Euroanaesthesia 2023
The European Anaesthesiology Congress
Abstracts Programme
Abstracts

EUROANAESTHESIA 2023

The European Anaesthesiology Congress
**ABSTRACT PRESENTATION PROGRAMME**

Please note that all abstracts are presented as poster presentations: abstract presenters do not make a formal presentation of their abstract in a separate room, using audiovisual aids (except for the Best Abstract Prize Competition). Instead, two chairpersons will conduct, in front of each poster, a short discussion of each abstract with the presenter and the audience, for every abstract in that session. Poster presenters have been asked to stand by their poster at least 15 minutes before the start of the session and 15 minutes after, to address further questions.

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Subject Index 495
The abstracts published in this Supplement have been typeset from electronic submissions and camera-ready copies prepared by the authors. Every effort has been made to reproduce faithfully the abstracts as submitted. These abstracts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care and have not been subjected to review nor editing by the European Journal of Anaesthesiology. However, no responsibility is assumed by the organisers or publisher for any injury and/or damage to persons or property as a matter of products liability, negligence or otherwise, or from any use or operation of methods, products, instructions or ideas contained in the material herein. Because of the rapid advances in medical sciences, we recommend that independent verification of diagnoses and drug doses should be made.

Call for abstracts

The ESAIC solicits the submission of abstracts for the Euroanaesthesia 2024 Congress
Munich, Germany
25-27 May 2024

All abstracts must be submitted online via the Euroanaesthesia website

The submission module will be available to submitters as from November 2023

Submission Conditions

When submitting your abstract, you will be prompted to accept the submission conditions that will be made available on the Euroanaesthesia website at least one month before the submissions starts.
BAPC-01
Capnography monitoring during procedural sedation and analgesia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Y.H. Woo¹, J.H. Park¹, J.W. Jeong¹, S.Y. Park¹, S.H. Kim¹
¹Soon Chun Hyang University Bucheon Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bucheon, Republic of Korea, ²Soon Chun Hyang University Seoul Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: To evaluate the effect of capnography monitoring on sedation-related hypoxemia during procedural sedation and analgesia (PSA)

Materials and Methods: Systematic literature review and random effects meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) reporting sedation-related hypoxemia incidence when adding capnography to routine pulse oximetry in patients undergoing PSA in the hospital setting were performed. Searches were conducted in PubMed, the Cochrane Library, EMBASE, KoreaMed, NDSL, and KCI without any language constraints on June 4, 2020. Screening and data extraction were conducted by two independent reviewers, and study quality was assessed using Risk of bias in randomized trials of the Cochrane Collaboration’s tool (ROB2). Primary outcome variable was occurrence of hypoxemia (<90-95%). Severe hypoxemia (<85-90%), need of increased O2 supplementation, and use of assisted ventilation were secondary outcomes.

Results and Discussion: The literature search identified 820 articles, of which 12(4,932 patients) were included in the meta-analysis. Addition of capnography was associated with a significant reduction in hypoxemia (risk ratio (RR) 0.67, (95% CI 0.57 to 0.80)) and severe hypoxemia (RR 0.62, 95% CI 0.51 to 0.75) (figure). However, there were no significant reduction in the need of increased O2 supplementation (RR 0.88, 95% CI 0.75 to 1.03) or assisted ventilation RR 0.67, 95% CI 0.30 to 1.46).

Conclusion(s): Meta-analysis of 12 RCTs published showed a reduction in hypoxemia and severe hypoxemia during PSA with the inclusion of capnography monitoring.

References:

BAPC-02
Intraoperative frontal electroencephalogram substitutes for age in a predictive model of post-anesthesia care unit delirium

P. Garcia¹, H. Sun¹, A. Mittel¹, A. Gaskell², M. Kreuzer³, J. Sleighb⁴
¹Columbia University Medical Center, Anesthesiology, New York, United States, ²Waikato Clinical School, University of Auckland, Anaesthesiology, Hamilton, New Zealand, ³Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technische Universität München, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Post-operative delirium is associated with significant morbidity and mortality. Abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG) signals, seen in awake and anesthetized states, have been identified as potential predictors of post-operative delirium. There is a need for clinical predictive models of post-operative delirium that incorporate both patient-specific risk factors and intraoperative factors such as EEG activity.

Materials and Methods: Prediction accuracy was assessed for two multivariable predictive models of post-anesthesia care unit delirium constructed from data previously collected in a prospective, multicenter observational study of the association between intraoperative EEG patterns and delirium. One model included intraoperative frontal EEG data and one did not. Data cleaning yielded 649 subjects with 77 variables for the non-EEG model and 490 subjects with 97 variables for the EEG model. The data were randomly divided into sets of training and testing data. Training data were subjected to stepwise selection using multivariable logistic regression analyses with bidirectional stepwise elimination followed by purposeful selection using Akaike Information Criterion. Overall model performance was compared via Akaike Information Criterion (AIC), with the assumption that lower values indicate lower out-of-sample prediction error and higher generalizability.

Results and Discussion: Purposeful selection of training data yielded 9 significant contributor variables in the non-EEG model (age, gender, history of stroke/neurodegenerative disease, anesthesia duration, emergence duration, propofol use, adjunct ketamine or nitrous oxide use, and succinylcholine use); and 6 significant contributor variables in the EEG model (gender, pre-existing renal or hepatic comorbidity, anesthesia duration, emergence duration, propofol use, adjunct ketamine or nitrous oxide use, and absolute alpha power). Evaluation of the models showed that the EEG Model performed favorably compared to the non-EEG Model (AIC: 410, 570; respectively).

Conclusion(s): Intraoperative EEG significantly predicts risk of postoperative cognitive complications. Absolute alpha power in the frontal EEG can substitute for pre-existing patient characteristics in a predictive model, potentially offering a clinically useful marker of cognitive and physical frailty independent of chronicologic age.

Acknowledgements: The authors thank Xiao Shi for statistical work and help constructing the model.
BAPC-03
Dexmedetomidine improves cognitive impairment by promoting hippocampal neurogenesis via the BDNF/TrkB/CREB signaling pathway in hypoxic-ischemic neonatal rats

A. Chen1, Y. Huang1, H. Qian1, J. Wei1, X. Chen1, X. Zheng1
1Shengli Clinical Medical College of Fujian Medical University, Department of Anesthesiology, Fujian Provincial Hospital, Fuzhou, China

Background and Goal of Study: Hypoxic ischemic brain damage (HIBD) is a leading cause of neurological deficits in human neonates, including long-term cognitive impairment. Recent studies have demonstrated that the disruption of hippocampal neurogenesis plays a crucial role in the development of cognitive impairment after neonatal HIBD. Dexmedetomidine (DEX) has been shown to have positive effect on neurogenesis in various forms of brain injury. However, the role of DEX-mediated hippocampal neurogenesis in HIBD neonates and its underlying molecular mechanisms are unclear. Therefore, we hypothesize that DEX improves cognitive impairment by promoting hippocampal neurogenesis via the BDNF/TrkB/CREB signaling in hypoxic-ischemic neonatal rats.

Materials and Methods: We induced HIBD in rats using the Rice–Vannucci model. DEX (25μg/kg, i.p.) was given immediately after HIBD. High-throughput RNA sequencing was performed to determine the differentially expressed genes in hippocampus. Western blot was used to examine expression levels of BDNF, TrkB, phosphorylated (p)-TrkB, CREB and phosphorylated (p) – CREB in hippocampus. Immunofluorescent staining was used to detect hippocampal neurogenesis levels. Behavioral test was performed with Morris water maze (MWM). Moreover, we further confirmed our finding by using pathway inhibitor ANA-12.

Results and Discussion: The present study confirmed that the BDNF, a crucial factor for neurogenesis, and the biological process of neurogenesis were significantly downregulated in neonatal HIBD rats by RNA-sequencing. Then, we found that DEX treatment could increase the BDNF protein expression and the phosphorylation of its downstream molecules TrkB, CREB, as well as promote hippocampal neurogenesis in neonatal HIBD rats. Importantly, our study identified that pathway inhibitor ANA-12 could reverse the ability of DEX to promote hippocampal neurogenesis and impair the ability of DEX to alleviate cognitive impairment caused by HIBD.

Conclusion(s): Our study demonstrated that BDNF/TrkB/CREB signaling as one of the direct molecular mechanisms of DEX-mediated hippocampal neurogenesis in neonatal HIBD rats, highlighting a novel therapeutic target for cognitive impairment caused by HIBD.

Acknowledgements: This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant nos. 82001166).

BAPC-04
Analyzing big data: could the ROX index predict risk for intubation in a surgical patient receiving NIV/CPAP?

L. Lijović1, N. Kovač2, H. Krolo2, A. Horvat2, T. Radočaj2, P. Elbers1
1Amsterdam UMC - Location VUmc, Dept of Intensive Care, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2University Hospital Centre Sestre Milosrdnice, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and goal of study: The ROX index is defined as the ratio of SpO2 measured by pulse oximetry/FiO2 to respiratory rate. It is used as predictor of the need for intubation in patients receiving HFNC oxygen therapy, but not yet validated for NIV/CPAP ventilation. The goal of this study is to determine if the ROX index could predict risk for intubation in surgical patients receiving NIV/CPAP mask ventilation.

Materials and Methods: Patient data was extracted from freely available AmsterdamUMC ICU database containing data from a 32-bed mixed surgical-medical academic ICU with 1 billion clinical data points related to 23106 admissions between 2003 and 2016. We selected patients that were non-invasively mechanically ventilated and extracted their demographic data (age, sex, BMI) and SOFA score at admission, as well as ROX index from 2 hour window mean values of SpO2, RR and FiO2 for the first 12 hours of ventilation.

Results and Discussion: From 20106 patients, a cohort of 1075 NIV patients using CPAP/PS modes were identified. We excluded patients that received NIV ventilation after an episode of intubation (n=47) and patients that were intubated more than 24 hours after NIV episode (n=53). Final dataset consisted of 975 patients, 190 were intubated within 24 hours NIV ventilation start. Patient demographic data was similar between intubated and non-intubated group (Table 1).

Table 1. Patient demographic data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Not intubated (n=785)</th>
<th>Intubated (n=190)</th>
<th>p value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age, years</td>
<td>64.5 (64.5, 74.5)</td>
<td>64.5 (64.5, 74.5)</td>
<td>0.190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male (n, %)</td>
<td>468 (59.6)</td>
<td>114 (60.0)</td>
<td>0.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI, kg/m2</td>
<td>26.0 ± 5.2</td>
<td>25.6 ± 4.0</td>
<td>0.282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial SOFA score</td>
<td>8.0 (5.0, 10.0)</td>
<td>9.0 (7.0, 11.0)</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. ROX index values and outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROX index</th>
<th>Not intubated (n=785)</th>
<th>Intubated (n=190)</th>
<th>p value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROX 0-2 h</td>
<td>7.5 (5.3, 10.1)</td>
<td>7.2 (5.0, 10.4)</td>
<td>0.432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROX 2-4 h</td>
<td>8.2 (5.7, 11.4)</td>
<td>7.6 (5.1, 10.2)</td>
<td>0.359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROX 4-6 h</td>
<td>8.4 (5.6, 11.46)</td>
<td>6.1 (4.6, 9.7)</td>
<td>0.020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROX 6-8 h</td>
<td>8.2 (6.2, 11.2)</td>
<td>5.5 (4.1, 8.0)</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROX 8-10 h</td>
<td>8.1 (6.2, 11.6)</td>
<td>7.0 (4.3, 9.4)</td>
<td>0.037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROX 10-12 h</td>
<td>8.5 (6.2, 11.5)</td>
<td>6.4 (4.1, 7.2)</td>
<td>0.014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of NIV ventilation, hours</td>
<td>4.9 (2.2, 12.9)</td>
<td>2.5 (1.1, 6.9)</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of stay, hours</td>
<td>140.0 (59.0, 322.0)</td>
<td>283.0 (143.5, 578.0)</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality (n, %)</td>
<td>411 (52.3)</td>
<td>95 (50.0)</td>
<td>0.615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. ROX index values and outcomes

Statistically significant difference was found in ROX index distribution between groups for time periods of 4-6 h, 6-8 h, 8-10 h and 10-12 h as presented in Table 2. Performance of ROX index to predict intubation gave AUROC for 0-2 h: 0.518, 2-4 h: 0.473, 4-6 h: 0.579, 6-8 h: 0.697, 8-10 h: 0.585, 10-12 h: 0.789 as shown in Figure 1.
**BAPC-05**

**Evaluation of a software system for guideline-based premedication in anaesthesia**

J. Wissler¹, D.I. Andonov¹, B. Ulm¹, M. Blobner¹, B. Jungwirth², S. Kagerbauer¹

¹Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technical University of Munich (TUM), Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Munich, Germany, ²University Hospital Ulm, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Ulm, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Guidelines for preoperative evaluation support the physician in his or her decision-making process [1].

Adherence to guidelines enables structured patient care, improves medical quality and results in patient benefit [2].

The aim of the study was to determine guideline adherence in the preoperative consultation by anaesthesiologists as part of a project to introduce a software-based decision support system.

**Materials and Methods:** After ethical approval of this prospective cohort study, data were analyzed from 204 adult patients who underwent elective noncardiac surgery at TUM University Hospital between 06/2021 and 06/2022.

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**Table 1.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESA Recommendation Level¹</th>
<th>1A</th>
<th>1B</th>
<th>1C</th>
<th>2A</th>
<th>2B</th>
<th>2C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended and DONE</td>
<td>354(86.1%)</td>
<td>66 (49.6%)</td>
<td>15 (16.1%)</td>
<td>4 (8.9%)</td>
<td>3 (21.4%)</td>
<td>1 (16.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended and NOT done</td>
<td>57 (13.9%)</td>
<td>67 (50.4%)</td>
<td>78 (83.9%)</td>
<td>37 (90.2%)</td>
<td>11 (78.6%)</td>
<td>5 (83.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT Recommended but DONE</td>
<td>17 (43.9%)</td>
<td>18 (45.3%)</td>
<td>16 (40.0%)</td>
<td>10 (25.0%)</td>
<td>6 (15.0%)</td>
<td>5 (12.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Numbers are presented as n (%), absolute numbers of unnecessary examinations are given as “NOT Recommended but DONE”. Overlapping conditions can lead to more than one recommendation per patient.

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**Conclusion:** To ensure comprehensive preoperative evaluation, better guideline adherence should be aimed for. A guideline-based software can help to uncover these deficits.

**References:**

2. Geldner et al., Anästhes Intensivmed 2017; 58: 349-364
Age-related changes in pulmonary atelectasis formation during inhalation vs intravenous induction in pediatric anesthesia

A. Camporesi¹, G. Roveri², R. Giuseppe³, M. Di Feliciantonio², A. Panacea³, D. Calabretta²
¹Ospedale dei Bambini “V.Buzzi”, Pediatric Anesthesia, Milan, Italy, ²Università degli Studi di Milano, Dipartimento di Fisiopatologia Medico-Chirurgica e dei Trapianti, Milano, Italy, ³Ospedale dei Bambini “V.Buzzi”, Pediatric Anesthesia, Milano, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Respiratory complications are a common cause of adverse events in pediatric anesthesia and atelectasis formation during general anesthesia in children occurs in 68-100% of the cases. Children have a highly compliant chest wall with a reduced ability to counteract the elastic recoil of the lung tissue. Mask induction is performed in pediatric anesthesia but it is still unclear if this can have an effect on the development of atelectasis.

The aim of this study is to investigate the impact of different ages on dysventilation and atelectasis formation during anesthesia induction in children and whether it is differently affected by inhalation and intravenous technique.

Materials and Methods: Prospective observational study. Children, with no past history for chronic diseases, scheduled for elective surgery were considered eligible. Lung ultrasound (LUS) was performed right after induction in 12 lung areas. Patients underwent either inhalation or intravenous induction. Wilcoxon rank-sum test was used to compare the LUS scores between inhalation and intravenous induction. Disventilation was defined as a score>=2 (multiple B lines); atelectasis was defined as a score >= 4 (subpleural consolidations).

Both outcomes were tested for correlation with age with chi-squared test and studied in multivariable analysis with clinically relevant variables.

