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Preoperative Anxiety Analysis in Patients Undergoing Surgeries: A Comparative Study using Preoperative Counselling, Tablet Diazepam 10 Mg and Non-Counselled Patients

Anju Minj¹, Deepak M Kokane², S D Chauhan³, Surekha More⁴

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Abstract

Objectives: To compare the anxiety level of patients who have received pre-operative counselling, tablet Diazepam 10 mg previous night of surgery and patients who have neither received any anxiolytic medication nor pre-operative counselling, To monitor preoperative, intraoperative and post-operative pulse rate, blood pressure of study groups, to note the length of hospital, stay of the patient post operatively.

Methods: Three hundred ASA 1/2 patients admitted for elective surgical procedure requiring anesthesia were assigned into one of the three groups. •Group C =Pre-Operative counselling done, •Group D =Tab. Diazepam 10mg HS 1day prior to Surgery. •Group NC= Non-counselled patients.The study group C patients are counselled in respects of the type of anesthesia, operative procedure. The study group D is given tab. Diazepam 10 mg a night prior to surgery. The study group NC is neither given pre-operative counselling nor given tab Diazepam. They are non-counselled group.Data is collected by means of a questionnaire given to the patients in the form of Spielberger' state - Trait Anxiety Inventory scale (STAIS). The patients anxiety levels were measured.

Result: In our study the three groups had high STAIS score before surgery with normal baseline haemodynamic values. Patients who received counselling and tab. Diazepam pre operatively were haemodynamically stable during intra and post operative period and had a low to moderate anxiety score during post operative visit as compared to group NC which neither received pre operative counselling nor tab. Diazepam and had unstable pulse rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressureduring intra and post operative period. Their STAIS score after surgery remained high as compared to their pre operative score. Group C and D had mean hospital stay of 4.04 ± 0.65 to 4.75 ± 0.97 days which is less than group NC with mean hospital stay was 6.55 ± 0.67 days.

Conclusion: Lack of information related to possible pre-operation and post-operation conditions increases the anxiety level of patients. This causes intra operative instability in haemodynamic, post-operative emotional problems and thus increase hospital stay. Personal interview and previous night anxiolytic (Tab. Diazepam) are good at alleviating the anxiety throughout the perioperative period. Transfer of knowledge and information through counselling to be more effective in decreasing the anxiety and apprehension. It is more helpful in patients who are illiterate and who do not actively participate in the interview. Hence, a personal interview along with an anxiolytic previous night of surgery is a good option in allaying the anxiety.

This study has critically examined and found that preoperative patient education significantly reduces intra operative haemodynamic instability, postoperative anxiety and length of hospital stay. This study strongly recommends preoperative patient education so as to have better outcome, less morbidity and less healthcare cost.

Keywords: Pre operative anxiety analysis, Pre-operative counselling.

Introduction

Being healthy is defined not only at the absence of disease and disability, but also as a complete wellbeing in terms of physical, social and mental state. The continuity of the inner environment of the human organism is dependent on the individual's physiological and psychological balance. The main objective of health care is to provide maintenance of the state of health, by preserving the continuity of the inner environment and to help in restoring the balance lost in the state of illness.¹¹ People sometimes have to be hospitalized for the maintenance and continuity of their health.^{13,14} The process of hospitalization, regardless of the reason causes different reactions in different people, including adverse reaction such as anxiety, fear and depression.^{13,15}

The unfamiliar operating theatre makes surgery a potentially unpleasant experience causing high level of anxiety in patients.¹⁶ The prevalence of anxiety preoperatively in patients ranges from 11% to 80%.¹⁷ The patient feels anxiety as a result of the physical effects imposed by the disease as well by the change of environment imposed by hospitalization. These factors, which may cause anxiety in the hospitalized individual, include the anxiety of receiving painful treatment, being away from his/her family, losing his/her job, being in an alien environment and encountering unknown devices and procedures. The anxiety of undergoing an operation also feeds into the list of factors and constitutes a significant source of anxiety.²

Anxiety is defined as a state that emerges as a result of a response against threats that may disrupt bodily balance, or a failure in restoring the lost balance.²

Increased anxiety before surgery is associated with pathophysiological responses such as hypertension, dysrhythmias, increased requirements for post-operative analgesia and may cause patients to refuse planned surgery. By providing information about anesthesia patients feel more reassured.³

My objective is to determine whether the pre-operative visit by the anesthesiologist alleviates anxiety. I am comparing the efficacy of preoperative counselling v/s tab. Diazepam 10 mg previous night prior to surgery v/s non counselled patients.

Materials and Methodology

After Institutional Ethics Committee approval, valid informed and written consent is taken from

all the patient. Three hundred ASA grade I and II patients grouped into group C, D and NC.

Inclusion Criteria: Adults aged 18-60 years. Considering the age group to which the inventory scale could be applied and their ability to understand, have good comprehension skills and accepted under American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) grade I and II.

Exclusion Criteria

We excluded patients with a previous experience of Anesthesia and surgery, mentally challenged, deaf, mute and blind patients, paediatrics and geriatric age group and patients posted for emergency surgery. The patients were explained regarding the study and assigned into one of the three groups:

- Group C = Pre-Operative counselling done.
- Group D = Tab. Diazepam 10mg HS 1day prior to Surgery.
- Group NC = Non-counselled patients.

The pre anesthetic evaluation is performed one day before the surgery. The study group C patients are counselled in respects of the type of anesthesia, operative procedure. The study group D is given tab. Diazepam 10 mg a night prior to surgery. The study group is neither given pre-operative counselling nor given tab Diazepam. They are non-counselled group. Data is collected by means of a questionnaire given to the patients in the form of Spielberger' state - Trait Anxiety Inventory scale (STAI). The patients anxiety levels were measured.

Instrument

The STAI is a validated and widely used instrument to measure patient's anxiety. The STAI - state (STAI-S) form consist of 01-20 statements and the answers to these are used to determine a patient's current anxiety level. The STAI -Trait (STAI - T) form consists of a different set of 20 statements, and the answers to these are used to determine a patient's undergoing (Ongoing/Personality) anxiety level. Each statement in the STAI - S is rated on a four point scale for the subject's agreements with that statement (not at all, somewhat, moderately so, and very much so). This form is used at all time points of the study for both groups. This form used for each patient on entering the study. The overall score for STAI ranges from a minimum of 20 to maximum of 80. STAI scores are commonly classified as " no or low anxiety (20-37)", "moderate anxiety (38-44) and high anxiety (45-80).⁵

Self-evaluation questionnaire	STAI Form Y-1			
	1	2	3	4
1. I feel calm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I feel secure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I am tense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I feel strained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I feel at ease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I feel upset	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I am presently worrying over possible misfortunes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I feel satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I feel frightened	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I feel comfortable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. I feel self-confident	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. I feel nervous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. I am jittery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. I feel indecisive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. I am relaxed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. I feel content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. I am worried	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. I feel confused	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. I feel steady	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. I feel pleasant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1: Not at all, 2: Somewhat, 3: Moderately so, 4: Very much so

Table 1: Distribution of study population according to groups.

Group	Label	No. of patients
Group - C	Pre-operative Counselling	100
Group - D	Tab. Diazepam 10 mg HS 1 day prior to surgery	100
Group - NC	Non Counselling Patients	100

Table 2: Comparison of mean STAIS score pre-operatively and post operatively between and within groups.

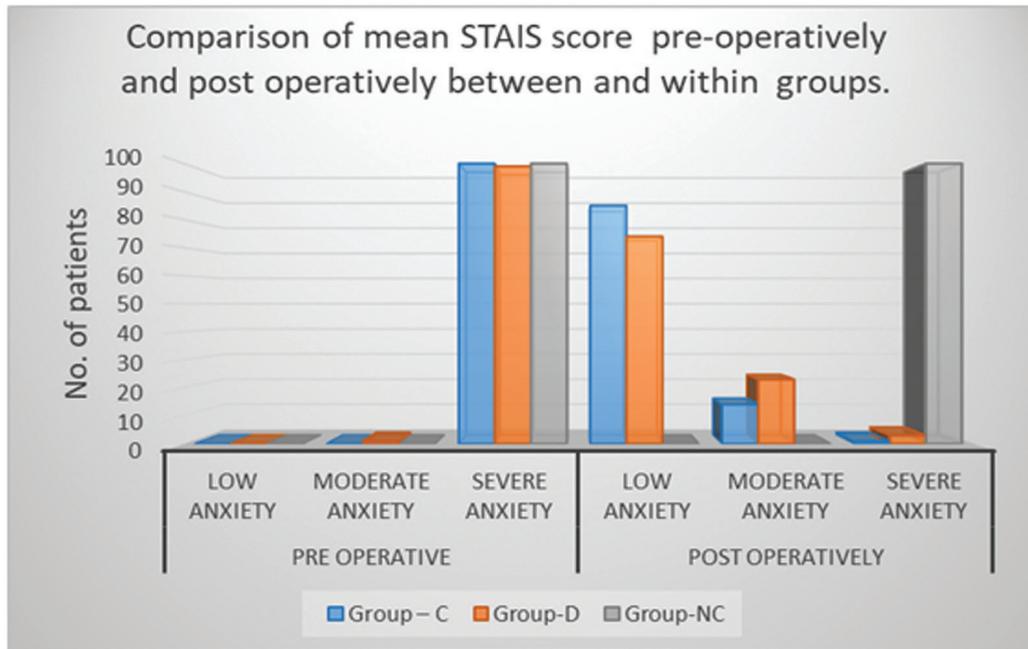
STAIS	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		p-value	
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Pre operative	Low anxiety	0	0	0	0	0	p=0.367,NS	
	Moderate anxiety	0	0	1	1.00	0		0
	Severe anxiety	100	100	99	99.00	100		100
Post operatively	Low anxiety	85	85.00	74	74.00	0	p<0.0001,HS	
	Moderate anxiety	14	14.00	23	23.00	0		0
	Severe anxiety	1	1.00	3	3.00	100		100

