

5.13 A 5-Year Real-Life Experience of a Tertiary Hospital with a Pleural Service with Indwelling Pleural Catheters for Malignant Pleural Effusion.

Mohammed Mitha¹, Lorraine Thong², Donna Langan², Helen Mulryan², David Breen²

¹Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital, Durban, South Africa. ²Galway University Hospital, Galway, Ireland

Background: Indwelling pleural catheters (IPC) have been shown to be effective in improving symptoms in patients with malignant pleural effusion (MPE). We aim to report our 5-year real-life experience with IPC for patients with MPE from a hospital with the first established dedicated pleural service in the Republic of Ireland. **Methodology:** This is a retrospective, single-centre study based in a tertiary hospital. All patients who had IPC inserted by the pleural service from 1st of January 2019 until 31 December 2023 (5-year period) were included in this study. Patients' clinical details and histology results were acquired via the hospital's electronic medical record **Results:** There were 55 patients who had IPC insertion performed during the 5-year period. Almost all patients (n=54, 98.2%) reported symptom improvement following IPC insertion. Complication rates were low at 10.9% (n=6). Following IPC insertion, pleurodesis was achieved in 21 (47.8 %) patients. The mean and median time to pleurodesis in all patients were 115.5 days and 94 days respectively. **Conclusion:** IPC is a safe procedure with low complication rates when performed by trained physicians. The additional support of a dedicated pleural service will maximize the benefits of IPC while reducing the complication rates. **Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.