographic documentation resection margins, abdominal incisions, lymphadenectomy	no	Y
Etoh, 2023 <i>Japan</i>	non- inferiority RCT	Computer-based stratified (histology preoperative TNM, institution)	> 50 ODG and > 20 gastrectomies/year per institution, qualified surgeons according to Endoscopic Surgical Skill Qualification System (JSES)	Photographic documentation review	no	nr

Supplementary Table S1. Randomized Clinical Trials (RCTs) quality evaluation. Open Distal Gastrectomy (**ODG**), Laparoscopic Distal Gastrectomy (**LDG**), Laparoscopic-Assisted Distal Gastrectomy (**LADG**), and Robotic Distal Gastrectomy (**RDG**). P patient, S surgeon, Stat statistician, Y yes, UP under-powered, JSES Japan Society for Endoscopic Surgery.