Results and Discussion: 248 patients were enrolled. Scores of lung areas were significantly different between inhalation and intravenous group (p<0.001). Disventilation was significantly correlated with age (p<0.001). Inhalation induction correlated with disventilation (OR 2.21; p=0.042). Univariable analysis for atelectasis was significant for inhalation induction (OR; 2.25, p=0.008).

Our findings show a non-negligible incidence of lung disventilation and or lung atelectasis right after induction, with a higher incidence in young children, whose thorax elasticity is higher, correlating with inhalation induction. We hypothesize a recruitment manoeuvre could be useful. Mask induction has been already associated with a higher risk of respiratory complications. During this time, the reduced muscular tone is a potential factor for atelectasis formation.

Conclusion(s): We show a higher OR for lung dysventilation and or lung atelectasis in children undergoing inhalation induction.
General Anaesthesiology

01AP01-01
A simulation study with Smart Pilot View® to compare dosing adaptations according to age between residents and anaesthesiologists for propofol, sufentanil and sevoflurane

P Tomassen¹, F Van Laere², A. Kalmar³, H. Vereecke⁴,⁵
¹UZ Gent, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Ghent, Belgium, ²UZ Leuven, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Leuven, Belgium, ³Ghent University, Dept of Electronics and Information Systems, IBiTech, Ghent, Belgium, ⁴AZ Sint-Jan Brugge-Oostende, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Bruges, Belgium, ⁵University Medical Center Groningen and University of Groningen, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: We compared the dosing practice of residents and anaesthesiologists for anaesthetizing young versus old patients, and simulated whether the dose adjustments resulted in relevant differences of combined anesthetic drug potency. We used Smart Pilot View® (SPV, Dräger) to calculate several quantitative measures of anesthetic potency, adjusted to the drug administration history and patient demographics.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval, a survey was conducted in four Belgian hospitals, inquiring for dosing intentions of residents and anaesthesiologists to manage a similar laparoscopic procedure for two ASA1 patients, only differentiated by age (18 versus 80 years) and sex. Sufentanil, propofol, rocuronium and sevoflurane were the only drugs allowed. SPV calculates the effect-site concentrations of propofol (CePROP), sufentanil (CeSUF) and sevoflurane (CeSEVO), the probability of tolerance to laryngoscopy and intubation, and end of surgery are not shown.

After induction, Peak value
Netherlands
of Groningen, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Systems, IBiTech, Ghent, Belgium, 4AZ Sint-Jan Brugge-

Conclusions: Dose reductions in elderly do not lead to a reduced P_{TOL} compared to young patients, suggesting that large proportions of both age groups remain at risk for excessive drug effects.

References:

01AP01-02
Avoiding unplanned pregnancy: contraception and sugammadex

E. M. Nelson¹
¹Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics Department, Exeter, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Sugammadex is a modified-gamma-cyclodextrin used for the reversal of aminosteroid neuromuscular blockade. Due to its rapid reversal effect it has seen increasing use across the UK since it’s release. It has a lesser known side-effect of reducing the effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives requiring additional contraception after it’s administration to avoid an unplanned pregnancy.

The aim of this study was to establish if this side-effect is becoming more widely known and keeping pace with the increasing use of sugammadex, as well as if this is translating to effective communication of this essential information with patients.

Materials and Methods: We surveyed our departments practising anaesthetists for their understanding of this interaction. Alongside this we completed a 2-year retrospective analysis of all women of childbearing age who were given sugammadex.

Results: 78% of our 46 respondents were aware of it, and the majority of them were able to describe some forms of contraception affected and the advice needed but not in full. Only 4% correctly identified all forms of contraception affected and just 24% were able to describe the advice they would need to provide in detail.

We identified 62 female patients (average age of 34) of childbearing age who had received sugammadex during our 2 year study period. The recording of contraceptive status was variable, and in 47% of our patients it was unknown. A significant proportion of those with their contraception recorded (30%) were using a form of hormonal contraceptive that is affected by sugammadex. Overall, 50% of our cohort were felt to be eligible for advice regarding the reduced effectiveness of their contraception but only 1 person was counselled about this.

Discussion and Conclusion: We hope this work highlights the need for departments to address this issue and develop robust methods for ensuring that women are provided with this essential information. Following on from this work we are generating a patient information leaflet and creating departmental guidelines for clinicians and theatre staff to ensure that this information is communicated effectively to patients.

References:
01AP01-03  
An algorithm to estimate the speed of recovery from rocuronium induced neuromuscular blockade, a prospective observational study  

A. Brunetti1, T. Fuchs-Buder2, S. J. Bidgoli3, D. Schmartz1  
1Université libre de Bruxelles, H.U.B - Dpt of Anesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium, 2Université de Lorraine - CHRU de Nancy, Dpt of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, France, 3Université libre de Bruxelles - CHU Brugmann, Dpt of Anesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium  

Background and Goal of Study: Duration of action of neuromuscular blocking (NMB) agents have a wide interindividual variability. Quantitative measurement of the train of four ratio (TOF) gives an accurate measurement at a precise timepoint, but does not give information about the remaining time needed for a full recovery. DuBois et al have shown that early and late parameters describing the offset of NMB agents are highly intercorrelated (1). In this prospective, observational study, we described an algorithm capable of estimating the time needed to reach a TOF ratio \( > 0.9 \) based on the first detectable TOF ratios during spontaneous recovery.

Materials and Methods: After Institutional review board approval, ClinicalTrials.org registration (NCT03550664) and written informed consent, we included 100 patients undergoing anesthesia with a single 0.6 mg/kg bolus dose of rocuronium. Parameters of NMB, post-tetanic count, then TOF and final TOF ratio were continuously recorded by TOFScan (Itdmed, France). The first 14 TOF ratios \( > 0 \) were used to estimate the speed of recovery specific to each patient in \% of TOF ratio recovery/10 min. This value allowed a first categorization of the patient as slow, intermediate or fast recovery. Thereafter this parameter is continuously updated taking into account the TOF ratios of the ongoing spontaneous recovery to further finetune the estimated recovery speed.

Results and Discussion: 58 patients with a perfect NMB recovery profile without any artefact were included for analysis. Different curve fittings were used to reproduce the recovery curve. Finally, linear interpolation was found to be the most satisfying, with a high degree of correlation and simplicity of use. This value allowed to classify the patient as slow, intermediate or fast recovery.

Conclusion: This new parameter may expand the information driven from continuous quantitative neuromuscular monitoring allowing to better anticipate patients individual speed of recovery. To be used as an additional decision support, however, these first results need to be confirmed in subsequent studies using different cohorts.

References:  
1 Acta Anaesthesiologica 2012, 56,76-82

01AP01-04  
Masui sex-dependent pharmacokinetic model for remimazolam had same EC50 in both sexes at extubation after general anaesthesia, whereas the other two sex-independent models had different EC50s between males and females  

M. Nakao1,2, K. Masui3, R. Nakamura4, T. Urabe5, M. Ishibashi2, K. Oshita2  
1Shimura Hospital, Anesthesia & Surgical center, Hiroshima, Japan, 2Hiroshima General Hospital, Anesthesiology, Hatsukaichi, Japan, 3Yokohama City University School of Medicine, Anesthesiology, Yokohama, Japan, 4Hiroshima University Hospital, Anesthesiology, Hiroshima, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Remimazolam (Rmzl) is novel short acting benzodiazepine anesthetic with rapid onset and recovery. Recently published Masui model included sex, age, ASA-PS as well as adjusted BW (body weight) as covariates1, whereas Doi2 and Schüttler3 models only have BW as covariate. We retrospectively compared the impact of sex difference on EC50 at extubation among 3 PK models in surgical patients under Rmzl anaesthesia.

Materials and Methods: Patients who received general anaesthesia with Rmzl, remifentanil, and rocuronium for 6 months from Oct. 2020 were enrolled. The patients who received flumazenil or who were kept intubated after operation were excluded. The Rmzl administration was left to the anaesthesiologist in charge. The muscle relaxation was appropriately monitored and controlled. Processed EEG was monitored and the estimated Rmzl concentration by Doi model was displayed during anaesthesia with on-line link to syringe pump. Second-by-second precise histories of infusion pump for Rmzl, time to extubate were collected from anaesthesia recording system. Three PK models were used to calculate effect site concentration (Ce) with NONMEM® (ICON plc). The EC50s and slopes were estimated using a Sigmoid Emax model. Sex was estimated as a significant covariate in the model. Prism® (GraphPad Software) was used for the model development. Data are presented as typical value (95%CI). \( P < 0.005 \) was considered statistically significant.

Results: 49 males(M) and 48 females(F) were enrolled. The Doi and Schüttler models had different EC50s \( \mu \text{g/mL} \) at extubation: 0.191 (0.189 - 0.193) for M and 0.226 (0.223 - 0.228) for F \( (P<0.001) \), and 1.43 (1.41 - 1.45) for M and 1.32 (1.29 - 1.34) for F \( (P<0.001) \), respectively. The Masui model had single EC50, 0.192 (0.190 - 0.194) for both sex \( (P = 0.022) \).

Discussion: The Masui PK model with 10% higher total clearance in F than in M1 indicated no pharmacodynamic difference between sex. As the Doi and Schüttler models were developed using samples from M, the Ce in F might be inappropriate. The lower EC50 in F than in M in the Schüttler model may be due to the fact that a lower BW tends to show lower Rmzl concentrations at the dose per BW.

Conclusion: Sex dependent Masui model indicated no pharmacodynamic difference between males and females.

References:  
Feasibility of a Bayesian based advisory tool for target-controlled infusion of propofol using qCON as control variable

J. van den Berg¹, R. Vellinga¹, M. Introna¹², E. Weber Jensen², M.M. Struys¹.⁴
¹University Medical Center Groningen, Anesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, ²Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta, NeuroAnesthesia and Neuro Intensive Care, Milano, Italy, ³UPC-BarcelonaTech, Centre for Biomedical Research (CERB), Barcelona, Spain, ⁴Ghent University, Department of Anesthesia and Peri-Operative Medicine, Ghent, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: CePROP can be linked to the drug effect as measured by the processed EEG monitor and can be quantified using the sigmoidal “E-max” model. Displaying this pharmacodynamic relation on an advisory display will offer the clinician quantitative information on the optimal target concentration (Ct) for a given cerebral drug effect. Bayesian adjustment of this E-max model using prior information, based on measurements, could provide advice on these optimal targets. This study aims to investigate the accuracy of a newly designed Bayesian-based, patient-individualized, pharmacodynamic advisory system to optimize propofol administration using an EEG derived index as a controlled variable (= intervention group) and to compare this to a “standard-of-care” propofol administration, defined as an EEG-guided effect-compartment controlled propofol administration without the input of the advisory system (= control group).

Materials and Methods: 100 patients scheduled for elective surgery were included in this single blinded randomized controlled trial and randomized over a control and intervention group in a 1:1 ratio. In the intervention group the advisory screen was made available, whereas it was blinded in the control group. The settings of the target-controlled infusion pumps could be adjusted at any time by the clinician. qCON was used as anaesthetic EEG monitor. The time of qCON between the desired range 35-55 was used as main parameter. Induction parameters and recovery times were secondary end points and coefficient of variance of qCON and CePROP was calculated in order to survey the extent of variability in relation to the mean of the population.

Results and Discussion: The desired range of qCON between 35-55 was maintained in 84% vs. 90% (N.S.) of the case time for control versus intervention group, respectively. No significant differences were established for the secondary end points. Coefficient of variation for CePROP was higher in the intervention group, showing a higher variability of the data in the intervention group.

Conclusion(s): The Bayesian-based CePROP advisory system applied in this trial enabled the anesthesiologist to titrate qCON between 35 and 55 for 90% of the case time. Significant differences with the control group were hard to establish, most likely due to a very well performing control group.

Comparison of the recovery profile of sufentanil and remifentanil in total intravenous anaesthesia. A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

I. Seror Cuiabano¹, R. Pagliaro Naves²
¹Hospital de Cancer de Mato Grosso, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Cuiaba, Brazil, ²Hospital São Mateus, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Cuiaba, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Remifentanil is a short-acting opioid and can be administered in high doses during surgery without the risk of delayed postoperative recovery. Concerns about hyperalgesia and the shortages of remifentanil lead anaesthetists to consider long-acting opioids for total intravenous anaesthesia (TIVA). Sufentanil is a more potent opioid with a longer context-sensitive half-life than remifentanil but can promote good postoperative analgesia due to its residual effect. This meta-analysis aimed to compare the recovery profile of remifentanil and sufentanil administered in association with propofol for TIVA.

Methods: With a registry in PROSPERO (CRD42022366691), this review was conducted according to PRISMA guidelines. A systematic literature search was performed in the PubMed, CENTRAL, and Web of Science databases for randomised controlled trials (RCTs) comparing continuous infusion of sufentanil and remifentanil as part of TIVA in adults undergoing noncardiac surgery. The RoB2 tool and the GRADE approach to assess the quality of evidence were analyzed.

The primary outcome was time for tracheal extubation. Secondary analyses included the need for postoperative rescue analgesia, the incidence of respiratory depression, and postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV).

Results: Seven RCTs including 403 participants were eligible for analysis. Sufentanil resulted in a significant increase in the time to extubate (MD= 4.29 min; 95% CI: 2.33 to 6.26; P= 0.001; I² = 78.73%) and a reduction in the need for postoperative rescue analgesia (log OR= -1.07; 95% CI: -1.62 to -0.52; P= 0.005; I² = 26.81%). There were no significant differences between sufentanil and remifentanil for PONV (log OR= 0.50; 95% CI: -0.10 to 1.10; P= 0.10; I² = 0%) and respiratory depression (log OR= 1.21; 95% CI: -0.42 to 2.84; P= 0.15; I² = 0%).

Conclusion(s): In combination with propofol for TIVA, sufentanil delays the time of tracheal extubation compared with remifentanil but is associated with a reduced need for postoperative rescue analgesia. However, no significant differences were observed between the two opioids in terms of postoperative respiratory depression or PONV.
01AP01-07
In-vitro effect of Propofol on blood cholinesterase activities

Y. Brzezinski-Sinaï¹, E. Zwang², E. Azar³, I. Matot¹, S. Berliner³, S. Shenhar-Tsarfaty²
¹Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anaesthesia, Tel Aviv, Israel, ²Tel Aviv Medical Center, Departments of Internal Medicine “C,” “D,” and “E,” Tel Aviv, Israel, ³Tel-Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: In previous research, we found that using Total Intravenous Anesthesia decreases the activity level of acetylcholinesterase (AChE) and Butyrylcholinesterase (BChE)¹. There is little known regarding the effect of Propofol on Ache or BChE².

We aimed to assess the in-vitro effect of Propofol on serum AChE and Butyrylcholinesterase BChE.

Materials and Methods: In-Vitro drug- dosage study, serum samples were taken from healthy donors incubated with serial dilutions or Propofol, following five different incubation periods (0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 - hours). AChE and total cholinesterase activity levels were assayed in triplicates using an adaptation of the Ellman assay with or without a specific ButyrylCholinesterase inhibitor (tetrasisopro-pyrophosphoramide (iso-OMPA, Sigma).

The Propofol dilutions started at the level needed for induction of anesthesia (5 mcg/ml) and were serially diluted (2.5, 1.25, 0.625, 0.3125 mcg/ml). PBS without serum and serum without medication were internal and negative controls.

Results and Discussion: Our results show that Propofol increases the activity of AchE and BChE only in the highest dilution (5 mcg/ml) and mainly for the short time of incubation (under 2 hours). AChE mean ±0.003 Cholinergic Status (CS) mean ±0.008 compared to serum with no medication (P-value 0.0057). In the lower concentrations there was no significant difference, but the trend is toward an increase in the level of activity AChE mean ±0.003 Cholinergic Status (CS) mean ±0.003 compared to serum with no medication (P-value 0.091).

Conclusion: We showed that in-vitro Propofol increase the activity of AchE and CS and might affect the use of medication hydrolyzed by cholinesterases.

