"COMPARISON OF THREE SCORING CRITERIA TO ASSESS RECOVERY FROM GENERAL ANAESTHESIA IN THE POST-ANAESTHESIA CARE UNIT- A LONGITUDINAL OBSERVATIONAL STUDY"

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Date of preparation :: 30 august 2021
Title: “COMPARISON OF THREE SCORING CRITERIA TO ASSESS RECOVERY FROM GENERAL ANAESTHESIA IN THE POST-ANAESTHESIA CARE UNIT IN THE INDIAN POPULATION- A LONGITUDINAL OBSERVATIONAL STUDY”

Summary: The study compares recovery assessment tools, i.e., the modified Aldrete score, fast track criteria and time-based criteria, for assessment of time of recovery from general anaesthesia and assess of factors affecting time of recovery. In this Longitudinal observational study, 375 Patients were followed in Post Anaesthesia care unit (PACU). Recovery of each participant was assessed using Modified Aldrete Score, Fast-Track Criteria and Traditional Time-based Criteria. Scores were recorded every 5 minutes until 30 minutes, 2, 6, 12 and 24 hours following tracheal extubation. The time of attainment of score ≥ 9 as per Modified Aldrete Score and ≥ 12 as per FastTrack Criteria was recorded. Chi-square test and fisher exact test were used. For assessing agreement between the scoring criteria, intraclass correlation coefficient and Wilcoxon signed rank test test used. In Modified Aldrete score, fast-track score and time-based criteria, median of shift out time was 15 min, 30 min, and 4 hours respectively. The difference of 15 minutes in median of time of shift out by modified Aldrete score and fast track was statistically significant. Shift-out time, Age, BMI, ASA status, Comorbidities like Diabetes, hypertension, thyroid disorder, coronary artery disease, obesity, type of surgery, airway, relaxant use, post op opioid use, position of patient during surgery, time of extubation, time of PACU shift were highly significant in influencing the time to shift out from PACU. It was concluded that Modified Aldrete score when compared to fast-track scoring and time-based criteria, reduces the length of stay in Post Anaesthesia Care Unit.

Keywords: Length of Stay, Analgesics, Opioid, Ambulatory Surgical Procedures