

## Pain on Injection of Propofol Affects Patient Satisfaction

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**Objective :** Propofol is recognized as an almost ideal anesthetic induction agent except pain on injection. The purpose of the current study was to investigate whether this side-effect affected patient satisfaction. Design: Prospective, observational study. Setting: Obstetric and gynecological operating theaters of the University Hospital. Patients : Female patients who underwent transabdominal hysterectomy, myomectomy, dilatation and curettage, Cesarean section, tubal ligation and so on.

**Observations :** Patients were given propofol (Pofol@) as an induction agent with or without other medications on judgement of each anesthesiologist and allocated into study(S) and control(C) groups respectively. Painful response was recorded and postoperative interview was performed in terms of preoperative memory, painful drug injection, future choice of anesthetic technique and degree of satisfaction.

**Measurements and Main results:** Patient characteristics in C (n = 132) VS S (n = 144): age 40.44+13.32 VS 40.84+13.74 years, weight 58.70+14.20 VS 57.20+12.16 kg, anesthetic time 76.40+55.85 VS 77.05+54.04 min, propofol dose 145.79+76.50 VS 119.34+45.54 mg (p < 0.05), pain on injection recall 73% VS 23% and similar degree of patient satisfaction in both groups (good to very good). Multiple regression implied anesthetic time, premedication and pain on injection recall influenced patient satisfaction but not to a strong association ( $r^2 = 0.07$ ). Other adjuncts to attenuate this side effect like lidocaine or fentanyl pretreatment could reduce the incidence to half with number needed to treat as 2 (95% CI = 1.74-2.34).

**Conclusion :** Study results partly support the hypothesis that pain on injection of propofol affects patient satisfaction with other main factors taken into consideration.

**Key words :** propofol; pain; injection; satisfaction; incidence