

Failed neuraxial anesthesia requiring conversion to general anesthesia during elective caesarean delivery:

A retrospective cohort study

INTRODUCTION

Neuraxial (NA)



General Anesthesia (GA)



- Some suggest rate of GA conversion for elective caesarean section (CS) should be **<1%** (and <5% for urgent CS)
- **What is the GA conversion rate at BC Women's?**

METHODS

- Retrospective chart review of all CS at BCWH in 2017

RESULTS

- **Total: 2044 CS**
- GA conversion rate (Elective CS): **1.3% (11/862)**
- GA conversion rate (Urgent/emergent CS): **2.5% (29/1151)**

DISCUSSION

- 50% conversion unavoidable
- 50% may be prevented
- Is the <1% target too restrictive?

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- More rigorous prospective study
- Better rescue protocol for failed neuraxial
- Research novel ways to identify at-risk patients