The effectiveness of a surgeon surgical proforma as a method to standardise surgical techniques in a randomised controlled trial

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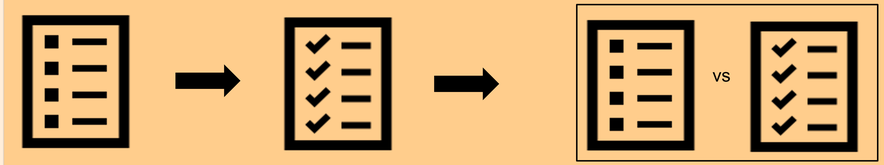
INTRODUCTION

- **Surgical randomised controlled trials (RCTs): more complex** and **challenging** to conduct in comparison to medical trials.
- In practice, surgeons often **vary** in their **technique** for the **"same" operation**
- **Standardisation** is a key component of surgical trials to **determine** the **effectiveness** or **efficacy** of an intervention.

AIM

1. **To investigate the effectiveness of a surgical proforma as a method to record standardisation of a surgical technique**
2. **To determine how surgical techniques recorded on a proforma compared to actual trial performed surgical procedure.**

METHODS



Proforma

Proformas of standard surgical technique completed by eligible surgeons before study started

Case report form (CRF)

CRF of surgical technique used by surgeon recorded at time of trabeculectomy surgery

Comparison between proforma and CRF

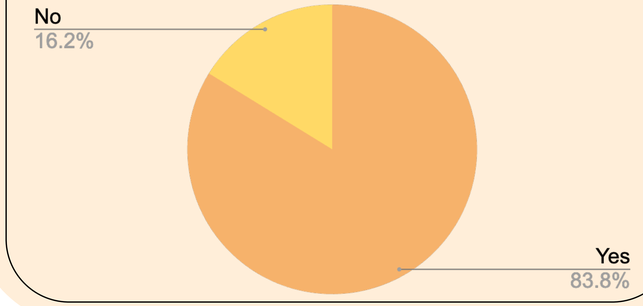
RESULTS

208 Trabeculectomies

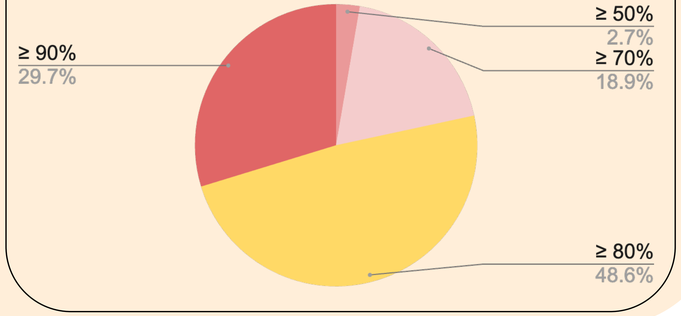
27 Centres

74 Surgeons undertook surgery

Completion of surgery technique proformas by surgeons who operated



Similarity in technique between proforma and CRFs in those who completed both



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ excellent agreement between pre-filled proformas and actual intraoperative techniques
- ✓ Surgical proformas have a role in ensuring the standardisation of surgical RCTs
- ✓ 16% of participating surgeons did not complete an eligibility proforma.

REFERENCES

1. McLeod RS. Issues in Surgical Randomized Controlled Trials. World Journal of Surgery. 1999;23(12):1210-4.
2. King AJ, Fernie G, Azuara-Blanco A, Burr JM, Garway-Heath T, Sparrow JM. Treatment of Advanced Glaucoma Study: a multicentre randomised controlled trial comparing primary medical treatment with primary trabeculectomy for people with newly diagnosed advanced glaucoma-study protocol. 2018;102:922-8.