Title: Beneficial Effect of a Resorbable Biliary Stent in Living Donor Liver Transplantation
Santiago Sánchez-Cabús¹, David Calatayud¹, Joana Ferrer¹, Constantino Fondevila¹, Josep Fuster¹ and Juan Carlos García-Valdecasas¹. ¹HPB Surgery and Transplantation, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

Body: Introduction: Living Donor Liver Transplantation (LDLT) entails a significant number of biliary complications. We aimed to diminish the biliary complication rate with the use of a Resorbable Biliary Stent (RBS) during LDLT. In this paper we aim to describe the safety of this technique and the preliminary results regarding biliary complications.

Patients and Methods: From 2011 to 2014, 12 LDLT recipients were enrolled in a clinical trial with the use of a specifically designed RBS. These patients were followed according to the clinical protocol and specific complications derived from RBS as well as biliary complications were recorded.

Results: One patient underwent early retransplantation due to a Small-for-Size syndrome. No patient had a complication attributable to the placement, remaining or degradation of the stent. Four of the remaining patients presented with a biliary complication; one (9.1%) with biliary leak alone, another (9.1%) with biliary stenosis alone, and two (18.2%) with both. However, none of the leaks could be directly attributed to the RBS. Both patient and graft survival were excellent, at 100% and 91.7% at one year, respectively.

Conclusions: The use of a RBS in LDLT is not associated to complications, and initial results regarding efficacy and safety are encouraging. The need for a larger and prospective study is warranted.