

DO WOMEN WITH POST MENOPAUSAL BLEEDING NEED HYSTEROSCOPY DILATATION AND CURETTAGE?

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INTRODUCTION

Postmenopausal bleeding (PMB) is a common complaint presenting to the Gynaecology clinic. The aim for investigation is to exclude malignancy. Pipelle sampling has 99.6% sensitivity and endometrial thickness of 4mm or less on TVUS has 96% sensitivity in detecting endometrial cancer.

In this study, we will compare the outcome of endometrial biopsy between pipelle sampling and hysteroscopy, dilatation and curettage (HDC).

MATERIALS & METHOD

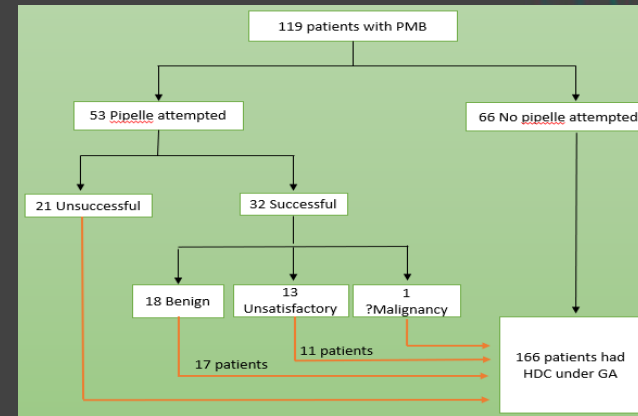
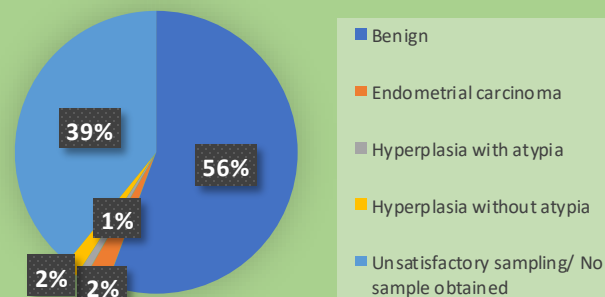
This audit was a retrospective data collection and analysis from 142 patients which were seen for postmenopausal bleeding, in the Gynaecology Clinic of Gold Coast University Hospital between January 2019 and January 2020.



RESULTS

- Out of 142 patients, only 119 patients were included in the audit due to incomplete history which includes BMI and endometrial thickness from TVUS.
- Median age of 56 years with range of 42 to 85 years old.
- 93 patients had thickened endometrium with 47% were obese and 19% were overweight.
- 4 patients had complications from HDC: infection, perforation, anaphylaxis from suxamethonium and aspiration pneumonitis.

Histopathology from HDC



DISCUSSION

- Trends in current practice suggest almost all patients were booked for HDC in theatre despite benign pipelle biopsy results.
- About 2/3 benign pipelle sampling also returned the same in HDC. Pipelle may be sufficient to exclude endometrial cancer.
- In future, we can reduce the rate of unsatisfactory and unsuccessful sampling by improving technique and troubleshooting the factors causing failure pipelle attempt.

CONCLUSION

HDC is considered the gold standard in investigating PMB. This audit shows that pipelle biopsy yielded similar outcomes in comparison to HDC and can be sufficient to exclude endometrial cancer. In future, we can explore the attitudes of gynaecologist towards use of pipelle sampling.

LIMITATIONS

- Retrospective documentation with missing data.
- Varied level of experience with the operators of pipelle.

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