

A retrospective case control study

Yair Daykan MD, Rina Tamir Yaniv MD, Yael Yagur MD, Meir Pomerantz MD, Nissim Arbib MD, Zvi Klein MD, Ron Schonman MD

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Meir Medical Center, Kfar Saba, Israel; Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

INTRODUCTION

In the period January-June 2020, there was a dramatic decrease in the visits number to the gynecologic emergency department (ED). The COVID-19 pandemic caused changes in the gynecology emergency room visits during the first months of the quarantine, as compared to the previous year.

OBJECTIVES

To identify whether there were changes in the amount and type of emergency gynecological surgeries during the COVID-19 quarantine.

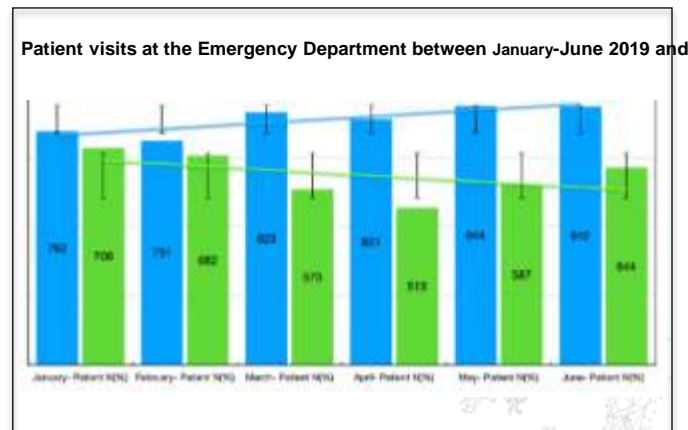
METHOD

The study included all patients who visit the gynecology ED during April 2019 and April 2020. Demographic data, diagnosis and hospitalization background findings results were compared.

RESULTS

During the 2 study periods, there were 801 vs. 513 visits in the gynecology ED, respectively. Patient demographics were similar between groups. Visits of nulliparous women were more common in the study group ($p=.0001$) as well as self-referral ($p=.017$). More post-operative complications and fewer patients with abdominal pain were admitted in the study group ($p=.034$ and $p=.054$, respectively). The hospitalization rate did not change during the study 18.2% vs. 17.5% ($p=0.768$).

Hospitalization duration was significantly longer in the COVID-19 quarantine (2.8 ± 1.3 vs. 3.1 ± 1.5 , $p<0.001$). There was no significance difference among surgical procedure incident.



CONCLUSIONS

Visits in the gynecology ED service decreased during the COVID-19 quarantine, without compromising the treatment of gynecology emergencies. Many of gynecologic complains can be managed in community care settings without referral