

Influence of using POCUS (point of care ultrasound) in the management of limping OR pain in limb on duration care and additional workup studies in pediatric ED

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Abstract

Background: the use of Point of care Ultrasound (POCUS) is becoming increasingly widespread in emergency medicine. This is mainly due to its safety, minimal invasiveness, high accuracy, and its ability to provide a binary diagnostic result. Limping or Pain in limb accounts for approximately 1.8/1000 of pediatric ED admissions. This is a very challenging diagnostic entity that often results in extensive and futile diagnostic workup because of its wide differential diagnosis. Therefore, POCUS provides an excellent opportunity to help avoid unnecessary tests and thus significantly shorten ED care duration.

Methods: In this retrospective cohort, performed at pediatric ED in major regional center, 335 cases of limping or pain in limb were included 2015-2019. The cases were divided to two major groups: patients who underwent HIP POCUS (POCUS group), and those that underwent standard accepted workup (CONTROL group). Statistical analysis of the population was conducted (t-test and chi-square comparisons) while primary outcome was care duration in the ED and additional diagnostic workup.

Results: One hundred and thirty five (135) cases underwent HIP POCUS in 2017-2019, and 200 cases underwent standard diagnostic procedure in 2015-2017. The mean age of POCUS group was 6.6 years (SD 3.5), while of CONTROL group 7.5 years (SD 1.5) with no significance difference. The groups didn't differ significantly in their gender, ethnicity or clinical presentation (fever, prior minor trauma, prior upper respiratory tract infection, and hip joint tenderness on physical examination). Primary outcome significantly differed between the groups with shorter duration in POCUS group (166±90 min. vs. 215±105 min. $p<0.0001$, CI 27.14-71.59). Additional tests: blood sampling, orthopedic counseling and formal ultrasound were significantly more abundant in the CONTROL group ($p<0.0001$ for each test, chi-square test).

Conclusions: our results suggest that utilization of POCUS is of high clinical potential to reduce unnecessary tests and shorten duration care in the pediatric ED.



Biography:

Ofri Hayosh has completed her MD from Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Israel. Currently she is pursuing her residency in Pediatric Medicine, in Meir Medical Center, Israel.

Speaker Publications:

1. "Prolonged duration of breastfeeding does not affect lipid profile in adulthood"; Breastfeeding Medicine/ 2015/ Vol. 10(4): DOI: 10.1089/bfm.2014.0158.

[19th World Congress on Clinical Pediatrics](#), Prague, Czech Republic, April 27-28, 2020, Webinar.

Abstract Citation:

Ofri Hayosh, Influence of using POCUS (point of care ultrasound) in the management of limping OR pain in limb on duration care and additional workup studies in pediatric ED, Clinical Pediatrics Congress 2020, 19th World Congress on Clinical Pediatrics; Prague, Czech Republic, April 27-28, 2020. (<https://clinicalpediatrics.pediatricsconferences.com/abstract/2020/influence-of-using-pocus-point-of-care-ultrasound-in-the-management-of-limping-or-pain-in-limb-on-duration-care-and-additional-workup-studies-in-pediatric-ed>)