

Cancellation of Elective Procedures on the Day of Surgery

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Objective: To evaluate the rate and causes of cancellation of elective procedures.

Design: A Retrospective Study.

Setting: Salmaniya Medical Complex, Bahrain.

Method: Data were collected for four months from the operation theatre register and were analyzed.

Result: Day of surgery (DOS) cancellation rate in our study was found to be 7.3%. The causes of cancellation were lack of time, high blood pressure, cardiology consultation, chest infection and upper respiratory tract infection. Most cancellations in the OT were because of high blood pressure. These causes can be avoided if proper preoperative assessment and control were applied.

Conclusion: DOS cancellation is a universal problem. Several common factors that play a role in increasing cancellation rate and these should be considered individually for a better outcome. A general understanding and cooperation between the caring firm, anesthesia department, nursing team and other medical departments is paramount in reducing the incidence to a minimum and to increase the efficacy of the hospital.