

Feasibility and Tolerability of No-Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) Under Local Anesthesia in Israel

A Questionnaire-Based Observational Study

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Introduction

- No-Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) is a minimally invasive technique associated with less bleeding, hematoma, infection, and post-operative pain compared to conventional vasectomy.
- International guidelines recommend local anesthesia as standard practice for vasectomy procedures.
- In Israel, intravenous sedation remains common due to cultural perceptions of masculinity and reproductive autonomy.¹

Aim

> *Cult Health Sex.* 2023 Mar;25(3):398-412. doi: 10.1080/13691058.2022.2048893. Epub 2022 Mar 15.

Sedated masculinity: the use of anaesthesia during vasectomy in Israel

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- ◎ Study Objective: To assess the feasibility, tolerability, and patient satisfaction with NSV under local anesthesia in Israeli men.

Study Methods



Study Design: Prospective questionnaire-based study of men undergoing NSV with choice of anesthesia method.



Participants: 55 men scheduled for NSV; 52 (95%) chose local anesthesia; 32 completed the survey (62% response rate).

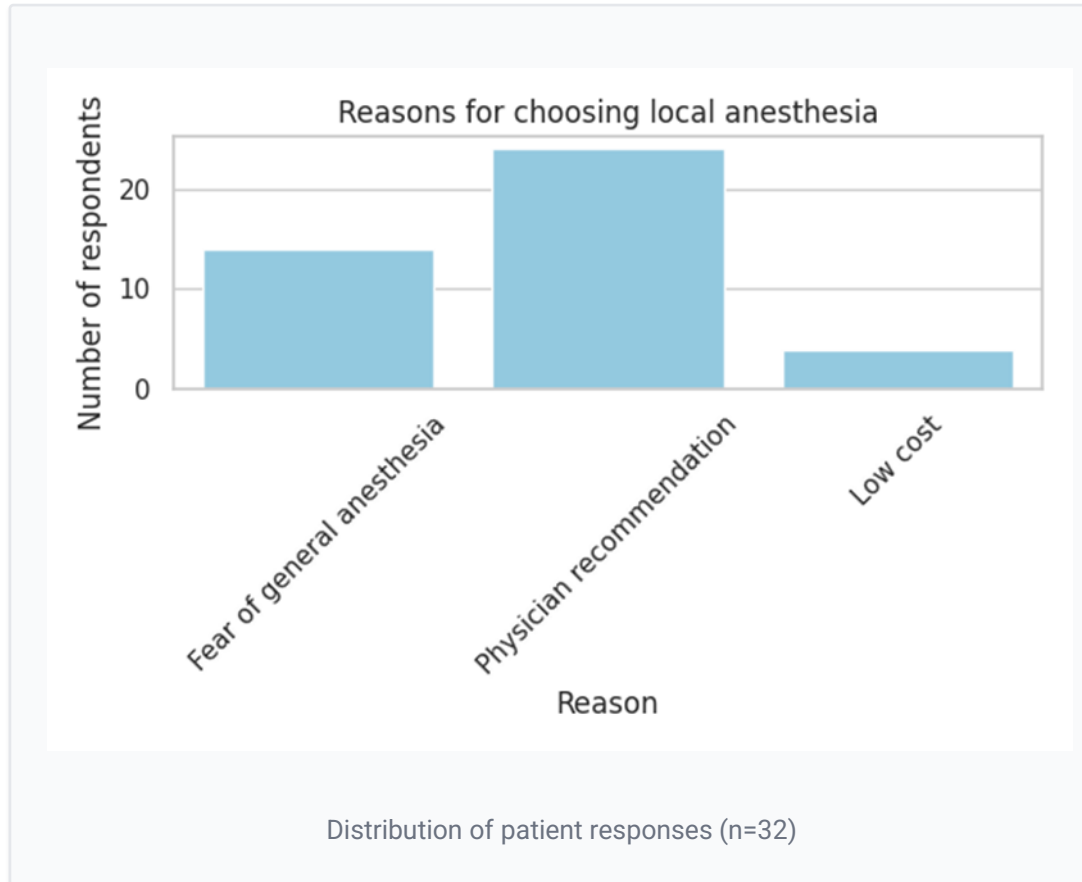


Outcomes Measured: Reasons for anesthesia choice, pain scores (during injection and procedure), post-operative symptoms, recovery times, satisfaction levels, willingness to repeat.



