

Sleeve-resection versus Forceps-guided methods of male circumcision in Matsapha, Swaziland: a comparative study of operating time and safety of the two surgical procedures

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Objective: To evaluate and compare operating time and safety of two operating procedures (sleeve-resection and forceps-guided) used in male circumcision for HIV prevention.

Patients and Methods: Retrospective records of adult males attending a male circumcision clinic in Matsapha, Swaziland, were used in this observational study. Data on operating time and adverse events were collected through the use of a pre-coded data extraction form between April and September 2010 for the sleeve-resection procedure and during a similar period in 2011 for the forceps guided method.

Results: Baseline comparisons showed significant differences in mean age ($p=0.017$)

and mean systolic blood pressure (BP) ($p=0.003$) between the two procedures. The adjusted mean operative time for forceps-guided method was significantly shorter than that for the sleeve-resection method ($\Delta - 3.59$ min, $p < 0.001$). Therefore, on average forceps guided procedure took 3.59 minutes less than sleeve-resection method. Fisher's exact test for differences in AEs between the two groups showed no difference ($p=1.00$)

Conclusion: Forceps-guided method is faster than sleeve-resection method. There was no difference in adverse events (AEs) between the two groups. However, the study was not powered sufficiently to detect differences in AEs due to small sample size and few events.