

AB053. SOH22ABS048. Role of imaging in patient presented to acute surgical assessment unit (ASAU) with abdominal pain

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Background: Acute surgical assessment unit (ASAU) provides an easy and fast access to the surgical patients. Early assessment and proper investigation of surgical patients lead to decrease burden on health service and timely management of deserved surgical patient. The aim of this study is to find out the amount of imaging performed as diagnostic work up with positive results for patient presented with abdominal pain in ASAU.

Methods: Patient presented to ASAU of Limerick university hospital with abdominal pain who required imaging from Nov 2020 to Feb 2021 were included in the study. Patient Data were collected from admission book kept in ASAU. Diagnostic Imaging with definite diagnosis along with demographic details of the patients was confirmed from NIMIS. Length of stay is calculated from discharge summaries.

Results: A total of 184 Patients admitted in ASAU required diagnostic imaging. Twenty-five patients had acute appendicitis, 20 patients with acute diverticulitis, 9 had acute cholecystitis, 4 had gall stones, 10 with acute pancreatitis, 4 with colitis, and 6 with bowel obstruction, 43 patients with others and 63 had normal scan. One hundred and twenty-two patients had CT scan, 54 had ultrasound and 1 had MRCP.

Conclusions: Approximately sixty-five percent of the ASAU patients had positive imaging. CT scan is most common imaging with 74.6% patients had positive findings. Fifty percent of ultrasound had positive findings.

Keywords: Acute surgical assessment unit (ASAU); abdominal pain; diagnostic imaging; CT scan; surgical patient

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Footnote

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Ethical Statement: The authors are accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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