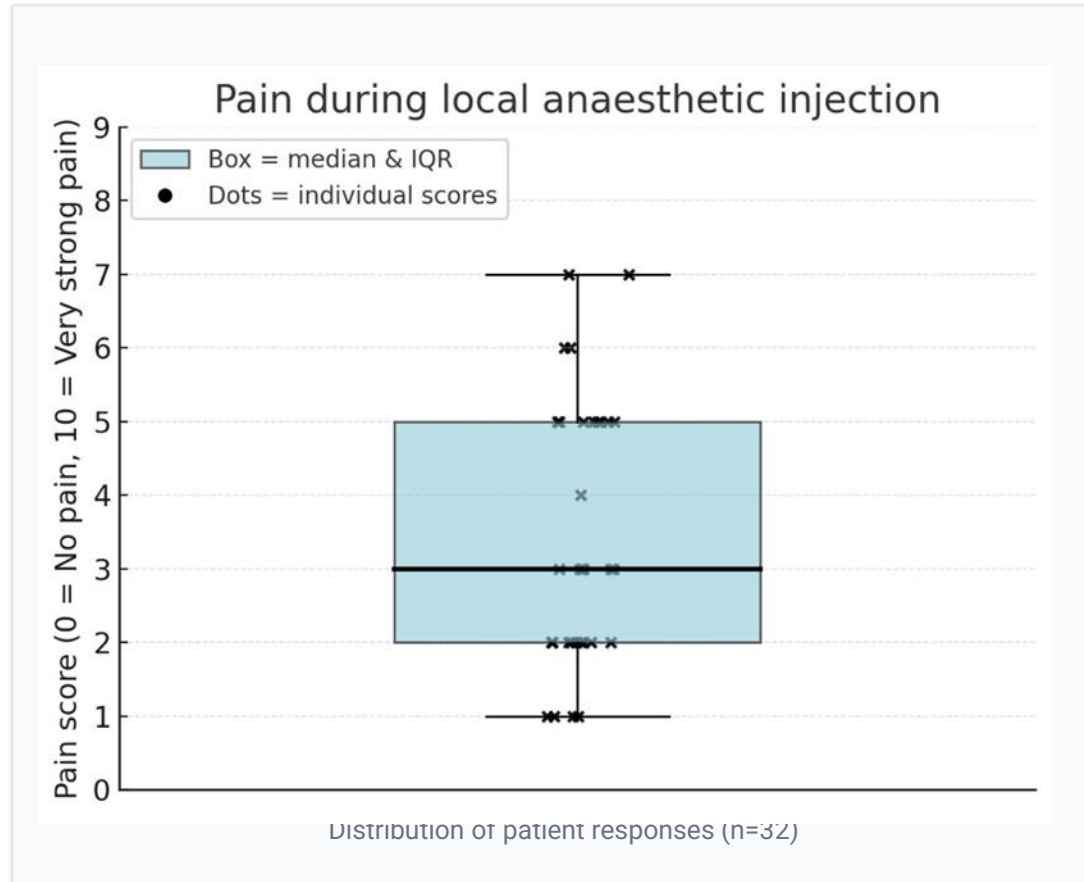
Analysis: Descriptive statistics including medians, IQR, and visual summaries of patient-reported outcomes.

