

PELVIC PAIN PREVALENCE IN A DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL: A UNITED KINGDOM POPULATION STUDY

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Objectives

A UK population study from a Primary Care database found the prevalence of pelvic pain in women to be 38/1000; a rate comparable to lower back pain or asthma. Despite this prevalence and high complexity of this group of patients only a few are referred to pain clinics.

We aim to show the prevalence of patients attending non-pain clinics at our institution despite having a pelvic pain syndrome and the amount of healthcare resources that this group utilises.

References

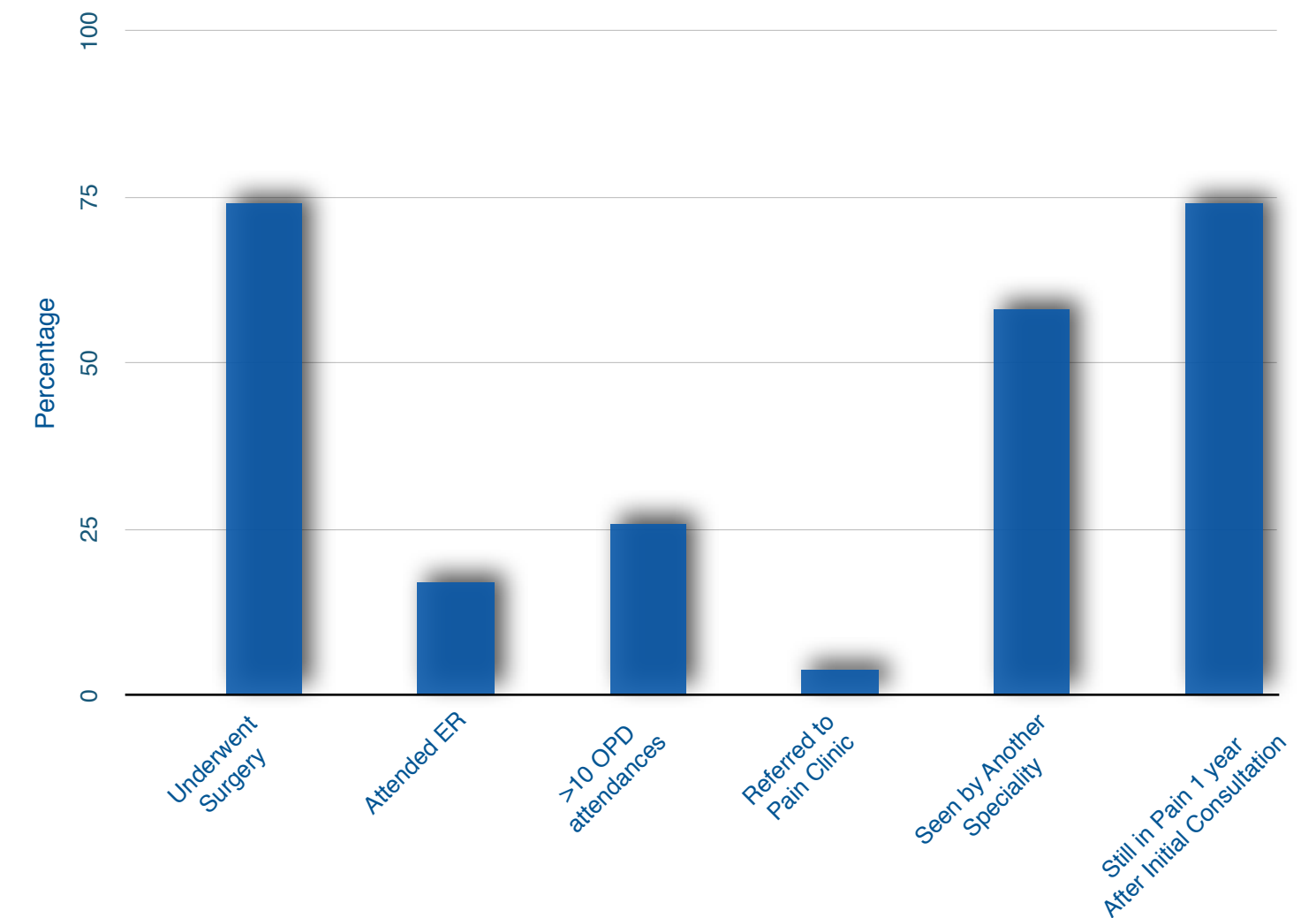
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Methods

A retrospective observational study of patients attending colorectal surgery, urology and gynaecology clinics in the month of October 2014 was performed. Inclusion criteria were those who had pelvic pain, not related to cancer, for more than 6 months. A pro-forma was completed for each of these patients to assess healthcare utilisation.

Results

A total of 1623 attended as both new and follow up patients in the month of October 2014. The mean age of the patients was 46 years old (range 18 to 88). 50 patients (3%) met the inclusion criteria. 24 patients were from the gynaecology clinic, 23 were from urology clinic and 3 were from colorectal clinic. 8 patients were male, 42 were female. 74% of these patients had surgery with no benefit, 26% had more than 10 attendances to a non-pain clinic, 34% attended the ER because of their pain and 74% were still being treated 1 year later with no improvement. A total of 23 CT scans, 13 MRI scans were performed. 80% had at least 1 ultrasound scan. Only 4% of patients were referred to pain clinic.



Conclusions

Pelvic pain is of growing interest for pain specialists in the UK. These patients are difficult to manage and utilise large amounts of healthcare resources. They require specialist multidisciplinary teams to manage their pain. We are starting a specialised service for these patients and will report outcome data in 2 years time to assess the outcome benefits that our pain clinic has on this group of patients..