95% CI (1.02, 1.22)}. Interestingly, those who had dyslipidemia has 39% less risk of diabetic retinopathy {OR: 0.61, 95% CI (0.39, 0.94)}.

Conclusion: Non-mydratic retinal camera use in primary care setting facilitates the detection of diabetic retinopathy early on in the disease. The presence of diabetic retinopathy is associated with chronic kidney disease, high HbA1c and dyslipidemia.

REPRODUCIBILITY OF MAMMOGRAPHIC PARENCHYMAL PATTERNS AND BREAST DENSITY ON FULL-FIELD DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY (FFDM): COMPARISON OF TWO CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

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Introduction: Mammographic breast density is considered as a strong predictor of breast cancer risk. However, breast density assessment and classification on mammogram is difficult.

Objective: The aim of the study is to compare inter-observer agreement between general radiologists in the classification of mammographic breast density using TABAR's pattern and BI-RADS classification from two-view Full-Field Digital Mammography (FFDM).

Methods: A data set of 400 mammograms was evaluated by three general radiologists. The radiologists independently reviewed the images and classified the parenchymal pattern according to BI-RADS and TABAR classification systems. Inter-observer agreements were analyzed using kappa statistics.

Results: Inter-observer agreement for the BI-RADS is slight to fair (Reviewer 1 versus Reviewer 2: k=0.19, Reviewer 1 versus Reviewer 3, k=0.07 and Reviewer 2 versus Reviewer 3, k=0.49) and for TABAR is fair to moderate (Reviewer 1 versus Reviewer 2: k=0.23, Reviewer 1 versus Reviewer 3, k=0.31 and Reviewer 2 versus Reviewer 3, k=0.50).

Conclusion: Our study demonstrates a poor level of agreement in breast parenchymal pattern and density based on both BI-RADS and TABAR classifications. Thus, breast density in risk stratification of breast cancer should be used with caution in our local practice.

LOWER URINARY TRACT SYMPTOMS (LUTS) AMONG WOMEN ATTENDING GYNAECOLOGY CLINIC AND ITS EFFECT ON THEIR SOCIAL LIFE

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Introduction: Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS) is a worldwide problem that is highly prevalent and varies by age, geography and culture. It influences the quality of life with a myriad of social implications.

Objective: To estimate the prevalence of LUTS among patients attending the gynaecology clinic. We also assessed its severity and associated risk factors.

Methodology: This is a cross sectional study where participants were given 3 sets of self-filled questionnaire; UDI-6, IIQ-7 and OAB v8.

Results: The prevalence of LUTs was 62%. The commonest symptoms were frequency (43%) and stress incontinence (49%). It was significantly associated with BMI, past obstetric history, menopausal status and previous pelvic surgery. Storage symptoms including stress urinary incontinence (SUI) and overactive bladder (OAB); and voiding dysfunction also shows significant associations. For SUI, the subject's race, hormonal therapy status and smoking history were not significant. For OAB, other than race, HRT and smoking, BMI was also not significant. For voiding dysfunction, other than HRT and smoking, parity and menopausal status were also not significant.

Conclusion: This study shows that LUTS is highly prevalent in our population. However, further longitudinal studies are need to better understand the severity and potential impact on quality of life.

INVESTIGATION OF OXIDATIVE STRESS STATUS AND NEUROPROTECTION BY VITAMIN E IN CHRONIC CEREBRAL HYPOPERFUSION-INDUCED NEURODEGENERATION IN RATS.

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Introduction: Reduced cerebral blood flow (CBF) is associated with aging and neurodegenerative disorders. CBF-induced neurodegeneration is related with the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS), which is fatal to neurons at high concentrations.

Objective: To study the neuropathological consequences of a reduced CBF, a similar condition has been created in rats by common carotid artery occlusion (2 vessel occlusion, 2VO). Since vitamin E is known to be a potent antioxidant, the present study was designed to assess the effects of vitamin E as an antioxidant and neuroprotective agent in 2VO rat model.

Methodology: After acclimatization, twenty four Sprague Dawley rats weighing 200-250 g were equally divided into three groups. Group A – sham control, Group B–2VO, and Group C–2VO+E (treated daily with Vit E, 100 mg/kg, orally following 2VO). On the 8th week, all the rats were euthanized and the hippocampi were isolated. Viable neuronal cell count in the hippocampal CA-1 region was estimated. The Isoprostane F2 (Iso-F2) levels were also measured in the brain homogenates to quantify the oxidative stress levels.

Results: There was significant difference in neuronal cell death in 2VO group as compared to sham group. In 2VO+E rats, the viable neuronal cell count of the hippocampal CA-1 region was significantly higher ($p<0.05$) as compared to the 2VO group. Moreover, Iso-F2 levels in 2VO group was significantly higher ($p<0.05$) as compared to 2VO+E group, implying high oxidative stress in 2VO group and reduction of oxidative stress levels in 2VO+E group.

Conclusion: This study clearly demonstrates the effectiveness of Vitamin E as a neuroprotective and antioxidative agent in chronic cerebral hypoperfusion induced-neurodegenerative in rats.

MEDICAL STUDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE ON ETHICAL ISSUES IN ANESTHESIA AND CRITICAL CARE

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Introduction: One of the important skills that medical students should acquire before graduation is the ability to discuss and resolve common ethical dilemmas in clinical practice. Lectures, student seminars and small group discussions on ethical dilemmas are methods used to equip them with this important skill.

Objective: A pilot study was conducted on a group of fourth year students to evaluate their knowledge and attitude on common medical ethical dilemmas.