References:

01AP01-08
Effect of alkalized lidocaine 2% on post-intubation complications when inflated in the endotracheal tube’s cuff: a prospective randomized controlled trial

D. Ioannopoulos¹, S. Karathanasi², K. Manika³, E.I. Tatakí³, G. Gkantinas³, P. Kouki³
¹General Hospital of Nikea Agios Panteleimon, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Management, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Coughing, sore throat and dysphonia are common complications after endotracheal intubation due to irritation of the tracheal mucosa. A few studies have shown that injecting intracuff alkalized lidocaine could reduce the incidence of the above. Our study aimed at evaluating the effect of intracuff alkalized lidocaine on post-intubation complications in comparison to intracuff air and intracuff N/S.

Materials and Methods: This is an ongoing (November 2022–March 2023) prospective single-blind randomized controlled trial. Fifty-nine patients ASA I–III, undergoing elective operations under general anaesthesia of approximately 50-300 minutes duration were enrolled so far. Patients were randomized to 3 groups receiving ETT intracuff air (Group A), intracuff N/S 0.9% (Group B) or intracuff alkalized lidocaine hydrochloride (L-HCL) (Group C). Ninety minutes prior to intubation, endotracheal tube cuffs were prefilled with air, N/S 0.9% or L-HCL 2% plus NaHCO₃ 4.2% respectively and were emptied just before intubation. After intubation, cuffs were inflated with air (Group A), N/S 0.9% (Group B) or 2ml L-HCL 2% plus NaHCO₃ 4.2% (Group C) until there was no air leak thus achieving cuff pressure 25-30mmH₂O. The primary outcome was incidence of cough around extubation time. Coughing episodes at 15min and 60min after extubation were recorded as well as sore throat, dysphonia and PONV, as secondary outcomes, reported by patients of cough around extubation time. Coughing episodes at 15min and 60min after extubation were recorded as well as sore throat, dysphonia and PONV, as secondary outcomes, reported by patients 15min, 1h and 24h after extubation. STATA13.1, regression analysis, analysis of variance and chi square test were used for statistical analysis.

Results and Discussion: There was no difference between groups in demographics. Incidence of cough around extubation time in group C was less frequent (Mean: 0.95±1.03) than in group A (Mean 1.25±0.97) and B (Mean 1.4±1.1), but it was not statistically significant (p=0.36 and p=0.65 respectively). However, the occurrence of sore throat 60min [OR:1.33, 95%CI:(2.53, -0.12), p=0.03] and 24h [OR:0.70, 95%CI(0.16, 1.23), p=0.01] and dysphonia 15min [OR:0.59, 95%CI(0.10, 1.08), p=0.02] after extubation in group C were statistically significant showing a decrease compared to group A. No significant difference was observed in PONV. Further patient enrollment is needed for assessment.

Conclusions: ETT’s cuff inflation with alkalized lidocaine leads to a decrease in frequency of postoperative sore throat and dysphonia but had no statistically significant impact on coughing or PONV.
01AP01-09
Do residents and anaesthesiologists adapt the dose of rocuronium according to age and do they predict the train of four percentage adequately at the end of surgery?

F. Van Laere¹, P. Tomassen², A. Kalmar³, H. Vereecke⁴, ⁵
¹UZLeuven, Anaesthesiology, Leuven, Belgium, ²UZGent, Anaesthesiology, Ghent, Belgium, ³Ghent University, Departement of Electronics and Information Systems, IBiTech, Ghent, Belgium, ⁴A2 Sint-Jan Brugge-Oostende, Anaesthesiology, Bruges, Belgium, ⁵University Medical Center Groningen and University of Groningen, Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: We explore differences in titration habits for rocuronium between residents and anaesthesiologists, both in young and elderly patients of different sexes. We use simulated effect-site concentrations of rocuronium (CeROC) and model derived train of four percentages (TOF%) to compare whether age related dose adjustments also result in significant difference of TOF% effect. We also compare whether inadequate estimations of TOF% at the end of surgery affects the use of antagonists for rocuronium?

Materials and Methods: A survey was conducted in four Belgian hospitals, inquiring for dosing intentions by residents and anaesthesiologists to manage a laparoscopic procedure in four identical ASA1 patients, apart from sex and age (respectively 18 and 80 years). Smart Pilot View® (SPV, Draeger, Lübeck, Germany) calculates the corresponding CeROC and the population average TOF% is calculated according to Kenichi¹ at induction (maximal values), intubation, incision and at the end of surgery. T test defined significant difference (p<0.05) within and between groups (p<0.05).

Results and Discussion: 44 residents and 32 anaesthesiologists responded (=25% response rate). Main results are found below. Residents reduce their rocuronium dose in elderly more consistently compared to anaesthesiologists but without evoking a difference in TOF% at induction, intubation nor incision. The model calculated TOF% at the end of surgery (> 90% in all patients) is underpredicted by (on average) two categories in both groups leading to an inappropriate use of antagonists for rocuronium.

Conclusion(s): Titration habits can be improved in both groups. Using bedside predictions of CeROC and TOF% might be a helpful tool to assist training and decision making.

References:

01AP01-10
Comparison of the bispectral index and slow-wave activity in propofol anaesthesia

M.S. Fabus¹, M.C. Tran¹, C.E. Warnaby¹
¹Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging & Nuffield Division of Anaesthetics, FMRIB, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: The bispectral index (BIS) is a clinically used population-based electroencephalographic (EEG) depth of anaesthesia measure. Recently, its algorithm was reverse-engineered [1]. Slow-wave activity saturation (SWAS) is a potential individualised, brain-based loss of perception maker [2].

In this study, we aimed to compare the BIS with SWAS using a previously published dataset [3].

Materials and Methods: 32-channel EEG was collected in N=16 healthy volunteers slowly induced to 4μg/ml estimated propofol effect-site concentration. Data were downsampled to 128Hz and re-referenced to TP9 to emulate the BIS montage. Fz-derived spectrogram was computed in Matlab, slow-wave activity found as mean 0.5-1.5Hz power, and a sigmoid dose-response curve fitted [2]. A time window was rejected as artifactual if its gamma power (30-48Hz) > –10dB. Five BIS values were extracted for each subject using an emulator [1]: mean BIS during 10min awake baseline, BIS at loss of responsiveness (LOR), BIS when SWAS was achieved, mean BIS during 10min at peak propofol, and BIS at return of responsiveness (ROR). These were compared using repeated-measures ANOVA with post-hoc Tukey’s tests. Within-subject variability of BIS during 5min in SWAS was also examined.

Results and Discussion: BIS value changed significantly during the experiment (Figure 1A; RANOVA P<0.001). BIS dropped from 86±7 awake to 76±9 at LOR (P=0.012), 49±4 at SWAS (P<0.001), 49±9 at peak concentration (n.s.), rising to 86±12 at ROR (P<0.001; subsequent stages compared). BIS at SWAS was correlated with slow-wave power at SWAS (Pearson r =–0.62, P=0.019). Within-subject BIS values fluctuated due to high-frequency noise (Figure 1B).

Conclusion(s): Despite SWAS being a well-defined physiological state, BIS was variable at SWAS, both within-subject due to noise and between subjects depending on the individual’s slow-wave power plateau. SWAS may thus more closely reflect the underlying neural state.

References:
Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative delirium is associated with worse outcomes after surgery in elderly patients. It is a real challenge to achieve the goal of preventing and treating postoperative delirium. Ketamine is an intravenous anesthetic that can reduce postoperative pain. The systemic administration of lidocaine is associated with beneficial effects in terms of analgesia and postoperative recovery of the patients. Our trial aimed to assess and compare the effect of intravenous infusion of lidocaine or ketamine on the incidence and severity of postoperative delirium following elective surgery in elderly patients.

Materials and Methods: 96 patients with ASA I-III, > 60 years, scheduled to undergo elective surgery, were included in our study, a prospective, double-blind, randomized controlled study. We randomly allocated the eligible subjects in three equal groups (n=32): Group K (Ketamine - a bolus of 0.25mg/kg, with an infusion rate of 0.1 mg/kg/h), Group L (Lidocaine - a bolus of 1.5 mg/kg, with an infusion rate of 1.5 mg/kg/h), and Group S (the control group who receives 50 mL normal saline). All drugs are identical in appearance, packaged in identical 50 mL syringes labeled: study medications. We infused the loading dose of study drugs within 10 minutes before induction and the maintenance dose continuously at a constant rate until skin closure.

Our primary outcome was the incidence of POD within 4 days after surgery. The severity and duration of POD, postoperative pain and incidence of adverse events were evaluated as secondary outcomes. Collected data were analyzed using Student’s t-test with a significance level of p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: There was a significant difference in POD incidence between the placebo and lidocaine groups (p=0.02). We did not find significant differences among the three groups in maximum pain scores (p=0.72) or median opioid consumption (p=0.64). Adverse events did not differ significantly across the three groups (p=0.73).

Conclusion(s): The administration of lidocaine to older adults during elective surgery is proper for reducing postoperative delirium. The administration of ketamine did not show evidence of reducing postoperative delirium or opioid consumption and might cause harm by inducing negative experiences. We need more studies to evaluate the association of specific perioperative medications with the risk of postoperative delirium in elderly patients.

01AP02-01
Perioperative characterization of a CRS/HIPEC re-intervention population from a Portuguese Tertiary Oncologic Center

C. Dias¹, G. Bem¹, M. Lobo¹, M. Peyroteo², M. Miranda¹, R. Valente²
¹Instituto Português de Oncologia Francisco Gentil do Porto, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Porto, Portugal
²Instituto Português de Oncologia Francisco Gentil do Porto, Department of Oncologic Surgery, Porto, Portugal

Background, Goal of Study: The cytoreductive surgery and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (CRS/HIPEC) is widely spread among hospitals but re-intervention for relapsed disease is still exceptional and the reports about outcomes and perioperative management are still scarce in literature. With this study we sought to describe the characteristics of the population submitted to re-intervention in our tertiary oncologic center.

Materials/Methods: Retrospective data collection of all patients submitted to re-intervention CRS/HIPEC for relapsed abdominal disease in our institution from January 2016 to December 2020. Categorical and continuous variables are described according to their classification; Mann-whitney U and Kruskal-Wallis tests were performed to compare continuous and categorical variables.

Results/Discussion: In 5 years, 31 re-interventions were performed, 23 (74.2%) in woman and the mean age 59.03 (SD 12.67) years. 28 (90.3%) patients were ECOG 0, only 1 was ECOG 2. The median P-POSSUM score for morbidity was 39.2% (IQR 21.9) and for mortality was 7.6% (IQR 6).

All cases received general anesthesia with or without thoracic epidural. All patients completed 60 minutes of intraperitoneal chemotherapy being transferred, after the surgery, to a level 2 or 3 care unit where the median time of stay was 2 days. The median overall length of hospital stay was 11 (IQR 13) days. Whilst in the hospital and until 30 days after discharge, 18 (58.1%) patients registered at least one adverse event. The most severe event of each patient was accounted and classified according to CTCAE v.5, resulting in 2 (11.1%) grade I, 9 (50%) grade II, 5 (27.8%) grade III and 2 (11.1%) grade IV events. There were no deaths on the first year after discharge. There was no relation between the P-POSSUM score for morbidity and the occurrence of adverse events (p=0.572) neither for the severity of them (p=0.272)

Conclusion: The HIPEC/CRS surgery is a very aggressive procedure, and the fitness of the patients must be assured. The patients to be submitted to re-intervention are judiciously selected, and this is reflected on the characteristics of our population. Scoring tools are becoming irreplaceable allies to assess the surgical risk and guide anesthesiologists to provide safer care, nevertheless, in our study, this risk of morbidity and mortality seems to be overestimated, being one possible explanation the judicious selection of the patients and the center high volume.
Impact of anesthesia method on immune response and mortality in patients undergoing surgery for cancer

K. Kadantinev\textsuperscript{1,2}, M. Yadgarov\textsuperscript{1}, G. Landoni\textsuperscript{3,4}, V. Subbotin\textsuperscript{2,1}, A. Kuzovlev\textsuperscript{1,2}, V. Likhvantsev\textsuperscript{1,6}

\textsuperscript{1}V. Negovsky Reanimatology Research Institute, Department of Clinical Trials, Moscow, Russian Federation, \textsuperscript{2}A. Loginov Moscow Clinical Scientific Center, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, \textsuperscript{3}IRCCS San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Milan, Italy, \textsuperscript{4}Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Faculty of Medicine, Milan, Italy, \textsuperscript{5}V. Negovsky Reanimatology Research Institute, Laboratory of Clinical Pathophysiology in Critical Conditions, Moscow, Russian Federation, \textsuperscript{6}First Moscow State Medical University, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: Recent evidence suggests that inhalation anesthesia (IA) is associated with higher cancer mortality than total intravenous anesthesia (TIVA), possibly due to a modulation of the immune response. The aim of this study was to determine the impact of anesthesia techniques on selected parameters of patient immunity considering the evidence of relationship between the anesthesia methods and immune status and, consequently, the risk of breast cancer recurrence.

Materials and Methods: We performed a meta-analysis of clinical studies published in PubMed, Google Scholar, and Cochrane databases, aimed at assessing the impact of anesthesia on the postoperative immune status and overall survival in patients undergoing breast cancer (BC) surgery. 6 randomized and 12 retrospective cohort studies were included (a total of 637 patients with immune status assessment (50.2\% in the TIVA group) and 26469 patients with data on survival (39.6\% TIVA). Data on leukocyte counts, matrix metalloproteinas (MMP) 9 and 3, interleukins (IL) 6 and 10 levels, neutrophil-lymphocyte ratio (NLR) values, 3- and 5-year overall survival (OS) data were retrieved. Data were analyzed using the RevMan v.5.3 tool (Nordic Cochrane Center, Cochrane Collaboration). RoB-2 tool was chosen to assess the risk of bias.

Results and Discussion: Patients after breast cancer surgery who underwent TIVA had significantly lower white blood cell counts (standardized mean difference (SMD)=−0.32; 95\% CI: −0.58 to −0.06; I\(^2\)=58\%, P=0.020) and MMP-9 (SMD=−0.35; 95\% CI: −0.67 to −0.03; P=0.030; I\(^2\)=0\%) in the postoperative period compared with those operated under IA. No significant differences in the levels of MMP-3, IL-6, IL-10, and NLR values were found between the two groups. A meta-analysis of 9 retrospective cohort studies and 1 MRCT showed a detrimental effect of IA on 3-year OS in surgical oncology (Hazard Ratio (HR): 1.73 (1.36; 1.96) I\(^2\)=64.01, overall effect analysis P<0.017). Analysis of 5-year OS failed to spot any differences (P = 0.441), although it did not remove any doubts about the possible negative effect of the use of IA in surgical oncology.

Conclusion(s): The patients who underwent breast cancer surgery under TIVA had lower blood leukocyte counts and levels of MMP-9, compared to those operated under IA. However, data from meta-analysis of mostly retrospective cohort trials not to allow make an unambiguous conclusion about the advantages of TIVA in cancer surgery.

Ultrasound guided peripheral venous cannulation in patients undergoing elective surgery under general anesthesia

M. Kalina\textsuperscript{1,2,3}, B. Stadlerová\textsuperscript{1,2}, M. Bílská\textsuperscript{1,2}, T. Pařízek\textsuperscript{1,2}, V. Černý\textsuperscript{1,2,4,5,6}, R. Škulec\textsuperscript{1,2,8,9,7,10}

\textsuperscript{1}Klinika Anesteziologie, Perioperacní a Intenzivní Medicíny, Univerzita J. E. Purkyně v Ústí nad Labem, Masarykova Nemocnice v Ústí nad Labem, Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{2}Charles University, Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové, Katedra Chirurgie, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{3}Fakulta Zdravotnických Studií, Univerzita J. E. Purkyně v Ústí nad Labem, Ošetřovatelství a Porodní Asistence (KOPA), Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{4}Centrum Pro Výzkum a Vývoj, Fakultní Nemocnice Hradec Králové, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{5}Pain Management and Perioperative Medicine, Dalhousie University, Department of Anesthesia, Dalhousie, Canada, \textsuperscript{6}Technická Univerzita v Liberci, Ústav Klinických Oboř a Biomedicíny, Liberec, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{7}Klinika Anesteziologie, Resuscitace a Intenzivní Medicíny, Univerzita Karlova, Lékařská Fakulta v Hradci Králové, Fakultní Nemocnice, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{8}Institut Postgraduálního Vzdělání ve Zdravotnictví, Prague, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{9}Zdravotnická Záchranná Služba Středoškého Kraje, Kladno, Czech Republic, \textsuperscript{10}Fakulta Zdravotnických Studií, Univerzita J. E. Purkyně v Ústí nad Labem, Katedra Fyziologie, Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Obtaining peripheral venous access is the key condition for performing surgery under general anesthesia. However, performance using a technique based on anatomical landmarks can be burdened by first-attempt failure in up to 50\% of cases. Therefore, we performed a prospective randomized clinical study to compare the success rate and safety of ultrasound-guided peripheral venous catheter (PVC) insertion to the superficial venous system of upper extremities with the conventional cannulation technique in the operating room. We hypothesized ultrasound-guided method is associated with a higher success rate of the first cannulation attempt than the conventional technique.

