Title: The success rate of ultrasound guided intercostal and inguinal nerve blocks. A Case report series.

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Purpose of Research:
Severe persistent abdominal pain after inguinal hernia repair has been reported in the literature to affect 10% of patients. Treatment for this condition includes conservative management with medication (NSAIDs, antineuropathic medications or opioids); or a more invasive treatment including injection therapy with either local anesthetic alone or mixed with long acting steroids. Surgical exploration and/or neurectomy are reserved for refractory cases where all non surgical treatments have failed.

The Objective of this study to review the charts for the patients who received intercostal or inguinal nerve block under ultrasound guidance over the last four years which are performed as outpatients on the Memorial campus. The hypothesis is that ultrasound guidance will improve the success rate of the nerve block compared with the blind technique.