

755 Elective Surgery in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Outcomes of 100 Consecutive Cases

R. Fisher, C. Hadjittofi, Z. Ali, P. Antonas, K. Parekh, S. Seraj, L. Thomas, A. Uddin, B. Lovett

Basildon University Hospital, Basildon, United Kingdom

Introduction: The COVID-19 pandemic halted elective surgical activity. Basildon University Hospital established an elective Green Zone for COVID-19 swab negative patients who isolated for 14 days. This study reviewed the outcomes of the first 100 patients.

Method: A single-centre study was performed. Demographic and peri-operative electronic data were supplemented with telephone follow-up for the first 100 Green Zone patients and analysed in Microsoft Excel.

Results: One hundred Green Zone patients underwent surgery between 21/05/2020 and 16/06/2020. The median age was 55 (14-88) years. 52% were female. Their operations were performed by General Surgery (39%), Gynaecology (17%), Vascular Surgery (14%), Oral Surgery (12%), ENT (9%), Urology (8%), and Pain Management (1%).

Preoperatively, 100% had a negative SARS-CoV-2 swab and one had CT evidence of mild resolving COVID-19. Two patients had postoperative SARS-CoV-2 swabs, both negative. Median length of stay was 0 (0-7) days. 84% responded to telephone follow-up at a median 25 (13-54) postoperative days, 69% of whom were asymptomatic. There were no 30-day major complications (>Clavien-Dindo IIIa) or 90-day mortality.

Conclusions: Elective surgery can be safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, with appropriate measures in place. This has significant implications in the context of an ever-expanding NHS waiting list during a pandemic of uncertain duration.