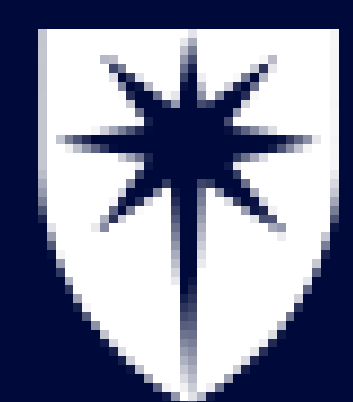




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Surgical Complications And Their Implications For Obstetrician And Gynecologist As Second Victim

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OBJECTIVE

This study aims to explore the psychological, professional, and systemic implications of surgical complications on obstetricians and gynecologists (OB-GYNs), specifically focusing on the concept of "second victims." It seeks to understand the emotional distress and professional repercussions OB-GYNs face following surgical complications and evaluate the effectiveness of institutional support systems in mitigating these effects.

STUDY DESIGN

A cross-sectional survey was conducted over one year, targeting OB-GYNs with varying years of experience. The study population included surgeons who had experienced at least one significant surgical complication within the past year. Key outcomes assessed included measures of psychological distress (e.g., anxiety, depression, burnout), professional repercussions (e.g., litigation fears, altered clinical confidence), and the effectiveness of support systems.

METHODS

This mixed-methods study utilized quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to assess the experiences of OB-GYNs who encountered surgical complications. A structured questionnaire was distributed to a random sample of OB-GYNs practicing in tertiary care centers and private hospitals. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with a subset of participants to gain deeper insights into their emotional responses, coping mechanisms, and perceptions of institutional support. Data were analyzed using thematic analysis for qualitative data and statistical tools for quantitative findings.

RESULTS

The study included 150 OB-GYNs, with 65% reporting significant psychological distress following a surgical complication. Among these, 70% experienced guilt, 60% reported self-doubt, and 55% noted fear. Professional consequences included 40% hesitancy in future surgical decision-making, 30% reduced confidence, and 25% fear of litigation. Participants who accessed peer counseling reported a 45% reduction in anxiety levels. However, 60% of respondents noted a lack of adequate institutional support, and 75% perceived a pervasive culture of stigma surrounding the discussion of surgical errors.