Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Incidence of Complicated Appendicitis: A Retrospective Study

Tamlyn Hall, MD; Zola Trotter, MD; Bikash Bhattharai, PhD; Katherine Barlow BA; Colin Hurkett BS; Eric Jackson BS
Creighton University Department of Emergency Medicine; University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix
Participating Site: Valleywise Health Medical Center

ABSTRACT

METHODS

- **Design:** Retrospective analysis of all patients (aged 0 months-99 yrs) treated for acute appendicitis at either Maryvale or Valleywise Emergency Department during the COVID-19 era of March 30th - August 30th, 2020.
- **Data compared for the same time intervals of the 3 prior years and of the 36 months preceding the pandemic.** We evaluated hospital length of stay, surgery times and return visits for all groups.
- **Results:** The incidence of complicated appendicitis was 25% (21/85) during the COVID-19 era. Although this is of course not significantly different than the similar time intervals for 2019 and 2018 with 20% (20/98) and 16% (13/75) respectively (the 2017 time period had the highest complication rate of 35% (22/63)). There was a shorter mean length of stay during the COVID era, but we found no significant difference in surgery times or total charges among the groups.

DISCUSSION

- **REFERENCES**