

SUBCUTANEOUS ABSCESS AND FACTORS INFLUENCING IT IN PATIENTS ADMITTED TO PROFESSORIAL SURGICAL UNIT, JAFFNA

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Introduction and objectives : Subcutaneous abscess is common surgical condition with serious morbidity for the patient and costly hospitalizations for incision and drainage. This study focuses the factors influencing abscess formation, site, age, antibiotic usage and hospital stay duration.

Method: Study approved by ethics committee and done in professorial surgical unit between December 2014 and April 2015.

Results : In total, 182 patients responded to this survey (94%). 108 respondents (59.3%) were males and 74 (40.7%) were females. Commonly affected age group between 50-60s (19.2%) and site was lower limb (23.1%) and next to that head and neck region (17.6%). Children less than 10 years get abscess in head and neck and elders more than 60s in the lower limbs. There are 51 (28%) of responders had diabetes mellitus, 7.1% with renal failure, 7% prick injury, 5.5% trauma. 41.8% underwent surgery with general anaesthesia and 36% local anaesthesia. 53% received oral antibiotics and 5% not received any antibiotics. In post op periods 99 patients (54.4 %) stayed 2-3 days and 42 (23.1%) patients discharged same day. Almost all general anaesthesia patients stayed in hospital for more than 1 day.

Discussions and conclusions : Diabetes is an the important factor among adult population to develop abscesses but most of them did not have any risk factors. Children commonly get abscess in head and neck region and elders in the lower limb. Excess usage of antibiotics and lengthy hospital stay were seen when compared to other countries.