

# **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

#### TO STUDY THE NECESSITY OF CLAMPING VERSUS NON CLAMPING IN SHORT DURATION URINARY CATHETER REMOVAL IN OPERATED ORTHOPAEDIC PATIENTS

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..... Manuscript Info Abstract .... ..... Manuscript History Background- Urinary catheterization is a common procedure used in Received: 31 December 2022 patients undergoing orthopaedic surgeries of lower limb and spine. Final Accepted: 31 January 2023 However no exact mechanism or theory postulated in support of Published: February 2023 clamping of indwelling catheter before removal. We evaluated the necessity of clamping of short term indwelling urinary catheter before removal. Material methods- 327 patients were enrolled , undergoing orthopaedic surgeries of lower limb & spine . These patients were divided in category "A" - clamping and category "B" -non clamping group through Randomization & studied prospectively. Results- This study found that clamping of indwelling catheter prior to removal is not necessary in short term patients. And no significant recatherization risk found as compared to clamping group . **Conclusion**– There is no necessity of clamping the indwelling urinary catheter before removal. In addition there is higher risk of complications with clamping such as prolonged urinary catheter retention, urinary tract infections & allergy. Copy Right, IJAR, 2023,. All rights reserved.

#### **Introduction:-**

Patients undergoing spine & lower limb orthopaedic surgeries may have difficulty in urination because they are confined to bed & post operative pain, due to this, short term urinary catheterization done before surgery and removed as soon as possible post surgery.

Urinary catherization also help in accurate assessment of urinary output as bladder contractile response to muscarinic stimulation may be impared following involuntary obstruction, catherization prior to surgery also prevents this adverse effect by allowing consistent decompression during prolonged surgery.

Following prolonged surgeries , indwelling catheters are often left in place to reduce the incidence of postoperative urinary retention (POUR) , as patients often cannot sense bladder distension after general anaesthesia <sup>[1,2]</sup> .Risk factors for POUR include age, male gender , prostatic hypertrophy , type of surgery and duration of anaesthesia<sup>[3,4]</sup> . Postoperative urinary retention (PUR) can complicate any surgical procedure and is not limited to patients with preexisting urinary symptoms. Although often regarded by clinicians as a trivial or minor complication, urinary retention can be a significant source of patient anxiety and discomfort<sup>[5]</sup>. Although POUR is classically associated with anorectal, inguinal and orthopaedic surgeries . As orthopaedic surgeries are often lengthy, and postoperative pain management often involves epidural and parenteral opiod analgesia , both of which can contribute to POUR <sup>[6]</sup>.

Bladder training by intermittent clamping before removal is reported to shorten the time duration to return to normal bladder function and reduce the incidence of urinary retention (Roe.1990). However, there is no consensus on its use. Moreover, the effectiveness and safety of bladder training in orthopaedic patients is not yet assessed.

## Material and Methods:-

We conducted a prospective randomized controlled trail comparing group A as bladder training group by clamping and another group B a free drainage group.

The study was done in department of orthopaedics in sri aurobindo institute of medical sciences .

The study was approved by the institutional ethical review committee and written informed consent was obtained from all the participants.

We included adult patients undergoing surgery of spine & lower extremity including total hip and knee arthroplasty .exclusion criteria were age under 16 years old , history of recurrent urinary tract infections , previous history of urinary retention , diabetic cystopathy , voiding dysfunction & neurogenic bladder.

Randomization done in bladder training and free drainage group.

#### Procedure-

Foleys catherisation done prior to surgery .

Foleys removal done in group B (free drainage) in post operative day 2 and in group A (clamping) williamson protocol <sup>[7]</sup> for clamping was followed, that is 3 hours clamping and 5 minutes drainage for emptying the bladder (Williamson, 1982) about 4 times this protocol is followed before catheter removal.

In clamping group, when the patient felt urge to urinate or 3 hours of clamping has passed, a drainage for 5 minutes was performed.

All surgical procedures were done under spinal and spinal + epidural anaesthesia .

In spinal + epidural anaesthesia patients Foleys catheter removed in post operative day 2 after epidural catheter removal .

#### **Outcomes-**

We performed recatherization in urinary retention patients within 8 hours of catheter removal in both groups. Urinary retention observed by marked distended bladder or patients having discomfort and pain in groin and suprapubic region.

Urine culture sensitivity and differential leucocyte count was done in patients showing suspicious symptoms to rule out any presence of increased bacterial load in urinary bladder predisposing to urinary tract infection .

#### **Result:-**

We included 327 patients in the study. 171 patients in bladder training group "A" and 156 patients in the free drainage group "B". All patients fulfilling the inclusion and exclusion criteria, with no patient took withdrawal or lost to follow up.

We observed 5 cases of recatherization in group "A" ( clamping group) 2.6% and 9 cases in group "B" ( free drainage group ) 5.8%. and the difference between the groups were not statistically significant. ( Fischer's exact test, p=0.316).

39 patients developed urinary tract infection and associated symptoms in clamping group "A", and 18 patients of Group "B" developed UTI.

All patients who developed urinary retention were subjected to recatheterization and those who developed UTI were treated for the infection and discharged after returning to normal bladder function and subsidence of infection .

### **Discussion:-**

We compared the bladder training group with the free drainage group in patients undergoing orthopaedic surgery of lower limb and spine . our study showed that there is no role of clamping the urinary catheter before removal . we observed the normal bladder bladder function in patients of free drainage group. We also observed the rate of recatherization in patients with POUR showing no significant difference between both groups . and found that the incidence of urinary tract infections were more in patients of group "A" ( clamping group ).

Our results showed similarity with other studies conducted in surgical patients .

(Nyman et al,2010)<sup>[8]</sup> studied re catherisation rate in patients with hip fracture surgery . Bergman et al ,  $1987^{[9]}$ , fanfani et al.,  $2015^{[10]}$ , oberst et al., $1981^{[11]}$ . George Markopoulos et al , $2019^{[12]}$ , sun et al.,  $2004^{[13]}$  showed similar findings .

The recatherisation done in about 8.4% of patients in our study . studies done in knee and hip arthroplasty reported higher urinary retention incidence ( david et al .,  $2015^{[14]}$ , Fernandez et al .,  $2014^{[15]}$ , Tischler et al.,  $2016^{[16]}$ ).

The known risk factors of POUR are age > 50 years, duration of surgery > 2 hours , diabetes mellitus, anticholinergic medications , constipation and continuation of opiod analgesics .

The incidence of POUR in the current study was found to be more with male patients, we excluded the previously diagnosed patients suffering from benign prostatic hypertrophy but some undiagnosed BPH might be included.

However, Urinary catheter removal also promotes early mobilization, which is crucial to postoperative recovery following surgery.

## Conclusion:-

This review indicated that bladder training by clamping prior to removal of urinary catheters is not necessary in short-term catheter patients. In addition, clamping carries the risk of complications such as prolonging urinary catheter retention and urinary tract injury and infection. We explored the issues of clamping indwelling urethral catheters prior to removal based on limited evidence. From on our review, no significant difference was found between the clamping and unclamping groups in the outcomes of recatheterization,

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