



Abstract Reproduction Form B-1

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**PERSISTENT POSTPARTUM URINARY RETENTION:
PREVALENCE, OBSTETRIC RISK FACTORS AND MANAGEMENT**

Aims of Study: To evaluate the prevalence and presumed etiologies of persistent postpartum urinary retention.

Methods: The study population comprised 8402 consecutive, unselected parturients. If a woman was unable to void spontaneously immediately after delivery until the 3rd postpartum day, despite intermittent use of a Foley catheter, a diagnosis of persistent postpartum urinary retention was established. Patients were treated by insertion of a Foley catheter for up to 2 weeks, and subsequently by a suprapubic catheter. Obstetric data were collected from the hospital records.

Results: Four patients (0.05% of the study population) aged 29-37 years, developed persistent postpartum urinary retention. Risk factors for persistent postpartum urinary retention included vaginal delivery after cesarean section, prolonged 2nd stage of labor, epidural analgesia and delayed diagnosis and intervention.

Conclusions: Persistent postpartum urinary retention is rare. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to report the prevalence of this disorder and suggest a treatment algorithm.