Reasons for Choosing Local Anesthesia



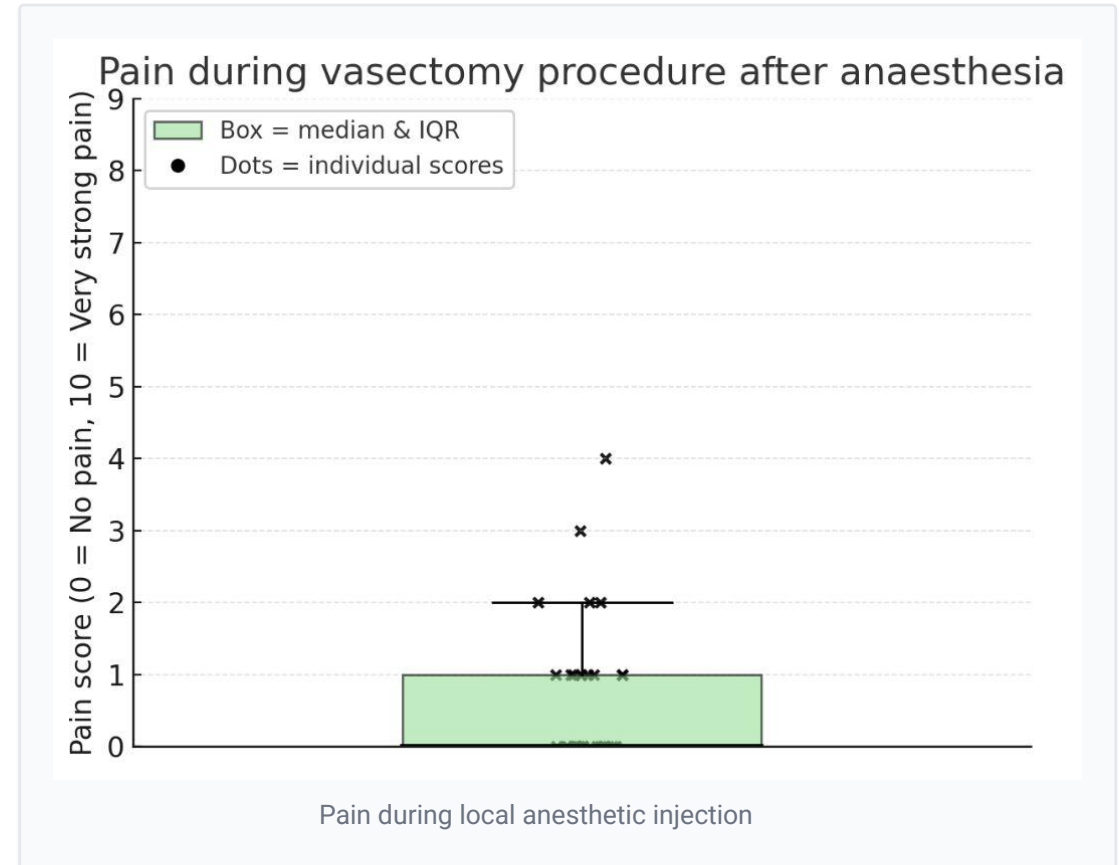
- Physician recommendation was the dominant factor (23 respondents)
- Fear of general anesthesia was reported by 14 respondents
- Low cost was a factor for only 3 respondents

Pain Levels During Local Anesthesia Administration and Throughout NSV



During injection: Median pain score ~3 (IQR ~2-5)

