**Abstract**

**Background:** The regional nerve blocks serve the purpose of analgesia for post-operative pain for considerable amount of time. Among the various regional blocks, epidural block with local anaesthetic with or without various additives is being used for intraoperative and post operative analgesia.Various additives have been used to enhance the effect of regional blocks including epidural blocks.

**Methods:** A prospective, randomized, double blinded study was conducted in 90

adult patients undergoing lower abdominal surgery. The patients were randomized into two groups. Group 1rceived 9ml of 0.5% bupivacaine plain with 1 ml of NS.Group 2 received:- 9ml of 0.5% bupivacaine plain 9 ml with 1 ml of dexamethasone(4mg). After standard balanced anesthesia technique, patients were observed in postoperative period for pain and hemodynamic variables accordingly.

**Results:** The total duration of analgesia achieved in group 2 was approximately 8 hours that was significantly longer than group 1 i.e. approximately four and half hour (468.4±147.5 min) vs. (271.13±121.7 min) with p-value <0.001. No adverse were no added.

**Conclusion:** Single shot epidural block using bupivacaine with addition of dexamethasone provides effective post operative analgesia and significantly reduce the postoperative analgesic requirement.

**Keywords:**Epidural analgesia, bupivacaine, dexamethasone, additives, postoperative pain