

## INTRODUCTION

BP measurement is a frequently performed procedure among children admitted in the PED, with many barriers of obtaining it, such as child's anxiety causing repeated attempts and the prolongation of triage time. procedures.

## OBJECTIVES

We sought to evaluate whether the presence of medical clowns reduces the duration of blood pressure measurement during the triage process.

## METHOD

133 children were enrolled and randomly divided into two groups (with or without a clown presence). Both groups underwent the routine triage procedure. The number of BP measurements, the time required to achieve an acceptable BP value and the total triage duration were documented.

## RESULTS

The average time required to obtain an acceptable BP measurement and the total number of measurement attempts were lower among children who underwent triage with the participation of a medical clown

(Table 1)



**Table 1 – outcome measurements:**

	Study group	Control group	P value
Measurements attempts (no.)	1.2	1.4	0.008
Time for BP measurement (sec)	60.2	81.1	0.001
Total triage time (sec)	369	390	0.089

## CONCLUSIONS

The average time required to obtain a BP measurement was shorter among children who underwent triage with the participation of a medical clown in the PED.