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GME Research Days 2024

May 17th, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Comparing Bilateral And Unilateral Metal Stabilizers: Incision Complications In Pectus Repair

Seth Saylor

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Shawn D. St Peter

Children's Mercy Hospital

Tolulope A. Oyetunji MD MPH

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Nelimar Cruz-Centeno

Children's Mercy Kansas City

Nitin Nadella

Children's Mercy Kansas City

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Saylor, Seth; St Peter, Shawn D.; Oyetunji, Tolulope A. MD MPH; Cruz-Centeno, Nelimar; and Nadella, Nitin, "Comparing Bilateral And Unilateral Metal Stabilizers: Incision Complications In Pectus Repair" (2024). *Research Days*. 12.

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INTRODUCTION

- Metal stabilizers in MIRPE are associated with post-operative incisional complications
- Does the use of bilateral stabilizers increase this risk?

METHOD

- Single institution retrospective review + post-operative telephone survey
- Patients who underwent MIRPE w/ stabilizers from 2019-2022 with bar still in place
- Survey evaluating incision associated complications

Risk of incisional symptoms does not differ when comparing bilateral vs unilateral stabilizer use in minimally invasive repair of pectus excavatum (MIRPE)

Seth Saylor MD; Nelimar Cruz-Centeno MD; Nitin Nadella; Shawn St. Peter MD; Tolulope Oyetunji MD MPH

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RESULTS

- 34 patients responded to survey (16 unilateral vs 18 bilateral stabilizers)
- Incisional pain in 19% of unilateral, 22% of bilateral stabilizer patients
- Other incisional symptoms in 25% of unilateral, 33% of bilateral patients

DISCUSSION

- Pain was congruent in all unilateral stabilizers
- Other symptoms only congruent in 50% of unilateral stabilizers
- **No statistical difference in pain or other symptoms between both groups**

