INTRODUCTION

Partial nephrectomy was first accidentally performed in 1884 by Wells when one third of a kidney was removed in the resection of a perirenal lipoma (Coleman et al., 1979). However Czerny in 1887 was the one who performed the first intended deliberate resection of part of the kidney.

Partial nephrectomy can be resorted to for the treatment of many renal diseases. The most common of these is renal stones, a disease which is quite common in Egypt.

This operation can be done by so many techniques that are based on anatomical considerations. Each of these techniques has its advantages and disadvantages.

Although it is relatively commonly indicated, partial nephrectomy has many post-operative complications that may necessitate secondary nephrectomy.

The aim of this work is to throw some light on partial nephrectomy as regards its historical aspects, the indications for such an operation, the different techniques that can be adopted in its performance and the possible post-operative complications in a concise review of literature.

Eleven clinical cases are presented in the study. For each of these cases, full clinical examination, indications for operation, technique performed, post-operative complications if any and post-operative investigations are reported.