Obstetric Anaesthesia
Annual Scientific Meeting 2021 goes virtual
10-11 June 2021

Use of Video Information to Assist the Consent Process for Epidural Analgesia in Labour

M O'Riordan, A Hickey, T Tan
Department of Perioperative Medicine & Anaesthesia, Coombe Women & Infants University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland

Introduction

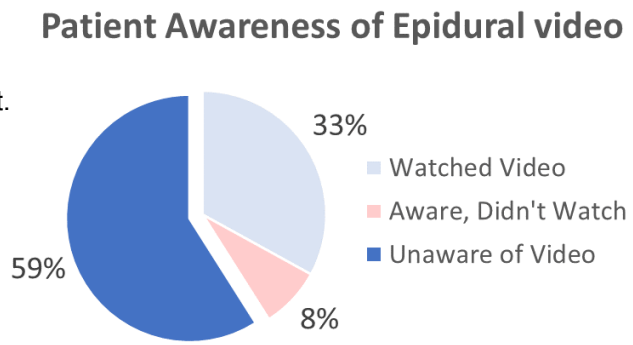
- Providing information in adequate time before a procedure is a requirement of informed consent.
- Obtaining consent for epidural analgesia during labour can be challenging and information on labour analgesia should be provided in a variety of formats prior to the onset of labour when the mother is not in pain (1).
- Our hospital recently implemented an online patient education video on epidural anaesthesia so that information on epidural labour analgesia is readily available during the ante-natal period.
- Our study aimed to assess the uptake of this video, how useful patients found it, how patients received information on epidurals and to determine when patients would prefer epidural information to be presented to them.

Methods

- We conducted a questionnaire-based study of post-partum mothers who had received epidural analgesia during labour.
- Participants were recruited by a process of convenience sampling.
- Responses were collected from 100 participants and data was analysed using Google Sheets.

Results

- 100 patients were surveyed. Of these, 41 patients (41%) were aware of the epidural information video, and 33 (33%) had watched it.
- 53% of patients stated that they would have watched the epidural video if they had been made aware of it.
- 94% of women received some form of information on epidural anaesthesia prior to insertion.
- 28% felt that significant misinformation existed in the community regarding epidurals.



Results

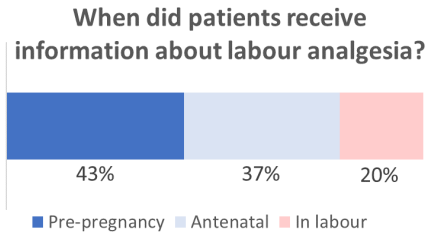
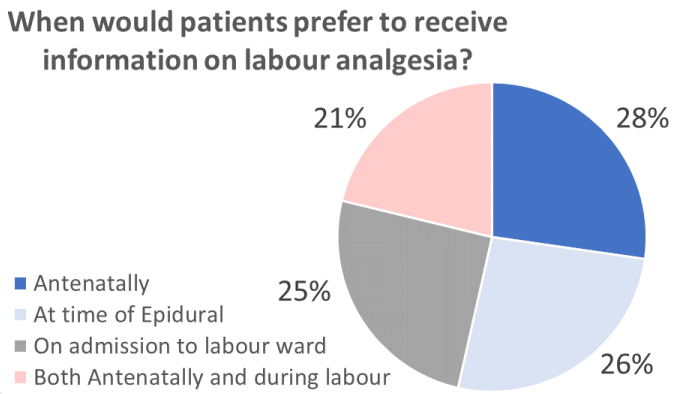


Table 1. **What type of information did patients receive?**

Source of information		
	Antenatal class	46
	Friends/family	42
	Online	37
	Anaesthetic clinic	23
Format of information		
	Information leaflet	46
	Discussion with Anaesthetist	33
	Educational video	30



Discussion

- A discrepancy exists between current practice and patient preference for receiving information about epidurals.
- To facilitate this, especially considering current Covid-19 restrictions, an online video information tool proves beneficial and has been well received by the group of patients who watched it.
- To improve the reach of this information tool, the video has been highlighted on all hospital social media sites and advertised within the anaesthetic clinic, antenatal classes, and outpatient appointments.
- Future investigation on this topic should assess whether the online epidural video influenced patients' decision to avail of labour analgesia..

References

1. OAA / AAGBI Guidelines for Obstetric Anaesthetic Services 2013. https://www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk/assets/_managed/cms/files/Clinical%20Guidelines/obstetric_anaesthetic_services_2013.pdf. Accessed on 04/02/2020 10:40