

DEDER GENERAL HOSPITAL

Hernia Management STG Compliance Monitoring Report



JULY 2017EC

DEDER, ETHIOPIA

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1. Introduction

Hernia is a common surgical condition characterized by the protrusion of an organ or tissue through an abnormal opening. Prompt and standardized management is essential to prevent complications like incarceration, strangulation, or bowel obstruction. To improve quality of care, the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) of Ethiopia developed Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) that provide evidence-based, uniform approaches for managing various medical and surgical conditions.

As part of the national Essential Best Care (EBC) initiative launched in 2014, hospitals are expected to regularly monitor their compliance with the STGs to ensure consistent, protocol-driven patient care. Deder General Hospital, in line with this requirement, conducted an audit on hernia case management to assess the extent to which the care provided complies with national guidelines.

2. Objectives

2.1 General Objective

- To assess the level of compliance with Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) in the management of hernia at Deder General Hospital.

2.2 Specific Objectives

- To evaluate adherence to diagnostic, therapeutic, and follow-up protocols for hernia cases based on national STGs.
- To identify potential gaps in the management process.
- To provide actionable recommendations to maintain and strengthen quality surgical care.

3. Methodology

3.1 Study Area

The audit was conducted at Deder General Hospital, located in East Hararghe Zone, Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia. The hospital serves as a referral center for surrounding health facilities and provides both emergency and elective surgical care.

3.2 Study Design

This is a retrospective descriptive audit using a checklist based on Ethiopia's national Standard Treatment Guidelines.

3.3 Study Period

The review covered the period between **June 8 and July 8, 2017 E.C.**

3.4 Study Population and Sample Size

All hernia cases managed during the specified period were eligible. Only **one hernia patient** was identified and included in the review, making the sample size **n = 1**.

3.5 Inclusion Criteria

- Patients diagnosed and treated for hernia (either surgically or conservatively) during the study period.
- Availability of complete documentation covering assessment, treatment, surgery, and follow-up.

3.6 Exclusion Criteria

- Incomplete medical records.
- Patients referred without intervention.

3.7 Data Collection and Analysis

Data were collected using a structured checklist based on 14 STG-aligned performance criteria. Each criterion was evaluated as “Compliant” (Yes) or “Non-Compliant” (No). Since only one patient was reviewed, results are presented descriptively.

4. Results

The hernia case reviewed met **100% compliance** with all 14 STG performance indicators. This includes appropriate documentation, diagnostic accuracy, treatment selection, surgical procedure, and patient follow-up.

Table 1: Hernia Management STG Compliance Summary

S/N	Compliance Criteria	Compliant (Yes)	Non-Compliant (No)
1	History (symptoms, duration, risk factors) documented in detail	Yes	0

S/N	Compliance Criteria	Compliant (Yes)	Non-Compliant (No)
2	Physical examination consistent with STG	Yes	0
3	Diagnostics (e.g., imaging, labs) used per STG	Yes	0
4	Diagnosis consistent with STG criteria	Yes	0
5	Type of hernia classified and documented	Yes	0
6	Treatment decision (surgical/conservative) per STG	Yes	0
7	Patient prepared for surgery per protocol	Yes	0
8	Medications prescribed appropriately	Yes	0
9	Surgical procedure aligned with STG	Yes	0
10	Perioperative care documented and followed	Yes	0
11	Aseptic techniques followed	Yes	0
12	Complications monitored and managed appropriately	Yes	0
13	Patient educated on post-treatment care and warning signs	Yes	0
14	Follow-up visit scheduled and documented	Yes	0
Total Compliance		14/14 (100%)	0

5. Discussion

The audit revealed **complete adherence** to the national Standard Treatment Guidelines for hernia management at Deder General Hospital during the study period. All 14 indicators were fully met, demonstrating that the clinical team performed comprehensive and standardized care.

This includes proper initial assessment, correct classification of the hernia, adherence to surgical protocols, and implementation of appropriate post-operative care. The documentation was thorough, and the aseptic techniques, medication use, and patient counseling practices aligned perfectly with STG recommendations.

Although only one case was reviewed, this performance reflects the facility's strong commitment to quality care and protocol adherence. However, continued audits across more cases are recommended to ensure consistent long-term compliance.

6. Recommendations

- **Maintain current practices** through continuous education and regular internal quality audits.
- **Expand STG auditing** to include more hernia cases and other surgical conditions.

- **Share findings** with regional health authorities and use the case as a success model in mentorship and clinical workshops.
 - **Keep all staff updated** on the latest STG revisions and national surgical care protocols.
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7. Action Plan

Activity	Responsible Unit	Timeline	Success Indicator
Continue monthly audits on surgical STG compliance	Quality Improvement Team	Ongoing	At least 1 audit report/month
Integrate audit checklist into routine care	Surgical & Nursing Teams	Immediately	Checklist used in 100% of cases

8. Conclusion

The assessment of hernia management for the reviewed period at Deder General Hospital confirms **full compliance (100%)** with the national Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG). This reflects high-quality, protocol-based patient care, and underscores the effectiveness of ongoing quality improvement strategies in the surgical department. Sustained effort is essential to preserve these achievements and expand them across other services.

9. References

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