Self-evaluation questionnaire	STAI Form Y-2			
	1	2	3	4
21. I feel pleasant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. I feel nervous and restless	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. I feel satisfied with myself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. I wish I could be as happy as others seem to be	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. I feel like a failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. I feel rested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. I am "calm, cool, and collected"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. I feel that difficulties are piling up so that I cannot overcome them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. I worry too much over something that really doesn't matter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. I am happy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. I have disturbing thoughts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. I lack self-confidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33. I feel secure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34. I make decisions easily	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
35. I feel inadequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36. I am content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37. Some unimportant thought runs through my mind and bothers me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38. I take disappointments so keenly that I can't put them out of my mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
39. I am a steady person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40. I get in a state of tension or turmoil as I think over my recent concerns and interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1: Almost never, 2: Sometimes, 3: Often, 4: Almost always

Table 3: Comparison of mean STAIS score pre-operatively and post operatively between and within groups.

STAIS	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Pre operative	54.96	6.52	57.79	10.26	56.44	6.20	6.01	0.0028,HS
Post operatively	33.64	4.61	34.76	5.47	60.33	5.09	884.42	<0.0001,HS
t-value	29.62		21.7459		12.9175			
p-value	<0.0001,HS		<0.0001,HS		<0.0001,HS			



Result

We found that all the three groups had high STAIS score before surgery with normal baseline haemodynamic values. Patients who received counselling and tab. Diazepam pre operatively were haemodynamically stable during intra and post operative period and had a low to moderate anxiety score during post operative visit as compared to group NC which neither received pre-operative counselling nor tab. Diazepam and had unstable pulse rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure during intra and post operative period. Their STAIS score after surgery remained high as

compared to their pre operative score. Group C and D had mean hospital stay of 4.04 ± 0.65 to 4.75 ± 0.97 days which is less than group NC with mean hospital stay was 6.55 ± 0.67 days.

Statistical Analysis

Pre operatively in group C all subjects have severe anxiety, group D ninety-nine subjects have severe anxiety and one subject has moderate anxiety, group NC all subjects have severe anxiety. As compared to post operatively, group C has 85 subjects with low anxiety, 14 with moderate anxiety and 01 with severe anxiety. Group D has 74 subjects with low

Table. 4: Comparison of mean STAIS sore after surgery among 3 groups.

STAIS	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Change in STAIS score after surgery	21.32	7.19	24.03	11.05	-3.89	3.01	388.69	<0.0001,HS

Table. 5: Comparison of mean hospital stay in days among 3 groups.

Hospital stay in days	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Hospital stay in days	4.04	0.65	4.75	0.97	6.55	0.67	277.23	<0.0001,HS

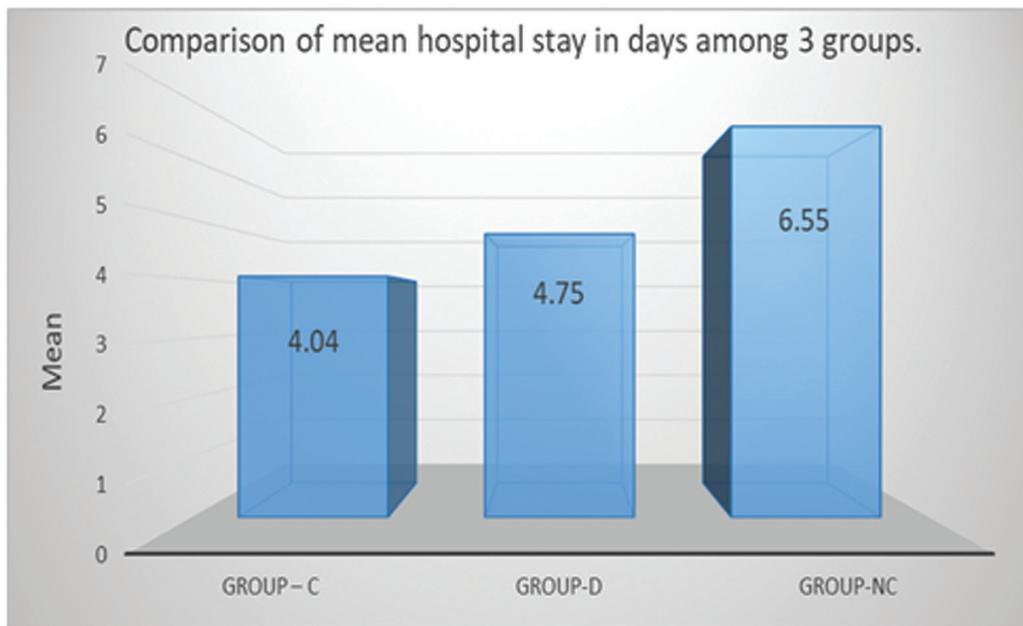
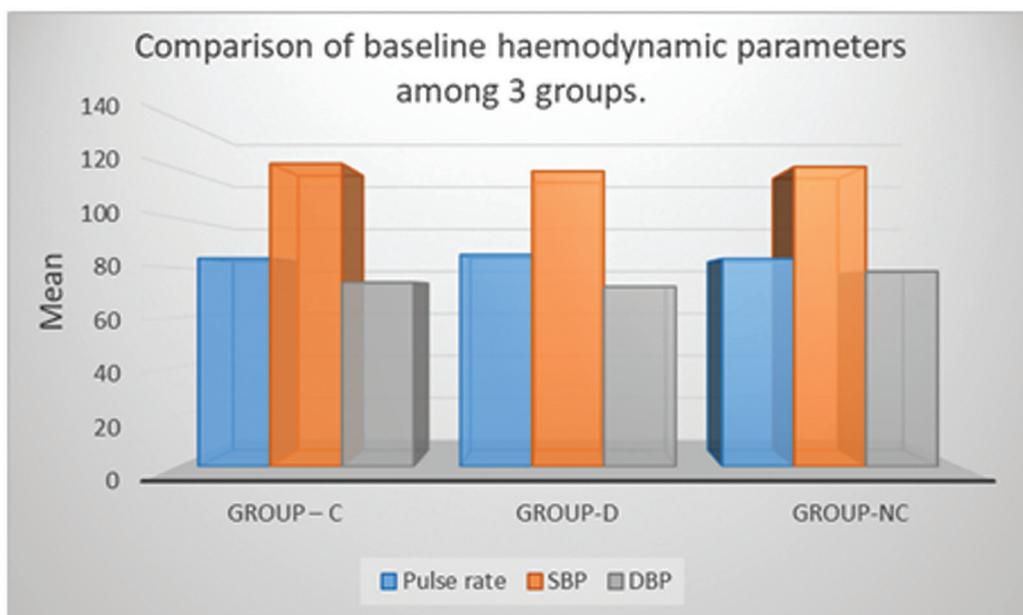


Table. 6: Comparison of baseline haemodynamic parameters among 3 groups.

Parameter	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Pulse rate	83.68	11.65	85.22	10.94	83.58	10.41	0.70	0.4992, NS
SBP	121.80	7.96	118.70	9.91	120.50	7.96	3.23	0.0409, S
DBP	74.1	6.21	72.30	7.08	78.50	8.08	19.79	<0.0001, HS



anxiety, 23 with moderate anxiety and 03 with severe anxiety. In group NC all (100) the subjects have severe anxiety. Pre operative p value is 0.367 which is not significant, post operative p value is < 0.0001 which is highly significant.

Group C and D showed a significant decrease in anxiety after counselling and taking tab. Diazepam previous night of surgery (p<0.0001) which is highly significant and the group NC had not much change in the STAIS score. Post operatively mean STAIS score of group C = 33.64, group D = 34.76, group NC = 60.33, p<0.0001 which is highly significant.

This graph shows the mean value of hospital stay among the 3 groups i.e. in group C = 4.04 ± 0.65, group D = 4.75 ± 0.97, group NC = 6.55 ± 0.67, p<0.0001 which is highly significant. Inference is group C which received counselling had less days

of hospital stay as compared to group D which received tab. Diazepam and group NC which neither received counselling nor tab. Diazepam.

