**IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY OF OBESE PATIENTS UNDERGOING PERCUTANEOUS CORONARY INTERVENTION HAS BEEN DECLINING FROM 1994 TO 2006**

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Background: We recently published gradual decline in the percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) related in-hospital mortality over recent years. The goal of this study was to evaluate this trend in obese patient vs. non obese in the United States.

Method: The Nationwide Inpatient Sample (NIS) database was utilized to calculate the age-adjusted incident rate of PCI related mortality from 1989 to 2006 based the diagnosis of obesity using ICD-9 coding.

Results: A total population of 122,023 obese patients underwent PCI between 1996-2006 were available for our study. We found that age adjusted incidence of PCI related mortality of obese patients initially increased to highest in 1996 with gradual decline over the years studied. PCI related mortality in Obese patients was 28 per 100,000 in 1989 vs. 39 per 100.000 in 1996 vs. 19 in 2006 per 100.000 in 2006 (p<0.01). Non-obese patient had persistent decline over the years studied with lowest in 2006.

Conclusion: PCI related in-hospital mortality has been declining in obese and non-obese patients over the years suggesting improvement in the care of patients undergoing PCI irrespective of comorbid conditions.