

# Hospital Resource Utilization By Obese vs. Non-Obese Adult ED Patients With Abdominal Pain

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## introduction

There is a steadily increasing proportion of adults in the US that are overweight.

There is a growing concern about ED overcrowding with greater needs and scarce resources.

There are no studies that have examined the unique needs of obese ED patients with abdominal pain.

## objective

To assess whether the diagnostic evaluation of obese adult patients with abdominal pain requires more hospital resources than non-obese patients.

## methods

**Design:** Prospective, observational

**Population:** Adult patient with abdominal pain

**Setting:** 70k/y ED at a university-affiliated regional medical center with EM residency program

**Protocol:** Collected data included: demographics, ED procedures, time in ED, radiographic and laboratory studies performed, consultations, operation and disposition

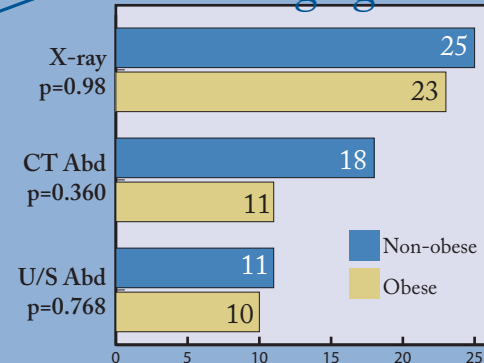
**Definitions:** Obese BMI >29kg/m<sup>2</sup>; non-obese <29kg/m<sup>2</sup>

## results

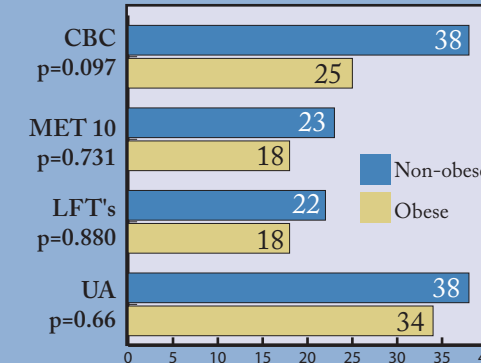
### Demographics

	Non-obese	Obese	P=
N=101 Obese=48 Non-obese=53			
Age (mean)	36.5y	43.6y	P=0.006
BMI (mean)	23.7 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	34.4 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
Female	50%	69%	
DM	1.9%	17.8%	P=0.019
HTN	3.8%	17.8%	P=0.041
CAD	9.8%	6.8%	
CVA	1.9%	2.2%	
Prior Surgery	32.7%	51.1%	

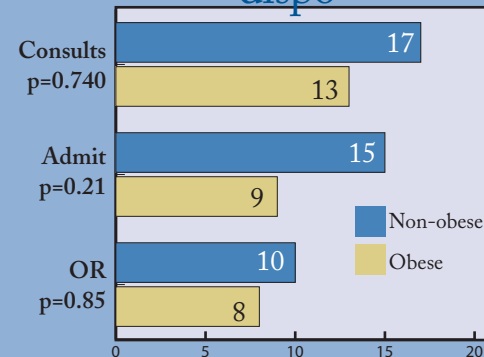
### imaging



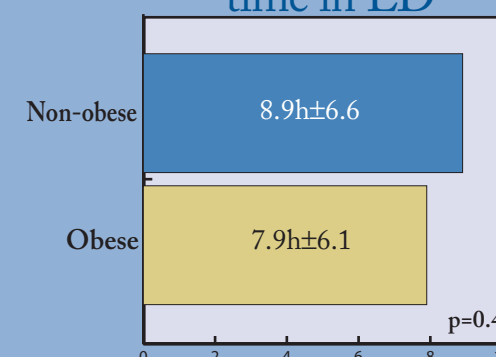
### labs



### dispo



### time in ED



Obese patients had more pre-existing diabetes and hypertension.

There was no statistically significant difference in diagnostic evaluation, resource utilization, or disposition of obese and non-obese patients with abdominal pain.

Prospective validation of these findings is warranted.

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## conclusions

## acknowledgements