Materials and Methods: Patients undergoing elective surgery in general anesthesia were randomized to ultrasound-guided peripheral venous catheter (PVC) insertion to the superficial venous system of upper extremities with the conventional cannulation technique in the operating room. We hypothesized ultrasound-guided method is associated with a higher success rate of the first cannulation attempt than the conventional technique.

Results and Discussion: A total of 613 adult patients were enrolled. The success of the first cannulation attempt was significantly higher in the group A compared to the group B (group A: 90.6 \%, group B: 84.5 \%, P=0.039), while the overall success rate was 100 \% in both groups. The time required for PVC insertion was significantly shorter in the group B than in the group A (Group A 432.8 s and Group B 303 s, P<0.001).

Conclusions: Ultrasonographic guidance of PVC insertion at the operation theatre in the patients undergoing major surgery was associated with a higher success rate of the first cannulation attempt in our cohort of patients, but at the cost of a slight prolongation of the procedure.
01AP02-04
Existing practice of perioperative care of patients undergoing colorectal surgeries in a tertiary care cancer hospital and compliance with eras guidelines: an audit

A. Rudra Pal¹, D. Debroy¹, J. Goswami¹
¹Tata Medical Center, Oncoanesthesia, Kolkata, India

Background and Goal of Study: Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) protocol in colorectal surgery has shown reduced postoperative complications and hospital length of stay (LOS). We aimed to audit existing practice of perioperative care in colorectal surgeries and find out the adherence to ERAS protocol

Materials and Methods: We collected data from medical records of 104 patients who underwent colorectal surgery in a tertiary care cancer hospital of eastern India from January 2022 to June 2022. Data were retrospectively collected, which included, demographic data, adherence to individual elements of ERAS pathway, postoperative complications, and length of hospital stay. The LOS was defined as duration of stay in the hospital from day of surgery to discharge.

Complications were defined according to the Clavien-Dindo classification. Categorical variables are presented as absolute numbers and frequencies. Continuous variables are presented as mean +/- standard deviation (SD) or median with interquartile range (IQR).

Results and Discussion: The median LOS was 9 days [(IQR): 8-11]. Around 20% patients had Clavien Dindo (CD) grade I, 44.2% CD grade II and 1.9% CD grade III complications. We found 100% adherence to ERAS elements like preadmission counselling; preoperative optimisation; prehabilitation; prophylactic antibiotic; intraoperative multimodal analgesia, hypothermia prevention, PONV prophylaxis and postoperative glycaemic control.

More than 90% adherence was found in no sedative premedication, preoperative thromboprophylaxis, short acting anesthetic, early mobilization and enteral feeding.

Conclusion(s): The audit revealed that compliance to most of the ERAS elements were satisfactory, however some components need modification for better adherence to ERAS guidelines and improved patient outcome

References:

01AP02-06
Impact of intraoperative diuresis during hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy time in the incidence of acute kidney injury in cytoreductive surgery

J. Nieto¹, E. Cabezuelo¹, M. Power¹, P. Cabrerizo-Torrente¹, M.D. Ginel-Feito¹, M. Zaballos¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Acute kidney injury (AKI) associated with cytoreductive surgery and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (CRS + HIPEC) has a significant impact in the morbidity and mortality of this procedure. Our aim was to examine the association of diuresis during HIPEC-time and the incidence of AKI according to KDIGO criteria in patients who underwent CRS+HIPEC.

Renal protection is recommended to avoid nephrotoxicity, including high diuresis output during the HIPEC phase.

Materials and Methods: After IRB approval, an ambispective study was performed evaluating patients undergoing CRS + HIPEC from 2011 to 2020. In our hospital, the anaesthetic technique is standardized including renal protection by increasing fluid infusion and forcing diuresis during the HIPEC period. Postoperative renal function was assessed using serial serum creatinine measurements and was based on serum creatinine changes from pre-operative values, according to KDIGO classification.

Results and Discussion: We evaluated 471 patients, ASA I-III, 70% women with a mean age of 56±11.7 years. Median (Interquartile range) of the peritoneal carcinomatosis index (PCI) was 11(6-22). HIPEC time was 30 min in 23.4% of patients, 60 min in 56% of cases and in a 20.6% of patients HIPEC time lasted 90 min. AKI was observed in 70 patients (14.9%); KDIGO Stage (KS) 1: n=34; KS 2: n=15; KS 3: n= 21). Urine output (UO) during HIPEC-time in patients with AKI was 620 (380-810) mL in patients without AKI, p=0.001. HIPEC time was similar in both groups: 60.8±19.5 vs. 58.3±19.9 min in patients with and without AKI, p=0.34. Patients who received cisplatin presented AKI in a higher proportion 25% vs. 9%. In this group, patients with AKI also had lower UO, p=0.001. Patients with AKI had higher PCI 17.86 vs. 13.85, p=0.004. However, there was no difference in UO during HIPEC-time in patients with higher PCI.

Conclusion: AKI during CRS/HIPEC was associated with a lower urine output (UO) during HIPEC-time and with the use of cisplatin. Our data suggest that promoting higher urine output (UO) during HIPEC-time may be protective against AKI during CRS/HIPEC.
**01AP02-07**

Can elderly patients adapt to the hemodynamic requirements of cytoreductive surgery and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy?

E. Cabzeuelo1, J. Nieto1, M. Power1, M. Establés1, S. Gago-Quiroga1, M. Zaballos1  
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Cytoreductive surgery (CRS) and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) is an established treatment of patients with peritoneal carcinomatosis (PC). The procedure is associated with important morbidity and mortality and optimal treatment is essential to prevent complications, particularly in at-risk populations such as the elderly patient.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the impact of CRS + HIPEC on hemodynamic parameters in elderly patients compared to patients <65 years.

**Materials and Methods:** After IRB approval, from May 2016 to November 2020, 155 consecutive patients who underwent CRS-HIPEC were prospectively enrolled, among which 46 were elderly (30%). Goal-directed haemodynamic management was applied in all patients with endpoints based on cardiac index (CI), stroke volume index (SVI), central venous oxygen saturation (ScvO2) and mean arterial pressure (MAP).

Invasive haemodynamic measurements were performed using transpulmonary thermodilution and a ScvO2 catheter at predefined time points (baseline, before HIPEC, 30 min post-HIPEC, 60 min post-HIPEC and at the end of surgery). Statistical analysis: Student t-test; Chi-square test; repeated measures ANOVA

**Results and Discussion:** The mean age in elderly was 69±3.5 vs. young group: 52.8±9.4 years, p=0.001, there were no differences in gender, ASA, HIPEC-time and peritoneal cancer index (PCI) between both groups. Anaesthetic time was shorter: 9.8±1.7 vs. 10.5±2 h, in the elderly vs. young group. At baseline CI and SVI were lower: (2.15±0.45 vs. 2.66±1.29 ml.m⁻², p= 0.009; 33±7 vs. 37±8 ml, p=0.014; and the systemic vascular resistance index (SVRI) higher: (2674±814 vs. 2269±584, dynes-sec/cm⁻⁵.m⁻², p=0.001 in the elderly vs. young group.

Throughout the surgery there were no differences in haemodynamic parameters between both groups except in the global end-diastolic volume index (GEDVI) that was higher in the elderly from pre-HIPEC to the end of surgery.

The elderly group received less fluid: 4690±1112 vs. 5385±1494 ml, p=0.005. There were no differences in the need for vasopressors (p=0.37) or major postoperative complications in both groups (15% vs. 19%, p=0.8).

**Conclusion(s):** Our findings suggest an adequate hemodynamic adaptation of the elderly during CRS-HIPEC compared to younger patients. In the population evaluated, age was not associated with a higher proportion of serious postoperative complications.

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**01AP02-08**

The effects of goal-directed fluid therapy and epidural analgesia in decreasing cisplatin-induced acute kidney injury in hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy surgeries

K.L. Wang1, C.W. Chuang1,2, Y.-T. Dai3,1, C.-J. Huang2,1  
1Wan Fang Hospital, Taipei Medical University, Department of Anesthesiology, Taipei, Taiwan, 2College of Medicine, Taipei Medical University, Graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, Taipei, Taiwan, 3School of Medicine, College of Medicine, Taipei Medical University, Department of Anesthesiology, Taipei, Taiwan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Cisplatin is widely used as the regimen of hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC). Cisplatin-induced acute kidney injury (AKI) after HIPEC surgeries was a common but fatal complication, with an incidence of approximately 15-32%, according to previous reports. Surgical stress and inappropriate fluid administration may decrease intraoperative renal perfusion and contribute to the occurrence of cisplatin-induced AKI. To mitigate surgical stress and inappropriate fluid administration, we developed an anesthetic protocol that incorporates intraoperative epidural analgesia and goal-directed fluid therapy (GDFT) into the anesthetic care of HIPEC surgery patients. The occurrence of cisplatin-induced AKI after HIPEC surgeries was investigated.

**Materials and Methods:** We retrospectively collected patients who underwent HIPEC surgeries from the database of Wan Fang Hospital, an affiliated hospital of Taipei Medical University and a tertiary center in Taipei, Taiwan. The protocol of HIPEC was hyperthermia of 42 degrees Celsius for 60 minutes followed by cisplatin-based intraperitoneal chemotherapy. In addition to general anesthesia, all patients received intraoperative lumbar epidural analgesia and GDFT. For GDFT, intraoperative fluid administration was conducted to maintain a stroke volume variation of less than 15%. RIFLE criteria were applied for the diagnosis of AKI. (Table 1)

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 40 patients undergoing HIPEC surgeries with cisplatin were included, among which 22 patients are female. The average age is 60.6 years old, and the average BMI is 23.1. Of note, among the 40 patients, only three patients (7.5%) developed AKI within one week after surgery. These data indicated that HIPEC surgery patients using intraoperative epidural analgesia and GDFT were associated with a decreased incidence of cisplatin-induced AKI.

**Conclusion(s):** In HIPEC surgeries with cisplatin, GDFT and epidural analgesia can decrease the incidence rate of AKI.
Background and Goal of Study: Various analgesic modalities are adopted for perioperative analgesia in breast cancer surgeries. Opioid-free and opioid sparing techniques are gaining popularity due to lack of opioid-dependent undesirable effects, including respiratory depression, urinary retention, nausea and vomiting, constipation, itching, opioid-induced hyperalgesia, tolerance, addiction, and immune system disorders. We aim to investigate the impact of opioid-free anaesthesia (OFA) versus conventional general anaesthesia (CGA) on postoperative analgesic requirements after breast cancer surgery (lumpectomy/mastectomy, with or without axillary lymph node dissection). Secondary objectives include comparative perioperative evaluation of cognitive function, intraoperative haemodynamics, postoperative adverse events and hospital length of stay.

Materials and Methods: This case series study is part of a prospective clinical study regarding OFA and serves as a pilot sample. Twenty participants were randomly allocated to receive either OFA or CGA. OFA was achieved via continuous intravenous infusion of a mixture of lidocaine, ketamine and dexmedetomidine. The Hospital Scientific Committee approved this study and written informed consent was obtained from all patients. The Student’s t-test (or its non-parametric equivalent Mann-Whitney U) and the Fisher’s exact test were used for comparison of continuous and categorical variables, respectively.

Results and Discussion: The population was homogenous concerning baseline characteristics (p>0.05). No differences were detected in surgical, anaesthesia and extubation times, as well as hypotensive episodes and the use of vasopressors intraoperatively (p>0.05). Analgesic requirements did not differ between groups for the first 24 hours postoperatively. Numerical Rating Scale (NRS, 0-10) scores at 1 and 6 hours after surgery, both at rest and at deep breath, were statistically greater in the OFA group (p<0.05), though clinically insignificant as scores for both groups were <3/10. No anaesthesia-related adverse events were encountered for both groups and no differences were recorded in hospital length of stay. Finally, the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), both pre- and postoperatively, was similar between groups (p>0.05).

Conclusion(s): Our findings suggest that an opioid-free general anaesthesia protocol was not inferior to conventional general anaesthesia in terms of postoperative analgesic requirements and safety.

Reference:
Background and Goal of Study: Remimazolam is an ultrashort-acting sedative, which has a fast onset and offset of sedation and a short half-life compared with other benzodiazepines, and more stable hemodynamic profiles compared with propofol. However, there is a lack of sufficient evidence for the efficiency and safety of remimazolam for adequate anesthetic depth and intraoperative stable hemodynamics in elderly patients. Therefore, we evaluated the differences in anesthesia characteristics and perioperative hemodynamic profiles in elderly patients receiving total intravenous anesthesia, using either remimazolam or propofol.

Materials and Methods: After obtaining IRB approval and the patient’s informed consent, 45 patients aged over 65 years with an ASA PS of I-II were randomly assigned to two groups receiving remimazolam (group R, n=22) or propofol (group P, n=23).

In group R, remimazolam was initiated at 6 mg/kg/h until achieving loss of consciousness (LoC) and was maintained at 1 mg/kg/h with a maximum infusion rate of 2 mg/kg/h.

In group P, propofol 1.0-1.5 mg/kg was injected for 1 min and was maintained at 100 μg/kg/min. The maintenance infusion rate was adjusted to maintain an appropriate anesthetic depth until the end of surgery.

The primary outcomes were the time of LoC and the time of eye-opening (EO) after the stop of remimazolam or propofol infusion. The anesthetic depth scores and the hemodynamic profiles were recorded during the perioperative period. We analyzed data using the Student t-test, χ² or Fisher’s exact test, and one-way analysis of variance, appropriately. p values <0.05 were considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: The time of LoC was slower in group R (110.1 s, 95%CI: 96.4 to 123.8 s) than in group P (68.9 s, 95%CI: 53.5 to 84.3 s) (p < 0.001). The time to EO was longer in group R (10.4 min, 95%CI: 8.7 to 12.2 min) than in group P (7.9 min, 95%CI: 6.3 to 9.5 min) (p = 0.03). No significant differences in perioperative hemodynamic profiles were observed between groups. No significant differences in intraoperative anesthetic depth score were observed between groups.

Conclusion: In elderly patients, remimazolam does not have as fast onset time and recovery time as propofol, but it has a similar effect to propofol in maintaining hemodynamic and anesthetic depth. In addition, the perioperative safety of remimazolam in elderly patients is similar to propofol.

01AP03-01
High exposure to waste anaesthetic gases is associated with DNA damage in healthcare professionals

M.G. Braz1, M.A. Silva1, M.V. Destro1, L.G. Braz1
1Sao Paulo State University - UNESP, Anaesthesiology, Botucatu, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Occupational exposure to waste anaesthetic gases (WAGs) is thought to exert adverse effects in operating room personnel. Considering the controversial findings related to genetic damage in healthcare professionals, we hypothesized that a high exposure to WAGs in the workplace is associated with genetic instability. Thus, the main objective of this study was to assess WAG exposure and to evaluate DNA damage in healthcare professionals.

Materials and Methods: After approval from the local Ethical Committee, this observational study was conducted in a Brazilian public university hospital. Buccal cells were collected from 90 healthcare professionals mainly exposed to WAGs sevoflurane and isoflurane, and 90 matched-controls. DNA damage was evaluated by using the buccal micronucleus cytome (BMCyt) assay to detect micronucleus (MN), a genetic instability marker. Coded slides were stained, two thousand differentiated cells per subject were analysed, and MN frequency was presented per thousand. The concentrations of WAGs were determined during inhalational anaesthesia in the breathing zone of the professionals, by using a portable infrared spectrophotometer, and the values were expressed in parts per million (ppm). Student’s t test was applied for comparisons of age and body mass index between groups whereas the chi-square test was used to compare the sexes. MN marker was analysed by the generalized linear model using the Poisson test.

