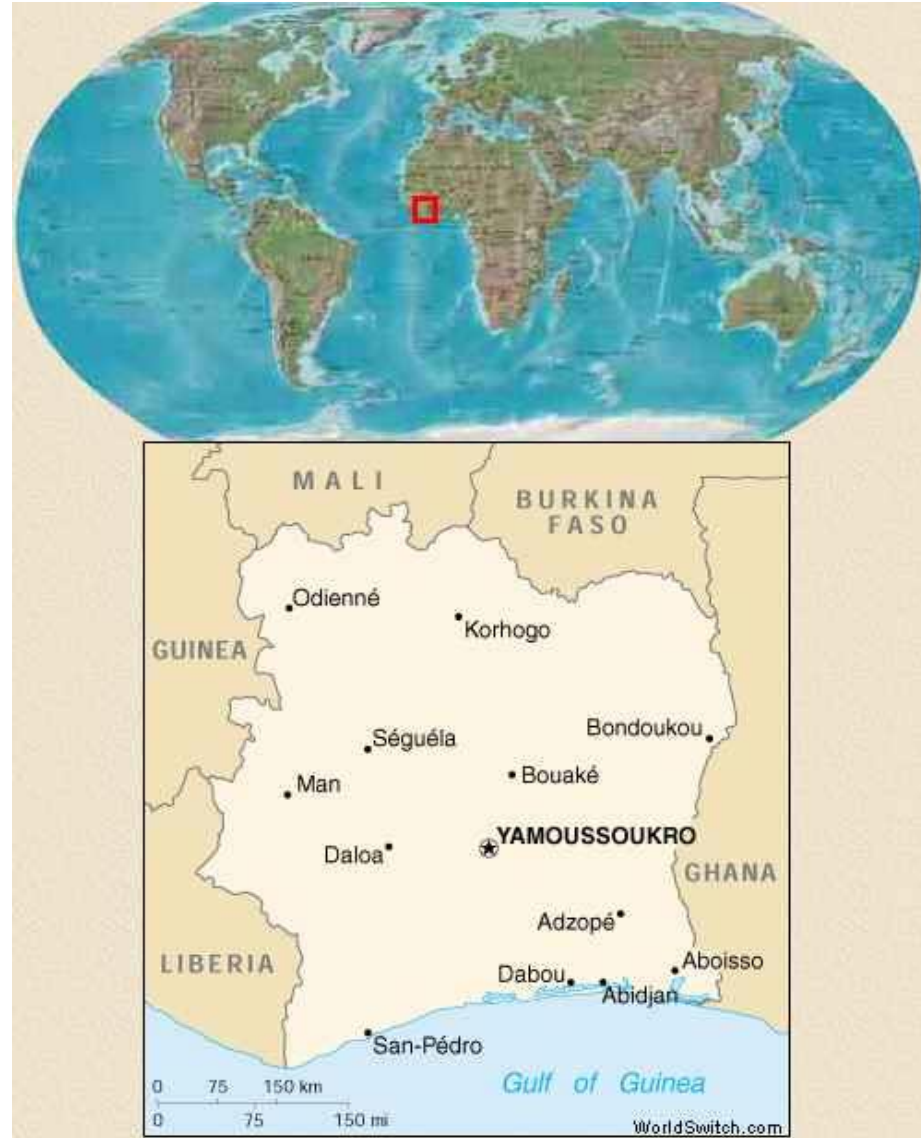

Surgical activities in the 2011 Ivorian conflict: who are the patients and what are their needs?

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Ivory Coast 2011

- Post-electoral conflict (Dec 2010-April 2011)
- Sporadic violence in West Ivory Coast
- Intensive fighting in Abidjan



Ivory Coast – MSF interventions

- Set-up of surgery and an emergency department
- Donation of medical supplies
- Support to primary health care, mobile clinics & nutritional support



MSF intervention – Surgery

Surgical care offered in:

Bangolo (West Ivory Coast)

(March-April 2011)

- Specifically for war wounded
- Referral for all other surgical cases

Nanan Yamouso and Port Bouet

(April-June 2011)

- All patients in need of surgery
-

Objectives

- To describe the pattern and caseload at the:
 - Emergency Department
 - Operating Department
- To compare the surgical burden of violent trauma with other pathologies



Methods

- **Study design:** retrospective analysis of aggregated data from the ED and individual OD registers
 - **Study sites:** the OCB health structures of the IC intervention
 - **Study period:** March-June 2011
 - **Study population:** all patients attending the ED and OD
-

