

Introduction

- Pain management is one of the most important components in patient care.
- According to College of Emergency Medicine, pain is commonly under-recognised, under-treated and treatment may be delayed.
- It is the most common cause for admission in acute surgical patients.

Objectives

- Failure to assess pain and prescribe analgesia in a timely manner leads to under-treatment and reflects poor patient care.
- We aim to evaluate and improve the analgesia prescribing practice in our acute surgical assessment unit.

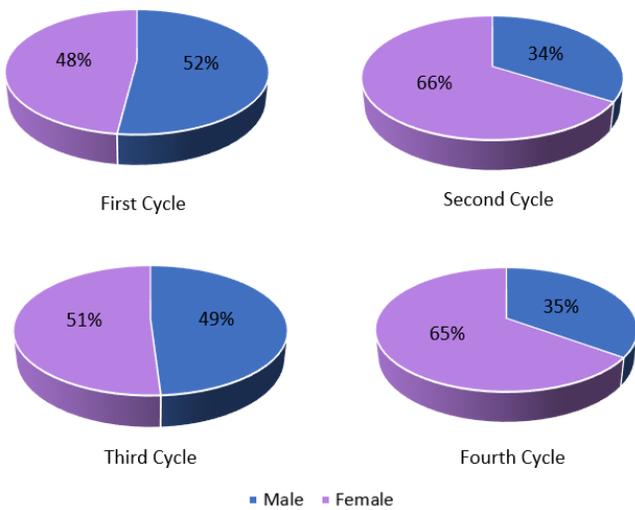
Methods

- Data collection was performed prospectively on all acute surgical admission patients over 2 weeks period in October 2019 using a proforma.
- Data on patient demographics, time of admission, diagnosis, type and time of analgesia and antiemetic prescribed were collected and analysed.
- Results were presented in departmental meeting and educational posters were displayed in wards.
- The study was repeated using the same method in December 2019, November 2020 and May 2021

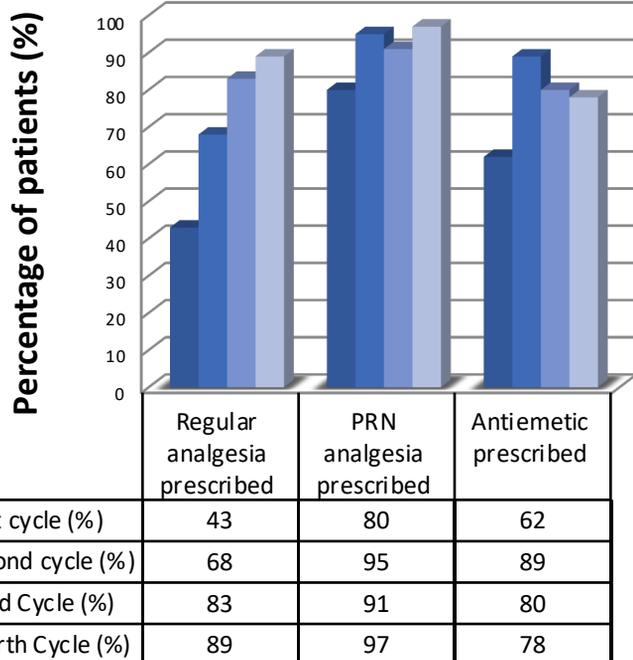
Results

- In the first cycle, 42 patients were included with mean age of 58 years.
- In the second cycle, 44 patients were included in the study, with the mean age of 55 years.
- There were 35 patients included in the third cycle, with mean age of 56 years.
- In the fourth cycle, 37 patients were included. The mean age of patients were 53 years.

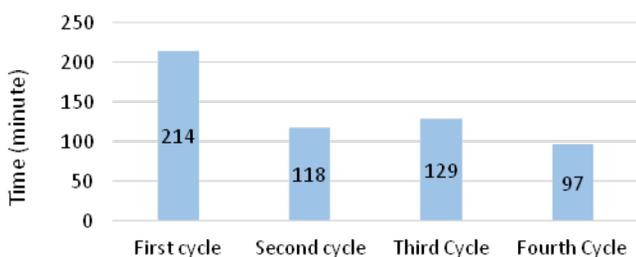
Gender of Patients



Analgesia and Antiemetic prescribed



mean delay in analgesia prescribing



Conclusions

- Simple interventions such as education and posters displaying played vital roles in improving analgesia prescribing in acute surgical patients.
- The Foundation Year 1s rotate through Surgical department 6 monthly therefore further auditing is required to maintain good analgesia prescribing.

References

1. Royal College of Emergency Medicine. *Management of pain in adults*. [https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/College%20Guidelines/5w.%20Management%20of%20Pain%20in%20Adults%20\(Revised%20December%202014\).pdf](https://www.rcem.ac.uk/docs/College%20Guidelines/5w.%20Management%20of%20Pain%20in%20Adults%20(Revised%20December%202014).pdf).
2. NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group. *WHO Pain Ladder- Acute Pain*. <https://www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Acute-Pain-Ladder-Final-2-Nov-2017.pdf>.
3. Byers PA, Counselman FL. Appropriate Analgesic Use in the Emergency Department. *Emergency Medicine* 2014; 46(6): 248-255. <https://www.mdedge.com/emergencymedicine/article/83269/appropriate-analgesic-use-emergency-department>.