ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the utility of the surgical Apgar score in predicting morbidity and 30 day mortality in general surgical procedures.

METHODS

200 patients undergoing general surgical procedures in Coimbatore Medical College Hospital from September 2014 to September 2015 were included in the study. Necessary data was collected. Surgical Apgar score was collected for each patient and analysis done.

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

Age more than 40 years had higher incidence of lower surgical Apgar score. Major complications were noted in 42.8 % of group 0 – 2 scores and in only 3.1 % in group 9 – 10. 30 day mortality was 42.8 % for 0 – 2, while no mortality was noted in group 9 – 10 scores. A relative risk of morbidity of 13.71 was noted in the 0 – 2 group. Major complications were noted in 100 % of 0 – 2 score group in elective cases and 20 % in emergency cases, whereas only 3.7 % of 9 – 10 group in elective surgeries and none in emergency surgeries had major complications. The mortality rate was found to be 42.8 % with score of 0 – 2, 42.1 % with score between 3 and 4, and 5.8 % with a score of 5 – 6, whereas scores of 7 – 8 and 9 – 10 had no 30 day mortality.
CONCLUSION

Surgical Apgar Score is a simple and useful method of predicting the morbidity and the 30 day mortality of patients undergoing general surgical procedures.

KEY WORDS: SURGICAL APGAR SCORE, MORBIDITY, 30 DAY MORTALITY