

Thirty-day readmission rate 2.8 percent after hysterectomy

September 15 2016



(HealthDay)—For patients undergoing hysterectomy for benign

indications, the 30-day readmission rate is 2.8 percent, with most readmissions occurring within 15 days, according to a study published in the October issue of *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Courtney A. Penn., M.D., from the University of Michigan Health System in Ann Arbor, and colleagues performed a retrospective analysis to examine patterns of 30-day readmission after [hysterectomy](#) for benign indications, including all surgical approaches (abdominal, laparoscopic, and vaginal).

The researchers found that the 30-day readmission rate was 2.8 percent, and [readmissions](#) were seen for 3.7, 2.6, and 2.1 percent of abdominal, laparoscopic, and vaginal hysterectomies, respectively. Compared with a vaginal approach, readmissions were more likely when hysterectomy was performed abdominally (adjusted odds ratio, 1.45; 95 percent confidence interval, 1.2 to 1.76) but not laparoscopically (adjusted odds ratio, 1.1; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.9 to 1.4). Most readmissions (82 percent) occurred within 15 days of discharge. The shortest and longest median times to readmission (three and 10 days) were associated with pain and noninfectious wound complications, respectively. The most common diagnosis was surgical site infection (36.6, 28.3, and 32.6 percent of abdominal, laparoscopic, and vaginal hysterectomies, respectively); surgical site infections, surgical injuries, and wound complications accounted for about half of all readmissions (51.5, 51.9, and 50.8 percent, respectively).

"Readmission reduction efforts should focus on early postdischarge follow-up, preventing infectious complications, and determining preventability of surgical-related reasons for readmission," the authors write.

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Citation: Thirty-day readmission rate 2.8 percent after hysterectomy (2016, September 15)
retrieved 3 May 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-09-thirty-day-readmission-percent-hysterectomy.html>

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