

Table 3: Visual analog scale classification of subgroups of enrolled patients according to procedure (total extraperitoneal repair or Lichtenstein procedures) and anesthesia (nerve block with spinal anesthesia and general anesthesia).

	TEP-SA	TEP-GA	Open-SA	Open-GA	p
Intraoperative VAS score	3.5 ± 2.6	-	2.2 (±2.02)	-	0.11
Postoperative VAS score					
First hour	0.59 ± 0.9 ^{a,b}	3 ± 1.1 ^{a,c}	1.5 ± 1.5 ^c	2.6 ± 1.7 ^b	<0.001
Fourth hour	0.9 ± 1.1 ^{a,b,c}	3.4 ± 1.2 ^{a,d}	1.6 ± 1.3 ^{c,d}	2.4 ± 1.4 ^b	<0.001
12 th hour	1.9 ± 1.2 ^{a,b,c}	3 ± 0.9 ^a	3.3 ± 0.92 ^b	3.5 ± 0.8 ^c	<0.001
24 th hour	2.8 ± 1.9	3.2 ± 1	2.9 ± 0.8	2.9 ± 1	0.64

Values are presented as mean ± standard deviation. TEP: total extraperitoneal, Open: open surgical procedure, GA: general anesthesia, SA: spinal anesthesia. Each superscript (a, b, c, d) denotes a subset of group categories with a statistically significant difference at the p <0.05 level.