

## ABSTRACT

Propofol is a popular intravenous anesthetic induction agent associated with smooth induction, rapid recovery, and little postoperative nausea for the patient. However, pain on the injection of propofol is a common concern and can be very distressing to the patient. This study was conducted to examine the effect of lidocaine on the pain associated with the injection of propofol. Two groups of 11 participants, for a total of 22, each undergoing general anesthesia for a scheduled surgical procedure took part in this study. To be considered for inclusion in this study, participants had to be 18 years of age or older and have no documented allergy to lidocaine or propofol. Voluntary consent was obtained in the holding area of the operating suite prior to the administration of preoperative medication. Participants were alternately assigned by the researcher to one of two groups. Both groups underwent routine induction of anesthesia with a narcotic and propofol, consistent with the acceptable standards of care. One group received an injection of lidocaine immediately prior to the injection of propofol, and the other group did not. All patients were instructed to rate their pain on a scale of 0 to 3 immediately after the propofol injection, using a pain rating scale designed by the researcher. Data were collected by the researcher at the time of the study and recorded on a data collection form. Demographic data, used to describe the sample, and study data are reported in the aggregate, maintaining participant confidentiality. No names were recorded, further ensuring confidentiality of the participants. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and *t*-test analysis at the  $p \leq 0.05$  level of significance. Results showed that there was a statistically significant difference in the mean pain rating score of the two groups.