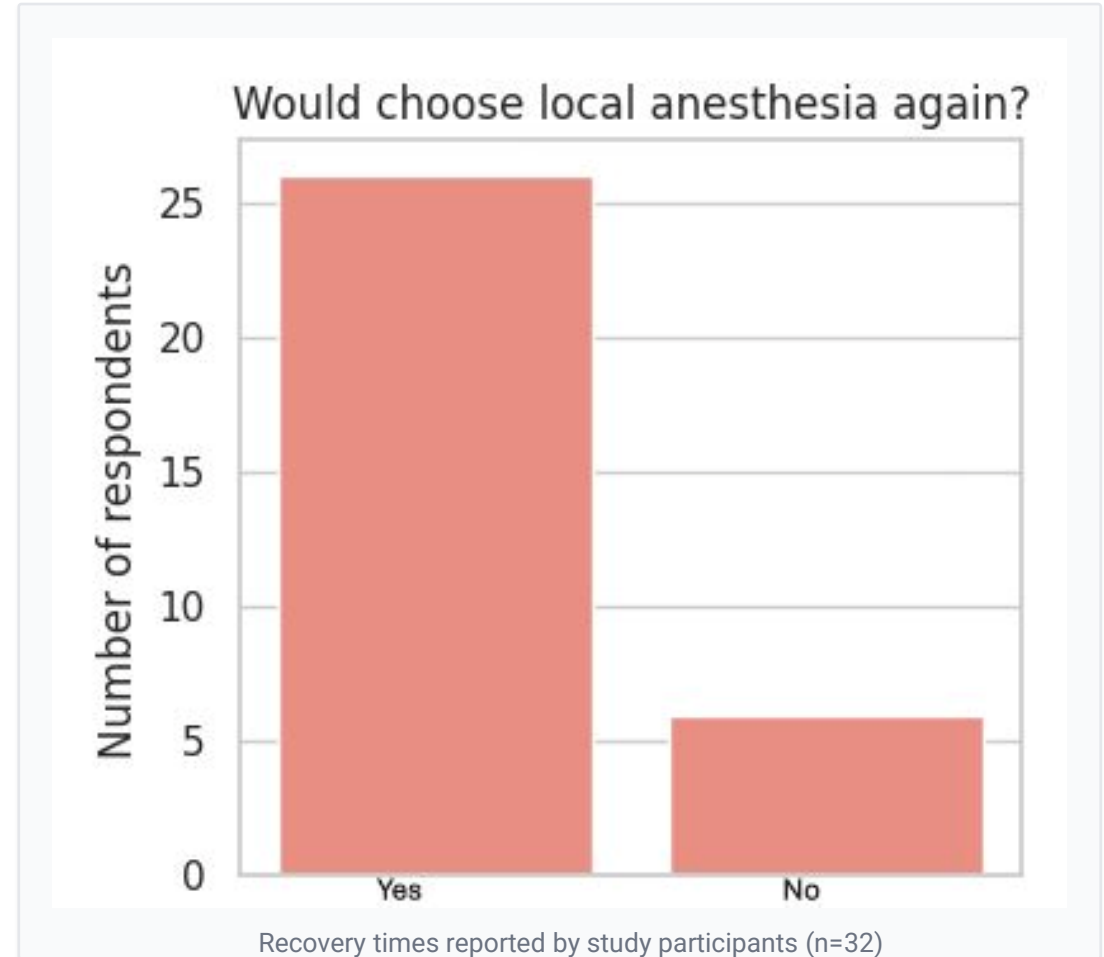
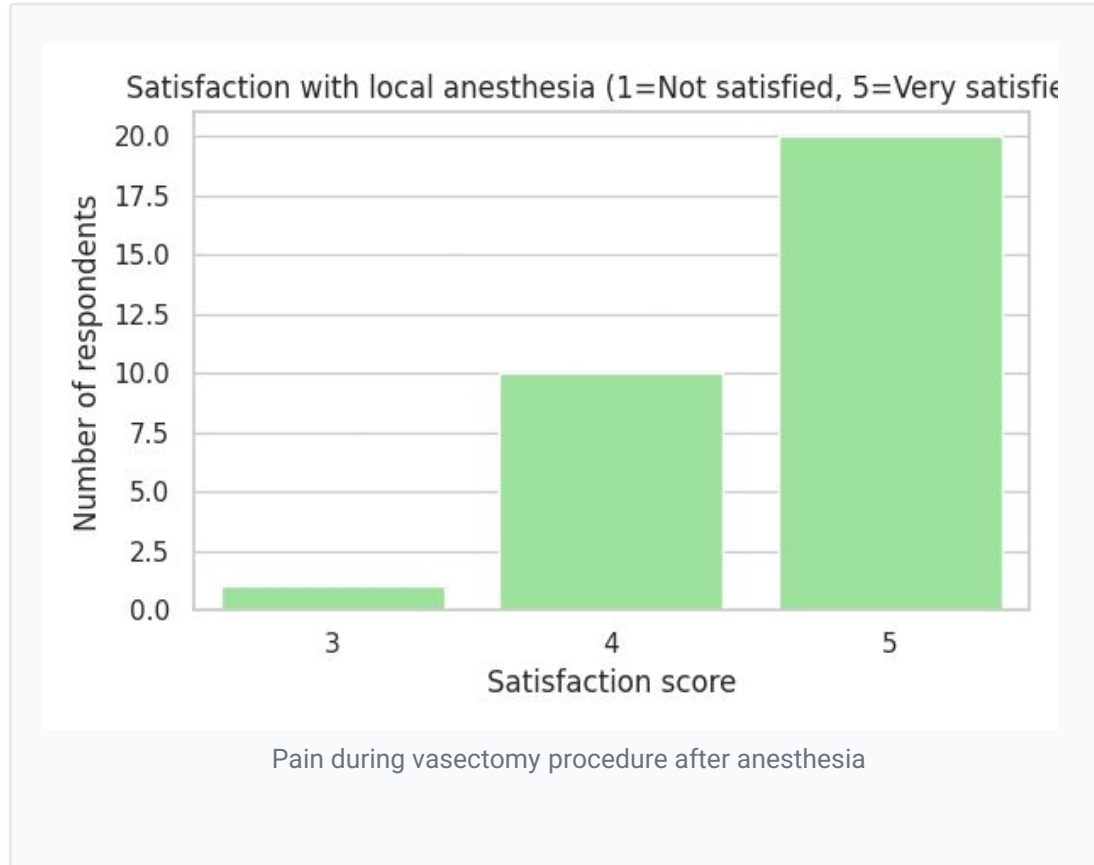
Some patients reported scores up to 7 during the injection phase