This graph shows the baseline haemodynamic parameters among the 3 groups. The mean pulse rate in group C = 83.68 ± 11.65, group D = 85.22 ± 10.94, group NC = 83.58 ± 10.41 (p = 0.4992, not significant). The mean systolic blood pressure in group C = 121.80 ± 7.96, group D = 118.70 ± 9.91, group NC = 120.50 ± 7.96 (p = 0.0409, significant). The mean diastolic blood pressure in group C = 74.1 ± 6.21, group D = 72.30 ± 7.08, group NC = 78.50 ± 8.08 (p < 0.0001, highly significant). Inference there is not much fluctuation in baseline pulse rate among the 3 groups but there is change in systolic and diastolic blood pressure among the 3 groups which is significant.

Table. 7: Comparison of mean pulse rate among 3 groups at different time periods.

Time	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Baseline	83.68	11.65	85.22	10.94	83.58	10.41	0.70	0.4992,NS
Before intubation	94.84	11.17	94.46	8.91	97.72	7.81	3.59	0.0287,S
After 2 min intubation	104.08	11.30	91.80	9.95	109.44	7.30	87.46	<0.0001,HS
After 5 min intubation	106.06	8.95	97.96	9.51	114.48	7.21	91.90	<0.0001,HS
After 10 min intubation	106.76	7.57	102.64	8.60	117.64	7.93	92.67	<0.0001,HS
After 20 min intubation	104.16	7.01	100.80	7.84	120.60	7.93	183.39	<0.0001,HS
After 30 min intubation	101.20	7.63	96.84	7.85	123.96	9.70	297.10	<0.0001,HS
Post operatively	120.40	6.01	118.14	7.57	134.54	6.35	176.88	<0.0001,HS

Table. 8: Comparison of mean Systolic Blood Pressure among 3 groups at different time periods.

Time	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Baseline	121.80	7.96	118.70	9.91	120.50	7.96	3.23	0.0409,S
Before intubation	124.80	8.10	115.90	8.17	130.10	6.88	85.85	<0.0001,HS
After 2 min intubation	129.80	9.42	120.60	7.89	134.30	8.34	65.80	<0.0001,HS
After 5 min intubation	125.56	7.80	122.20	10.00	134.70	8.46	53.93	<0.0001,HS
After 10 min intubation	119.4	7.49	122.50	10.48	133.20	9.41	61.75	<0.0001,HS
After 20 min intubation	116.62	7.93	120.40	8.15	133.50	8.80	113.75	<0.0001,HS
After 30 min intubation	115.50	6.87	115.70	6.23	138	5.86	416.55	<0.0001,HS
Post operatively	130	5.86	130.28	5.90	148.5	7.96	254.19	<0.0001,HS

Mean baseline pulse rate of all the study groups are more or less same. Before intubation the mean pulse rate increases in group NC (97.72 ± 7.81) as compare to group C (94.84 ± 11.17) and group D (94.46 ± 8.91) $p = 0.0287$ which is significant. After 2 minutes of intubation mean pulse rate increases from its baseline value in group NC (109.44 ± 7.30) as compared to group C and D. After 5 minutes of intubation the mean pulse rate further increases in group NC (114.48 ± 7.21) as compared to group C and D. After 10,20,30 minutes of intubation the mean pulse rate is high in group NC as compared to group C and D, which means there is significant deflection in the mean pulse rate after intubation from its baseline in group NC as compared to group C and D. Post operatively the pulse rate is high in group NC as compared to group C and D, which shows that patients who received counselling in group C and tab. Diazepam in group D has almost stable pulse rate in intra operative period as compared to group NC which has a high margin of fluctuation in pulse rate intra operatively.

In group NC, after intubation to post operative period the blood pressure (systolic) showed significant rise which is highly significant as compared to group C and D.

In group NC, after intubation to post operative period the blood pressure (diastolic) showed significant rise which is highly significant as compared to group C and D.

Discussion

An anesthesiologist has a vital role to play by prescribing an adequate and appropriate premedication to make the patient quiet, restful, calm and mentally prepared for an uneventful

surgery. High levels of preoperative fear and anxiety correlate with various unfavourable outcomes, including increases in postoperative analgesic requirements, prolonged post-anesthesia care unit or hospital stays, and delayed negative psychological effects.²⁴

In view of the high incidence and associated adverse outcomes in some patient's groups, pharmacological (i.e., premedication) or psychological (counselling) steps may be considered.²⁴ Benzodiazepines are extensively used as oral premedication as they present the advantage of avoiding painful intravenous or intramuscular injections. They differ in their ability to relieve primary or secondary (e.g., situational) anxiety, act as anticonvulsants, provide muscle relaxation, and induce sedation.²⁴

The value of pre-operative visit by the anesthetist hardly needs monitoring. Benzodiazepines are now used mainly for treating acute anxiety states, behavioural emergencies and during procedures. They are also used as premedication before surgery (both medical and dental). Under these circumstances their anxiolytic, sedative and amnesic properties may be beneficial. Intravenous midazolam can be used to induce anesthesia. The main reasons for using sedative hypnotic premedication were allaying anxiety and providing sedation.²⁵

In order to avoid unnecessary anxiety, it is advisable that the patient who is to undergo surgery does not fear the upcoming procedure. The anesthesiologist's attention can greatly reduce anxiety even without using medicines.²⁶ It is important to also consider that there might be some consideration as to how detailed the information

Table. 9: Comparison of mean diastolic Blood Pressure among 3 groups at different time periods.

Time	Group - C		Group - D		Group - NC		F-value	p-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Baseline	71.4	6.21	72.30	7.08	78.5	8.08	19.79	<0.0001,HS
Before intubation	80.6	8.38	70.8	4.85	87.9	5.37	179.83	<0.0001,HS
After 2 min intubation	83.3	7.79	74.10	6.52	88.8	6.07	117.99	<0.0001,HS
After 5 min intubation	77.5	6.87	75.7	8.19	89.3	7.68	94.36	<0.0001,HS
After 10 min intubation	71.4	6.19	75.9	8.29	88.7	6.13	116.69	<0.0001,HS
After 20 min intubation	69.98	4.85	75.2	7.45	89.7	6.58	255.84	<0.0001,HS
After 30 min intubation	71.20	4.98	72.0	5.68	91.6	5.81	440.53	<0.0001,HS
Post operatively	85.4	5.20	83.4	6.69	94.1	4.94	100.68	<0.0001,HS

should be that is given to the patient. In a British study, 82% of patients who underwent surgery had expressed their desire to know more about the surgical procedure prior to surgery. In addition, the most desired piece of information was the estimated length of stay in the hospital.²⁷ In a Danish study, patients asked more about pain, anesthesia duration, and risk of impairment of daily activities and less about sedatives or complications.²⁸

Classic works by Hayward (1975) and Boore (1978)¹⁷ :

Demonstrated the benefits of preoperative patient education in the reduction of postoperative pain, stress, anxiety and infection.¹⁷

In this study, all the patients of group C were counselled in detail about the operative procedure which was going to be performed, the type of anesthesia to be given with its procedure, the type of pain patient may feel after surgery and about the complications of surgery if occurred.

In this study, the mean state anxiety score after surgery in group C was 33.64 ± 4.61 , which was significantly less ($P < 0.0001$ HS) as compare to group NC (non counselled) which had mean state anxiety score of 60.33 ± 5.09 ($P < 0.0001$ HS). And as compare to group D (Tab. Diazepam) which had mean state anxiety score of 34.76 ± 5.47 ($P < 0.0001$ HS).

In research carried out by Akkaş¹⁸, he found that education given to patients in preoperative period was found to reduce their anxiety level.

In another study by Asilioglu and Celik¹⁹ on the effect of pre-operative education on anxiety in open surgery patients, the anxiety level of the educated group was lower than the control group which was in accordance with this study.

Sjoling et al.²⁰ investigated the "effect of pre-operation information on anxiety level, post-operative pain and pain control satisfaction in patients with total knee arthroplasty". Lower scores of VAS values were recorded in all of the education groups compared to the control group, thus demonstrated that the experiment group reported less pain compared to the control group.

In a study by Karayurt²¹, which investigated the "effect of different pre-operative education programs on the anxiety and pain levels of patients", the patients in the group that had received routine care reported the highest level of pain. Pain levels were lowest in the group that had received education which was in accordance with

this study.

Giraudet-Le Quintrec et al compared the impact of a collective multidisciplinary standardized information session with that of the usual verbal information on pre-operative and postoperative anxiety of patients scheduled for total hip arthroplasty. The intervention group was significantly less anxious preoperatively ($P = 0.01$), experienced significantly less pain postoperatively ($P = 0.04$) and stood sooner ($P = 0.07$) than the control group. The findings support attending an educational programme, as it reduced preoperative anxiety, and better prepared the patients to cope with postoperative pain.

In this study the mean length of hospital stay in the study group C was 4.04 ± 0.65 as compared to group NC which was 6.55 ± 0.67 , group D which was 4.75 ± 0.97 , this was found to be statistically highly significant ($P < 0.0001$ HS).

Spalding compared a group of patients who had attended a preoperative education programme with a control group who had not. The results showed that the experimental group had a mean of 4 days less hospitalization than the control group which was in accordance with this study. Engelman RM mentioned the role of preoperative education of the patient on early discharge from the hospital.²²

Aysegul Bayrak et al. J Coll Physicians Surg Pak. 2019 Sep. did a study on effects of preoperative anxiety on intraoperative hemodynamic and found that preoperative anxiety causes hemodynamic problems in the intraoperative period, increased analgesic needs and lower postoperative satisfaction of the patients in the postoperative period. It would be better to dispel the preoperative anxiety by counselling patient regarding anesthesia and surgery.

