

# PATIENT PREPARATION AND ITS INFLUENCE ON ULTRASOUND SCAN ABDOMEN

Sayanthan B<sup>1</sup>, Maniharan S<sup>1</sup>, Rupasinghe S<sup>1</sup>, Hettiarachchi P<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Hospital of Sri Lanka

## 1 Introduction and objectives

In the National Hospital Sri Lanka approximately one fourth of the ultrasound scans of the abdomen were repeated due to poor patient preparations.

Expected preparation steps are adequate fasting, full urinary bladder and perusing previous records. Aim of our study is to assess the scan failure due to suboptimal patient preparation.

Adequate  
fasting

Full  
urinary  
bladder

Previous  
records

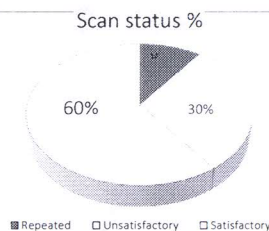
Satisfactory  
Scan

## 2 Method

Institutional based descriptive study was carried out at Radiology Department of National Hospital, Sri Lanka in 2016. 320 participants were recruited systematically and data were collected using an interviewer administrated questionnaire.

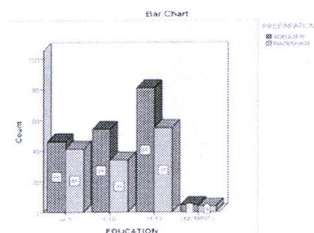
## 3 Results

There were (52.2%) female and (47.8%) male participants. One third were over sixty years of age. (41%) patients (134/320) were not prepared sufficiently before the abdominal scan.



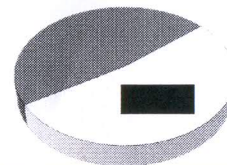
Among them, 10% were advised by the radiologist to repeat the scan and 30% of patients received suboptimal scan reports.

Among these, 64% were out patients and 36% were inward patients. 63% of the out patients (109/215) were adequately prepared, compared to 50% of the inward patients (58/115). Out-patients received preparation advise from the radiology department staff while inward patients received advise from the ward staff.



44% of the patients had an empty urinary bladder prior to the scan and 46% of them did not have previous reports with them. Patients who had completed advanced level were better prepared (67%) compared to those who had education up to grade five (50%).

SEX



## 4 Conclusion

Suboptimal patient preparation influences the quality of the scan reports. Quality of preparation advise given to patients by the staff should be improved.

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Department of Radiology,  
NHSL

SLMA

Participants

## Contact Details

Corresponding Author  
Dr.B.Sayanthan,  
Registrar in surgery, NHSL  
& Lecturer, University of Jaffna  
0772487222  
srisayan@yahoo.com