Results and Discussion: There were no significant differences between groups regarding demographic and anthropometric data (p > 0.05). The exposed group showed higher frequencies of MN when compared to the control group (p = 0.01). The mean concentrations of WAGs were 7 ± 4 ppm for isoflurane and 9 ± 7 ppm for sevoflurane; these values were greater than exposure limits recommended by international regulations.

Conclusion(s): This cross-sectional study showed that high occupational exposure to WAGs is associated with genetic instability. Considering that exfoliated oral cells are target of WAGs and BMCyt assay is a minimally invasive method to detect genetic instability/biomarker of effect (MN), we suggest that BMCyt analysis should be employed to monitor possible toxic genetic effects due to occupational exposure. Reducing occupational exposure to WAGs is relevant to minimise the observed effects on exposed health workers.

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01AP03-02
An audit of awareness surrounding perioperative anaphylaxis among theatre healthcare providers

S. Griffin1, S. Brady1, A. Leonard1, V. Singh1
1Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, Anaesthesiology, Drogheda, Ireland

Background and Goal of Study: Perioperative anaphylaxis is a life-threatening emergency occurring in 1 in 10,000 anaesthetics. The 6th National Audit Project of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (NAP 6) focused on perioperative anaphylaxis. Key institutional recommendations included the provision of training to staff in the management of perioperative anaphylaxis, as well as introducing anaphylaxis treatment and investigation packs.

Materials and Methods: A 10 question survey was designed and circulated to anaesthetists and anaesthetic nurses working in a Model 3 hospital with 7 theatres catering to adult, obstetric and paediatric patients. The questions were drawn from the significant findings and recommendations of the NAP 6 project as well as the Association of Anaesthetists guidelines for the management of perioperative anaphylaxis.

Results and Discussion: We had 58 respondents to our prospective audit; 12 consultant anaesthesiologists, 23 non-consultant anaesthesiologists and 23 anaesthetic nurses. There was good awareness of the most common trigger with 71% correctly identifying antibiotics. 34.5% were aware that Teicoplanin has the highest incidence of perioperative anaphylaxis. 32.75% correctly identified hypotension as the most common presenting feature. 27.5% knew to commence CPR with a systolic of <50mmHg and 34.5% identified correctly the initial volume of IV crystalloid to bolus. 44.8% were aware of the correct timing of serum tryptase levels post event. 44.8% knew where to find a protocol for the management and investigation of anaphylaxis in the department. Teicoplanin features in our local surgical prophylaxis guidelines as the alternative to penicillin for those with an allergy. We will need to underline the importance of a thorough allergy history. Our survey results show a likely benefit to the introduction of training and treatment packs for perioperative anaphylaxis.

Key findings from NAP 6 included a delay in initiating CPR with very low blood pressure and inadequate volume resuscitation, which was reflected in the responses of our survey. Uncertainty was also noted with regard to locating a protocol for management of anaphylaxis and the timing of serum investigations.

Conclusion: Our survey and interventions highlight an anaesthetic emergency and aim to improve patient safety in our department. We plan to rectify the above by the introduction of treatment & investigation packs and departmental education, with re-audit scheduled.

01AP03-03
Audit on Sharps disposal by anesthetists in the operation room at Tawam Hospital

S. Alnaobi1, R. Alkatheeri1, L. Alsheikhmahmoud1, F. Maree1, A. Alkhateri1, N. Kotemane Rajasekarappa1
1Tawam Hospital, Anesthesiology, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

Background and Goal of Study: Needle stick injuries (NSIs) have imposed an occupational hazard in healthcare workers causing morbidity and mortality from blood borne infections. It was found that around 33.8% of NSIs occur in the operating room and around 58.4% of NSIs happen during disposal of sharps. Accidental occupational infections among anaesthetists from infected patients impose a potentially fatal risk which can be significantly reduced by practicing universal precautions.

We performed this audit to assess the current knowledge and attitude on sharps disposal of the Operation Room (OR) staff and to implement more appropriate and safe disposal methods with a view to improve staff and patient safety.

Materials and Methods: It was a multidisciplinary prospective audit conducted over two weeks in the main operation room at Tawam Hospital. Data was collected by completing a proforma. The proforma was paper free to support the environment. The questions were aimed to assess staff awareness regarding sharps disposal policy, their opinion on the current practice and the introduction of a portable sharps bin. The participants in the audit included anesthesia nurses, technicians and anesthetists.

Results and Discussion: A total of 42 responses were reviewed. Data revealed that more than 97% are aware of Tawam hospital/International guidelines on sharps disposal policy. Around 80% felt that we are practicing safe sharps disposal in our operative room. However, around 88% believe that it would be safer to have portable sharps bin at the point of use. 30% responders choose taking the sharps to the sharps container and dispose carefully as the correct statement, while 70% choose having the sharps container at the point of use.

These results reflect the need to adopt a safer disposal of sharps. We plan to present these results by having a multidisciplinary meeting involving all OR staff to create awareness about sharps disposal guidelines. We intend to re-audit to measure the satisfaction of introduction of portable sharps disposal bins.

Conclusion(s): Appropriate handling of sharps improves both staff and patient safety. There is an opportunity to improve knowledge regarding appropriate sharps disposal. Although many respondents are aware of the guidelines, a significant number also feel it would be safer to have a portable sharps disposal bin. We suggest implementing such a change to achieve our aims and provide a safe atmosphere for our staff and patients.
01AP03-04
Anaesthetic adverse event flashcard training

I. Puddu¹, N. Alexander¹, K. Theodosiou¹, J. Irvine¹, C. Maitland-Francis¹, G. Allori¹
¹Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Anaesthesia, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Safe conduct of anaesthesia requires the team to manage unexpected life-threatening events. We believe that delivering multidisciplinary education can improve the successful management of anaesthetic emergencies and patient safety in the peri-operative setting.

We introduced a Quality Improvement (QI) project at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE) to deliver short, regular teaching episodes for the whole theatre team.

Materials and Methods: In May 2022 our department started a QI project where each week, a new adverse event theme was discussed in theatres with flashcards. During the morning theatre brief the “theme of the week” was announced and the anaesthetists led an interactive discussion outlining the topic and the whereabouts of drugs/equipment required.

The AAGBI Quick Reference Handbook[1] was used as reference for the flashcard content. The flashcards were displayed in all 29 operating theatres, recovery and interventional radiology theatre for quick consultation and swapped each week. Each flashcard had a QR code for a survey for the staff to complete questions regarding the improvement of their knowledge & confidence after the training. The flashcards and the survey were designed with Microsoft® PowerPoint and Forms, respectively. This project was registered with the RIE anaesthetic and theatres QI team and the resources made available to all staff.

Results and Discussion: Ten themes were chosen: anaphylaxis, bronchospasm, failed Intubation, malignant hyperthermia, local anaesthetic toxicity, cardiac arrest, laryngospasm, high neuraxial block, major haemorrhage and circulatory embolus.

We collected 13 feedback forms from seven anaesthetists, four nurses and two others. After the training, 12 out of 13 highlighted feeling more prepared to face adverse events and knowing where to locate drugs/equipment.

We were subsequently approached by the interventional radiology staff and asked to replicate this teaching format in their area. Co-operating with the theatre education team, we promptly distributed the flashcards to that department and other areas impressed by this format of education. We aim to extend this project to other hospitals within NHS Lothian and in Scotland.

Conclusion: This project has highlighted the value of team training in the successful management of anaesthetic adverse events.

Reference:

01AP03-05
Continued feedback as a key to sustained reduction in fresh gas flow during inhalational anaesthesia. An update on 22 years of fresh gas flow data

R. Kennedy¹, R. French¹
¹Te Whata Ora | Waitaha Canterbury, Anaesthesia, Christchurch, New Zealand

Background and Goal of Study: The environmental footprint of inhalational anaesthetics is well recognised. Steps to reduce this impact include using agents with lower impact, such as sevoflurane, minimising fresh gas flow (FGF) during volatile anaesthesia, and use of intravenous anaesthesia (TIVA), although there are concerns about residual waste from TIVA.

We have tracked FGF during sevoflurane anaesthesia for 22 years. We always included data from the entire case, not just the maintenance phase, and have shown that higher FGF in the early phase of anaesthesia has a significant effect on overall consumption.[1]

In 2021, with a rebound in TIVA use following restoration of propofol supplies, and a rise in mean FGF from 840 ml/min in 2018 to 965 ml/min in 2020, there was concern that trainees might not be skilled in administering inhalational anaesthesia. Since then we have undertaken more regular detailed analysis of the FGF and TIVA data and provided regular (bi-monthly) feedback and commentary to our Department.

Materials and Methods: Christchurch Hospital is a tertiary hospital in the South Island of Aotearoa New Zealand serving a regional population of 600,00. Our various data logging approaches are described elsewhere[1]. Since 2018 we have used Insights from GE-Healthcare, initially in 10 theatres, expanding to 20 theatres in 2020. These theatres cover a full range of specialties including paediatric, cardiac, neuro, orthopaedic and general surgery. Pooled data are analysed in R and R studio with FGF expressed as a time-weighted mean.

Results and Discussion: For the 6 months June to Nov 2022, our mean FGF was 752 ml/min when sevoflurane was in use. Mean consumption was 13ml of sevoflurane. No desflurane was used in 2022 (6 cases in 2021).

TIVA is used in 60% of cases (2018 32%). Despite increasing use of TIVA, our mean FGF has decreased by 20% since 2020 (970ml/min). Our data suggests cases with trainees working alone, out of hours use lower mean FGF seen in matched cases in-hours.

Conclusion(s): Our mean FGF remains low despite increasing use of TIVA. Ongoing discussion of FGF and best practice volatile anaesthesia is associated with continued reduction in FGF and trainees who are competent practitioners of both TIVA and inhalational anaesthesia.

Reference:
01AP03-06
Software use in staff planning of anesthesiologic care facilities

N. Ohling1, S.-M. Reyle-Hahn2, C. Brodowski3, M. Blobner1,4, S. Kagerbauer1,4
1Klinikum rechts der Isar der TU München, Klinik für Anästhesiologie und Intensivmedizin, Munich, Germany, 2Evangelisches Waldkrankenhaus Spandau, Klinik für Anästhesie und Intensivmedizin, Berlin, Germany, 3Gemeinschaftspraxis Anästhesie-Centrum Essen, Essen, Germany, 4Universität Ulm, Klinik für Anästhesiologie und Intensivmedizin, Ulm, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: The requirements for fair and legally compliant duty scheduling are complex. Software-supported duty and staff scheduling makes work easier for duty schedulers and increases staff satisfaction. We here present survey results on the frequency of software use for duty and staff scheduling.

Materials and Methods: Decision-makers in German anesthesiology departments answered a questionnaire in October 2021 about digitization and software use in annual, vacation, duty, daily and weekly scheduling. Analysis was carried out using Microsoft Excel and R (version 4.1.2). Differences in the frequency of software use between outpatient and inpatient facilities were detected using Fisher’s exact test.

Results and Discussion: 48% of respondents in the outpatient and 75.2% in the inpatient sector use software for staff scheduling. Overall, software applications for staff scheduling, documentation and working time recording are the most frequently used. Automated duty scheduling is least utilized in both sectors. Large outpatient facilities use software more often than small ones (p<0.001) and there are no significant differences between large and small hospitals for inpatient facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Annual scheduling</th>
<th>Vacation scheduling</th>
<th>Duty scheduling</th>
<th>Daily/weekly scheduling</th>
<th>Total software use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>outpatient</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inpatient</td>
<td>46.1%</td>
<td>65.9%</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table: Overview of the use of software to support particular areas for staff scheduling in outpatient and inpatient facilities.

Figure 1. Application of software areas for staff scheduling in inpatient facilities based on the number of beds.

Conclusion(s): The results show that the use of software for staff scheduling is significantly higher in the inpatient sector than in the outpatient sector. Around a quarter of hospitals and more than half of all outpatient facilities do not use any digital option for scheduling and duty roster design.

References:

01AP03-07
Incidence and characteristics of intra-operative cardiac arrest in a Swiss university hospital: a retrospective observational single-centre study

A. Fuchs1, L. Franzmeier1, M. Huber1, T. Riva1, R. Greif1
1Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Incidence of cardiac arrest is a special form of in-hospital cardiac arrest [1]. Scare evidence on the incidence of intraoperative cardiac arrests is reported to be between 2-10 per 10,000 procedures for paediatric patients and 0.5-3 per 10,000 for adult patients. Unfortunately, there is no Swiss data published. Thus, we aimed to investigate the age-adjusted incidence of cardiac arrest patients in the operating room. Furthermore, the cardiac arrests’ association with patients’ characteristics (sex, age, ASA physical status), the urgency of the procedure, and the type of surgery are reported.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval (BASEC 2021-02330) and trial registration (NCT05316779), this retrospective observational single-centre study screened all patients with cardiac arrest during anaesthesia care from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2021. Cardiac arrest was defined as the delivery of at least five chest compressions and/or defibrillation. We included all reported cardiac arrests in the operating room. We excluded all patients with a cardiac arrest outside the operating room and procedure-related cardiac arrest (e.g., extracorporeal circulation).

Results and Discussion: We screened 243,982 anaesthesia procedures, and 209 met the inclusion criteria. Most patients (n=144, 68.9%) were male. Median [Q1; Q3] patients’ age was 68.9 [57.8;79.5] years, including six (2.9%) patients <1 y, seven (3.3%) patients between 1-15 y, and 196 (93.8%) ≥16y of age. Nearly two-thirds of patients with cardiac arrest had an ASA physical status ≥4 (n=139, 66.5%), compared to ASA <4 patients (n=70, 33.5%). More than half of the cardiac arrests occurred during emergency procedures (n=108, 51.7%), compared to elective (n=93, 48.3%). Over two-thirds of the cardiac arrests (n=145, 69.4%) happened during non-cardiac surgery.

Conclusion(s): The overall incidence of intraoperative cardiac arrest was 8.6 (95%-CI: 7.4–9.8) per 10,000 procedures. Incidence for patients <1y of age was 12.5 (95%-CI: 4.6–27.1), for children between 1-16y of age 2.2 (95%-CI: 0.8–4.8), and patients >16y of age 9.3 (95%-CI: 8.0–10.7) per 10,000 procedures, respectively, which is a comparable incidence to published data. Risk factors for a cardiac arrest were identified as: male, cardiac surgery, ASA physical status ≥4, and emergency procedures (the higher the urgency, the higher the risk). Our findings justify regular training for anaesthesia personnel in advanced life support in adults and children to keep...
up guideline-conform resuscitation competencies, which have been shown to increase patient survival. Out of this data, we aim to investigate the aetiology and the circumstances of the patient’s cardiac arrest and their long-term neurological favour survival.

**Reference:**

**Acknowledgements:** We thank the Burgergemeinde Bern for their financial support.

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**01AP03-08**

**Perioperative “call for help” - a novel anesthetist registry in a tertiary surgical center**

R. Eshel¹, D. Karol¹, L. Iacubovici¹, Y. Weiss¹, O. Goren¹, B. Cohen¹
¹Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Tel Aviv, Israel

**Background:** Modern anesthetic care is defined by improvements in patient safety, with an increased focus on the management of acute perioperative adverse events. A “call for help” (CFH) in anesthesia can be defined as a situation that overwhelms the resources and/or personnel, thus requiring additional and immediate assistance. Data on such events within the operating room (OR) are lacking. We aimed to create a registry to identify, document, and characterize events of CFH in a tertiary surgical center in Israel.

**Methods:** Prospective, observational, single-center quality-improvement study. Between February and November 2022, all cases of CFH during the perioperative period at the Tel Aviv Medical Center were documented using an original e-form implemented in the department’s electronic anesthesia record system. Caregivers were encouraged and reminded to self-report incidents. The study included all workstations where anesthesia service is provided including operating rooms, recovery units, endoscopy suites, ambulatory care, and imaging facilities.

