

The Impact of the Occurrence of Pressure Ulcers following Pertrochanteric Fractures in the Elderly on the Prognosis

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ABSTRACT

Pressure ulcers are the most common complication of pertrochanteric fractures. They delay surgical management and predict an increase in the duration of hospitalization and mortality. They also expose to an increased risk of sepsis. The delay of surgery is a crucial element in the occurrence of pressure ulcers: rapid medico-surgical care reduces the risk of occurrence of this complication by allowing a quick recovery of autonomy. In our series, 48% of patients operated on before 7 days had good results compared to only 28% of patients operated on after 7 days. The occurrence of pressure ulcers preoperatively is more serious than postoperative because it delays the surgical management. One-year mortality was 56% in patients with preoperative pressure ulcers and 46% in patients with post-operative pressure ulcers versus only 14% of patients who did not have this complication. Rapid management with surgery in the shortest possible time allowing rapid recovery of autonomy seems to be the main axe to fight against the occurrence of this complication.