

Packing of Perianal Abscess Cavities (PPAC):

a Multicentre observational study of outcomes after drainage of acute perianal abscess.

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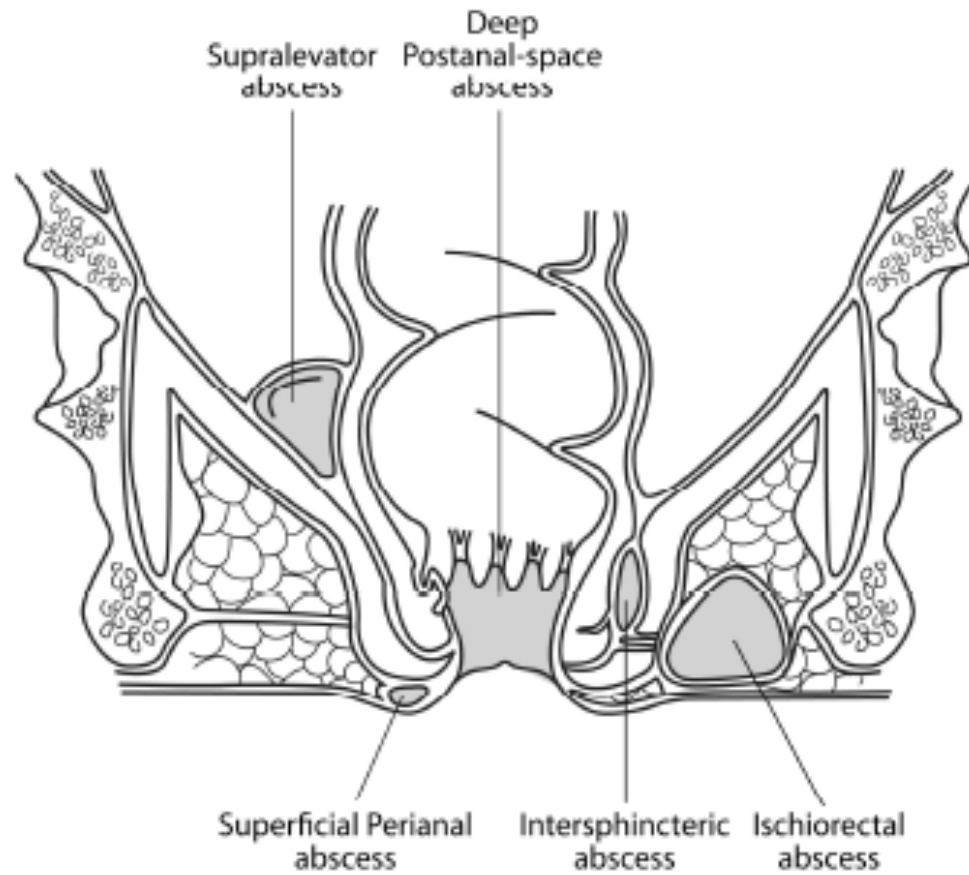
ACPGBI Annual Meeting 2016, BJS Prize Session



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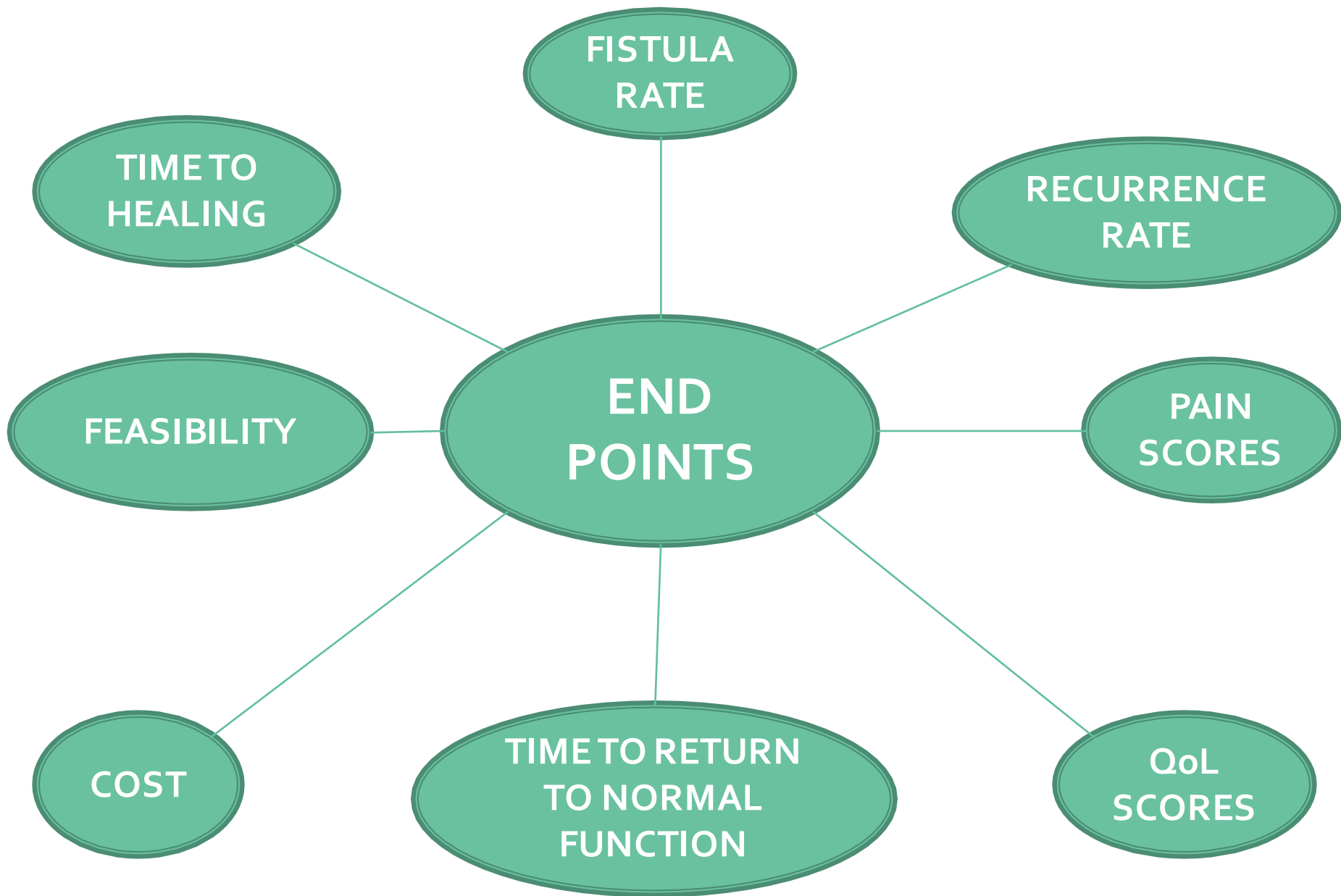


