936 Outcomes of A Single Site Receiving Model for General Surgery During the COVID-19 Pandemic in A Scottish NHS Board

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Aim:: To assess overall patient outcomes of converting to a single-site receiving unit for general surgery during the height of the covid-19 pandemic.

Method: Prospective study of all general surgery inpatients, who would normally be looked after at University Hospital Monklands, between 17/04/20-06/06/20, the beginning and end of a single-site receiving model within NHS Lanarkshire.

Results: There was a 32% reduction in admissions from 278 to 188, from the same time period in 2019. The 30-day mortality rate was 3.2% in comparison to 2.8% in 2019.

Of 59 patients (31.4%) who had surgery, 13.5% had a complication of varying degree. The post-operative 30-day mortality rate was 0%. Only 4 patients (2%) were diagnosed with covid-19, none of which died.

Laparoscopic appendicectomy was favoured over conservative management, with average length of stay (LoS) being 3.2 days and 5 days respectively. Acute cholecystitis was overall managed conservatively with average LoS being 8.8 days for operative management, compared to 4.1 days for conservative management.

Conclusions: Overall outcomes during this time were not found to be significantly worse when compared to the previous year. The rate of contracting covid-19 in the unit was low. Laparoscopic surgery can still be carried out safely for selected acute surgical conditions.