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Surgical complications database: Surgical databases designed by surgeons for surgeons

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The recording of morbidity and mortality amongst surgical in-patients in the departments of surgery is universal. Yet, the collection of accurate data for review, discussion and research is frequently retrospective and may even be at the last minute in preparation for departmental morbidity and mortality meetings. The surgical team at Ziv Medical Center has designed a database for the real time recording of complications which utilises the Clavien-Dindo classification and grading system. This enables surgical outcome to be compared with national and international data and for data to be easily retrieved. The database was designed and constructed from first principles by a surgical resident, charged with the responsibility for recording patient data in preparation for weekly departmental morbidity and mortality meetings. It is easy to use, all on one page, has a series of short drop down menus, and is comprehensive in terms of co-morbidity, procedure and complication. Its simplicity has been its success and complications may be recorded in a matter of seconds during or just after ward rounds. Data may be analysed within the database as well as exported in to Excel. Further applications for the database are being planned as a means for recording data used for research in all aspects of departmental surgical practice (rather than complications only) such as trauma, cancer resections and procedures for benign disease. The program also has great potential in the daily evaluation of critically ill patients.

Biography

Raphael Fedidat is a surgical resident in Ziv Medical Center. He gained his basic Medical degree in the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel. He researched, designed and developed this technology himself.

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