

Implementing Guidelines: What Are the Returns?

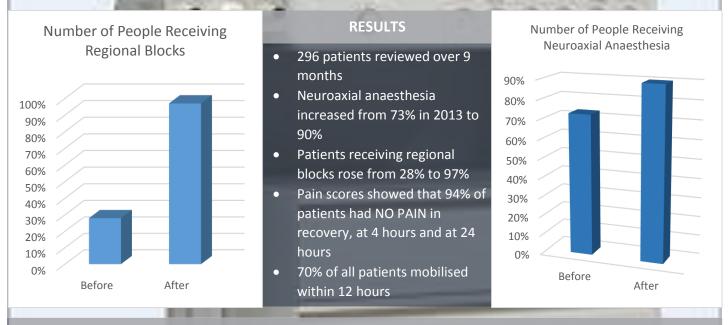
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INTRODUCTION

- There is extensive guidance on use of neuroaxial anaesthesia and nerve blocks for hip fracture patients
- 2014 a group of trauma anaesthetists implemented particular treatment pathways recommending spinal anaesthesia and fascia iliaca blocks for hip fracture patients in order to improve patient care

METHOD

- Devised a standard operating policy proposing the following:
 - Neuraxial anaesthesia combined with regional techniques such as the Fascia-Iliaca Nerve block (FIB)
 - Standardized the dosing regimens of local anaesthetics
- Raised awareness of the AAGBI and NICE guidance of peri-operative management these patients.
- Offered training packagesregularly to accident & emergency staff and orthopaedic nurse practitioners (nonexclusive) to improve performance and quality of nerve blocks
- A simple online data collection system was devised enabling all anaesthetists working within the trust to record patient data, ensuring a complete database.



DISCUSSION

We have demonstrated a simple implementation of national guidance has resulted in:

- significant changes in outcomes
- led to an improvement in patient satisfaction
- led to a **reduction in complication rates**

Our findings show that **relatively small investments** in the peri-operative environment can lead **to large returns and improve overall patient care**.

REFERENCES

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