In this study the mean baseline pulse rate in group C 83.68 ± 11.65 , group D 85.22 ± 10.94 , group NC 83.58 ± 10.41 ($P = 0.4992$ NS), before intubation P value is 0.0287 which is significant, after 2 min. of intubation, 5 min, 10 min, 20 min, 30 min and post operatively $P < 0.0001$ which is highly significant. That means baseline pulse rate is almost same in all the study groups but before intubation the mean pulse rate in group NC is 97.72 ± 7.81 which is higher than group C and D Inference is non counselled patients had higher pulse rate before intubation from their baseline value and after 2 min, 5 min, 10 min, 20 min, 30 min of intubation and post operatively mean pulse rate of group NC is 109.44 ± 7.30 , 114.48 ± 7.21 , 117.64 ± 7.93 , 120.60

± 7.93 , 123.96 ± 9.70 , 134.54 ± 6.35 which is also higher than group C and D. Inference is patients who received pre operative counselling and tab. Diazepam had stable pulse rate intra operative and post operatively as compared to group NC where patients were not counselled before surgery and had unstable pulse rate intra operatively and post operatively. The findings are same with systolic blood pressure and diastolic blood pressure.

Conclusion: Lack of information related to possible pre-operation and post-operation conditions increases the anxiety level of patients. This causes intra operative instability in haemodynamic, post-operative emotional problems and thus increase hospital stay. Personal interview and previous night anxiolytic (Tab. Diazepam) are good at alleviating the anxiety throughout the perioperative period. Transfer of knowledge and information through counselling to be more effective in decreasing the anxiety and apprehension. It is more helpful in patients who are illiterate and who do not actively participate in the interview. Hence, a personal interview along with an anxiolytic previous night of surgery is a good option in allaying the anxiety.

This study has critically examined and found that preoperative patient education significantly reduces intra operative haemodynamic instability, postoperative anxiety and length of hospital stay. This study strongly recommends preoperative patient education so as to have better outcome, less morbidity and less healthcare cost.

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Anesthetic Management in a Patient with Recurrent Pituitary Macroadenoma

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Abstract

Introduction: Tumours of the pituitary gland and sellar region represent 10-15% of all brain tumours. Pituitary macroadenoma is the most common suprasellar mass in adults and is the commonest indication for transnasal trans-sphenoidal hypophysectomy.

Case Report: A 41-year-old patient presented with right-sided loss of vision and right-sided headache for 3 months and posted for the Transnasal Trans-sphenoidal hypophysectomy. The patient previously underwent a similar surgery for an invasive non-functioning pituitary adenoma 2.5 years back. He is a known hypothyroid, with normal vitals and class III Mallampati. The possibility of a difficult airway was considered because of the enlarged tongue. Other system examinations were normal. The hemogram and biochemistry measurements were normal. MRI brain showed a mass lesion measuring 5.2 x 5.6 x 4.7 cm in the sellar, supra, and parasellar regions. We were prepared for all the intraoperative complications of pituitary macroadenoma that can happen.

Difficult airway cart was made available. 18-gauge IV cannula secured. Pre-oxygenated and premedicated with IV Glycopyrrolate 0.01mg/Kg and IV Fentanyl 2 mcg/Kg. Induced with Propofol 2mg/Kg, checked ventilation and Vecuronium 0.1mg/Kg was administered. Intubated with 8.5 mm cuffed endotracheal tube using Video laryngoscope. Right Subclavian vein cannulated and Invasive BP monitored through Radial artery cannulation. Anesthesia was maintained with Oxygen-Nitrous oxide, Isoflurane, Vecuronium, and Dexmedetomidine infusion. The patient was hemodynamically stable throughout the procedure. At the end of the procedure, reversal was given and extubated after ensuring adequate recovery.

Conclusion: Appropriate assessment before anesthesia and perioperative adequate monitoring and preparation are important in the management of anesthesia of patients with pituitary macroadenoma.

Keywords: Anesthetic concerns in pituitary adenoma, Neurosurgical Anesthesia, Pituitary Tumours, Pituitary Macroadenomas.

Key Messages: Patients coming for recurrent pituitary macroadenoma need appropriate preoperative assessment and perioperative anesthesia management. This surgery requires a multidisciplinary team that includes an anesthesiologist, an endocrinologist, a neurosurgeon and a radiologist for better patient care and outcome. We are presenting a case report of recurrent pituitary macroadenoma and its successful management.

Introduction

The most frequent suprasellar mass in adults is pituitary macroadenomas. Pituitary macroadenomas are twice as common as Pituitary microadenomas and are characterised as Pituitary adenomas larger than 10 mm in size. The most usually done procedure is transnasal transsphenoidal pituitary surgery, which is caused by increased or decreased hormone output. A case of pituitary macroadenoma with subjective visual disturbance and a difficult airway was presented for transnasal transsphenoidal tumour removal.

Case Report

A 41-year-old man presented with a right-sided headache and vision loss on the right side. He has been diagnosed as hypothyroid and is receiving treatment on a regular basis. The vital signs were in the usual range. A check of the airway revealed normal teeth and an enlarged tongue. Mallampati was in the third grade. The results of systemic checks and routine blood tests were normal. Hormonal testing revealed adequate levels of growth hormone and other pituitary hormones. The X-ray of the chest was normal. The ECG showed a sinus rhythm. The

ejection fraction on an echocardiogram was normal. In the sellar, suprasellar, and parasellar regions of the brain, an MRI (fig. 1 & 2) revealed a mass lesion measuring 5.2 x 5.6 x 4.7 cm. Opinions were sought from cardiology, pulmonology, endocrinology, and ophthalmology, among other disciplines.

The patient was scheduled for elective transnasal transsphenoidal tumour excision under American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) physical status 3 after a preoperative workup. General anesthesia with controlled breathing and intensive monitoring was the anesthetic plan. Informed consent, as well as consent for invasive lines and postoperative ventilation, was obtained. Fasting recommendations, as well as anti-aspiration and anticonvulsant prophylaxis, were followed prior to surgical procedure. A big bore 18G intravenous line was secured in the pre-operative room on the day of operation. Intravenous (IV) Glycopyrrolate 0.01 mg/kg was used to premedicate the patient. The patient was moved into the operating room and pre-induction monitors such as ECG, Non-Invasive Blood Pressure, and SpO₂ were connected. 100% oxygen was administered. Analgesia was augmented with 2 mcg/kg IV Fentanyl.¹

MRI BRAIN PLAIN

Protocol: *Multiphase T1, T2, FLAIR, DWI and SWI sequences through brain.*

Clinical data: *Post-operative day 1 of endoscopic transnasal transsphenoidal approach for pituitary macroadenoma. Nasal packing seen in right nasal cavity.*

OBSERVATIONS:

SELLA, SUPRASELLAR & PARASELLAR REGIONS:

A fairly well-defined, lobulated, T1 / T2 / FLAIR heterogeneously isointense lesion is seen involving the sellar, supra & parasellar regions, measuring ~ 5.2 x 5.6 x 4.7 cm (AP x TR x CC) demonstrating restricted diffusion on DWI and multiple blooming foci on SWI – *suggestive of hemorrhage.*

Anteriorly, the lesion is mildly compressing the inferior frontal gyri & is causing obliteration of right optic canal, however, visualised intraconal segment of the optic nerve and rest of the orbit appears normal. Left orbit appears normal. Bilateral optic tracts & bilateral proximal anterior cerebral arteries flow voids are not visualised.

Posteriorly, the lesion is causing obliteration of the prepontine cistern & displacing brain stem with mass effect on the fourth ventricle and the cerebellum. The lesion is encasing the basilar artery with maintained flow voids. There is mild narrowing of aqueduct of Sylvius. However, there is no evidence of hydrocephalus & rest of the ventricular system appears normal.

Laterally, the lesion infiltrating bilateral cavernous sinuses with complete encasement of cavernous segment of bilateral internal carotid arteries. However, flow voids are normal.

Superiorly, the lesion is extending upto the floor of third ventricle. Optic chiasma not visualised.

