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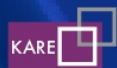
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## Multicenter Trial: Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic on Surgical Procedures

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**INTRODUCTION:** We aimed to evaluate the effect of the pandemic by comparing the number and distribution of patients who applied to the emergency services and were consulted to the emergency surgery service in the first peak period of the Covid 19 pandemic period with the same period of the previous year.

**METHODS:** Istanbul is the province with the highest population in Turkey. Patients who applied to the emergency departments of five hospitals serving at tertiary level in Istanbul were evaluated retrospectively. It was divided into 2 groups as the February-June 2020 pandemic period and the February-June 2019 pre-pandemic period. In both periods, the number of patients admitted to the emergency department and the number of patients who were consulted to general surgery and their distribution according to the reasons for their visit were analyzed.

**RESULTS:** The total number of patients admitted to the emergency department in the five-month period during the pandemic period in 2020 was 548509 and 742064 for the pandemic period and the 5-month period in 2019, respectively. The total number of patients admitted or consulted to emergency general surgery was 21399 and 30868, respectively. In total, there was a 26.1% decrease in the number of patients who came to the emergency department during the pandemic period, and a 30.7% decrease in the number of patients consulted to the emergency general surgery ( $p<0.001$ ). During the pandemic period, there was a decrease of 23.9% ( $p=0.62$ ) in the total number of surgeries performed in the Emergency surgery service, and 11.9% ( $p=0.59$ ) in the surgeries performed due to trauma. The number of patients operated for non-traumatic reasons was 24% during the pandemic period.,4 ( $p<0.004$ ) decreased, while the number of conservatively followed non-traumatic patients increased by 54.6% ( $p<0.0001$ ).

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** In the first peak period of the COVID 19 epidemic in Istanbul, the number of patients coming to the emergency services in tertiary hospitals and the number of patients admitted to emergency surgery units and operated on decreased. There was a decrease in the number of surgeries in emergency surgery patients due to trauma and non-traumatic. An increase was observed in the number of non-traumatic conservative follow-up and emergency surgery patients treated

**Keywords:** Emergency surgery, Pandemic, Covid-19, SARS-CoV-2

## Çok Merkezli Çalışma; Covid 19 Pandemisi nin Cerrahi Prosedürler Üzerine Etkisi

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**GİRİŞ ve AMAÇ:** Covid 19 pandemi periyodunun birinci pik dönemi ile bir önceki yılın aynı döneminde acil servislere başvuran ve acil cerrahi servisine konsulte edilen hasta sayılarını ve dağılımını karşılaştırılarak pandeminin etkisini değerlendirmeyi amaçladık.

**YÖNTEM ve GEREÇLER:** Türkiye'nin nüfusu en fazla ili olan İstanbul'dur. İstanbul'da üçüncü basamak düzeyinde hizmet veren beş hastanenin acil servisine başvuran hastalar retrospektif olarak değerlendirildi. Şubat-Haziran 2020 pandemi dönemi ve Şubat-Haziran 2019 pandemi öncesi dönemi olarak 2 gruba ayrıldı. Her iki dönemde de acil servisine başvuran hastalar ile genel cerrahiye konsulte edile hasta sayıları ve geliş nedenlerine göre dağılımları analiz edildi.

**BULGULAR:** 2020 yılındaki pandemi dönemindeki beş aylık dönem içinde acil servise başvuran toplam hasta sayısı pandemi dönemi ve 2019 yılındaki 5 aylık dönem de pandemi öncesi için sırasıyla 548509 ve 742064 idi. Acil genel cerrahiye başvuran veya konsulte edilen toplam hasta sayısı sırasıyla 21399 ve 30868 idi. Toplamda acil servise gelen hasta sayısında pandemi döneminde %26.1, acil genel cerrahiye konsulte edilen hasta sayısında %30.7 azalma ( $p<0,001$ ) görüldü. Pandemi döneminde de Acil cerrahi servisinde yapılan toplam ameliyat sayılarında %23.9 ( $p=0,62$ ), travmaya bağlı yapılan ameliyatlarda %11,9 ( $p=0,59$ ) azalma görülmüştür.. Travma dışı nedenlerle ameliyat edilen hasta sayıları pandemi döneminde %24,4 ( $p<0,004$ ) azalırken, konservatif takip edilen travma dışı hasta sayısı ise %54.6 ( $p<0,0001$ ) artmıştır.

**TARTIŞMA ve SONUÇ:** İstanbul'da COVID 19 salgınının birinci pik döneminde üçüncü basamak hastanelerde acil servislere gelen hasta sayıları, acil cerrahi birimlerine başvuran ve ameliyat edilen hasta sayıları azalmıştır. Travma ve travma dışı nedeni ile acil cerrahi hasta ameliyat sayılarında azalma saptanmıştır. Travma dışı konservatif takip ve tedavi edilen acil cerrahi hasta sayılarında artış izlenmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Acil cerrahi, Pandemi, Covid-19, SARS-CoV-2

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