

408 Hand Trauma Consent

G. Masterton¹, R. Aly¹, A. Siddiqui¹, C. Talwar², C. Talwar²

¹The Countess of Chester Hospital, Chester, United Kingdom, ²Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, United Kingdom

Background: Consenting patients for procedures is a regular process for a trainee surgeon. The process of consent has come under scrutiny in recent years due to inadequacies highlighted by legal cases. With over 1.36 million patients attending A&E per year with hand trauma, this is the most common acute referral to Plastic surgeons.

Aim: To review current local practice by auditing risks and complications from hand trauma consent forms.

To develop and implement a standardised pre-printed label including relevant risks and complications for hand trauma.

Method: Sample of hand trauma related consent forms audited assessing and comparing the risks and complications sections to a standardised set agreed locally by Consultant Plastic surgeons, cross referenced with literature.

Standardised label including relevant risks and complications put into practice then re-audit their use.

Results: Use of the new standardised label demonstrated an elimination of omissions and increased adherence to 100% for all the relevant risks and complications.

Conclusions: Significant improvements in the process of consent were achieved through the development and implementation of a standardised risk and complications label. This ensures standards from the GMC and RCS guidelines are satisfied; positively impacting on service provision by improving the quality of the consent process.