

Title	Bladder care in palliative care inpatients - a prospective multi-site study.
Number	56
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Abstract	<p>Introduction: Patients in palliative care may need catheterisation because of immobility, urinary retention due to systemic illness or the effect of drugs. However, there is limited evidence for the frequency of bladder catheterisation, causal factors and adverse events from catheterisation.</p> <p>Methods: This was a prospective multisite, case-control study. The primary aim was to determine the clinical indications and frequency of urinary catheterization in patients receiving palliative care. The secondary aims were to determine causal factors including the type of malignancy, antecedent medications, localised causes for catheterisation and duration of admission. Data on timing of catheterisation, urinary symptoms, number of bladder scans prior and urine volume prompting catheterisation were also collected. Functional indices compared include the AKPS scale, RUG-ADL score, Palliative Care Phase and the Waterlow score. Data analysis would be univariate and multivariate.</p> <p>Results: A total of 104 patients were recruited. 55 were from a tertiary hospital palliative care ward and 49 were from a palliative care unit attached to a primary hospital. All patients or their carers gave informed consent. 43 of the 104 patients were catheterised. Analysis of the data is ongoing. Detailed results will be presented at the conference. The results of the study will help to establish protocols around catheterisation to improve patient care and comfort.</p>