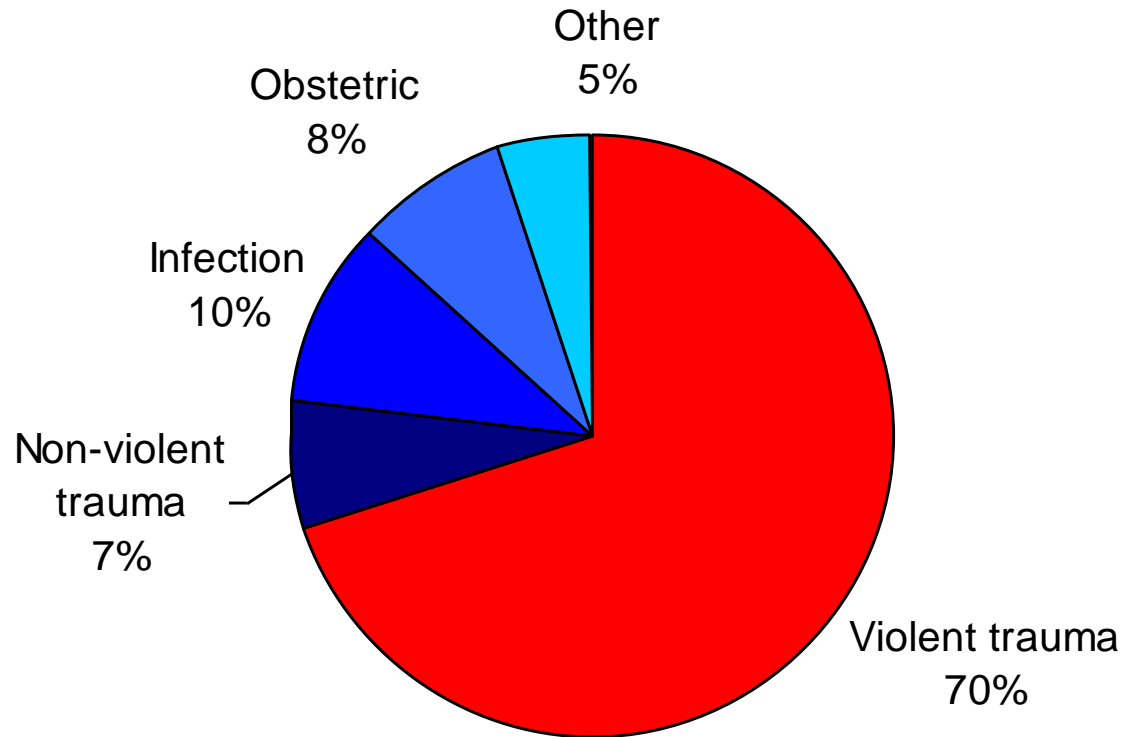
Results (1): Patient characteristics in OD

Bangolo and Abidjan

	Bangolo	Abidjan
Patients	60	971
Age ≥ 18	49 (82%)	879 (91%)
Gender: female	24 (40%)	626 (65%)
Military	11 (18%)	3 (0,3%)
No. surgical interventions	153	1,453

