

Acute Pain Management In Pediatrics Patient Among Doctors In Surgical Base Department

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INTRODUCTION:

It's an important responsibility of surgeons in eliminating pain and suffering when possible for children under their care. It has been well documented, that a substantial percentage of children have been undertreated⁽¹⁾The most common type of pain experienced by children is acute pain resulting from injury, illness, or, in many cases, necessary surgical procedures. A major aim of pain treatment is to eliminate pain-associated suffering .Pain is an inherently subjective experience and should be assessed and treated as such.⁽²⁾

METHODOLOGY

The management of acute pain among surgical base doctors at Hospital Ampang was assessed. Questionnaire was distributed and response from 31 doctors was recorded.

Respondents were asked about their confidence level of acute pain management, use of pain score charting, choice of analgesic, the doctor's impression on how well they have managed pain both post operatively and post trauma and their approach if pain was not well control. Also, their years of working experience and if any has a medical officer in pediatrics or anesthesiology department were recorded.

RESULTS:

31 doctors participated in this survey.

Demographic Data

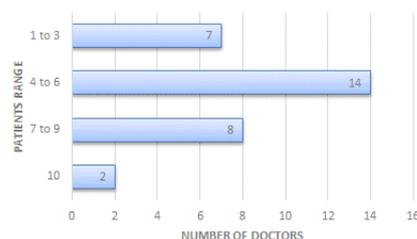
Majority were medical officer (MO) with > 3 yrs working experience 21(67.7%), followed by MO with < 3yrs working experience 6(19.3%) and 4(13.2%) were surgeons. Out of which only 1 (3.2%) had previous working experience in Pediatrics and 4 (12.9%) in Anesthesiology as Medical officer.

Overall 18(61.3%) doctors were not confident in managing acute pain.

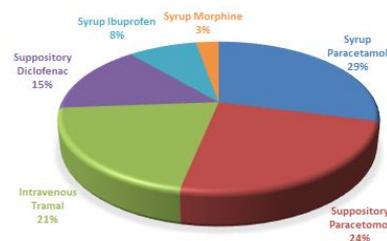
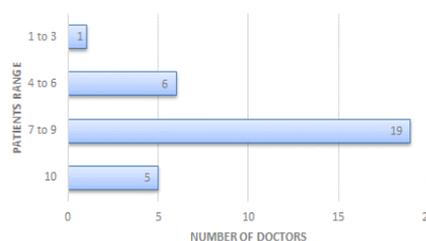
11 (38.7%) doctors were confident. Out of the 18 doctors that were not confident, 17 (94.7%) had less experience and knowledge, whereby 1(5.3%) attributed towards lack of Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG).

When asked about the last 10 pediatric patients they have treated, majority did not use

pain score charting, only 2(6.6%) doctors used in all 10 patients.



From the 31 doctors, 5 (16.1%) doctors felt they had given adequate analgesia for their patient.



The pie chart above shows the choice of analgesic by doctors in managing acute pain.

Drug of choice for surgical procedure were ketamine for 18 (61%),chlorhydrate 9 (29%) and midazolam 3(10%) doctors.

In patient that pain couldn't be managed well 18 (58.1%) doctors choose to refer Anesthesiology team and 13 (41.9%) to Pediatric team.

DISCUSSIONS:

Acute pain is common adverse stimuli experienced by children, occurring as a result of injury and necessary surgical procedures. Despite the magnitude of effects that acute pain can have on a child, it is often inadequately assessed and treated ⁽¹⁾. Numerous myths, insufficient knowledge among caregivers, and inadequate application of knowledge contribute to the lack of effective management. This can be seen where by 61.3% doctors were not confident in