

BACKGROUND

Providing effective analgesia during labour → utmost for the provision of safe obstetric care¹.
We conducted reaudit to determine factors influencing efficacy and satisfaction of epidural analgesia and compared them with the findings of 2020 audit.

METHODS

- **Cross sectional convenient study**
- **Population:** 250 obstetric patients
- **Location:** Mayo University Hospital (MUH)
- **Duration:** January 2022 to July 2022
- **Patient characteristics:** Age, BMI, Cervical Dilation, Parity
- **Factors studied:**
 - Pain score at 45 minutes
 - Patient satisfaction at follow up
- Lidocaine considered as test dose due to short action onset

MEASURES

Labour epidural troubleshoot

- Respond quickly.
- Always test the block first to establish block level.
- **Unilateral Block:** top up lying on the sore side and consider pulling of catheter 1cm.
- **Perineal pain or rectal pressure:** Give 50mcg fentanyl stat epidurally in 5 mls of 2% lidocaine + 5 mls of 0.25% bupivacaine plain.
- **Lower Abdominal Pain:** if block okay, check bladder not full or distended, if previous LSCS consider scar pain or uterine rupture and report.
- **Good block but still sore:** consider fentanyl 50 mcg in 0.25% bupivacaine 10 ml in sitting position.

CONCLUSIONS

- Low pain scores likely drove satisfaction (moderate negative correlation)
- **Recommendations**
 - Explore additional factors influencing satisfaction with a larger cohort → to anticipate what patients are likely to require additional analgesia strategies during labour.
 - Review and implement Guidelines from The National Obstetrics Hospitals

COMPARISON OF THE REAUDIT FINDINGS WITH ORIGINAL AUDIT AND BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES

RCOA Best Practice Guideline Variables	Original Audit	Re-audit	Best practice recommendations
Fulfilled the Criteria for Successful Analgesia	76.5% (N=153)	86.4% (N=216)	≥ 85%
Indicated being satisfied or very satisfied at the follow- up.	92.6% (N=176)	89.6% (N=224)	≥ 98%
Recorded a pain score of ≤3 at 45 minutes	84.5% (N=169)	91.2% (N=228)	≥ 88%
Recorded a pain score of ≥ 9/10 at 45 minutes	3% (N=6)	0.8% (N=2)	
Required re-siting	3% (N=6)	7.6% (N=19)	≤15%
Evidence of Dural puncture	0.5% (N=1)	2.6% (N=6)	≤1%

RESULTS

Variable 1	Variable 2	Correlation (spearman rho)	Significance (p ≤0.05)
45 min pain score	Level of satisfaction at follow up	-.552	p =0.001 n=188
45 min pain score	BMI	0.0092	p=.264 n=150
45 min pain score	Cervical Dilation at time of epidural	0.178	p=.026 n=155