Inferiorly, the lesion is extending to sphenoid sinus, bilateral posterior ethmoid sinus and the

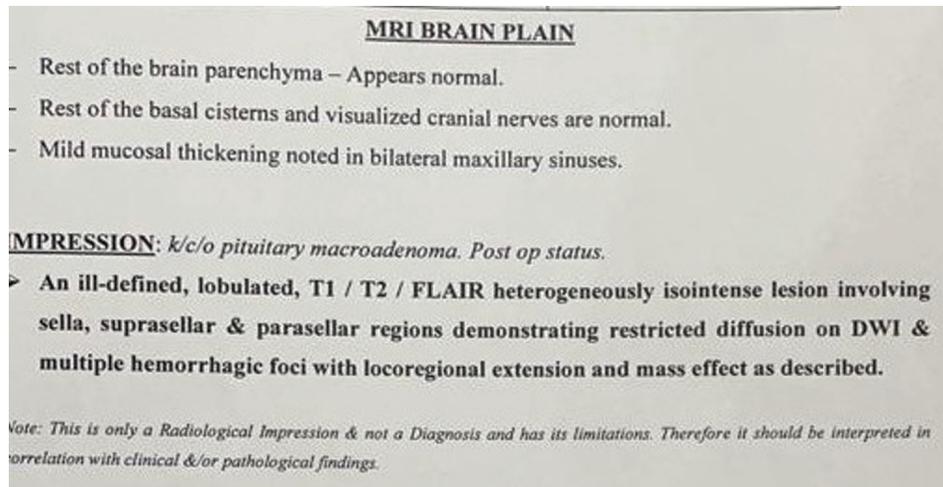


Fig. 1: MRI Brain Plan

Propofol 2 mg/kg was used for induction and Vecuronium 0.1 mg/kg was administered. Intubation was performed using Video Laryngoscopy and an 8.5 mm cuffed endotracheal tube (ETT) that was secured. Capnography was used to confirm ETT's position. Packing of the throat was completed. Cannulation of the left radial artery was performed, and invasive blood pressure was measured. Oxygen-nitrous oxide, isoflurane, vecuronium, and dexmedetomidine infusions were used to maintain anesthesia. After intubation, the right subclavian vein was cannulated and the CVP was monitored. Urinary bladder catheterization was performed, and urine production was monitored. Analgesia was augmented with IV paracetamol intraoperatively, the anticonvulsant dose was repeated, and Hydrocortisone 100mg IV injection was given. Throughout the surgery, the patient's hemodynamics remained stable. The throat pack was removed at the end of the surgery, and reversal was administered. After confirming appropriate recovery, the patient was extubated. The patient was observed in the intensive care unit for 48 hours after surgery. On the 12th day, the patient was discharged.

Discussion

Pituitary tumours account for 10% of all intracranial tumors. The pituitary gland is 15 × 10 mm in size and weighs 0.5 to 0.9 grams.¹ The gland is located in the sella turcica, which is located near the base of the skull. The pituitary tumor's clinical appearance can be related to either decreased hormone secretion or bulk effects.

An understanding of neurosurgical elements of anesthesia in general, and pituitary illness in particular, is required for anesthetic management.

The pathophysiology of hormonal changes caused by pituitary dysfunction may have a substantial impact on the surgical result. Anesthesiologist's biggest challenges are peripheral venous access and invasive monitoring.

The goal of anesthesia should be to provide hemodynamic stability, appropriate cerebral oxygenation, and a normal intracranial pressure.² Due to their huge tongues, anesthesiologists have trouble with mask breathing, laryngoscopy, and intubation. In acromegaly patients, a comprehensive examination of the airway is required.³ Prognathism can be caused by coarse facial characteristics and bone enlargement.⁴ As a result, fiberoptic intubation is the gold standard for airway securing. Nasal blockage caused by post-procedure nasal packing must be explained to the patient.⁵ Persistent CSF rhinorrhea and the possibility of postoperative meningitis, panhypopituitarism, temporary DI, vascular damage, cranial nerve injury, cerebral ischemia, and stroke as a result of vasospasm or thrombosis are all risks associated with the trans sphenoidal technique.⁶ Anticonvulsant prophylaxis is required.

Positioning during surgery is crucial, as sitting postures increase the risk of air embolism. Blood pressure must be measured intra-arterially.⁷ Permissive hypercapnia with a PaCO₂ of 60 mmHg is useful for increasing ICP and allowing the suprasellar component of the tumour to shift into the sella for easier surgical removal.⁸ It's also important to keep track of your glucose levels throughout surgery. Unless there is an injury to a major arterial, such as the carotid artery, there is very little blood loss during trans sphenoidal surgery. The cranial nerves II through VI, the optic nerve or chiasma, and the venous sinuses are all

likely to be injured intraoperatively. Anosmia is caused by impairment to the olfactory nerves.

After the tumour removal, the sella is packed with autologous fat to prevent CSF leak and the Valsalva manoeuvre is performed to check for any CSF leak⁹. Intraoperatively and postoperatively, enough analgesia should be supplied. The throat pack must be removed with caution near the end of the surgery. The transition from anesthesia should be painless, with no coughing or bucking. Due to the restricted airway, there is an increased risk of airway compromise after surgery¹⁰. Consciousness, eye movements, and visual fields must all be evaluated on a regular basis¹¹. Neuroendocrine disorders are very prevalent. In all patients, hormone replacement treatment is required. Steroids will be gradually reduced. Endocrinologists must be contacted about the patient's hormonal status, and regular follow-up is required.¹²

Conclusion

Pituitary surgery is performed by a multidisciplinary team that includes an endocrinologist, a neurosurgeon, a radiologist, and an anesthesiologist for better patient care and outcomes. It is necessary to optimise the patient's preoperative condition based on comorbid illnesses. Early neurological examination can reveal major surgical problems, thus a quick recovery from anesthesia is critical. Patients must have long-term follow-up with endocrinologists to assess their hormonal condition.

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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Continuous Spinal is Safe in a Patient with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome for Hysterectomy

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Abstract

Introduction: Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW) is an uncommon cardiac disorder where there is an abnormal band of atrial tissue that connects atria and ventricles. Continuous spinal anesthesia is preferred to avoid multidrug administration and stimulus due to laryngoscopy.

Case Report: A 47 yrs old female, known case of WPW syndrome was posted for hysterectomy. Pre-anesthetic evaluation was done. A 12 lead ECG was done which showed left axis deviation, short PR interval and delta waves. The 2D - Echo showed thickened MV leaflets with grade-1 MR with normal LV systolic function and EF of 60%.

The case was planned to be taken under continuous spinal anesthesia. The Anti-Arrhythmic drugs and Defibrillator were kept ready. Intermittent boluses of Inj. Bupivacaine (H) 0.5% was given through catheter to achieve sensory and motor blockade. Inj. Fentanyl 25mcg was given at the end of the procedure as analgesic dose. Intra operative vitals were stable. Postoperative period was uneventful.

Conclusion: Patient with WPW Syndrome can be managed successfully by continuous spinal anesthesia technique which uses low dose of anesthetic helps in maintaining cardiovascular stability intraoperatively and duration can be extended if surgery is prolonged.

Keywords: Continuous Spinal Anesthesia, WPW Syndrome, Ventricular Tachycardia.

Key Messages: Hemodynamic changes can occur with WPW syndrome with arrhythmias. This can be avoided with definitive treatment like Radiofrequency ablation. Our patient came with WPW Syndrome with stable hemodynamics so continuous spinal anesthesia can offer stable hemodynamics with minimum use of local anesthetics. We are reporting a case of WPW Syndrome with successful anesthetic management.

Introduction

Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW) is an uncommon cardiac disorder where there is an abnormal band of atrial tissue that connects atria and ventricles which can electrically bypass the atrioventricular node. The anesthetic management in these patients is challenging because of complications such as paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia and atrial fibrillation. Continuous spinal anesthesia is preferred compared to general anesthesia to avoid multidrug administration and stimuli due to laryngoscopy. We report successful anesthetic management of Wolff-Parkinson-white syndrome in patient posted for hysterectomy.

Case Report

A 47-year-old female who is a known case of WPW syndrome came with a history of abnormal uterine bleeding for 5 months, was scheduled for vaginal hysterectomy. The patient had breathlessness and sweating 6 years back for which she had taken treatment for one and half years and stopped. Presently, the patient was asymptomatic and with good effort tolerance. There is no history of breathlessness, syncope, dizziness and chest pain on pre-anesthetic evaluation. The patient was newly diagnosed hypertensive and was started on *Tab. Metoprolol* Extended Release 12.5 mg OD and *Tab. Telmisartan* 20mg OD from the past 15 days before surgery. Her blood pressure was 140/90mmhg and her pulse rate was 72bpm. Her physical examination was normal. All laboratory investigations were in the normal range. A 12 lead Electrocardiogram was done which showed a rate of 88/min, left axis deviation, short PR interval (0.08 sec), delta waves (slurred upstroke of QRS), indicative of WPW pattern with an accessory pathway in coronary sinus as per Arruda classification. The 2D - Echocardiography showed thickened MV leaflets with grade-1 MR with normal LV systolic function and an Ejection fraction of 60%.

The patient was explained about spinal anesthesia and consent was taken. *Tab Alprazolam* 0.5mg and *Tab Ranitidine* 150mg was given on the previous night and morning on the day of surgery. Nil per oral maintained. The case was planned to be taken under continuous spinal anesthesia. 18G IV cannula was secured and preloading was done with Ringer lactate. The anti-arrhythmic drugs (*Inj. Amiodarone*, *Inj. Adenosine*, *Inj. Lignocaine*) and defibrillator were kept ready. Electrocardiogram (lead II), Pulse oximeter (SpO₂), and non-invasive blood pressure (NIBP) monitoring were done. L1 - L2 intervertebral space was identified. Under aseptic precautions, Lumbar puncture was done

with 18G Tuohy's needle in L1 - L2 space and after looking for backflow of CSF, the catheter was inserted and fixed at 9cm. *Inj. Bupivacaine*(H) 0.5% was given through catheter after confirming backflow of CSF and sensory and motor blockade was achieved till T8. At hourly intervals 1cc and 0.4cc dosage of drug was given to achieve sensory and motor blockade. Vaginal hysterectomy was converted to total abdominal hysterectomy. *Inj. Fentanyl* 25mcg was given at the end of the surgery as analgesic dose. Surgery lasted for almost 3 hours and intraoperative vitals were stable. Patient was then shifted to recovery room and was under observation for half an hour. Patient was then shifted to post-operative ward. *Inj. Paracetamol* 1g sos was given as analgesia in 1st 24 hours. Postoperative period was uneventful.