During procedure: Median pain score ~0 (IQR 0-1)

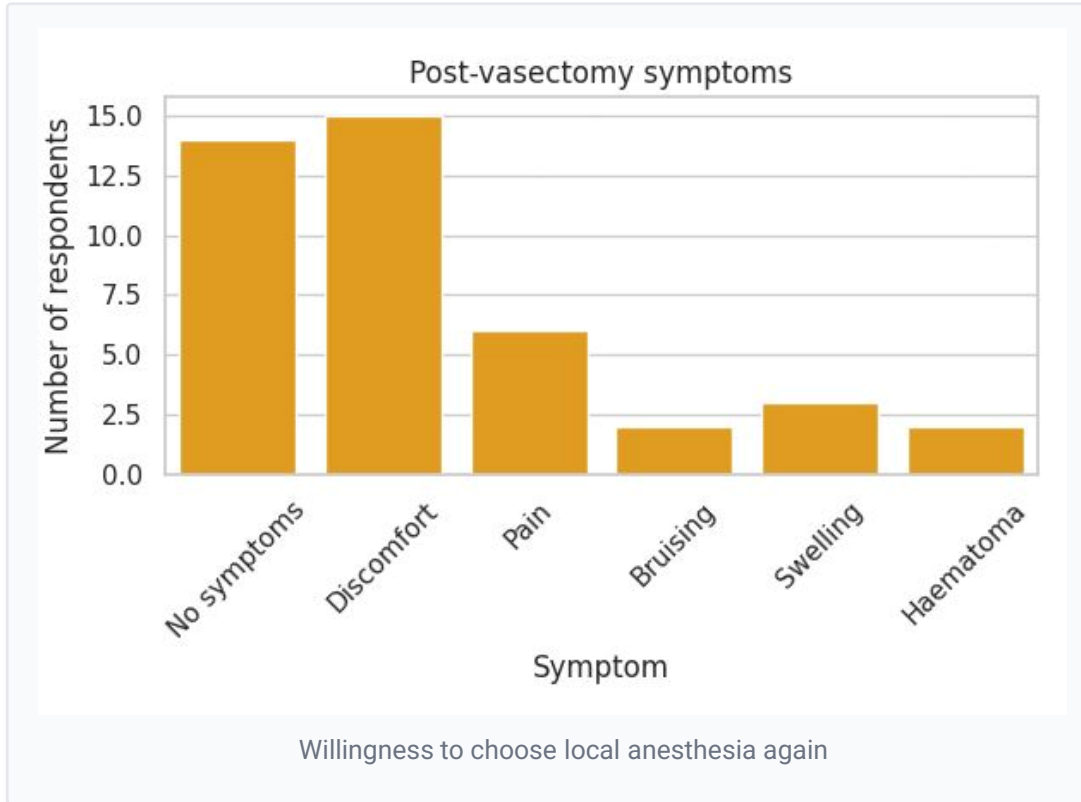
Majority experienced little to no pain during the actual procedure

