Fascia Iliaca Nerve Block: Provider Survey and Patient Outcomes

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What is a fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB)?
Objectives

Evaluate provider perspectives and use of fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB) in geriatric patients presenting to the Emergency Department with hip fractures following the deployment of a supply-containing nerve block cart alongside procedure “champions”.
Methods

- Prospective, observational cohort
- Intervention: Introduction of supply-containing nerve block cart as well as resident “champions” who encouraged use and provided guidance on performance of FICB
- From August 2022-April 2023, all records were examined for patients >65 presenting with a hip fracture
- Physicians caring for those patients were contacted via survey to assess their views on and use of FICB
Results

- 110 patients with hip fractures identified
- Primary outcome: 20/110 (18.2%) received FICB during study period as compared to 2/77 (2.6%) in a similar study conducted in 2016
- Secondary outcomes: Length of stay and need for adjunctive opioid therapy were not different between the groups that did and did not receive FICB
- Survey data was also collected on why blocks were or were not performed, as well as on provider experience
Conclusions and next steps

- Introduction of nerve block cart and resident “champions” increased rate of performance of FICB in selected patients
- Ongoing limitations include preferential use of IV and oral pain medications as well as provider comfort in performing the procedure
- Continued education and training for physicians may help increase use and efficacy of FICBs.