The Abbreviated Injury Scale scores of subgroups of patients were used to evaluate patterns of injury for helmeted and unhelmeted riders. As expected, the incidence of head injury was higher among the unhelmeted riders (63.81%) than among the helmeted riders (38.95%). In comparison, helmeted riders had higher rates of thoracic injury (47.76%) and extremity injury (80.18%) than did unhelmeted riders (42.05% and 70.46%, respectively) (Table 1).

Differences in total length of stay, number of days in the intensive care unit, and number of days on a ventilator were small. Unhelmeted riders in both categories had slightly longer lengths of stay and increased numbers of days in the intensive care unit (Table 2).

The ICD-9 procedure codes were used to capture the number of patients requiring surgical therapy in various categories. Orthopedic procedures were the most common surgical indication, with helmeted riders undergoing more orthopedic procedures than unhelmeted riders (35.7% vs 30.0%). A greater percentage of unhelmeted riders required surgery in most of the other categories evaluated (Table 2).

Discussion | In the present study, alcoholism and tobacco use were both independently associated with a decrease in helmet use. This correlation has been shown in previous studies.3,4 Unhelmeted riders were more likely to either self-pay or be covered under government insurance. These trends may reflect a tendency to engage in high-risk behavior while either ignoring or dismissing the potential consequences of these actions.

The data on the Abbreviated Injury Scale scores indicated that helmeted riders had a higher number of injuries to the spine, trunk, and extremities and had significantly more orthopedic procedures. One possible explanation for this is that helmeted riders are surviving higher-force impacts than unhelmeted riders and are thus presenting with more extensive injuries. Helmet use itself may be a factor in contributing to high-impact collisions because a helmeted rider’s increased sense of security may result in a proclivity for higher speeds.

Owing to their significantly higher rate of head injury, unhelmeted patients are expected to have a markedly increased length of stay; however, the higher rates of other injuries among the helmeted group resulted in only slightly longer lengths of stay for unhelmeted patients. Nevertheless, the current trends toward bundled reimbursements and patient-guided satisfaction metrics imply increased costs for even small differences in time of care. Given the change in injury patterns from the head to the rest of the body as a result of helmet use, updated recommendations for the use of supplemental protective gear could be beneficial to both the individual and the health care system.

**Letters**

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**Optical Biopsy of Bladder Cancer Using Crowd-Sourced Assessment**

Crowdsourcing and optical biopsy are emerging technologies with broad applications in clinical medicine and research. Crowdsourcing, an interactive digital platform that uses multiple individual contributions to efficiently perform a complex task, has been successfully used in diverse disciplines ranging from performance assessment in surgery to optimization of tertiary protein conformations.1,2 Optical biopsy technologies provide real-time tissue imaging with histology-like resolution and the potential to guide intraoperative decision making.3-5 An example is confocal laser endomicroscopy (CLE), which can be used for the diagnosis and grading of bladder cancer.6 To further assess the adoptability of optical biopsy as a diagnostic tool, we applied crowdsourcing to determine the barriers to learning how to diagnose cancer using CLE. We hypothesized that a nonmedically trained crowd could learn to rapidly and accurately distinguish between cancer and benign tissue.

**Methods** | Amazon Mechanical Turk (Amazon.com) users were recruited as the crowd using a software platform developed by C-SATS. Each crowd worker first completed a validated training module6 and answered a standard screen-
Each crowd worker was presented with a computer-based CLE training module that included previously validated diagnostic criteria of a cancerous urothelium and a benign urothelium. B. Crowd workers were then asked a test question. An incorrect answer excluded the crowd worker’s responses from subsequent analysis. C. Crowd workers were randomly assigned to evaluate 1 of 12 video sequences. The video sequences consisted of 3 benign urothelia and 9 cancerous urothelia (4 low-grade carcinomas and 5 high-grade carcinomas).

Crowd workers were asked to designate the video image as cancer or benign, as well as evaluate 6 microscopic features (flat vs papillary, organization, morphology, cellular cohesiveness, cellular borders, and vascularity). Crowd workers could elaborate on their observations with free text responses. Additional CLE videos could be reviewed by reentering the system. Each CLE video received a minimum of 100 responses.
In the assessment of microscopic characteristics, the crowds achieved the highest accuracy for cellular borders (10 of 12 video sequences [83%]), followed by vascularity (9 of 12 video sequences [75%]), organization (8 of 12 video sequences [67%]), and cellular cohesiveness (7 of 12 video sequences [58%]). One video was not included in the analysis of cellular morphology (8 of 11 video sequences [73%]) because it contained both monomorphic and pleomorphic cells, but the crowd workers were not given the option to select both. The diagnostic accuracy was lowest for flat vs papillary characterization (6 of 12 video sequences [50%]).

