**NAPS 2017 – Abstract submission**

**A clinical audit on pain management in the recovery room**

**Background:** Ineffective postsurgical pain management can result in numerous complications such as respiratory tract infections and myocardial ischaemia. It can also develop into persistent pain which is challenging to treat and affects quality of life. Ensuring adequate pain relief early after surgery is therefore key to improving patient outcomes. Delivery of appropriate analgesic drugs and techniques should be effective and administered by adequately trained staff.

**Aims and objectives:** This clinical audit aims to compare current pain management practice in the recovery rooms of (blank) with standards as proposed by the Royal College of Anaesthetists.1

**Methods:** A data collection form was designed to collect data for 100 postsurgical patients in the recovery room by direct observation and by using their hospital notes. Additionally, recovery personnel were asked to complete a questionnaire pertaining to their education and training. Data was then compiled and analysed using Microsoft Excel.

**Main results:** Pain management in MRI recovery rooms does not meet the proposed standards. Only 80% of patients left the recovery unit with a pain score of less than 4. No common theme could be observed among those who left recovery with a pain score of 4 or greater. Analgesia was prescribed for 98% of patients before they left recovery. Less than 100% of staff attended compulsory education programmes. Not all of them had training, assessment and recent updates in IV opiates and in the use of sophisticated analgesic techniques.

**Conclusions:** The results of this project have to be communicated to everyone involved in pain management in the recovery room. After exploring possible reasons for not meeting the standards further, recommendations aiming to remediate the inadequacies found should be made and an action plan agreed upon.

1. The Royal College of Anaesthetists - Raising the standard: a compendium of audit recipes 3rd edition 2012. 11.3 Pain management in the recovery room. Available from: <http://www.rcoa.ac.uk/system/files/CSQ-ARB-2012_0.pdf#page=297> [Accessed 9June 2017]

Presenting author:

Swabirah Bibi Rassool

[swabirahr@gmail.com](mailto:swabirahr@gmail.com)

07460253167

University of Manchester and Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Manchester, UK)