

Incidence of Development of Perianal Fistula After Perianal Abscess Drainage Surgery

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Objectives : The purpose of this study is to find the number of cases of perianal abscess that underwent Incision and Drainage at Ysbyty Gwynedd Hospital, Bangor, North Wales, in the last 3 years, and the percentage that developed a perianal fistula.

Method: Done as a retrospective study, data from November 2018 till November 2021 was collected. Both emergency and elective surgeries for perianal abscess were considered, which came out to be 150 surgeries in total. Data was collected from electronically stored operation notes and cross checked with patient records, maintaining confidentiality throughout. Patients who underwent any surgical procedure (EUA, I&D) for perianal abscess were included. Any patient that was treated conservatively, ischiorectal abscess, necrotizing fasciitis, gluteal/genital abscess, or patients who only presented with a fistula were not included in this study. Electronic records were checked to follow up for development of any new fistula.

Results: In total 150 cases of perianal abscess were done in the mentioned timeframe. Among the abscess, 85 were male and 65 were female. Almost all cases presented as emergency and were operated as such, except 3 cases where the abscess was found incidentally while performing elective EUA/Flexible Sigmoidoscopy. Out of the 150 cases, there were 23 patients who presented multiple times with similar problems. Out of the 23, 6 patients had already developed a fistula at their first presentation, while 14 developed a fistula later on. 9 people did not develop any fistula despite some needing multiple I&D/EUAs.

Conclusions : From this study we found out that among 150 Patients who presented with perianal abscess, 14 cases (9.3%) developed fistula or had already developed a fistula. This resembles previous studies done worldwide where they found that incidence of an anal fistula developing from an anal abscess ranges from 15 to 38 percent. Further detailed studies need to be done to identify and prevent the risk factors that might instigate formation of fistulas after drainage of perianal abscesses.

Biography

Tarek Garsaa completed his education and continuing his excellence as a Consultant general and colorectal surgeon at Betsi cadwaladr NHS Trust United Kingdom.

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