Discussion | Hurdles for dissemination of new diagnostic technologies in surgery include clinical validation, overcoming the learning curve, and result interpretation. We hypothesized that crowdsourcing may provide an efficient and cost-effective means for technology evaluation and refinement of the educational curriculum. To validate CLE for intraoperative optical biopsy of bladder cancer, we previously found high diagnostic accuracy and moderate interobserver agreement for image interpretation by 15 novice CLE users, including urological surgeons, pathologists, and engineers.13 Herein, using crowdsourcing, we efficiently expanded our study to a considerably larger crowd. After a brief training module, the crowd achieved an overall diagnostic accuracy of 92% for cancer classification and exceeded 70% accuracy for cellular borders, vasculature, and cellular morphology. The lower accuracy for cellular cohesiveness, organization, and papillary structure suggests a path toward further refinement of the CLE training curriculum. The limitations of our study include a lack of demographic information for crowd workers and a limited number of video sequences. Overall, the diagnostic accuracy achieved with crowdsourcing demonstrates the relative ease of learning an optical imaging technology for enhanced detection of cancer and a complementary strategy to evaluate new surgical technologies.

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ASSOCIATION OF VA SURGEONS

Pedicled Flap Reconstruction for Patients With Pressure Ulcers: Complications and Resource Utilization by Ulcer Site

Pressure ulcers are pervasive and pose a unique burden on the current health care system owing to their association with prolonged hospitalizations and increased costs for patients with chronic medical conditions. These wounds occur frequently in patients with neurological conditions causing immobility and are a significant and common source of patient morbidity. Blockma et al1 initially described muscle flap coverage for paraplegic patients in 1949. Pedicled flap reconstructions, such as the posterior and anterolateral thigh flaps and, more recently, the vastus lateralis myocutaneous flap, have been used in advanced cases with extensive loss of soft tissue or exposed bony structures.2-4

Successful pedicled flap coverage of pressure ulcers, defined as flap survival without flap-related complications during hospital admission (with a survival rate of 87% in this analysis), is determined by several factors, including patient characteristics and comorbidities. To date, there have been no investigations of these determinants using a large, population-based database. We sought to identify factors associated with flap-related complications and increased resource utilization using risk-adjusted, multivariate analysis.

Methods | We searched the National Inpatient Sample (2006-2011) for patients with pressure ulcers (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification [ICD-9-CM] diagnosis codes 707.03-707.05) undergoing pedicled flap reconstruction (ICD-9-CM procedure codes 86.70-86.72) as a primary procedure. Flap-related complications were defined as flap loss, hematoma, seroma, wound infection, or dehiscence, which occurred at a rate of 13% in our cohort. Binary logistic regression models were constructed using the backward stepwise method (initially 69 covariates) to identify predictors for cases associated with complications vs no complications and above vs below median length of stay and total charges. Comorbid diagnoses were defined using ICD-9-CM codes. Cases were weighted to project national estimates. The analyses presented in this study were based on deidentified admission data. The institutional review board at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine exempted this retrospective database study from full review. Significance for all analyses were set at P < .05.

Results | Overall, 2749 cases were identified. Locations included the sacrococcygeal (63%), trochanteric (22%), and gluteal (14%) regions. The median age of patients at hospital admission was 56 years (interquartile range, 27 years). The mean (SD) length of stay was 14 (19) days. The mean (SD) total charge was $60 032 ($88 645). Patients were most frequently male (61%), white (68%), with Medicare (58%), and in the lowest income quartile (32%).

On risk-adjusted multivariate analysis, flap-related complications increased for women (odds ratio [OR], 1.64 [95% CI, 1.10-2.44]), patients with renal failure (OR, 4.99 [95% CI, 2.23-11.16]), and obese patients (OR, 1.90 [95% CI, 1.02-3.55]) (Table 1). Trochanteric (OR, 4.54 [95% CI, 2.38-8.33]) and sacrococcygeal (OR, 1.72 [95% CI, 1.02-2.86]) ulcers had more flap-related complications. Length of stay increased for women (OR, 1.69 [95% CI, 1.05-2.78]), patients on Medicaid (OR, 10.4 [95% CI, 4.45-24.47]), patients in the lowest income quartile (OR, 20.0 [95% CI, 8.11-48.31]), patients with wound dehiscence (OR, 7.43 [95% CI, 2.68-20.62]), and patients with renal failure (OR, 7.04 [95% CI, 2.30-21.53]) (Table 2). Sacrococcygeal ulcers persisted a longer length of stay (OR, 2.56 [95% CI, 1.33-4.92]). Total charges increased for men (OR, 2.02 [95% CI, 1.32-3.08]), patients on Medicaid (OR, 2.03 [95% CI, 1.04-3.96]), patients in the highest income quartile (OR, 5.88 [3.23-10.0]), patients with pneumonia (OR, 28.0 [95% CI, 4.29-182.90]), and patients with...