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Impact of COVID-19 on General Surgery Volume at a Single Institution



During April 2020 ALL elective cases suspended



ALL patients required COVID-19 testing prior to surgery



Compared to April 2019
64.5% decline in
TOTAL number of cases
due to COVID-19



Most common cases performed:

1. Skin and Soft Tissue (Abscesses, Necrotizing Infections)
2. Cholecystectomy
3. Appendectomy



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Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Obstetricians and Patient-Care

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Methods: A qualitative thematic analysis was done by surveying 5 participants that worked in rural obstetric programs in New Mexico using a 10-item free response questionnaire.

Background



Patients who are pregnant are at elevated risk of complications from infectious disease, and in the context of COVID-19 have been subjected to ever-changing and often restricted services provided by rural obstetricians.

Dashraath P, Wong JLL, Lim MXX, et al. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and pregnancy. *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 2020;222(6):521-531. doi:10.1016/j.ajog.2020.03.021

Rasmussen SA, Smulian JC, Lednicki JA, Wen TS, Jamieson DJ. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and pregnancy: what obstetricians need to know. *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 2020;222(5):435-436. doi:10.1016/j.ajog.2020.02.017

Results



28.6% of relative proportions of themes discussed providers' inability to provide family-centered care for patients.

Provider mental health indices and concerns regarding patient anxiety were discussed in 11% of total thematic discussions.

Limited resources such as staff, personal protective equipment and ability to do procedures consisted of 32.5% of relative proportion of theme mentions.

Resources used to help guide decision making, the uncertainty in changing guidelines, and daily changes to numbers of cases totaled 27.9% of total thematic discussions.

Conclusion and Next Steps



COVID-19 stands to have a detrimental effect on rural obstetricians and practices especially in areas that are disproportionately affected by the virus due to health disparities and social determinants of health inequalities. Larger scaled study needs to be conducted to investigate these effects throughout the US.

Chen L, Wise MR, Dunn S, et al. Social and Geographic Determinants of Hysterectomy in Ontario: A Population-Based Retrospective Cross-Sectional Analysis. *J Obstet Gynaecol Can J Obstet Gynecol Can JOGC.* 2017;39(10):861-869. doi:10.1016/j.jogc.2017.03.109

Navajo Nation Sees High Rate Of COVID-19 And Contact Tracing Is A Challenge. NPR.org. Accessed June 17, 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/04/24/842945050/navajo-nation-sees-high-rate-of-covid-19-and-contact-tracing-is-a-challenge>