**Results:** In total, 92 events of CFH were recorded during the study period. Median interquartile range (IQR) patient age was 47 [27, 70] years, 41% were females, and median [IQR] ASA score was 2 [2, 3]. Most (72%) cases were elective. A total of 83 events occurred in an OR setting. The most common etiologies were respiratory (35%), cardiac (32%), and airway problems (19%). CFH was most frequent during the maintenance phase of anesthesia (47%). There was no difference in the rate of events between residents and senior anesthesiologists. Most commonly, CFH events did not result in a change in the anesthetic plan nor a change in patients’ post-operative placement. Most events recorded in post-anesthesia care units (PACU) were associated with a respiratory etiology (56%). No events were recorded in non-operating room scenarios including angiography and endoscopic units.

**Conclusions:** Our preliminary results offer a comprehensive analysis of emergent perioperative calls for help in a large tertiary center serving a large diverse patient population. The majority of reported CFH events in the operating room setup were associated with a respiratory etiology. Further research is required to better characterize such events and their role in preventing adverse surgical events.

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**01AP03-10**

**Simplified pre-anaesthetic assessment in elective otorhinolaryngology and oral surgery patients**

C.M. Kristensen¹, R. Hesselfeldt¹, H. Brinkerfeldt¹, C. Claudius¹, L.S. Rasmussen¹²
¹Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Department of Anaesthesia, Centre of Head and Orthopaedics, København, Denmark, ²University of Copenhagen, Institute of Clinical Medicine, København, Denmark

**Background and Goal of Study:** Pre-anaesthetic assessment of patients undergoing minor surgical procedures may be based on a questionnaire and a screening of medical records. In Denmark, this can be done using the electronic health record system. The aim of this quality assurance study was to evaluate if this method of pre-anaesthetic assessment resulted in an unacceptable high proportion of cancelled surgeries, defined as more than 3%.

**Materials and Methods:** We included patients scheduled for specific minor otorhinolaryngologic, oral or maxillofacial elective surgeries at Copenhagen University Hospital Rigshospitalet, Denmark between 1 March 2021 and 12 September 2022. A health questionnaire was used to identify patients in need of preoperative optimization, additional information or preparation, and the medical records were also screened. Patients received written information about the anesthetic procedure and were offered a face-to-face interview, if needed. On the day of surgery the anesthetist evaluated if the pre-anaesthetic assessment was inadequate and if the procedure was cancelled. Patients rated their satisfaction with the information they had received regarding their anesthesia on a scale from 1 (unsatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied). Proportions are reported with 95% confidence interval, where relevant.

**Results and Discussion:** We included 300 patients. The vast majority of patients were ASA status I or II, 63% and 34.3%, respectively. No cancellations took place (95 % CI: 0.0 % - 1.2 %) but delays occurred in 8 cases, corresponding to 2.7 % (95 % CI: 0.0 % - 4.5 %). In 21 cases the airway management plan was changed to video laryngoscopy after airway assessment (7.1 % (95 % CI: 4.1 % - 10.0 %)). A patient satisfaction score of 4 or 5 was found in 80 % of all cases, but no patient satisfaction score was available in 12 % of cases.

**Conclusion(s):** Pre-anaesthetic assessment of patients based on a questionnaire and a screening of medical records resulted in less than 3 % cancelled minor surgeries and our quality aim was reached. Patients were generally satisfied with this approach.
01AP03-11
Hearing loss in anesthesia: impact of MRI noise and its potential role in work-fatigue and job burnout, a multicentered Mexico city survey

R. Martínez Uresti1, M. Islas Álvarez1,
1National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery
Manuel Velasco Suarez, Neuroanesthesia, México City, Mexico

Background and Goal of Study: Noise-Induced hearing loss is a neurologic sensory deficit caused by long-term noise exposure. Auditory consequences have been related to occupational noise exposure, however, studies in non-medical population demonstrate that occupational noise is among the most influential factors in the occurrence of work-fatigue. In low-middle income countries such as Mexico, MRI anesthesiology is conducted without auditory protection while the anesthesiologist remains inside the MRI room. We aimed to demonstrate the pivotal role of chronic MRI noise exposure in the development of auditory symptoms, work-fatigue, insomnia and anxiety that could lead to job burnout.

Materials and Methods: Having previously measured the MRI noise decibels, at the most common anesthetia stand points in the three study centers. An adapted and translated to Spanish USA Occupational Hearing Loss Questionnaire 06-2015 was applied to 40 anesthesiologists, 18 had availability of auditory protection in their work centers, 22 did not. Questionnaire was applied every 20-35h of >85dB noise exposure, for 10 months or until significant symptoms appeared. If so, subjects were directed to further auditory loss and burnout screening. R of Spearman was used as a statistical method, further analysis was made to establish the level of agreement. A multiple regression test was performed to establish the odd ratio that affects work-fatigue.

Results and Discussion: Of the 40 participants, 2 were lost. Results showed evidence of good agreement(r = 0.654) between hours of exposure and work-fatigue(p < 0.05). Significant correlations(p < 0.05) between insomnia(r = 0.659) and anxiety(r = 0.650, p < 0.05) were also noted. Tinnitus had a negative correlation. Unprotected physicians experienced tinnitus, work-fatigue, insomnia and anxiety as early as 7 months, and were at higher risk of job burnout after symptoms. In Mexico, auditory protection is often absent, therefore future randomized studies are needed to further explore the physical, psychological, and economic burden of this dangerous practice.

Conclusion: Tis work shows the auditory induced phenomena and mental health dysregulation associated with unprotected MRI anesthesiology. Even though ASA is clear about the importance of auditory protection equipment, efforts must continue to persuade low-middle income countries’ authorities to surpass economic detractors and set up auditory protection for the anesthesiologists in all MRI suites.

01AP03-12
Physiological, psychological and safety-related effects of perioperative fasting practices in adults: protocol of a systematic review of clinical evidence

M. Dias-Vaz1, A.-M. Camilleri Podesta2, B. Hammer3, E. Schindler4, I. Jammer2, J. Elmawieh6, A. Nagrebetsky, F. Bilotta
1Centro Hospitalar de Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Department of Anesthesia, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal,
2Mater Dei Hospital, Department of Anesthesia, Msida, Malta,
3University of Bergen, Library for Medicine, Bergen, Norway,
4Universitätsklinikum Bonn (UKB), Klinik für Anästhesiologie und operative Intensivmedizin (KAI), Bonn, Germany,
5Haukeland University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Bergen, Norway,
6Institut Gustave Roussy, Department of Anaesthesiology, Villejuif, France

Background and Goal of Study: Current fasting guidelines were developed to minimize the incidence of perioperative pulmonary aspiration and make anesthesia safer. However, there is a lack of evidence that prolonged fasting regimens decrease the risk of aspiration. Furthermore, recent publications have highlighted the adverse effects of prolonged fasting, such as hemodynamic and metabolic alterations, potentially supporting a more liberal approach to pre-operative oral intake. This protocol outlines a systematic literature review on the safety-related, physiological and patient experience-related effects of perioperative fasting practices in adult patients. The review will be conducted by the ESAIC Adults Perioperative Fasting Task Force.

Materials and Methods: The study protocol (PROSPERO CRD42022370040) included a comprehensive search of MEDLINE (OvidSP), EMBASE (OvidSP), CINAHL, Web of Science, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) to identify randomized controlled trials, prospective and retrospective studies assessing the effects of perioperative fasting. All searches were restricted to studies published in English, from 2010 till current. The literature search was executed by a professional librarian. Literature screening will be carried out independently by two reviewers with conflict resolution by a third reviewer. We will assess risk of bias in accordance with the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions. If a sufficient number of studies with similar interventions and outcomes are identified, the authors will conduct a meta-analysis. Heterogeneity will be statistically assessed using a I² test and I² statistic. If there is significant heterogeneity, a random effects model will be used; otherwise, a fixed effects model will be employed. In case the meta-analysis is not possible, data will be presented, and quality assessed individually per outcome.

Results and Discussion: To date, we have identified 8679 initial results which are undergoing screening. The findings of this study will be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for publication.

Conclusion(s): This review will identify the evidence on the effects of different fasting regimens and inform the development of clinical recommendations.

Acknowledgements: We would like to appreciate Simone Silvestrini’s collaboration with the group.
01AP04-01
A suspected central anticholinergic syndrome with generalized tonic-clonic seizure after general anesthesia

J.-Y. Chung1, H. Huh1, H. Seo1, J.-W. Yi1
1Kyung Hee University College of Medicine/Kyung Hee University Hospital at Gangdong, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background: Central anticholinergic syndrome (CAS) is related to the activity of cholinergic nerve conduction, and is a condition due to partial to generalized suppression of cholinergic activity in the central nervous system. It can lead to a variety of symptoms including delayed recovery from anesthesia, slowed recovery of consciousness, impaired ability to respond to the anesthesiologist’s orders, limb spasticity, seizure, tachycardia, coma, and mydriasis. An accurate diagnosis can be made after all other causes have been excluded, including anesthetic agents, and by recovery of symptoms after administration of physostigmine, which can cross the blood brain barrier.

Case report: A 60-year old male patient received spine surgery under general anesthesia with delfurane-reminfentanil. The operation was performed for 1 hour 50 minutes without any special event. But, the patient did not regain consciousness for more than 1 hour after waking. About 1 hour 30 minutes after the operation, the patient recovered self respiration, but he underwent generalized tonic clonic seizure for a duration of less than 1 minute. The patient was transferred to ICU and underwent brain CT, MRI scan and EEG test. The results were unremarkable. 16 hours after admission to the ICU, mental status began to improve and was fully recovered 8 hours thereafter. The patient was discharged without any neurologic sequelae.

Discussion: In this case report, the patient underwent delayed recovery from anesthesia and episode of generalized tonic clonic seizure, characteristics consistent with CAS by feature and natural course.

01AP04-02
Anaphylactic shock during hydatid cyst surgery, a diagnosis to keep in mind

A. Arjona1, D. Toral1, A. Hostalot-Sanchez1, A. Rivera1, J. Sastre1, S. Sabaté1
1Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background: The incidence of perioperative anaphylaxis is estimated to be 1:11,000. The most common causes are antibiotics (48%) and neuromuscular blocking agents (25%). Cystic echinococcosis is a zoonotic disease with potential risk of anaphylaxis.

Case report: A 27-year-old male with hepatic hydatidosis was proposed for laparoscopic cystectomy. The patient was premedicated with midazolam. anesthesia was induced with propofol, fentanyl and rocuronium, and the trachea was intubated. Two grams of ceftazolin and 4 grams of dexamethasone were administered without incidence, anesthesia was maintained with sevoflurane. When the cyst was punctured and filled with 3% saline serum, a severe hypotension developed (50/35 mmHg), followed by a tachycardia of 110 bpm and SVRI drop to 1300 dynes.sec.cm⁻².m⁻². Initially, fluid resuscitation and norepinephrine were administrated, but the shock was refractory. A diagnosis of anaphylactic shock was suspected, hence surgical manipulations were stopped and treatment with epi-nephrine and corticosteroids was added. Two boluses of 100 μg of epi-nephrine were administrated, followed by a continuous infusion of 0.1 μg/kg/min. After 10 minutes, hemodynamic status improved and a bolus of 100 mg of hydrocortisone was administrated. Due to persistent hemodynamic instability, the surgery was postponed. The patient was extubated in the next hour and vasoactive drugs were withdrawn in the next 3 hours.

Discussion: In this case, the distributive shock appeared after a long time from the administration of induction drugs, exactly coinciding with the puncture of the cyst. In previous studies, the incidence of anaphylaxis in hydatid cyst surgery was around 1.7% (1); the mechanism of these reactions is complex, and includes hypersensitivity reaction type I and complement activation. Management of anaphylaxis involves stopping potential causal stimuli, massive fluid resuscitation, administration of epinephrine and glucocorticoids.

Reference:

Learning points: Hydatid cyst anaphylaxis is rare and reporting of such cases is crucial, particularly in the context of increasing migration from endemic countries. Awareness of the possibility of anaphylactic shock, good venous access and early resuscitation are key to a successful outcome.

01AP04-03
General anesthesia using propofol infusion for implantation of implantable cardioverter defibrillator in a pediatric patient with Andersen-Tawil syndrome: a case report

J. Baek1, S. Park1, H. Park1, W. Heo1, H.Y. Kim2
1Pusan National University Yangsan Hospital, Department of Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, Mulgeum-eup, Yangsan-si, Kyungsangnam-do, Korea, Republic of, 2School of Medicine, Pusan National University, Department of Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, Mulgeum-eup, Yangsan-si, Kyungsangnam-do, Korea, Republic of

Background: Andersen-Tawil syndrome (ATS) is a very rare genetic disease, which is caused by variants in the KCNJ2 and characterized by a triads of episodic flaccid muscle weakness, ventricular arrhythmias, and physical anomalies. When general anesthesia is required, the clinical triads of ATS patients presents various challenges for anesthesiologists.

Case report: An 11-year-old girl who had a history of recent periodic muscle weakness, and microneurothia was diagnosed with ATS. It was decided to implant ICD due to recurrent ventricular tachycardia (VT) with symptoms. Sinus tachycardia, ventricular bigeminy, prolonged QT interval, and prominent U waves were presented on initial electrocardiogram (ECG). After applying total intravenous anesthesia using 2% propofol and remifentanil, ECG changed sinus bradycardia during a few minutes. ECG returned to initial appearance after successful endotracheal intubation, and titrations of anesthetics without any other procedures. There was no critical event such as VT during operation. We used sugammadex about 4mg/kg for emergence. The patient was transferred to intensive care unit after extubation, and was discharged without complications.
Discussion: ATS patients commonly have the potentials of difficult airway. Anesthesiologists should prepare various kinds and size of airway instrument, video laryngoscope, and fiberoptic bronchoscope. Choice of anesthetics is important because various medications administered may further increase the corrected QT, and QT prolongation can lead to life-threatening persistent VT and sudden death. Propofol infusion had an excellent effect for reducing the frequency of ventricular ectopy. [1] The use of local anesthetics including epinephrine should be cautious, and the recent control of symptom and status of treatment should be checked. If ATS patient has muscle weakness, anesthesiologists should take into consideration delayed recovery from neuromuscular block.


Learning Points: Anesthesiologists should consider the potential difficult airway, drugs which can precipitate QT prolongation, and fatal cardiac arrhythmia, and delayed recovery from neuromuscular in ATS patients.

01AP04-05
Dexmedetomidine induced polyuria during Opioid Sparing Anesthesia: a case report

D. Papageorgiou, K. Papakonstantinou, D. Liazou, A. Charizani, D. Zaferiadis, I. Pozidou
Hippocrates General Hospital Thessaloniki, Anaesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background: Dexmedetomidine is a common drug used in OFA and OSA protocols. We present a case of dexmedetomidine administration in terms of OSA for a gastrectomy procedure, where an unusual adverse effect of dexmedetomidine infusion was observed, that of polyuria.

Case report: A 55-year-old female, ASA III, was scheduled for an elective subtotal gastrectomy due to adenocarcinoma. She was 58kg, 162cm with a medical history of hypothyroidism (receiving thyroxine) and sessions of immunotherapy and chemotherapy. Past surgeries: hernia repair, abdominal hysterectomy. Additional medications: omeprazole 40 mg, alprazolam 0.125mg, duloxetine 30mg. All the appropriate preoperative assessment was performed according to ESAIC guidelines. On the day of the surgery, despite our suggestion, the patient denied the placement of epidural catheter. Standard ESAIC monitors as also nociception monitoring (Analgesic Nociception Index, ANI®, MDoloris, France) were applied. Induction was performed with midazolam 1mg, fentanyl 100mg, propofol 120mg and Rocuronium 50mg. ENT was placed uneventfully and dexamethasone 8mg, omeprazole 40mg and ketamine 30mg were administered. Arterial line, central venous line and urinary catheter were placed without any complications. Maintenance of anesthesia was performed with sevofurane 1.25-2% (MAC 0.8), lidocaine infusion 0.5-1.5 mg/kg/h and dexmedetomidine infusion 0.1-1mcg/kg/h which were titrated to target ANI values between 50-70. Before incision fentanyl 100mcg were administered. 2 hours after induction, due to hemodynamic instability (MAP<60mmHg), noradrenaline infusion was started (max 0.1mcg/kg/min). By that time, the patient received 1500ml of crystalloids and the urine output was 900ml. Regular ABG analysis indicated a gradual reduction of Hb (min 7.4mg/dl) thus one pack RBC was transfused. At the end of the surgery a total of 6.5 lt of crystalloids were administered with a total of 3.5lt urine output (9 ml/kg/h). ABG was normal. Urine dipstick test was normal. Extubation was uneventful and the patient was transferred to the ward.

