



Retrospective review of patients that had percutaneous cholecystostomy tube placement at UCDHS with long-term follow-up

¹ Michael Larson, ² Katherine Liu

¹ Department of Radiology, ² UC Davis School of Medicine, UC Davis

INTRODUCTION: Gallbladder infection (cholecystitis) is one of the most common causes for surgical gallbladder removal (cholecystectomy). A growing number of patients are undergoing image-guided percutaneous cholecystostomy tube (PCT) placement before or as an alternative to cholecystectomy. A subset of these patients have the PCT in place for the rest of their life due to being poor surgical candidates. In anticipation of offering minimally-invasive gallbladder thermoablation for such patients that do not want to have a tube for life, we performed a retrospective chart review on patients that underwent PCT at UC Davis.

METHODS: With IRB approval, we performed a retrospective review of patients in the UCDHS radiology picture archiving and communication system up to April 2016 to allow for >5 year follow-up, extracting information from the electronic medical record regarding PCT patients.

RESULTS: We found 122 patients that had PCT placed before May 2016. The mean age was 58.67 years at the time of placement. The M/F ratio was 1.63. Mean BMI was 28.53. Mean American Society of Anesthesiology physical status classification score (ASA) was 2.86. In 21 patients that died with a PCT in place, the median days from placement until death was 36, but the mean was 202.

DISCUSSION: While commonly-taught as a procedure for the elderly and frail, we found that PCT was performed on patients with an average age less than 59 years and average ASA class less than 3. Patients became more obese at the time of PCT placement.

CONCLUSION: This exploratory chart review confirms that there are patients that have PCTs long term that could benefit from gallbladder thermoablation if offered here at UCD.

FIGURE: Patient characteristics at the time of PCT placement. A) Patient BMI by year (dotted line represents linear regression), B) histogram of age (to the nearest year), C) common co-morbidities, and D) ASA class at the time of PCT placement. E) Histogram of time from PCT until the patient died in days (n=21).

