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## **The effect of post-operative infiltration of local anaesthetic agents into post-fracture neck of femur wounds on patient stay and mobilization**

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Fracture neck of femur is a common orthopaedic condition which is increasing in incidence in the whole world with the aging of the populations. In this study done in Sri Lanka and the UK over a period of three years a total of 256 fracture neck of femur patients were observed for post-operative duration of stay, pain scoring and date of first mobilization. This study was done prospectively from January 2010 to January 2013. A retrospective analysis of 256 patients who had operations for fracture neck of femur from 2007 to 2010 who did not receive local anaesthetic infiltration into the surgical wound were done to compare the results between the two groups. The mean stay in hospital for the group of patients who had local anaesthetics injected was 05 days where as for the group of patients who did not have such injections was 06 days. At a p value of 0.05 there was no statistical significance noted between the two groups. The post-operative pain score of 0-10 on the first post-operative day, the group who had local infiltration had a mean score of 04 whereas the group that did not have infiltration had a mean score of 06. Once again this was not statistically significant at a p value of 0.05. At the 04th post-operative day both groups had a mean pain score of 04. The group that received local infiltration of the wound were able to mobilize from bed to chair on a mean of 1.5 days post-operatively while the group that did not receive local infiltration mobilized from bed to chair on a mean of 2 days which was not statistically significant. There was no statistically significant difference between injecting local anaesthesia to the operative incision site in patients who have had surgical operations for fracture neck of femur. The pain due to the incision itself played a minor role in the total pain profile and there was a statistical significance of eliminating the wound pain in these patients.

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