VJHPS Newsletter

May 2017

In this issue: Surgery Time of Day Research

Vernon Jubilee Hospital Physician Society

Facility Engagement Initiative

Surgery Time of Day Research Findings

Do patients who have surgery after hours have higher complications than those operated on during the day? VJHPS wanted to answer this question.

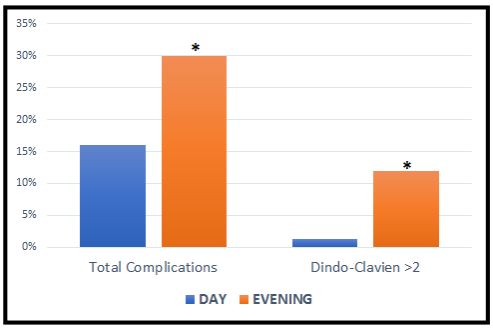
The population of the North Okanagan over 65, grew by 39% in the last 10 years, resulting in the volume of emergency surgeries increasing by 20% in the last 7 years.

Of 8040 surgeries performed in 2016/17, 2110, or 26%, were emergencies. Increasing wait lists for elective surgery are also putting pressure on our OR resources.

Drs. Hamish Hwang, Kevin Wiseman, Kate Ball and Troy Schultz designed a study to compare emergency surgeries during 3 start times.

1.	Day	0800—1800
2.	Evening	1800—2300
3.	Night	2300—0800

Cases were matched for: surgical procedure; patient age within 10 years; and emergency urgency classification. 360 charts were reviewed looking at mortality within 30 days, length of stay, and complications graded according to Dindo-Clavien Classification.



Key Findings

There were no differences in patient age or length of surgery, indicating the groups were well matched. Length of hospital stay was significantly longer and complications were higher if patients had their surgery after hours compared to during the day.

Comparing Evening to Day: The average length of stay was over **3 times longer** and the chance of having severe complications was **10 times higher**.

Conclusions

The VJHPS study was consistent with multiple other studies in the medical literature. The reasons for increased complications after hours are complex but include: provider fatigue, staffing, and patient factors. Surgeries must be done in tandem because there is only one OR after hours, and this may cause access issues for patients needing urgent surgery.

The findings of this study will help inform another VJHPS initiative, the **OR Task Force**, to work with IHA administration and the VJH Hospital Foundation to equip the 5th OR. A plan will also be developed to open it fully in the near future to address the pressures highlighted by this study.

MSA Teams up with VJHPS for a joint AGM

Save the date, June 29th @ 7:30 AM, VJH Education Rooms 1,2,3, is an important date and location to pencil into your calendar.

VJHPS Executive will be reporting successes and electing their new Executive for 2017/18. Physicians interested in participating on the VJHPS Working Group are invited to contact Dr. Chris Cunningham.

FEMS—How to submit a claim and get paid $.

Physicians are invited to become registered in FEMS (Facility Engagement Management System) and Versa Pay , which offers the flexibility of submitting claims online for reimbursement for committee work and for submission of activities they feel VJHPS needs to fund on their behalf.

The following URL is a link to resources on how to access FEMS.

http://www.facilityengagement.ca/fems-facility-engagement-management-system

Click on the **Information for Physicians & Allied Health Professionals using FEMS** button or email:

VJHPS@facilityengagement.ca

to request easy to follow step guides to become registered in FEMS and Versa Pay (a secure EFT similar to Pay Pal).

Continued on next page.....

VJHPS WORKING GROUP

Executive

Chair

Dr. Chris Cunningham

Vice Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Hamish Hwang

Directors

Dr. Michael Cooke

Dr. Russ Williams

Dr. Kevin Wiseman

Working Group

Anaesthesia

Dr. Kevin Smith

Diagnostic Imaging

Dr. Adam Weathermon

Emergency Medicine

Dr. Peter King

Family Medicine

Dr. Chris Cunningham

Dr. Robert Hillis

Hospitalists

Dr. Kira McClellan

Laboratory Medicine

Dr. Jason Doyle

Internal Medicine

Dr. Glenn Vaz

Psychiatry

Dr. Russ Williams

Surgery

Dr. Scott Ainslie

Dr. Hamish Hwang

Dr. Kevin Wiseman

Women's & Children's Health Services

Dr. Michael Cooke

Dr. Stephen Friesen

SSC

Amanda Harris

VJHPS Project Manager

Anna Flasch

Photo taken by **VO Photo**

Top left to right: Dr. Scott Ainslie, Dr. Chris Cunningham, Dr. Kevin Wiseman, Dr. Adam Weathermon, Dr. Hamish Hwang, Dr. Jason Doyle, Dr. Michael Cooke, Dr. Glenn Vaz, and Anna Flasch

Bottom left to right: Dr. Kevin Smith, Dr. Kira McClellan, and Dr. Peter King

VJHPS Initiatives

Completed

Optimize OR Booking Slates
Emergency/Hospitalist/Surgeon Event
MRI Task Force

Underway

ATLS Training
Clinical Research Event—October 11, 2017
Intermediate Care Nursery
M&M Committee Catering
MRI Implementation Planning
MSP Coverage
OR Task Force
Perinatology Paediatrics Multidisciplinary Review
Psychiatric Pod Area
Quality Improvement General Surgery by Structured Peer Assessment
Reducing Redundant Lab Testing
STRUC
Surgery Time of Day Research
Uncompensated Committee Work

To get involved or learn more contact:
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