Question

Is packing of perianal abscess cavities necessary?

Would non-packing and simple dressings be better?





Aims

To investigate outcomes for patients with acute perianal abscess

To plan and explore the feasibility of a randomised trial of packing versus no packing



Methods

£10,000 BDRF funding

Adopted by North West Surgical Trials Centre

Ethical approval granted

NIHR portfolio



Methods

15 centres across UK

Inclusion:

I&D of acute primary perianal abscess

Exclusion:

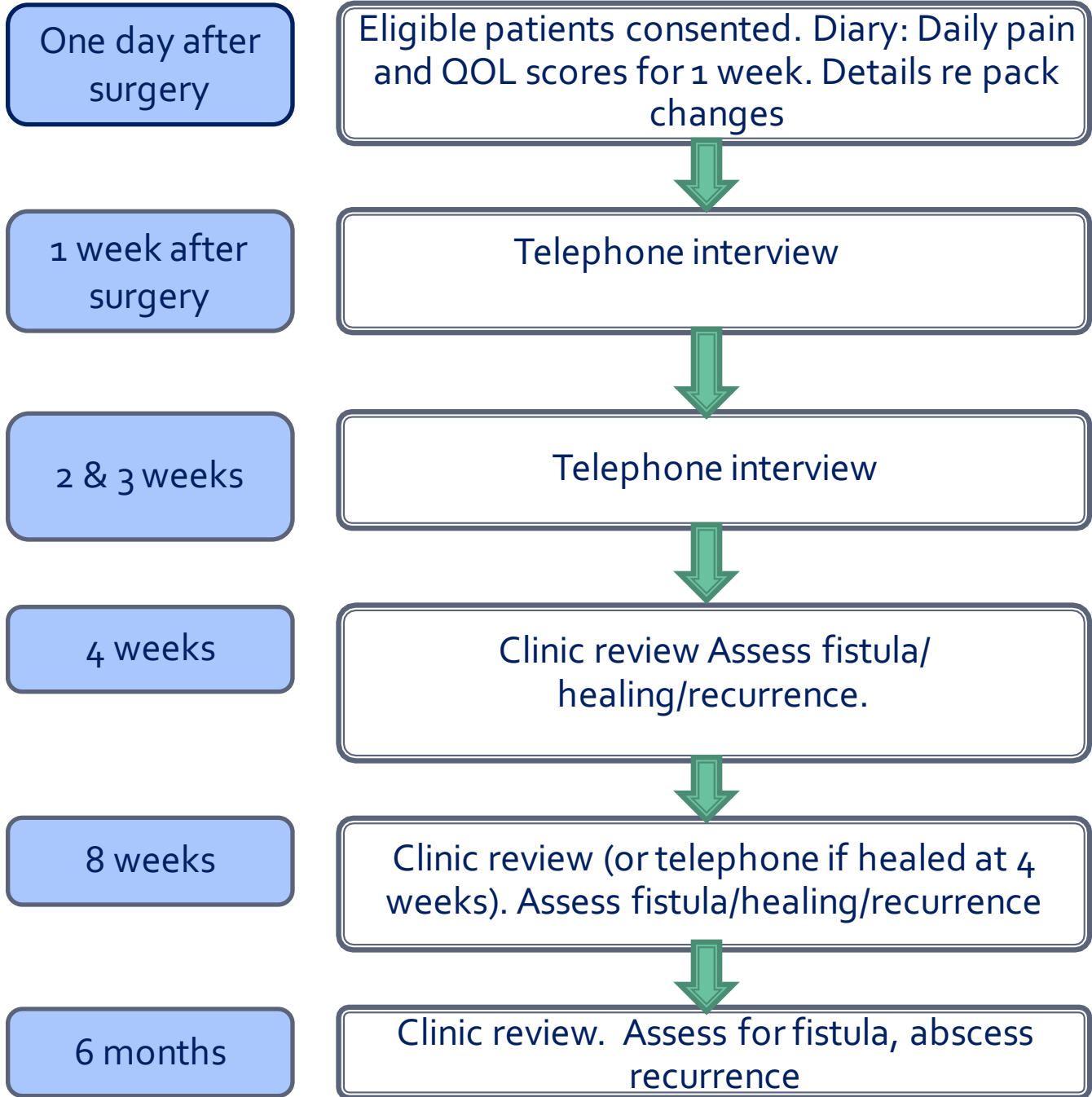
< 18 years

Concurrent disease

Trauma

Fournier's





Results

141 patients recruited over 6 months

Mean age 39 years, 64% female

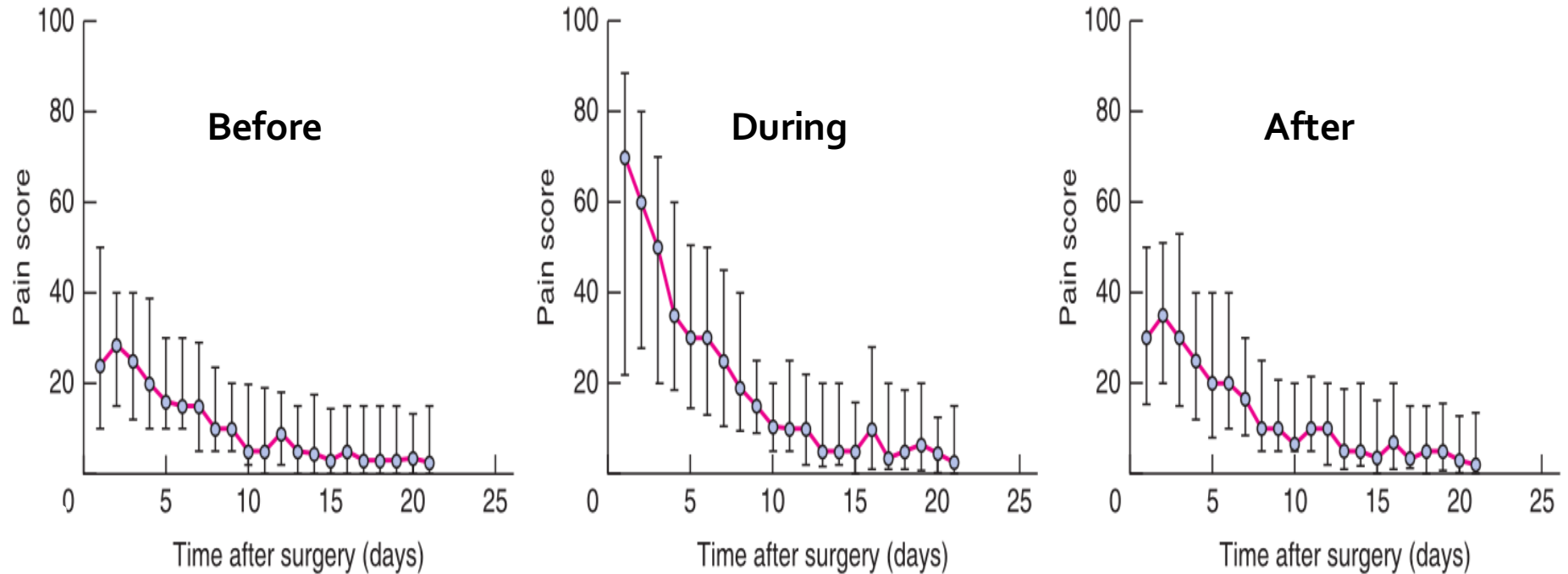
128 patients (90%) baseline data

58 patient diaries returned – 87% complete

108 patients (75%) complete 8 week f/u



Pain associated with packing



Pain scored on Visual Analogue Scale (0-100mm)



Clinical data

8 weeks	Return to normal function	54/63 (86%)
	Complete Healing	46/105 (44%)
6 months	Perianal fistula at presentation	18/128 (14%)
	Fistula identified during follow up	12/105 (11%)
	Overall fistula rate	28/105 (27%)
	Abscess recurrence	8/105 (7%)

Cost

Median no. dressing changes in 21 days = 7 (range 0-21)

Estimated packing and community nursing costs are £159.84 per patient
(£2,877,120 pa in England)



Conclusion

Packing is painful and costly

A trial of packing versus no packing is feasible

Does avoiding packing result in reduced pain without increasing fistula or abscess recurrence rates?



Acknowledgements:

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