

ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate how confident South African medical interns are to perform emergency medical procedures and to investigate how their experiences or demographic differences might influence these confidences. A transverse descriptive study using a cross sectional questionnaire was undertaken. A combination of the paper-based and electronic questionnaires were distributed to doctors currently performing their internship in South Africa. The data were analysed using a Fishers exact test and applying a Bonferroni correction where necessary. The study showed a high level of confidence in the majority of procedures studied and identified some points of influence on this confidence. The confidence of South African interns compares favourably with international colleagues at a similar qualification level.