Discussion

Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome is ventricular pre-excitation syndrome which results from an aberrant conduction pathway. The incidence is 0.9-3%. The risk of sudden death in these patients due to malignant arrhythmia is estimated to be around 0.4%/ year. Pre excitation can be due to associated mitral valve prolapse, congenital heart diseases and cardiomyopathies. Diagnosis will be done by history of anxiety, palpitations, angina, anxiety, fatigue and characteristic ECG changes.¹ Common life-threatening arrhythmias can occur that is atrial fibrillation which can lead to Ventricular fibrillation and Ventricular tachycardia or Paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia.²

In this regional anesthesia is preferred because it prevents use of multiple drugs and sympathetic stimulation will be less. Sympathetic blockade in spinal anesthesia can cause bradycardia and sudden hypotension.²

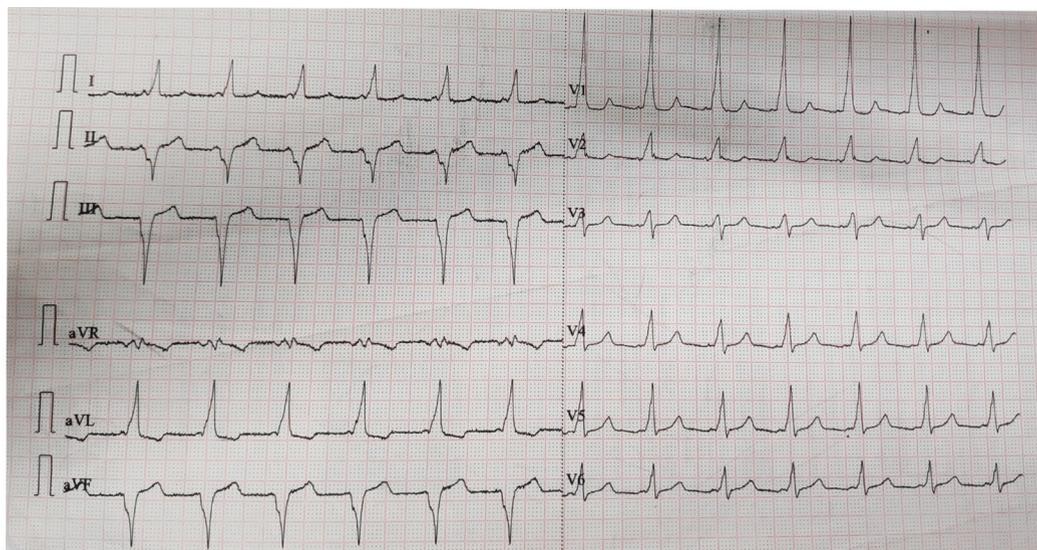
Continuous spinal anesthesia was preferred in this patient because of chances of blockade of cardio accelerator fibers and suppression of AV conduction in a high subarachnoid block. High subarachnoid block can also cause relative excitement of parasympathetic nerves that facilitate conduction through the accessory pathway. Hence, the dosage of the drug given for subarachnoid block should be titrated cautiously to achieve the level required for the surgery.¹ The continuous spinal anesthesia technique (CSA) facilitates slow titration of local anesthetic compared to single-shot spinal. This technique allows maintenance of cardiovascular stability. This CSA technique also provides intraoperative dosing of drug to maintain surgical anesthesia during prolonged surgeries.³

In general anesthesia, it is very important to avoid light planes of anesthesia and drugs that precipitate tachycardia i.e., Glycopyrrolate, Atropine, Ketamine which result in atrial fibrillation or PSVT. Opioids like Fentanyl, Midazolam and Benzodiazepines do not affect extrapyramidal effects of the accessory pathway.⁴ Thiopentone is safe but Propofol can be preferred because it has no effect on refractory period of accessory pathway.⁵

Phenylephrine is effective in treatment of hypotension without causing increase in heart rate, which might be a better choice in patients with WPW syndrome.¹ when Supraventricular Tachycardia occurs with normal QRS complex,

propranolol can be used because it depresses the AV node conduction. Digitalis is contraindicated because it accelerates conduction through accessory pathway.⁵

CSA is associated with many complications such as post dural puncture headache, neurological complications like Cauda Equina syndrome and infection at catheter site. CSA potentially has a higher risk of post-dural puncture headache due to cerebrospinal fluid leakage through the dural puncture and the use of larger bore needle. The development of microcatheters has significantly reduced the incidence of PDPH.



Diagnosis wpw pattern with accessory pathway in coronary sinus (as per arruda classification)

Fig.: Legends

- This is a 12 lead ecg with correctly placed leads
- With standardization 1mv =10mm with a speed of 25mm/ sec
- Rate of 88 /min
- Regular rhythm
- Axis left axis -70
- Pr interval short 0.08 sec
- Qrs duration 0.08sec
- Qtc 440msec
- Delta wave noted
- No st t changes
- No lvh rvh changes
- No bundle blocks
- R/s ratio in v1 to v2 >1

Conclusion

Patient with WPW syndrome can be managed successfully by continuous spinal anesthesia technique which helps in maintaining cardiovascular stability intraoperatively and duration of anesthesia can be extended if surgery is prolonged.

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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Anesthetic Management of Patient with Mediastinal Tumor Posted for Thoracotomy and Tumor Excision

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Abstract

Introduction: Mediastinal tumor are uncommon entity they present a major anesthetic challenges due to major airway and vascular compression.

Case Report: A 60yr, old diagnosed with posterior mediastinum tumour at C7 level. Airway assessment revealed mallampatti class IV. Blood investigations were within normal limit. Pulmonary function test revealed mild obstructive disease. CT shows lesion in posterior mediastinum extending to right IJV with complete thrombosis displacing trachea and thyroid. Triple lumen CVP line was secured. Difficult intubation trolley with tracheostomy set was kept ready. Routine monitoring, left radial artery cannulation done. Patient was Preoxygenated, Premedicated and Induced. 37F Left Double lumen tube was inserted and tube position confirmed with paediatric fiberoptic bronchoscope. Patient was hemodynamically stable in the intraoperative period. Patient was reversed and extubated uneventfully.

Conclusion: Mediastinal tumor resection surgery is a very complicated and requires a team effort anesthesiologists, surgeon and intensivist. A thorough pre-operative assessment of the patient should be done before the conduct of anesthesia to avoid the complications due to posterior mediastinal mass.

Keywords: Thoracotomy, One-Lung Ventilation, Mediastinal Tumor.

Key Messages: Anesthetic management of patient with mediastinal tumor posted for thoracotomy and tumor excision requires a double lumen ET tube for lung isolation and decrease in lung atelectasis. In this case a 60 year old male presented with mild symptoms and we highlight the usage of one lung ventilation in patient with posterior mediastinal tumor.

Introduction

Mediastinal tumors are though, an uncommon entity are now a days increasingly being recognized and scheduled for tumor excision. The perioperative care of these patients possess many challenges to the anesthesiologists. These are related to many concerns including mediastinal masses, related to adjoining structures, airway management and perioperative analgesic.

Here we report the successful anesthetic management in patient with posterior mediastinum posted for thoracotomy and neck dissection.

Case Report

A 60 year old male with complaints of cough and dysphagia to the OPD. He was diagnosed to have tumor in posterior mediastinum probably malignant. The patient had no history of dyspnea, chest discomfort, headache, visual disturbances and altered mentation. On examination, patient was not tachypnic, RS and CVS examination was normal. All the hematological and biochemical examination results were within normal limits. Contrast enhanced CT of thorax showed a 3x3x5 lesion in the superior aspect of posterior mediastinum on the right side which was abetting the oesophagus right IJV thrombosis were noted. Pulmonary functions tests were done and spirometry and no compression on trachea noted. On day of surgery.

18G IV access was secured on the left upper limb. Under aseptic precautions triple lumen central line was placed in right femoral vein. For management of intra and post operative analgesic 18G epidural catheter was inserted at T7-T8 intervertebral space. A correct placement was confirmed by giving test dose of 2% Inj. lignocaine with adrenaline 3cc. All standard monitors were connected pulse oximeter, NIBP, ECG-5 lead and Capnograph. A 20G catheter was placed in left radial artery for IBP monitoring and ABG analysis.

The patient had no signs and symptoms of tracheobronchial obstruction. Patient was premedicated with Inj. glycopyrrolate 0.2mg, and Inj.fentanyl 100 mcg. Preoxygenated with 100% oxygen. Pt was induced with Inj. Propofol 120 mg. After confirming the easiness of bag mask ventilation neuromuscular blockade was achieved with 100 mg Inj. succinylcholine 100 mg. Patient was intubated with left sided 37F double lumen tube using a Macintosh laryngoscope and correct placement of tube was confirmed with pediatric fiberoptic bronchoscope and fixed in place.