Discussion: Through the process of elimination, we concluded that the intraoperative polyuria was caused by the dexmedetomidine infusion. Our assumption is supported by several case reports published in literature.

Learning points: Since dexmedetomidine is a valuable medication in both intraoperative and ICU setting, clinicians should be alert to the potential risk of polyuria when using it.

01AP04-06
Dexmedetomidine: anesthetic approach in severe pulmonary hypertension

C. Pereira, R. Calaia, C. Rodrigues, M. Vico
Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anaesthesiologia, Viseu, Portugal

Background: Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC) is allowed to perform certain procedures safely, mainly avoiding disadvantages of airway manipulation.1 Dexmedetomidine has unique pharmacologic properties that make it attractive for MAC, namely its analgesic-sparing property that allows cooperative sedation under respiratory unimpaired function.1

Case report: male, 45yo, ASA IV, with metastatic lung cancer since 2017, previously submitted to cervical radiotherapy to reduce pain and volume of a left supraclavicular mass (obstruction in main pulmonary artery). Other health conditions include a chronic pericardial effusion and chronic respiratory failure requiring oxygen therapy. He was scheduled for urgent left thigh abscess drainage. The preanesthetic assessment revealed a frail patient with severe dyspnea and polypnea, demanding a semi-sitting position (45-60 degrees). Additional complementary diagnostic exams showed: PaO2/FiO2 ratio of 181 mmHg and severe pulmonary hypertension (gradient RV-PA 98 mmHg). We performed a MAC using dexmedetomidine perfusion (0.7 ug/kg/h) and Ketamine bolus doses (15 mg). Surgery lasted 1 hour and was uneventful. He was transferred to the PACU, where he maintaining good pain control and hemodynamic stability.

Discussion: Maintenance of intact respiratory drive, ensuring patient comfort and optimal analgesia is the main goal of sedation.2-3 In this case, dexmedetomidine was chosen to improve oxygenation by decreasing pulmonary vascular resistance, secondary to release of nitric oxide for the endothelial cells; on the other hand, dexmedetomidine hemodynamics effects (bradycardia and hypotension), can be counterbalanced by ketamine, due to its sympathetic stimulation action.


Learning points: Dexmedetomidine perfusion can be a safety option in patients with multiple severe health conditions.
01AP04-07
Urgent surgery in a patient on dual antiplatelet therapy: what to do?

A.C. Fernandes de Freitas¹, B. Carvalho Gonçalves¹, T.M. Gouveia Azevedo¹, M. Mendonça¹, L. Fernandes¹
¹Hospital Dr. Nélio Mendonça, Anesthesiology Department, Funchal, Portugal

Background: Cardiovascular (CV) events are a major cause of morbidity and mortality. Antiplatelet medications are first-line therapy in preventing CV thrombotic events. The perioperative team must design an optimal strategy to manage these medications based on each patient’s risk of thrombosis and surgical bleeding.¹

Case report: A 73-year-old male was hospitalized due to a proximal humerus fracture with indication for surgical repair. He was submitted to an elective percutaneous coronary intervention in the prior 30 days and was taking aspirin and clopidogrel. Personal history of hypertension, dyslipidemia, obstructive sleep apnea, peripheral arterial disease, iron-deficiency anemia, Mobitz type II block with permanent pacemaker and ischemic heart disease with acute myocardial infarction (MI) at 42 years of age. As it was an urgent surgery with high hemorrhagic risk in a patient with high thrombotic risk, the case was discussed with the orthopedic and cardiology departments. It was decided to delay the surgery and suspend clopidogrel for 4 days, maintaining aspirin. In the preoperative period, a detailed anesthetic evaluation was made and an electrocardiogram and blood analysis were performed. The echocardiogram findings were normal. The surgery was performed under general anesthesia combined with interscalene brachial plexus block. Clopidogrel was reintroduced 6 hours after the procedure, which was uneventful. In the postoperative period, he was admitted to an intermediate care unit and serial assessments of troponin and natriuretic peptide were made. He had no relevant bleeding or thrombotic events.

Discussion: In a patient with high thrombotic risk proposed for a surgery with high hemorrhagic risk, it is generally recommended to discontinue clopidogrel for 5 days, maintaining aspirin and reintroducing clopidogrel as soon as the hemostasis conditions are guaranteed. Maintaining dual antiplatelet therapy in this case would be a risk factor for blood loss during the intraoperative and postoperative period, aggravating preexisting anemia and potentially worsening myocardial ischemia (type 2 MI).


Learning points: Perioperative management of dual antiplatelet therapy is complex and requires a team-based approach to risk stratification. Both continuation and discontinuation of antiplatelet therapy can be associated with significant risks.

01AP04-09
Development of a open source, computer based Target Controlled Infusion simulator

F Martinez Torrente¹
¹Uppsala Akademiska Sjukhus, AnOpIVA, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Dept., Uppsala, Sweden

Background: Target Controlled Infusion (TCI) is a reliable and widely method used for intravenous anesthesia delivery. Understanding its principles and potential risks can be difficult though. Several computer based tools are or have been available for training but either are no longer maintained or no updates have been published. Our goal is to build an up to date, open source, computer based simulator that can be easily distributed and understood by users.

Case report: We wrote a program in the Python programming language based on previously reported algorithms(1) describing how to achieve a target concentration with a continuous infusion of a drug following a three compartment model. Through a graphic user interface the user can start one or two virtual pumps with pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic data for propofol (Schnider and Eleveld), remifentanil (Minto) or sufentanil (Gepts). The image shows what the user sees and interact with. The simulated data can be downloaded.

Discussion: The pharmacokinetics of most of the commonly used intravenous anesthetics are best explained with a three compartment model. This lies behind the need to continuously decrease the administration rate of the drug during an anesthetic. Evidence shows that this is safer achieved through TCI delivery systems(2). Therefore it is important that the clinician has a thorough understanding of both the pharmacological principles and how pumps work.

To our knowledge, our TCI simulator is the only one at present that shows drug distribution in all compartments for a variety of drugs and models. Its interactive design makes easier experimenting and understanding.

2. Pandit JJ et al. 5th National Audit Project on accidental awareness during general anaesthesia. Br J Anaesth 2014; 113: 549-559

Learning points: Our TCI pump simulator helps to understand the pharmacological principles behind TCI and how delivery systems operates.
Anesthesia is the clinical practice of controlling the patient’s level of awareness, sensation or pain during surgery. General anesthesia (GA) is a superior anesthetic technique to general anesthesia for this procedure.

Conclusions:

Sedation is an adequate and equally safe anesthetic technique for percutaneous closure of patent foramen ovale (PFO) under general anesthesia (GA) versus sedation according to three variables: anesthesia time, immediate complications, and time from surgery to discharge in a series of 22 cases.

Materials and methods:

Between November 2019 to March 2022, percutaneous closure of PFO was performed in 30 patients. A review of the clinical history of this cases was made, 8 did not meet the inclusion criteria, so the analysis of the described variables was done in 22 cases. In the GA group, 7 (63.6%) were males and 4 (36.4%) females, while in the sedation group 7 (63.6%) were females and 4 males (36.4%). The mean age in the general anesthesia group was 52.1 years and in the sedation group 65. For PFO closure, Gore Cardioform devices were used in 8 (72.7%) and Amplatzer in 3 (27.3%) of the patients who were under GA, while 6 (54.5%) and 5 (45.5%) of the patients under sedation received Gore Cardioform and Amplatzer Cribiform respectively.

Results and Discussion:

The mean time under anesthesia of the GA group was 120 minutes, while that of the patients under sedation was 68 minutes. In the group of patients under GA, 6 (54.5%) had immediate postoperative complications, 5 had mild pain at the femoral puncture site and 1 had an hematoma that did not require invasive treatment; no patient under sedation presented complications during this period. The time from the intervention to discharge in the general anesthesia group was 31.6 hours, while in the sedation group was 65. For PFO closure, Gore Cardioform devices were used in 8 (72.7%) and Amplatzer in 3 (27.3%) of the patients who were under GA, while 6 (54.5%) and 5 (45.5%) of the patients under sedation received Gore Cardioform and Amplatzer Cribiform respectively.

Conclusions:

Sedation is a superior anesthetic technique to general anesthesia for this procedure.

Reference:

01AP04-12  
Paracetamol-induced anaphylactic shock: report of a rare and unexpected case

M. Flor de Lima¹, T. da Silva Carvalho¹, M.J. Tarroso¹  
¹Centro Hospitalar Tâmega e Sousa, Anesthesiology, Penafiel, Portugal

Background: Anaphylaxis is an emergency that leads to increased perioperative morbidity and mortality. The most common etiologic agents are neuromuscular relaxants and antibiotics. Anaphylactic reactions to paracetamol are very rare events with only a few cases described. Its cause-effect relationship is difficult to establish and only a few are investigated.

Case report: We present a case of a 82-year-old male patient, ASA II, with history of obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia. He was proposed for neurolysis of the median nerve, under sedo-analgesia and local anesthesia. The patient denied any history of drug allergy. After standard ASA monitoring in the operating room, the patient started intravenous paracetamol before the start of surgery. 5 minutes after, he suddenly felt unwell, with generalized rash, tachycardia, hypotension and rhythm changes in the ECG. The infusion of paracetamol, the only drug given to the patient, was immediately suspended. Patient then presented with altered state of consciousness followed by cardiorespiratory arrest in ventricular fibrillation. There was a high suspicion of anaphylactic shock due to paracetamol - grade IV of Ring and Messmer scale. Advanced life support was immediately started with spontaneous recovery of circulation after 3 cycles, both at shockable rhythm. He was intubated and transferred to the intensive care unit for post arrest care.

After a deeper investigation, it was found that he had already been admitted to an emergency room with anaphylaxis induced by oral paracetamol. Patient was referred to Immunology. Anaphylactic shock was recorded on the hospital platform and reported to the national drug regulator authority.

Discussion: With this case we intend to emphasize that anaphylaxis can be induced by common drugs in clinical anesthetic practice. For this reason, in the preoperative period we have to search and question for possible allergic reactions to drugs.

Intra- and postoperatively, the anesthesiologist should always be aware of the monitoring and patient’s clinic, as well as having a high degree of suspicion for the diagnosis of anaphylaxis. It is important to have a protocol involving Anesthesiology and Immunology for the etiological investigation through serum tryptase levels (0h, 2h and 24h), skin tests for allergies and follow-up by the Immunology team.

Learning points: Anaphylaxis can be induced by any drug and the anesthesiologist should always be prepared.

01AP05-01  
Establishing machine-learning model based on preoperative consultation data to assist physician in evaluation of American Society of Anesthesiologists Physical Status Classification – a deep learning model

Y.C. Chen¹, PF Chen¹  
¹Far Eastern Memorial Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: Examples of the American Society of Anesthesiologists physical status (ASA PS) classification system increase consistency. Although these examples increase correct assignment, the effect on automatic classification models needs investigation. This study aims to build an automatic classification model. We propose that models trained on revised classes according to the examples may be more accurate than models trained on the classes originally classified by anesthesiologists.

Materials and Methods: After obtaining IRB approval, we retrospectively collect electronic health records from Jan 1st 2016 to Dec 30th 2020. Patients who were older than 18 years old undergoing surgery with general or neuraxial anesthesia were included. Cases were excluded if they have ASA classes 5, 6 or missing data. Input data include age, gender, height, weight, commodities, laboratory data. Labels were ASA classes before or after manually reviewed and corrected based on ASA examples. 20% of the dataset was held out as a testing set.

Four machine learning models, (Logistic regression, XGBoost, Random Forest, and Deep neural network) were used for training. The model performance was compared with 5-fold cross-validated area under the receiver operating characteristics curves (AUC), hold-out AUC and the ordinal squared error (MSE).

Results and Discussion: A final cohort of 122,257 patients was recruited, where 9288 patients were selected randomly from the cohort to have ASA classes corrected. The random forest classifier has the highest hold out AUC (Table 1; original AUC: 0.861; manual-review AUC: 0.900). The increased AUC indicates better prediction of ASA classes using manual-reviewed classes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>5-fold CV AUC*</th>
<th>Holdout AUC*</th>
<th>Ordinal MSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manual (n=9288)</td>
<td>0.890 ± 0.004</td>
<td>0.865</td>
<td>0.530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logical regression</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xgboost</td>
<td>0.985 ± 0.001</td>
<td>0.878</td>
<td>0.291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Random Forest</td>
<td>0.984 ± 0.001</td>
<td>0.900</td>
<td>0.291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Learning</td>
<td>0.960 ± 0.001</td>
<td>0.877</td>
<td>0.420</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Original (n=122,257)| 0.866 ± 0.000 | 0.819 | 0.675 |
| Logical regression  |                |      |      |
| Xgboost             | 0.989 ± 0.000  | 0.842 | 0.234 |
| Random Forest       | 0.989 ± 0.000  | 0.861 | 0.249 |
| Deep Learning       | 0.981 ± 0.001  | 0.810 | 0.355 |

* macro, ovr

Table 1.

Conclusion: The classification model based on manual-reviewed classes outperformed models based on original classes.
01AP05-02  
e- ASA: an automatic anesthetic risk scale for endoscopy procedures

F. Mendoza Garcés¹, B. Esnaola Iriarte¹, S. García Gutierrez², N. Larrea Aguirre², S. Telletxea Benguria¹, V. Álvarez López¹
¹OSI Barrualde-Galdakao, Anestesiologia, Usansolo, Spain
²OSI Barrualde-Galdakao, Investigación, Usansolo, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: It is essential to assess the anesthetic risk of patients who require sedation for any type of procedure. Endoscopies have advanced in complexity and, in turn, the patients who have to undergo these procedures present greater morbidity and mortality.

With the aim of improving patient safety and the best distribution of resources in relation to anesthetic risk, our team has created an instrument to assess anesthetic risk based on artificial intelligence, called “e-ASA algorithm”.

The aim of the study is to explore the performance of the e-ASA to predict physician related ASA.

Materials and Methods: Based on 18722 patient’s interventions, our team has developed an automated analytics framework for a preoperative risk algorithm that uses existing clinical data in electronic health records related to age, sex and comorbidities apart from other information related to toxic habits.

This is a cross-sectional study including patients who were undergoing scheduled endoscopy in Galdakao-Usansolo Hospital. Anestesiologist calculated the ASA at the bed-side previous to endoscopy and later, and the analyst calculated the e-ASA for the same patients.

For the statistical analysis, first we did a descriptive analysis of the variables using frequencies and percentages for categorical variables, and mean and standard deviation for continuous variables. The ASA indicator was estimated using XGBoost classification models.

First, a binary classification XGBoost model was used for the separation between low risk (ASA I/II) and high risk (ASA III/IV) patients. Then, a new binary classification XGBoost models were developed to refine the prediction and determine the actual ASA indicator.

Results and Discussion: In the initial classification model (ASA I/II and ASA III/IV), the recall was 0.80, precision 0.57, Cohen’s Kappa 0.41 and AUC 0.78. In the case of low risk rating model (ASA I and ASA II), this values were 0.72, 0.90, 0.27 and 0.79, and in the case of high risk rating model (ASA III and ASA IV), 0.44, 0.13, 0.08, and 0.60.

Conclusion(s): We constructed an automated predictive model for machine-learning algorithm with high discriminatory ability for assessing the surgical risk similar to clinicians.

Reference:

01AP05-03  
Cyclic pulmonary recruitment study in abdominal robot surgery under deep neuromuscular blockade

J.C. Gutiérrez Franchi¹, J.J. Ariño Irujo¹, M. Embid¹, V. Bizga¹, L. Santé Serna¹
¹Hospital Clínic San Carlos, Anesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Laparoscopic abdominal surgery is one of the most frequent surgical procedures. However, the insufflation of pneumoperitoneum, altogether with surgery performed in Trendelenburg position and the anesthetic act itself, favor the appearance of atelectasis and deterioration of respiratory dynamics. Performing the cyclical pulmonary recruitment maneuver under deep neuromuscular relaxation should produce an improvement in oxygenation and pulmonary dynamic compliance in patients undergoing robotic abdominal surgery.