Results (2): Patient distribution - Bangolo

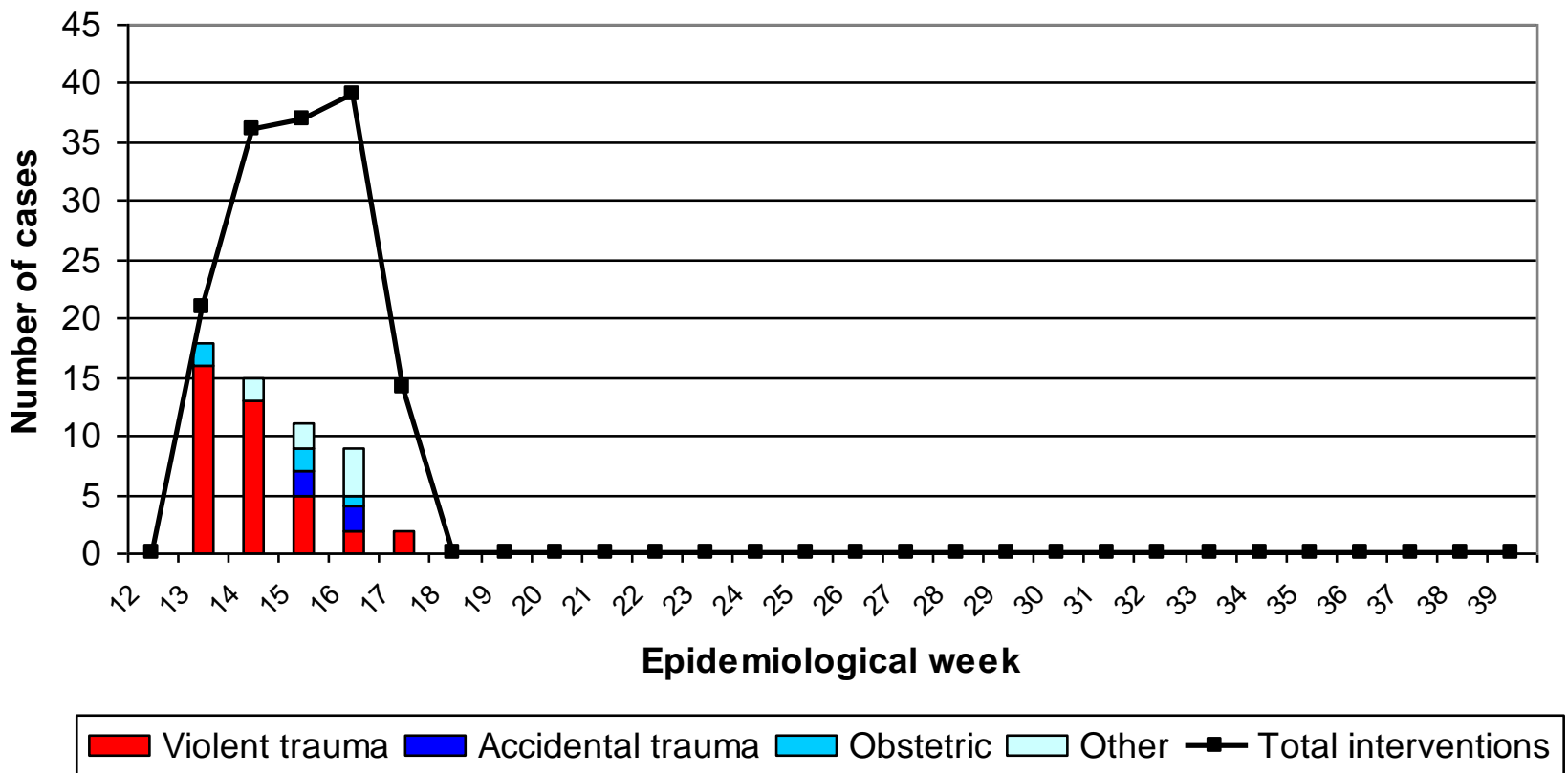
Bangolo OD patients - causes