Initially patients both lungs were ventilated

with O₂:N₂O-40:60 and Isoflurane 0.4%. After the patient was put to position, 1 lung ventilation was initiated. The left lung was ventilated with o₂:n₂O-50:50, neuromuscular blockade was maintained with 1mg inj.vecuronium. Epidural analgesia was initiated with 0.125% 8m of Inj. Bupivacaine.

The surgery lasted for 7 hours and no intra-operative complications were noted. A frozen section biopsy was done and reported as malignancy of epithelial origin. Tumour was debulked and right ICD was placed. At the end of surgery double lumen was exchanged with 8.5mm ID cuffed portex ET tube. ABG analysis was done during one lung ventilation and after resumption of bilateral ventilation and report was normal. The patient was extubated after confirming complete reversal from neuromuscular blockade.

The patient was shifted to ICU for post-operative care and management. Epidural analgesia was continued. The patient did not require any assisted ventilation. Patient was discharged 2 weeks after the surgery.

Discussion

Mediastinal masses are known to be a nightmare for anesthesiologists.² Its clinical presentations and associated problems depend on the size, location, and pathology of the mass and the thoracic structures affected by the mass. Posterior mediastinal masses predominantly produce effects on the spinal cord and rarely cause airway problem and neuromuscular blockade.¹ Compression of airway or cardiovascular structures in patients with mediastinal masses may be due to mass effect dependent on patient position and there may be dramatic improvement or deterioration after repositioning, therefore it is important to know pre-operatively the position in which the patient is most comfortable and experiences least symptoms of airway obstruction. This may occur following decrease in chest wall tone associated with neuromuscular blockade.²

Decreased cardiac output and blood pressure even with effective ventilation is a risk in mediastinal mass due to the compression of the great vessels and right atrium. Others have suggested that, with positive pressure ventilation blood volume shifts from intrathoracic to the extra thoracic space leading to hypotension³

Lung isolation is commonly used because of the ease of surgical exposure, good access to the target, and prevention of contamination caused by hemorrhage or infection. The most common

method of adult one lung ventilation features the use of a double lumen ET tube.

DLTs provide the anesthesiologist with the capability to suction either lung independently while maintaining isolation, as well as the advantage of maintaining a cuff inflated for sustained protection. Ultimately, a DLT optimizes the management of a patient on OLV, allowing troubleshooting of challenges such as oxygenation, ventilation, and contamination without compromising the protection of the non-diseased lung.⁵

Conclusion

Mediastinal tumor resection surgery is a very complicated and requires a team effect-anesthesiologists, surgeon and intensivist. A thorough pre-operative assessment of the patient should be done before the conduct of anesthesia to avoid the complications due to posterior mediastinal mass.

Conflict of Interest: NIL

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Ultrasound Guided Pericapsular Nerve Group and Lateral Femoral Cutaneous Nerve Block for Perioperative Analgesia in a Patient with Ischemic Heart Disease on Anticoagulants Posted for Corrective Hip Surgery

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Abstract

Introduction : Ultrasound guided pericapsular nerve group block is an approach to block the articular branches of femoral, obturator and accessory obturator nerves that supply the anterior hip capsule and has been found to provide good perioperative analgesia.

Case Report: An 86 year old male, who suffered fracture neck of femur after an alleged slip and fall, was posted for emergency corrective surgery. Perioperative evaluation revealed ischemic heart disease, status post PTCA with preserved LV systolic function and on oral anticoagulant rivaroxaban and antiplatelet medication clopidogrel. Coagulation profile was within acceptable range. Cardiac Troponins and Brain Natriuretic peptide (BNP) were measured. General anesthesia was planned to this patient in view of relative contraindication to central neuraxial block i.e. patient being on anticoagulants. Perioperative analgesia was provided with ultrasound guided pericapsular nerve group block for fracture site pain and lateral femoral cutaneous nerve block for surgical incision pain. Patient had stable hemodynamic with improved pain score (VAS & It; 3) in the immediate postoperative period. There was no evidence of post-operative delirium and perioperative myocardial injury.

Conclusion : Ultrasound guided superficial regional nerve group block such as Pericapsular nerve group block, lateral femoral cutaneous nerve block can provide effective postoperative analgesia in patients where central neuraxial blocks are contraindicated.

Keywords : Anticoagulants, Hip fracture, Regional anesthesia.

Key Messages: Acute pain management in elderly patients is quite challenging to anesthesiologists due to medical comorbidities such as ischemic heart disease patients who experience greater pain are at increase risk in post operative period and patients on anticoagulants where central neuraxial blockade are contraindicated. Perioperative analgesia helps in intraoperative hemodynamic stability and post operative analgesia.

Introduction

Acute pain management of displaced femoral neck fractures in elderly patients is quite challenging to anesthesiologists due to physiological frailty, medical comorbidities, and cognitive impairment. Patients who experience greater pain are at increase risk of postoperative delirium, prolonged hospital stay and poorer health related quality of life. Ultrasound guided Pericapsular nerve group block is an approach to block the articular branches of femoral, obturator and accessory obturator nerves that supply the anterior hip capsule and has been found to provide good perioperative analgesia.¹

Case Report

An 86 year old male, who suffered fracture neck of femur after an alleged slip and fall, was posted for emergency corrective surgery. Perioperative evaluation revealed ischemic heart disease, status post PTCA with preserved LV systolic function and on oral anticoagulant rivaroxaban and antiplatelet medication clopidogrel. Coagulation profile was within acceptable range. Cardiac Troponins and Brain Natriuretic peptide (BNP) were measured. General anesthesia was planned to this patient in view of relative contraindication to central neuraxial block i.e. patient being on anticoagulants. After informing the risks involved in the perioperative period that include peri-operative myocardial injury, bleeding and hemodynamic instability, written informed consent was obtained from the patient. Intraoperative monitoring included ECG, SpO₂, Invasive blood pressure (IBP) and capnography. Careful induction of general anesthesia was done with graded doses of propofol and fentanyl, monitoring IBP all the time. Response to laryngoscopy was blunted with preservative free lignocaine i.v and succinylcholine was used for facilitating intubation. Perioperative analgesia was provided with ultrasound guided pericapsular nerve group block for fracture site pain and lateral femoral cutaneous nerve block for surgical incision pain. A local anesthetic mixture was prepared with 30 ml of 0.25% bupivacaine and 8 mg of dexamethasone. 20 ml of this mixture was used for PENG block and remaining 12 ml was used for lateral femoral cutaneous nerve block. Intraoperatively, hemodynamic variables were stable. Extubation was performed at the end of surgery following a smooth recovery from neuromuscular blockade. Visual analogue scale for pain was < 3 in the immediate postoperative period. There was no evidence of post-operative delirium. Trop T and BNP repeated 48 hours after surgery were comparable to preanesthetic values indicating

no evidence of perioperative myocardial injury.

Discussion

Hip joint innervation is complex with nociceptors predominantly found in the anterior hip capsule and mechanoreceptors found in posterior capsule. Articular branches of femoral, obturator and accessory obturator nerve (AON) supply the hip joint.¹ Post-operative pain management for hip fracture surgery has always been a challenging goal. Multiple regional techniques have been used in the past, but there is no “best proven intervention” for hip analgesia. The main regional techniques include lumbar plexus block, lumbar epidural, femoral nerve block, sciatic nerve block, Fascia iliaca compartment block (FiCB), pericapsular injection, or obturator nerve block. Patients on anticoagulants are not ideal for deeper blocks that include epidural and lumbar plexus blocks. FiCB and femoral nerve blocks, though easier to perform, have been associated with quadriceps weakness. Also there is an ambiguity in nerve supply to hip capsule, with high articular branches arising from femoral and accessory obturator nerves in more than 40% of the population. A recent study has demonstrated evidence supporting the efficacy of FiCB and PENG blocks for producing a significant reduction in pain within 30 minutes of block placement.² The benefits of the PENG block include comfortable patient positioning for the procedure, no significant motor weakness, potential motor sparing effect, and superior analgesic efficacy.

The disadvantage is that it cannot be used as a sole anesthetic block for hip surgery and it can be used in combination with other nerve blocks like FICB for more extensive analgesia for hip surgery.³ This reveals that PENG blocks may be a useful regional anesthetic technique for postoperative analgesia for primary hip surgery. PENG blocks in combination with lateral femoral cutaneous (LFCN) nerve block or local infiltration analgesia (LIA) may be needed for surgical incision pain. Myocardial Injury after Non cardiac surgery (MINS) is a potential perioperative complication that is not commonly looked into. MINS is more likely to occur in patients who have increased risk factors. Monitoring such high risk patients with Cardiac biomarkers especially NT-Pro BNP has been used for early detection of MINS.⁴ In our patient, who had IHD with PTCA status, BNP levels were not elevated more than pre-surgical level in the post-operative period.

Conclusion

PENG block is an effective regional analgesic

technique for surgeries involving hip fracture. PENG block together with Lateral femoral cutaneous nerve block can provide stable intraoperative hemodynamics with good postoperative analgesia, especially in elderly high risk patients undergoing corrective surgery. BNP can be used for monitoring MINS, in such high risk patients.