Patient Satisfaction and Willingness to Repeat



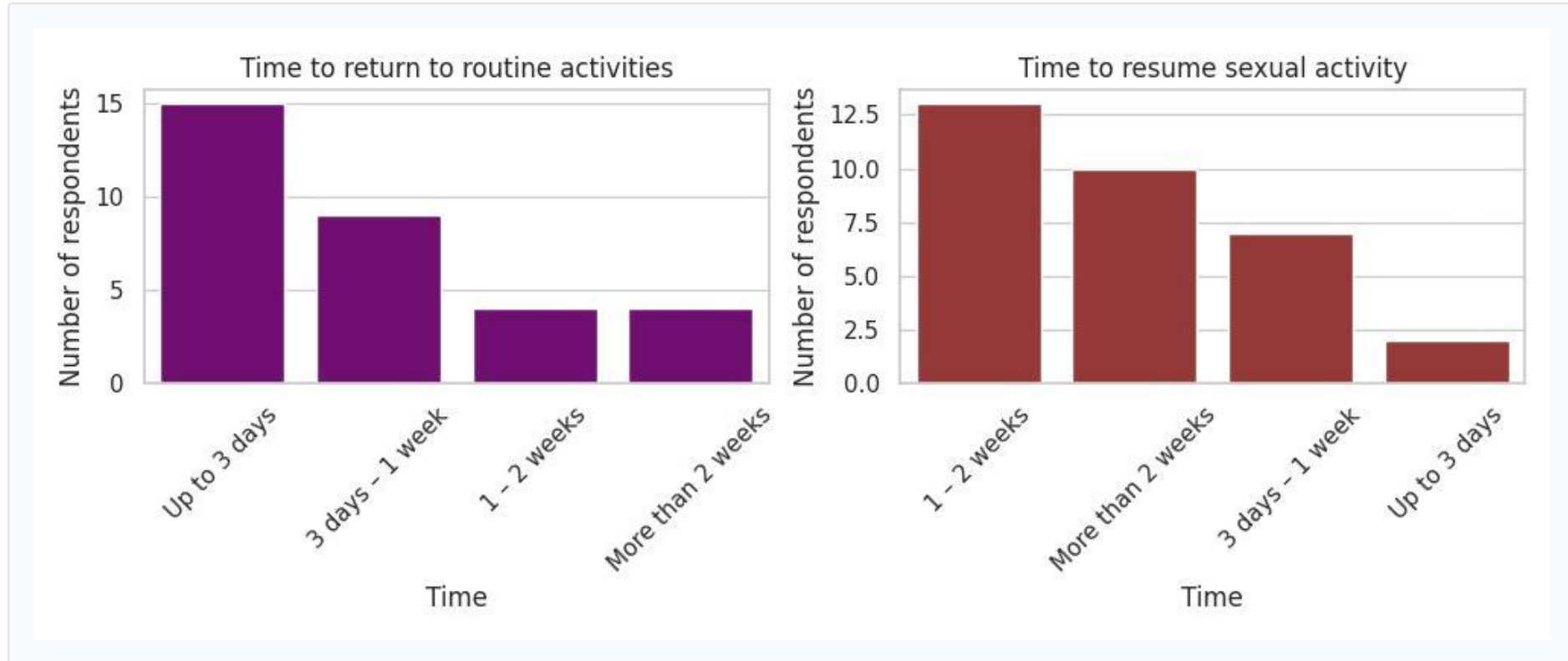
- ✔ High satisfaction ratings: 20 patients (63%) rated their experience as "very satisfied" (5/5), with 10 patients (31%) rating 4/5
- ✔ Strong preference for repeat: 26 patients (81%) would choose local anesthesia again for future procedures

Post-Operative Symptoms



- ✓ No symptoms reported by 14 patients (44% of respondents)
- ! Mild discomfort was the most common symptom (15 patients)
- 🩹 Pain requiring medication reported by only 6 patients (19%)
- 💧 Minimal complications: Low incidence of bruising (2), swelling (3), and hematoma (2)

Recovery Time After NSV Under Local Anesthesia



Return to Routine Activities

- ✓ ≤3 days: 15 respondents (47%)
- ✓ 3 days–1 week: 9 respondents (28%)
- ✓ 1–2 weeks: 4 respondents (13%)
- ✓ >2 weeks: 4 respondents (13%)

Resumption of Sexual Activity

- 📅 1–2 weeks: 13 respondents (41%)
- 📅 >2 weeks: 10 respondents (31%)
- 📅 3 days–1 week: 7 respondents (22%)
- 📅 ≤3 days: 2 respondents (6%)

Conclusions and Implications

- ✓ Feasibility: Local anesthesia for NSV is well-tolerated and highly acceptable in Israeli cohort
- ✓ Patient Outcomes: Minimal pain during procedure; recovery within ≤ 1 week for routine activities
- ✓ Satisfaction: 81% of participants (26/32) would choose local anesthesia again
- 💡 Clinical Recommendation: Local anesthesia can be standard practice; physician recommendation drives patient choice
- ➔ Future Directions: Develop patient education, optimize environment, reduce costs, improve access