n=60

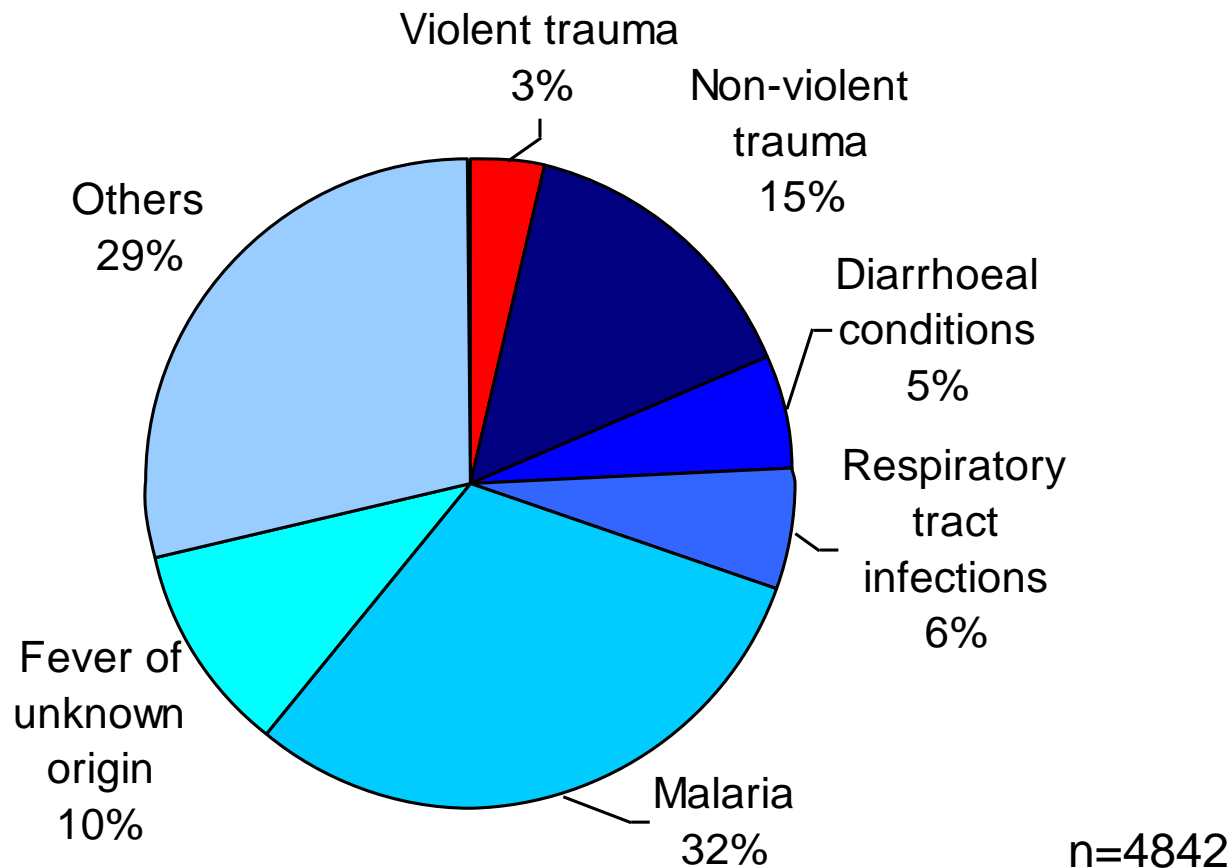
Results (3): Evolution of interventions - Bangolo

