



Salvage Single-Port Transvesical Robotic Radical Prostatectomy Following High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) Therapy

Mohamad Watfa ¹, Nicolas A. Soputro ¹, Abdulrahman Al-Bayati ¹, Karim Daher ¹, Salim Younis ¹, Samarpit Rai ¹, Rui M. Bernardino ¹, Lin Wang ¹, Zeyad R. Schwen ¹, Ruben Olivares ¹, Riccardo Autorino ¹, Jihad Kaouk ¹

¹ Glickman Urological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, USA

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Focal therapy with high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) has emerged as a treatment option for selected patients with localized prostate cancer; however, disease recurrence requiring salvage intervention remains a recognized challenge (1–5). Salvage radical prostatectomy is technically demanding due to post-ablative tissue changes, which may compromise oncologic and functional outcomes (6,7). Herein, we describe the surgical technique and clinical outcomes of salvage robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy (RARP) performed using a single-port (SP) transvesical approach following HIFU.

Materials and Methods: The index case was a 57-year-old man with a history of right hemigland HIFU for ISUP Grade Group 2 prostate cancer. During routine surveillance four years after HIFU, his PSA rose to 3.64 ng/mL, prompting repeat biopsy. Biopsy confirmed clinically significant recurrent prostate cancer both within and outside the prior treatment field, with bilateral involvement. Preoperatively, the patient reported satisfactory erectile function, with a Sexual Health Inventory for Men (SHIM) score of 25/25. After informed consent, salvage transvesical SP-RARP was performed. Dissection was carried out with anticipation of post-ablation tissue changes, and bilateral nerve-sparing was incorporated to optimize functional outcomes.

Results: The procedure was completed in 82 minutes without placement of additional ports and without intraoperative complications. Estimated blood loss was 75 mL. The patient was discharged home the same day (4.3 hours postoperatively). Foley catheter removal on postoperative day 6 was followed by immediate urinary continence. Erectile function remained satisfactory at 3 months, indicating preservation of baseline functional outcomes. Final pathology demonstrated pT3b ISUP Grade Group 2 prostate cancer with evidence of prior ablation and negative surgical margins. At the most recent follow-up (12 months), PSA remained undetectable, with no biochemical recurrence.

Conclusion: Transvesical SP-RARP appears to be a safe and effective salvage option following focal ablative therapy for prostate cancer. Leveraging the advantages of single-port robotic technology (8,9), this approach may facilitate outpatient surgery while maintaining favorable functional and oncologic outcomes.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

REFERENCES

1. Eastham JA, Auffenberg GB, Barocas DA, Chou R, Crispino T, Davis JW, et al. Clinically localized prostate cancer: AUA/ASTRO guideline, part I: introduction, risk assessment, staging, and risk-based management. *J Urol.* 2022;208(1):10–18. doi: 10.1097/JU.0000000000002757
2. Stabile A, Orczyk C, Hosking-Jervis F, Giganti F, Arya M, Hindley RG, et al. Medium-term oncological outcomes in a large cohort of men treated with either focal or hemi-ablation using high-intensity focused ultrasonography for primary localized prostate cancer. *BJU Int.* 2019;124(3):431–440. doi: 10.1111/bju.14710
3. Aminsharifi A, Polascik TJ. Diagnosis and management of local recurrence after prostate focal therapy: challenges and solutions. *Eur Urol Oncol.* 2019;2(5):539–540. doi: 10.1016/j.euo.2019.07.008
4. Ezequiel B, Marcelo B, Polascik TJ, Rastinehad A, Rodriguez-Sanchez L, Sanchez-Salas R. Focal therapy: overcoming barriers for advances in prostate cancer treatment in South America. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2024;50(1):100–104. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2023.0539
5. Andrade GM, Manente FG, Barroso PJDD, Teles SB, Partezani AD, Baccaglini W, et al. Outcomes of ablative therapy and radical treatment for prostate cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2024;50(3):237–249. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2023.0628
6. Moschovas MC, Jaber A, Saikali S, Sandri M, Bhat S, Rogers T, et al. Impacts on functional and oncological outcomes of robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy 10 years after the US Preventive Services Task Force recommendations against PSA screening. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2024;50(1):65–79. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2023.0530
7. Thakker PU, Sandberg M, Hemal AK, Rodriguez AR. A comprehensive review of the current state of robot-assisted laparoscopic salvage prostatectomy. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2024;50(4):398–414. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2024.0126
8. Kaouk JH, Beksac AT, Abou Zeinab M, Duncan A, Schwen ZR, Eltemamy M. Single port transvesical robotic radical prostatectomy: initial clinical experience and description of technique. *Urology.* 2021;155:130–137. doi: 10.1016/j.urology.2021.05.022
9. Kaouk JH, Haber GP, Autorino R, Crouzet S, Ouzzane A, Flamand V, et al. A novel robotic system for single-port urologic surgery: first clinical investigation. *Eur Urol.* 2014;66(6):1033–1043. doi: 10.1016/j.eururo.2014.06.039

Correspondence address:

Jihad Kaouk, MD

Glickman Urological Institute
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Avenue, Q10, USA
Email: kaoukj@ccf.org

Submitted for publication:
December 19, 2025

Accepted after revision:
January 02, 2026

Published as Ahead of Print:
February 02, 2026

ARTICLE INFO

 **Mohamad Watfa**
<https://orcid.org/0009-0003-7744-6190>

Available at:

VIDEO

Editor in Chief	Associate Editor
Luciano Alves Favorito	Luciano Alves Favorito

Data Availability
Uninformed