**Title: The impact of outpatient endourology services in a tertiary hospital in a low resource environment.**

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**Abstract**

**Introduction and Objectives:** Since the acceptance of endourology in the 1980’s, a significant number of outpatient endoscopic procedures are now done. We reviewed all outpatient endoscopy procedures done over a 9 year period in our tertiary hospital to see what impact it has on urology services. There is limited inpatient theatre space in our multispecialty surgical hospital. The cost of inpatient admission is also high.

**Methods:** All patients who had endoscopy from April 2004 to March 2013 were reviewed and the data analysed. The anaesthesia administered was either caudal block or topical. The average cost of outpatient endoscopy ranged from 78-156USD while it ranged from 625-3125USD in the inpatient theatre.

**Results:** A total of 1,031 patients had 1,150 endoscopy procedures done in the outpatient theatre, while 62 endoscopic procedures were performed in the inpatient theatre. Thus 94.3% of all the patients had outpatient endoscopy performed in the hospital. The commonest procedures were urethrocystoscopy (518), cystoscopy alone (250), direct visual internal urethrotomy (118) and cystoscopy with bladder biopsy (63). 1.1% of the procedures were abandoned due to complications.

**Conclusions:** Outpatient endoscopy is attractive, affordable, with sedo-anaesthesia. A significant number of procedures are done thus reducing the pressure for space in the inpatient theatre and corresponding increase in the urological care in a resource limited environment.