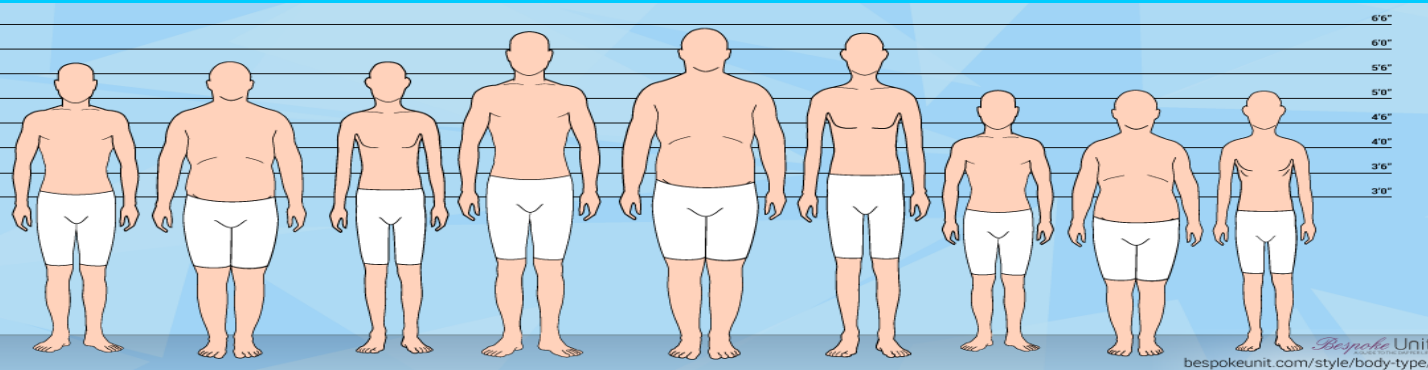


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Introduction

2. Healthcare Workers (HCW) have been found to be poor estimators of weight & height. ¹⁻⁷

3. There is, however, paucity of data relating to anaesthetists in this regard.

4. This study aimed at ascertaining anaesthetists' ability to accurately estimate the weight & height of healthy adult volunteers on visual inspection.

1. Anaesthetists use body weight & height routinely for a myriad of calculations.



Objectives

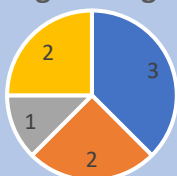
1. To ascertain anaesthetists' ability to accurately estimate weight & height of healthy adult volunteers on visual inspection.
2. Secondary objectives included calculating BMI & an intubating dose of rocuronium for the models, as well as determine if there were any differences in estimating abilities based on participant demography.

Methods

1. Study participants included members from the department of anaesthesiology at a tertiary academic hospital in South Africa.

2. Healthy adult volunteers, in a range of weight & height categories were used as models.

No. of models in different weight categories



■ <60kg ■ 60 - 80kg ■ 80 - 100kg ■ >100kg

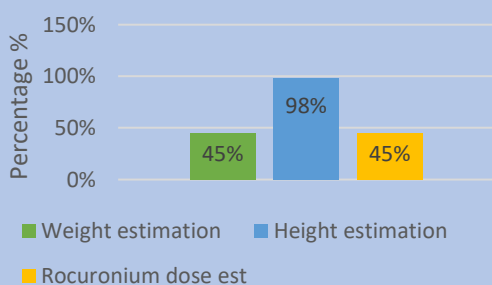
Participant Demography
n = 65



3. Data from 65 observations of 8 models were captured once a week, over a 4-week period in July 2022

Results

Average estimation to within 10% for all 8 models



Conclusion

Anaesthetists are poor estimators of weight, which correlates with research conducted on other HCWs.

Further research is required to determine the clinical significance of these error rates & to delineate an acceptable margin of error.

References

