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Title: A follow up retrospective analysis on the use of lidocaine during bronchoscopy in a UK district hospital

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Body: Introduction: Lidocaine is the topical local anaesthetic used during bronchoscopy. The BTS guidelines advise no more than 5mg/kg (in patients with cardiac/hepatic disease) and 8.2mg/kg in the general population. A previous study[1] indicated patients were often given more than their maximum safe dose and recommended that proformas should include maximum safe dose and actual dose given documented. (Figure 1). We investigate whether this documentation has improved clinical practice. Methods: A retrospective analysis (Aug-Oct 2012) was conducted on 44 patients. Results: 44 patients were included. 62% male (28). Mean age 64.45 years (32-86). Mean weight 74.12kg (40.32 – 101). 8 patients (18%) had cardiovascular disease and 2 patients (5%) had hepatic disease. All 10 patients (100%) had been given a dose of lidocaine that was below the maximum safe calculated dose. 100% of the patients without cardiac/hepatic disease received a dose that was below the safe dose. Conclusion:100% of patients were given below their calculated safe doses of lidocaine during bronchoscopy, in contrast to 77% of patients with cardiac/hepatic disease in the 2011 study. Calculating maximum safe doses of lidocaine use has been found to be effective and improve clinical practice.

References 1.Lawless C, Meghjee S. A retrosepctive audit of lidocaine use at bronchoscopy in a UK district general hospital. Eur RespirJ 2011; 38: Suppl.55, 668s.