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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Anesthetic Management of Achondroplastic Dwarf with Bronchial Asthma and Hypothyroidism Posted for Abdominal Hysterectomy

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Abstract

Introduction: Achondroplasia is most common cause of dwarfism caused by FGFR-3 gene mutation. It possess anesthetic challenges due to multiorgan system involvement, spine abnormality, difficulty in mask ventilation and endotracheal intubation.

Case Report: A 38yr old, female, case of achondroplastic dwarfism with history of bronchial asthma and hypothyroidism was posted for abdominal hysterectomy. She weighed 30 kgs and 43 cm in height.

Spine examination showed thoracolumbar kyphoscoliosis. Airway assessment revealed large tongue, receding mandible, Mallampatti class IV. Pulmonary function test suggested mild restrictive disease.

Difficult intubation trolley was kept ready. Routine monitoring, radial artery cannulation done for invasive blood pressure monitoring. Patient was given general anesthesia. On laryngoscopy, CL grade III view was obtained, with the aid of bougie endotracheal tube was placed. Delayed recovery time from general anesthesia was encountered, neuromuscular monitoring was done and reversed and extubated uneventfully.

Conclusion: we present a successful anesthetic management of a dwarf patient with bronchial asthma and hypothyroidism who underwent hysterectomy. We emphasize the risk of neurological injury while extending the neck during laryngoscopy for tracheal intubation due to anatomical abnormalities in these patients. A detailed pre anesthetic evaluation and planning is utmost important and the anesthetic technique has to be individualized based on the patients anatomical characteristics and associated co-morbidities.

Keywords: Dwarf, Asthma, Hypothyroidism.

Key Messages: A 38 yrs old female patient with achondroplastic dwarfism (43cm tall) with associated comorbidities like bronchial asthma and hypothyroidism, thoracolumbar kyphoscoliosis and mild restrictive lung disease posted for abdominal hysterectomy possesses various anesthetic challenges. Since multiple systems are involved preanesthetic evaluation, preoperative optimization of the patient and planning of anesthesia is important. As the spread of drug in regional anesthesia is unpredictable, we planned general anesthesia. A successful management of major abdominal surgery in such patients, with anesthetic challenges and implications in these patients are reviewed in this case report.

Introduction

Dwarfism is defined as failure to achieve a height of 148cm by adulthood.² Achondroplasia is the most common cause of dwarfism with a autosomal dominant trait and caused by mutation in Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor 3 (FGFR-3) gene.¹ It possess multiple anesthetic challenges due to multiorgan system involvement, spine abnormality, difficulty in mask ventilation and endotracheal intubation.³ We report a successful anesthetic management in a patient with achondroplastic dwarfism with hypothyroidism and bronchial asthma posted for abdominal hysterectomy.

Case Report

A 38 year old, female patient, case of achondroplastic dwarfism came with complaints of mass per abdomen posted for total abdominal hysterectomy. She was a known case of bronchial asthma and hypothyroidism on medication since 3 years. She was 43cm in height and weighed 30kgs. On general physical examination, she was afebrile with pulse of 96/min, blood pressure of 130/90mm Hg and respiratory rate of 16/min. She had normal intelligence. Examination of spine showed a gross thoracolumbar kyphoscoliosis (Fig. 1). Airway assessment revealed large tongue with



Fig. 1: Kyphoscoliosis

receding mandible, buck teeth. Mouth opening was adequate with Mallampatti class IV. Her blood investigations were within normal limit. Pulmonary function test suggestive of mild restrictive disease. Electrocardiography was normal and transthoracic echocardiography showed Mitral valve prolapse with mild MR, normal chamber dimensions and ventricular ejection fraction of 60%. MRI pelvis showed a large pelvico-abdominal heterogeneous lobulated mass connected with uterine fundus. Patient was advised to continue Tab. Thyronorm 50mcg and salbutamol and theophylline, nebulization with duolin and budesort on the day of surgery.

Written informed consent with high risk explained was obtained. 18G IV access was secured. Difficult intubation trolley including bougie, video laryngoscope was kept ready. Emergency resuscitation drugs, equipment and defibrillator were kept ready. After applying routine monitoring, left radial artery cannulation was done for invasive blood pressure monitoring because non-invasive blood pressure measurements were inconsistent due to shortness of the limbs. Preoxygenation done with 100% oxygen for 3 mins. Patient was premedicated and anesthesia was induced with Inj. Ketamine 60mg IV. On laryngoscopy, a Cormack and Lehane grade III view was obtained using bougie a 6.5mm cuffed endotracheal tube was successfully placed and fixed at 17cm after confirming bilateral air entry equal. Anesthesia was maintained with oxygen, nitrous oxide and isoflurane. Muscle relaxant Inj. Atracurium was given. Blood loss was significant, 1 unit of PRBC was transfused and patient was hemodynamically stable in the intraoperative period. Delayed recovery time from general anesthesia was seen and neuromuscular monitoring was done using train of four (TOF) stimulation when TOF ratio was > 0.7

patient was reversed with Inj. Neostigmine 1.5mg IV and Inj. Glycopyrolate 0.2mg IV and extubated uneventfully. She was shifted to post operative care unit. Postoperative analgesia was maintained with inj. Paracetamol 15mg/kg IV TID.

Discussion

Achondroplasia is the most common cause of dwarfism caused by gain of function mutation in fibroblast growth factor receptor 3 (FGFR3) gene. 80% mutations are the result of sporadic mutation while 20% are autosomal dominant. Incidence is approximately 0.5-1.5 in 10,000 newborns. Females are more affected than the male.^{1,4} A general

recommendation regarding the ideal anesthetic technique cannot be given, as both general and regional anesthesia present potential problems.¹ Short stature, enlarged head, saddle nose, maxillary hypoplasia, macroglossia, megaloccephaly with protrudent forehead and narrow nasal passages and nasopharynx are some features that contribute to difficult airway in these patients.^{2,4} These patients have respiratory problems that may complicate general anesthesia, particularly restrictive lung disease due to thoracic kyphoscoliosis. There is ventilation perfusion mismatch due to decreased FRC and increased closing volume leading to atelectasis.³ Kyphoscoliosis associated with narrowing of the vertebral canal, reduced distance between the pedicels and osteophyte formation can produce technical difficulty for spinal anesthesia.³ A narrow epidural space increases the difficulty in epidural catheter insertion and also limits the spread of local anesthetics.² The consensus among anesthesiologists thus remains to avoid neuraxial anesthesia in patients with skeletal dysplasia.⁶ There are no definite recommendations regarding anesthetic procedures, the decision has to be taken on individual basis after a detailed risk-benefit analysis.⁵

Conclusion

In our case report, we present a successful anesthetic management of a dwarf patient with bronchial asthma and hypothyroidism who underwent hysterectomy. We emphasize the risk of neurological injury while extending the neck during laryngoscopy for tracheal intubation due to anatomical abnormalities in these patients. A

detailed pre anesthetic evaluation and planning is utmost important and the anesthetic technique has to be individualized based on the patients anatomical characteristics and associated co-morbidities. It provides instructive significance for anesthesia management in this rare condition.

Conflict of Interest: NIL

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Standard journal article

[1] Flink H, Tegelberg Å, Thörn M, Lagerlöf F. Effect of oral iron supplementation on unstimulated salivary flow rate: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *J Oral Pathol Med* 2006; 35: 540-7.

[2] Twetman S, Axelsson S, Dahlgren H, Holm AK, Källestål C, Lagerlöf F, et al. Caries-preventive effect of fluoride toothpaste: A systematic review. *Acta Odontol Scand* 2003; 61: 347-55.

Article in supplement or special issue

[3] Fleischer W, Reimer K. Povidone-iodine antiseptics. State of the art. *Dermatology* 1997; 195 Suppl 2: 3-9.

Corporate (collective) author

[4] American Academy of Periodontology. Sonic and ultrasonic scalers in periodontics. *J Periodontol* 2000; 71: 1792-801.

Unpublished article

[5] Garoushi S, Lassila LV, Tezvergil A, Vallittu PK. Static and fatigue compression test for particulate filler composite resin with fiber-reinforced composite substructure. *Dent Mater* 2006.

Personal author(s)

[6] Hosmer D, Lemeshow S. Applied logistic regression, 2nd edn. New York: Wiley-Interscience; 2000.

Chapter in book

[7] Nauntofte B, Tenovou J, Lagerlöf F. Secretion and composition of saliva. In: Fejerskov O,

Kidd EAM, editors. *Dental caries: The disease and its clinical management*. Oxford: Blackwell Munksgaard; 2003. pp 7–27.

No author given

[8] World Health Organization. *Oral health surveys - basic methods*, 4th edn. Geneva: World Health Organization; 1997.

Reference from electronic media

[9] National Statistics Online—Trends in suicide by method in England and Wales, 1979–2001. www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_health/HSQ20.pdf (accessed Jan 24, 2005): 7–18. Only verified references against the original documents should be cited. Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their references and for correct text citation. The number of reference should be kept limited to 20 in case of major communications and 10 for short communications.

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