



Did the COVID pandemic impact LLETZ procedures under GA?

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Aims and Objectives - To evaluate outcome of LLETZ procedures under GA during Pre-COVID and COVID pandemic. To compare the outcomes of LLETZ procedures under GA before and during COVID period.

Design - Retrospective cohort study of patients with abnormal cervical cytology / histology results requiring LLETZ treatment over a period of 4 years, before and during the COVID period.

	March 2018 - Feb2020 (19)	March 2020 – Feb 2022 (13)
Age	Range - 28- 56. Average = 40.78	Range = 26 to 50. Average = 36.84
BMI	Range – 21 - 42	Range = 20 – 43.
Menopasual status	M = 3, Pre-M = 16	M = 1, Pre-M = 12
Smear (Cytology)	Abnormal cells = 16, Low Grade = 1, Fibroid Polyp = 1, Cervical growth = 1	Abnormal cells = 13
Previous Biopsy	9	5
Previous LLETZ	4	3
Colposcopy Findings	CIN3, Small area of abnormal iodine neg Fibroid polyp CIN3 HG lesions Abnormal changes CIN1 Large acetowhite area with neg iodine Acetowhite area anterior cx Dense Aceto white area High grade changes Low grade changes Dysplastic changes Low grade changes Severe dyskariosis	Minimal acetowhite High grade changes Could not tolerate colpo in local High grade changes Inadequate view Dysplastic changes High grade changes High grade changes High grade changes Dense aceto white area High grade changes Dense aceto white area Acetowhite area
Colposcopist Doctor/Nurse	Doctor = 7, Nurse = 12	D = 8, N = 5

Results: Out of 536 LLETZ procedures done during March 2018 to Feb 2020 (Pre-COVID), 19 were done under GA and 517 under local anaesthesia. Out of 542 LLETZ procedures done during March 2020 to Feb 2022 (COVID), 13 were done under GA and 529 done under local anaesthesia. We did not find any difference in the two cohorts with respect to patient characteristics like age, menopausal status, cytology results, indications for colposcopy, colposcopy findings and indications for LLETZ under GA. There was also no difference in the procedure outcomes, histology results and test of cure results and follow-up outcomes.

	March 2018 - Feb2020 (19)	March 2020 – Feb 2022 (13)
Indications	S = 6 , UK = 2, H = 11	S = 7, UK = 2, H = 4
Complications	Nil	Nil
TOC	Cyto FU in 6 months = 13 Colpo 6 months = 1 TLH = 1	Cyto FU in 6 months = 11 Colpo 6 months = 1 TLH = 1
Outcome	FU = 10 Discharge = 6 TLH – Vault Smear – Normal = 1 Cyto FU in 3 months = 2	FU = 11 Discharge = 1 TLH = 1
Final histology	No abnormality = 5 Polyp = 1 Small area removed of abnormal growth = 1 CIN 1 = 2 CIN 2 = 2 CIN 3 = 7 FIGO Ia = 1	No abnormality = 2 CIN 1 = 2 CIN 2 = 3 CIN 3 = 6
Days between decision and procedure	Range – 11 – 273. Average = 71.73	Range – 13 – 743. Average = 100.07

Conclusions: There wasn’t a significant difference in LLETZ treatment before and after (536 vs 542), i.e the Covid pandemic did not show an impact on incidence of HPV related cervical dyskaryosis. There was no statistically significant difference in the number of patients needing LLETZ under GA-13 (2.4%) Vs 19(3.5%), p value = 0.27. The indications for the GA procedures also did not differ.