

### **5.09 A study on awareness of pneumothorax management and chest drain apparatus care among NCHDs.**

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Pneumothoraces are commonly encountered in clinical practice. Incorrect insertion and care of chest drains can lead to serious complications. The study aimed to assess awareness of management of pneumothorax in emergency and non-emergency settings and chest drain apparatus care among NCHDs. 50 NCHDs, including 17 Interns, 16 SHOs and 17 Registrars, routinely partaking in acute medical emergencies, were invited to complete a basic respiratory related questionnaire including optimum thoracocentesis needle placement, safety triangle landmarking, and basic chest drain management. 61.2% of NCHDs had some form of exposure to clinical respiratory medicine; however, no statistically significant correlation was found between previous clinical respiratory exposure and correctly answering basic questions on needle decompression ( $p=0.506$ ) and safety triangle identification ( $p=0.21$ ). 56% incorrectly illustrated needle decompression landmarks, with registrars being least likely to answer correctly (29.4%). 58% participants were unable to recognise triangle of safety borders. 92% interns had little/no confidence in their chest drain knowledge. 54% NCHDs were unable to identify appropriate management of chest drain water seal lid. These findings illustrate the importance of dedicated respiratory teaching sessions for NCHDs including practical/simulation workshops to maximise patient care; and the benefit of these can be studied by auditing participants post teaching.

**Conflict of Interest:** None to declare