

Surgical Services of South Sarawak Cluster Hospital: Performance and Evolution

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Introduction

The Surgical Department of Sarawak General Hospital had participated in Cluster Hospital (CH), an integrated network between specialist centre (leading hospital, LH) and non-specialist centre (non-leading hospital, NLH) since 2019. As part of Global Surgery initiative, the shared resources between these hospitals helped to reduce waiting time for surgery in LH and optimized the utilization of operation theatre facilities in NLH. This study illustrates the performance and evolution of our surgical services in CH.

Methods:

This is a retrospective descriptive study based on the electronic operating record for data collection from 2019 to 2022. The number and type of surgical procedures done by all the subspecialties such as Breast and Endocrine (B&E), Hepatopancreatobiliary (HPB), Colorectal, Upper Gastrointestinal (Upper GI), Vascular and General Surgery (GS) in Sarawak Heart Centre (SHC), Bau, Serian and Simunjan Hospital were recorded and analysed.

Results:

Total of 1531 cases were performed between 2019 to 2022 in NLH. The number of cases showed increasing trend over 4 years; 142 cases in 2019, 311 cases in 2020, 424 cases in 2021 and 654 cases in 2022. 1181(77.1%) cases were performed at SHC, 257(16.8%) cases in Bau, 85(5.6%) cases in Serian and 8(0.5%) cases in Simunjan Hospital. 546(35.7%) cases were B&E, 512(33.4%) cases were HPB, 249(16.3%) cases were Colorectal, 197(12.9%), 17(1.1%) and 9(0.6%) cases were GS, Vascular and Upper GI respectively. The types of cases performed in NLH were either elective or semi-emergency, minor or major cases, and open or laparoscopy surgery. In later years, there are more major cases performed in NLH including liver resection (6 cases), Whipple procedure (16 cases), thyroid surgery for retrosternal extension (12 cases), neck dissection (3 cases) and colectomy (32 cases)

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this report showed that there was an improvement in current performance and evolving of type of cases performed over 4 years by our Surgical Department.