

Choledochal Cyst in Children

Introduction

A choledochal cyst is an abnormal swelling of the bile ducts. If untreated, it can cause pain, jaundice, infection, and long-term risk of liver damage or even cancer.

Symptoms & Diagnosis

- Abdominal pain
- Yellowing of skin and eyes (jaundice)
- Lump in the right upper abdomen
- Recurrent fever and vomiting

Diagnosis is made with ultrasound, MRI (MRCP), or CT scan.

Treatment

The best treatment is surgical removal of the cyst and reconstruction of bile drainage (Roux-en-Y hepaticojejunostomy).

How Dr. Daniel Manages Choledochal Cysts

Dr. Daniel uses detailed imaging to understand cyst anatomy. Prefers laparoscopic surgery whenever possible for smaller scars, less pain, and faster recovery. Performs open surgery if cyst is very large. Provides clear counseling and emphasizes long-term follow-up.

Recovery & Follow-up

Hospital stay is usually 5–7 days. Feeding gradually resumed. Long-term monitoring is needed to ensure good bile flow and liver health.

FAQs

1. Is a choledochal cyst dangerous? Yes, it can lead to infection, liver damage, or cancer.
2. Why is surgery needed? To prevent complications and restore bile flow.
3. Why laparoscopic surgery? Safer, less pain, better cosmetic results.
4. Can the cyst come back? No, once fully removed.
5. Is long-term follow-up needed? Yes, to monitor liver function.