**Effect of intraoperative lidocaine infusion on postoperative**

**analgesia: A randomized controlled trial.**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Objective:** To evaluate the effect of intravenous lidocaine infusion on postoperative pain scores and narcotic consumption in patients undergoing abdominal surgery under general anesthesia.

**Study Design:** Randomized, double blinded controlled trial.

**Place and Duration:** Department of Anesthesia, Combined Military Hospital, Khuzdar from 15th November 2018 to 20th May 2019.

**Methodology:** A total of 80 adult patients were randomly assigned into two groups of 40 each to receive IV lidocaine bolus, 1 mg/kg followed by IV infusion, 2mg/kg/h (group L) or similar volume/kg of saline (group S). Each patient’s level of pain was measured with a visual analogue scale (VAS) on arrival in post anesthesia care unit, at 2, 4, 8, 12, and 24 hours after surgery. Total postoperative morphine consumption and the incidence of side effects were also recorded.

**Results:** Intraoperative lidocaine infusion resulted in effective analgesia in first 12 h postoperatively, seen by low pain scores (P=<0.05). The total morphine consumption was also reduced in the lidocaine group (P=<0.05). No signs of systemic lidocaine toxicity were observed.

**Conclusion:** Intraoperative lidocaine infusion should be considered as an adjunct to opioids for postoperative pain management.

## Keywords: Abdominal surgery, postoperative pain, postoperative analgesia, lidocaine, morphine, narcotic consumption, systemic lidocaine toxicity.

**How to Cite This:**

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