A safe window- the predictive power of preoperative imaging on the success of PEG tube placement

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BACKGROUND

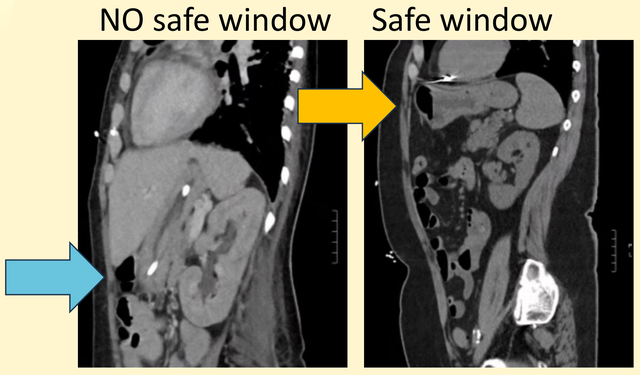
- PEG tube placement is relatively safe:
  - Technical failure rate of about 6%
  - Risk of colon perforation 0.11%
- Cross-sectional abdominal imaging is often readily available preoperatively

Can we use preoperative imaging to accurately predict the likelihood of successful PEG tube placement?

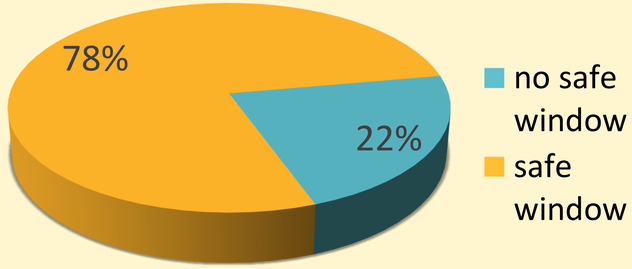
METHODS

- Single Center, Retrospective study
- Patients: All attempted adult PEG tube placement 2023-2025
- Analysis: Fischer's exact test
- Outcome: Aborted PEG, complication requiring reoperation

Safe window- a clear path from the abdominal wall to the stomach, without any other organ impeding the path



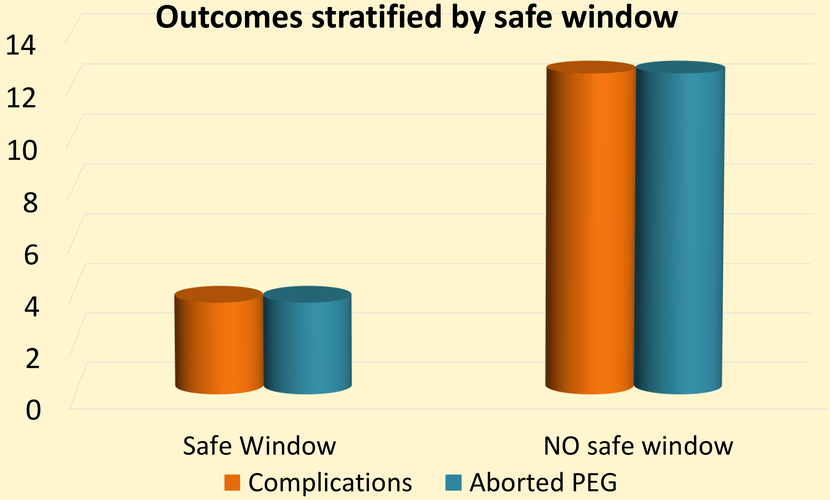
Safe window preoperatively



RESULTS

- N=72
- Complication or aborted PEG:
  - Safe window: 2/56
  - NO safe window: 2/16

Outcomes stratified by safe window



CONCLUSION

- Appears to be higher risk of complication or aborted PEG with NO safe window on CT
- Need larger cohort to reach power for significance