Ivory Coast surgery patients / interventions - Bangolo



Results (4): Patient characteristics in ED - Abidjan

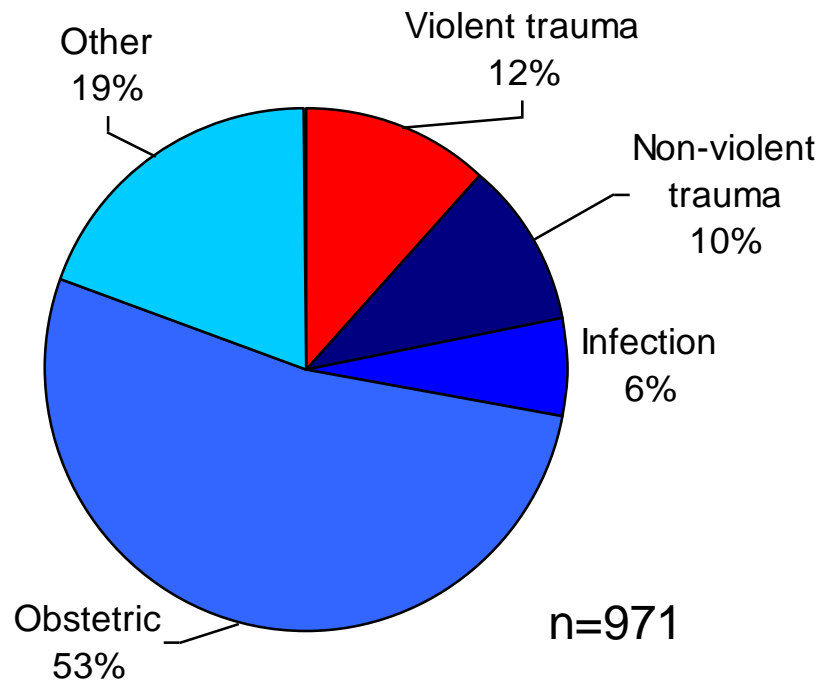
ED patients - Abidjan



Results (5): Patient distribution - Abidjan

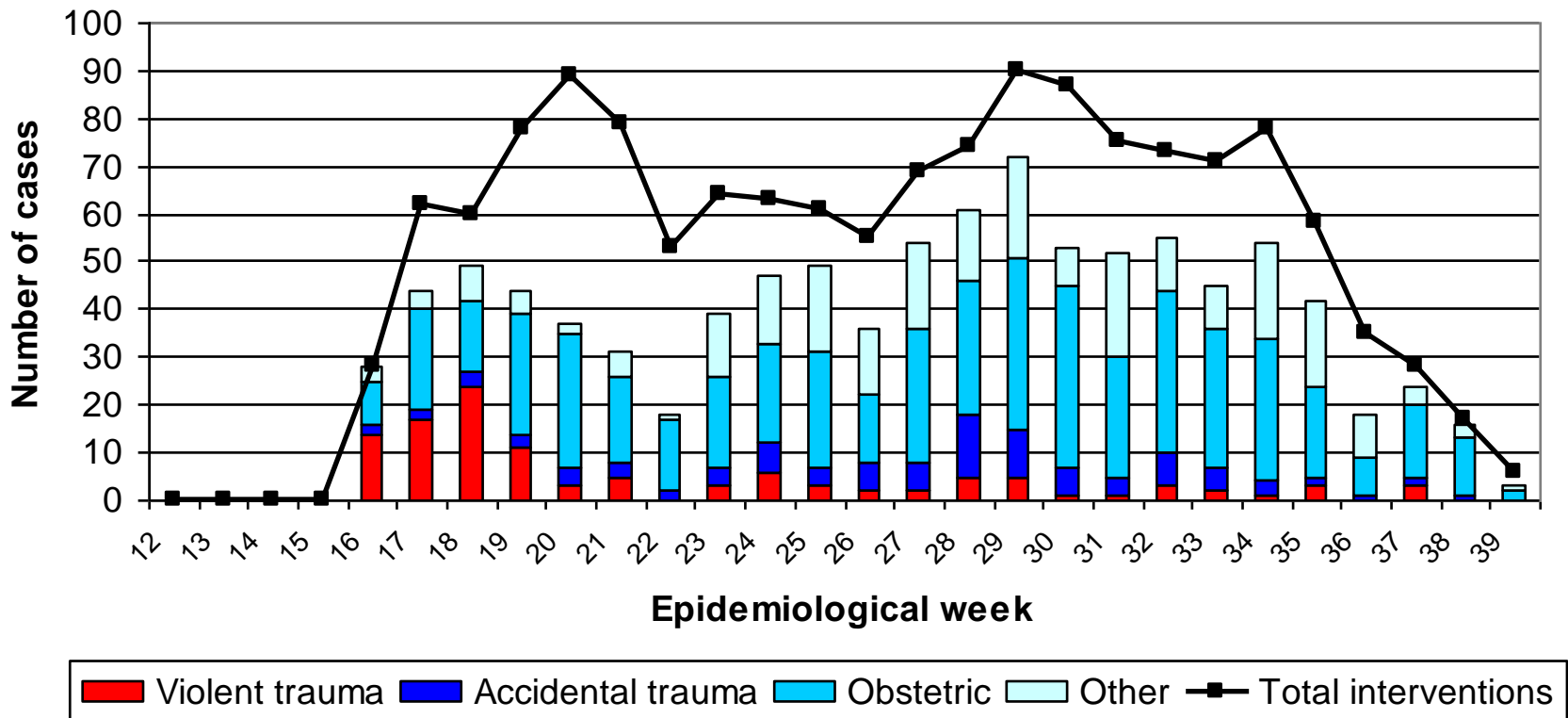
3% of the ED patients, i.e. 169, were due to violent trauma. 114 of these were operated in the OD

Abidjan OD patients - causes



Results (6): Evolution of interventions - Abidjan

Ivory Coast surgery patients / interventions - Abidjan



Results (7): OD violent trauma characteristics

	Violent trauma		Others*	
Patients	156		772	
Age ≥ 18	148	(95%)	694	(90%)
Gender: female	19	(12%)	597	(77%)
Patients without co-morbidity	137	(88%)	718	(93%)
Interventions	512		882	
Emergency surgery	107	(21%)	714	(81%)

*Non-violent trauma cases excluded

Conclusions and recommendations

In the Ivorian conflict

- Due to breakdown of referral systems, the morbidity pattern seen in the ED and OD is much broader than just “war wounded”
 - Individuals seeking MSF care (war wounded and others) tended to be civilians
 - Surgically focused interventions need to either provide referrals for non-war wounded cases, or be prepared to tackle these needs
-

Many thanks



To the emergency teams on the ground, the emergency pool at HQ, the Medical Department and the patients and beneficiaries of MSF
