PROFILE OF PATIENTS WHO HAD HYSTERECTOMY IN PRIVATE PRACTICE IN PRETORIA
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OBJECTIVES: To assess the profile of patients who underwent hysterectomy in private practice, socio-demographic characteristics and disease profile that led to hysterectomy.

DESIGN AND METHOD. Five years retrospective record review study conducted at two private hospitals in Pretoria. All patients who had hysterectomy between January 2005 and December 2009 were included. Epi-info was used to calculate the sample size. Stat Calc and excel used for data analysis.

RESULTS: Total of 222 records were drawn and information extracted from records. The age ranged from 31 to 67 years, mean age was 45.05 years. Fibroids were the commonest condition that led to hysterectomy (49.1%). Most women were from Gauteng province (49.1%) and 69.8% of women who had hysterectomy were married. Abdominal hysterectomy was more common than vaginal hysterectomy. Hysterectomy constituted 27.2% of the total major operations performed in the two practices over a period of five years.

CONCLUSION: Regional variation in pathology together with personal habit and the teaching seems to play a role in the choice of the surgical modality for uterine removal. The study, though retrospective and included small numbers from the same region is in agreement with other studies on views such as, abdominal hysterectomy is done more frequent than vaginal hysterectomy, Fibroid tumours of the uterus are the common condition that lead to hysterectomy.