

Complications of ERCP- Experience at a Non-Teaching Hospital

V.Arya, M.D., Y. Arya, MD., M.Lin, M.D., R. Vasireddy, M.D.
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center Brooklyn, NY

Purpose: ERCP is a valuable method for the diagnosis and treatment of biliary and pancreatic diseases. We retrospectively investigated the incidence of post- ERCP complication at our non-teaching community hospital.

Method: A total of 180 charts were reviewed. Both ambulatory as well as inhouse patients were included who underwent ERCP between January 1996 and June 1997.

Results: Out of the 180 patients, 136 (75%) were inpatients and 44 (24%) were outpatients. 108/180(60%) were diagnostic ERCP's and 72/18(40%) patients underwent therapeutic ERCP's. Therapeutic ERCP included sphincterotomy, ballon stone extraction, precut papillotomy, stent (wall stents/plastic stents) placement. The Sphincter of Oddi Manometry (SOM) was not done on any patient. Out of 180 patients- 7 (3.88%) had complications with 5 (2.77%) having pancreatitis and 2 (1.11%) cholangitis. No case of bleeding, perforation and no facility was reported.

Conclusion: The complication rate of ERCP at a non-teaching community hospital is lower than what is reported in the literature.