Materials and Methods: 32 patients undergoing robotic abdominal surgery with pneumoperitoneum insufflation and Trendelenburg position under deep neuromuscular blockade, period 12/04/20 to 01/30/21, oxygenation, ventilation and dynamic compliance were assessed at the beginning and at the end of surgery before and after performing the pulmonary recruitment maneuver by stepwise PEEP increase. Likewise, evaluation of the ideal PEEP and the hemodynamic effects of the pulmonary recruitment maneuver.

Results and Discussion: Pulmonary recruitment maneuvers under deep neuromuscular blockade significantly improved the parameters of oxygenation, ventilation and dynamic compliance. The incidence of hypotension requiring vasoconstrictor treatment was 12.5%.

Conclusion(s): Unless contraindicated and under strict hemodynamic monitoring, performing recruitment maneuvers before and after the application of pneumoperitoneum + Trendelenburg improves oxygenation, ventilation, and the CO2 gradient, and compliance.

References:
**Background and Goal of Study:** The strategy of optimal muscle tension management (OMT) comprises intraoperative targeted neuromuscular block and its quick reversal at the end of surgery. While monitoring of neuromuscular block and its reversal using sugammadex are out-of-pocket services in Taiwan, they are not part of our routine anesthetic practices.

We therefore evaluated whether OMT management improves surgical conditions over routine management of neuromuscular block and its reversal during laparoscopic cholecystectomy.

**Materials and Methods:** In this single-center, randomized, surgeon- and patient-blind study, 70 patients scheduled for laparoscopic cholecystectomy were allocated to receive OMT (rocuronium to keep train-of-four count at zero and sugammadex reversal) or routine anesthetic practice (rocuronium at the anesthesia providers’ discretion and neostigmine reversal). General anesthesia was maintained with sevoflurane to achieve bispectral values between 40 and 60. Pneumoperitoneum pressure was initiated at 12 mmHg and adjusted according to the surgeon’s evaluation. The primary outcome was the quality of the surgical field reported by the single surgeon on a 4-point rating scale from excellent to poor.

**Results and Discussion:** The OMT management did not improve surgical conditions compared with routine anesthetic practice without OMT: median rating scale [interquartile range] 2 [1-2] vs 2 [1-2], respectively (p=0.21). Duration of surgery (79.5 [66-103] min vs 75 [58-109] min, p=0.60), time from the end of surgery to airway extubation (6 [4-7] min vs 5.5 [4-9] min, p=0.64), and pain scores at the post-anesthesia care unit (4 [3-5] vs 4 [3-6], p=0.94) were not significantly different.

**Conclusion(s):** The OMT management did not improve surgical conditions over routine practice without OMT in patients undergoing laparoscopic cholecystectomy during sevoflurane anesthesia. (NCT: 041650577).
01AP05-08
Sedation depth monitoring during endoscopic procedures using a novel in-ear electroencephalogram (EEG): an exploratory investigation

T. Watanabe1, T. Ibaraki2, H. Sunakawa1, M. Hashimoto3, T. Yano1
1National Cancer Center Hospital East, Department of Gastroenterology and Endoscopy, Kashiwa, Japan, 2ViE STYLE inc., ViE LAB, Kamakura, Japan, 3National Cancer Center Hospital East, Department of Anesthesiology, Kashiwa, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: While moderate sedation is mainly used for endoscopic procedures, there are no devices for monitoring it properly, as Bispectral index (BIS) monitors currently commonly used for general anesthesia, is less accurate with moderate sedation. Furthermore, in Japan, endoscopists adjust sedation without anesthesiologists and administer medication empirically based mainly on vital signs and so on.

Thus, a device that is simple to use and can objectively evaluate the depth of sedation is desired. In this study, we investigated the possibility of sedation depth evaluation in endoscopic procedures using an in-ear-EEG, which is currently under development.

Materials and Methods: We recorded the EEG of 10 patients undergoing upper gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures at our hospital from April to June 2022. During the procedures, Richmond Agitation-Sedation Scale (RASS) was recorded as the true depth of sedation, as well as BIS.

We constructed two machine learning models: one to predict the depth of sedation backward from the EEG for the entire procedure (full-time model), and the other to estimate the subsequent depth of sedation in real time using 15 minutes of data at the beginning of the procedure (real-time model). For the full-time model, 90% was used for training and 10% for validation, while in the real-time model, we used the remaining time for validation.

We evaluated two outcomes for each patient: First, the accuracy of binary classification of patients as being sedated to RASS -4 or below, as predicted by the recorded EEGs. Second, the correlation coefficient of the actual and predicted likelihood of RASS from the EEG, and of RASS and BIS over time.

Results and Discussion: The mean procedure time was 92.4±32.9 minutes. For the full-time model, it was possible to classify with 81.68% accuracy as to whether the patient was sedated or not, and the correlation coefficient with predicted RASS was 0.67, which was higher than with BIS of 0.44 (t(9)=4.53, p=0.001). Six patients had valid data for the real-time model.

The accuracy of real-time model was 70.97%. The correlation coefficients of real-time analysis were 0.46 for the predicted RASS, and 0.40 for BIS. These results indicate that in-ear EEG can predict the depth of sedation with the same degree of accuracy as BIS.

Conclusion: In-ear-EEG enabled us to monitor the depth of sedation, showing that it has the potential to estimate the real time sedation depth as accurately as BIS.

01AP05-09
Influence of pneumoperitoneum on acid-base disturbances during robot-assisted laparoscopic surgery

D. Chiumello1,2, G. Annibali2, G. Besana Morosini2, F. Mazza2, L. Serio2, S. Coppola1
1ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Milano, Italy, 2University of Milan, Department of Health Sciences, 20122, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Robotic-assisted surgery (RAS) requires lower pneumoperitoneum to establish a functional operating field, but it may induce acid-base derangements. Our goal was to investigate variations of plasmatic or urinary strong ion difference (SID) alterations during RAS.

Materials and Methods: In 21 anesthetized and paralyzed patients we measured respiratory mechanics, gas exchange, hemodynamics, plasmatic and urinary acid-base equilibrium variables [1] during RAS 30 minutes after induction of general anesthesia (Baseline), after pneumoperitoneum induction (Pneumoperitoneum) and after pneumoperitoneum withdrawal (End).

Results and Discussion: Plasma apparent SID (39.4±2.2 vs 39.9±2.3 vs 38.3±4.0, p=0.467) and pH (7.39±0.04 vs 7.40±0.04 vs 7.38±0.05, p=0.467) did not significantly differ within the study, while effective SID was significantly greater during pneumoperitoneum (36.5±4.3 vs 39.3±4.0 vs 35.6±5.2, p=0.005), probably because of an higher arterial carbon dioxide partial pressure (44±4 vs 46±5 vs 42±8, p=0.021). Urinary SID decreased during pneumoperitoneum (48.8±26.1 vs 33.6±23.8 vs 48.1±20, p=0.027), in association with a reduced urinary sodium output (132±52 vs 106±51 vs 113±51, p=0.025).

Conclusion: During RAS, pneumoperitoneum induced reduction of urinary SID by inducing sodium retainment, with no clinically significant effect on plasmatic acid-base equilibrium.
01AP05-10
Comparison of perioperative pain in robot-assisted vs laparoscopic radical cystectomy with a multimodal analgesia approach

M. Vall1, A. Pardo1, L. Aguilera1, M. Puyada1, B. Fort1, M. Corcoy1
1Parc Salut Mar - Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: According to various studies, robotic surgery seems to reduce intraoperative opioid consumption but has failed to show a reduction in postoperative pain when compared to the laparoscopic approach. Literature concerning both approaches is very limited for radical cystectomy. The aim of this study is to assess intraoperative opioid consumption and postoperative pain in robot-assisted radical cystectomy (RARC) and laparoscopic radical cystectomy (LRC).

Materials and Methods: An observational cohort study including oncological patients in an ERAS programme with intraoperative multimodal analgesia (intravenous perfusion of 1.5 mg/Kg/h lidocaine, 10 mg/Kg/h magnesium sulphate and 0.3 mcg/Kg/h dexmedetomidine) who underwent RARC or LRC with ileal conduit and ileal neobladder between 2019 and 2022 was performed. Demographic data of both groups was collected (ASA classification, age, gender, BMI).

Primary outcomes were opioid requirements and pain score through numerical rating scales (NRS). We also collected incidence of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV), postoperative ileus, and requirement of parenteral total nutrition (PTN). Daily opioid use was converted to morphine sulphate equivalents (MSE) to facilitate comparison. Statistical significance was set at p-value <0.05.

Results and Discussion: A total of 44 patients were included (20 patients in LRC group and 24 patients in RARC group). No significant differences were observed in the demographic data between both groups except for ASA (LRC group had a higher rate of ASA III patients: 72% vs 32% while RARC group had 12% ASA IV vs 5% in LRC group). NRS in RARC and LRC were similar (1.11 ± 2.08 in LRC vs 1.43 ± 1.95 in RARC, p = 0.61 at 24h; 1.06 ± 1.92 LRC vs 0.96 ± 1.66 in RARC; p=0.96 at 48 h, and 0.67±1.33 RARC vs 1±1.78 RARC at 72h, p = 0.51). Intraoperative MSE were significantly lower in RARC (44.22±16.58 mg LRC vs 33.85 ± 10.37 mg in RARC; p=0.02) but no differences in postoperative MSE, PONV, ileus nor in need for PTN were found.

Conclusion(s): Despite a reduction in intraoperative opioid consumption in RARC, postoperative pain is similar for both techniques (RARC and LPS). Intraoperative lower MSE in the RARC group did not imply a difference in PONV, ileus or need for TPN. To the best of our knowledge this is the first study to compare pain scores between LRC and RARC.

01AP05-11
Is robot assisted radical cystectomy a good alternative to laparoscopic radical cystectomy in bladder cancer?

A. Pardo1, M. Vall1, M. Sadurní1, H. Rivera1, A. Ferrer1, M. Corcoy1
1Parc de Salut Mar - Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Minimally invasive surgery such as laparoscopy has replaced open surgery in many procedures during the last two decades. The recent development of robot assisted radical cystectomy (RARC) is becoming very popular as some studies have found that it reduces blood loss and postoperative complications compared to laparoscopic cystectomy (LRC).

The aim of our study was to compare both techniques in terms of kidney injury, postoperative complications, intraoperative blood loss, readmission rate and length of hospital stay (LOS).

Materials and Methods: A prospective cohort study including patients in an ERAS programme who underwent elective oncological RARC or LRC with ileal conduit or ileal neobladder between 2018 and 2022 was performed. Demographic data of both groups was collected (ASA, age, gender, BMI). Kidney injury was assessed by postoperative creatinine and KDIGO classification while postoperative complications were collected as CCI (comprehensive complications index). Blood loss was measured as visible millilitres and transfusion rate. Statistical significance was set at p <0.05.

Results and Discussion: 42 patients in LRC group and 26 in RARC were included. Both groups were comparable in age, BMI, and gender. Surgery time was significantly longer in RARC (368.4 ± 53.4 min vs 274.8 ± 50.7 min; p<0.01). Although not statistically significant, postoperative creatinine was greater in LRC group than in RARC group (1.4 ± 0.9 vs 1.3 ± 0.7 mg/dL at 24h; 1.6 ± 1.1 vs 1.2 ± 0.6 mg/dL at 48h and 1.6 ± 1.2 vs 1.1 ± 0.6 mg/dL at 72 h postoperative). KDIGO stages I-II were greater in RARC group (80.7% vs 61.9%), while stage III and IV were higher in LRC group (28.5% vs 15.3% and 4.8% vs 0% respectively).

Blood loss and transfusion rate were not significantly different (respectively p=0.89 and p=0.97). LRC had slightly higher CCI (28.0 ± 27.3 vs 20.8 ± 17.7; p= 0.3). LOS appeared to be longer in LRC (19.2 ± 17.3 days vs 12.6 ± 5.7; p=0.12) as well as readmission date (33.3% vs 11.5%).

Conclusion(s): Despite not reaching statistical significance, it appears RARC is a safe procedure with no differences in postoperative complications or blood loss compared to LRC. We found a tendency to reduce postoperative kidney injury, LOS and readmission rate in RARC that could make RARC an attractive technique. However, our results have to be confirmed in larger future studies.
Malignant Hyperthermia: characteristics of 182 suspected patients from a French diagnosis and follow-up center

F Julien-Marsollier¹, P Pardessus¹, M. Lagarde¹, B. Bruneau¹, S. Dahmani¹
¹Hopital Robert Debre, Anesthesiology, Paris, France

Background and Goal of Study: Malignant Hyperthermia (MH) is a rare but potentially lethal complication of General Anesthesia (GA). In France, MH-patient care is structured around four national centers: Paris, Lille, Grenoble and Marseille. The lack of a national, MH-specific, patient database and the French legislation on genetic data make epidemiological surveys of the disease difficult, both in terms of clinical presentation and genetic analysis. We studied the characteristics of patients referred to the Paris center for suspected MH.

Materials and Methods: We performed a retrospective, descriptive study based on the medical records of patients referred to the study center for suspected MH over the last 40 years. The primary aim was to describe this population of suspected cases. We also compared the clinical features and lab results of patients whose MH susceptible status was confirmed, with those for whom the diagnosis was finally excluded.

Results and Discussion: 182 MH-suspected patients were included in this work. Among them, 121 were males (66%), and 77 (42%) had had at least one uneventful GA prior to the event. Volatile anesthetics agents were administered in 139 (76%) patients, along with Suxamethonium in 43 (23.6%) patients. The most frequent clinical symptoms were hypercapnia in 102 (56%), hyperthermia in 97 (53%) and muscle rigidity in 47 (25%). In vitro contracture Test (IVCT) were performed in 58 (32%) patients, and yielded abnormal results in 12 (21%). Genetic analysis was performed in 55 (40%), and a validated (www.emhg.org/genetics), causal mutation was found in 36 (54%) patients. The mutated gene was RYR1 in 35 (97%). Among the 182 referred patients, 93 (51%) had conclusive results allowing to decisively classify them as MH-susceptible or otherwise. Sixty (33%) patients were positively diagnosed as MH-susceptible.

Conclusion(s): This is one of the first French epidemiological study of malignant hyperthermia patients. Clinical symptoms and genetic findings allowed positive diagnosis in a third of the patients. A nation-wide study could help in refining the data and developing knowledge about the topic to the betterment of patient healthcare in this rare condition.

Obturator reflex circuit breaker: an idea to avoid obturator reflex

R. Abdullayev¹, T. Lacin², Y. Tanidir³
¹Marmara University, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey, ²Marmara University, Thoracic Surgery, Istanbul, Turkey, ³Marmara University, Urology, Istanbul, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Obturator reflex is one of the most feared complications of the transurethral bladder surgery, as it can result in bladder perforation. Also known as obturator jerk, the reflex occurs because of the stimulation of the obturator nerve by electrocautery.

We put forward an idea that the reflex can be detected and the power to the electrocautery can be cut off to prevent the complication. In this study we aimed to use electromyography (EMG) sensors in the detection of the obturator reflex.

Materials and Methods: After the Investigational Review Board approval (05.04.2019/No:09.2019.402), two male patients scheduled for transurethral resection of bladder tumor (TURBT) under spinal anesthesia were included in the study. During the operation, EMG measurements from the leg adductor muscles were made, and the responses of deviation from baseline due to electrocauterization were also recorded. Obturator reflexes observed and electrophysiological responses in this situation were also recorded. Written informed consents have been obtained from the patients.

Results and Discussion: The first patient developed a visible obturator reflex 10 times within three minutes. However, none of these were reflected in the EMG recordings due to artifacts. The second patient did not develop obturator reflex.

Various methods have been used to prevent the obturator reflex, including various transurethral resection systems, using laser instead of diathermy, classical and transvesical obturator nerve block [1-5]. Use of muscle relaxants is still considered the gold standard in preventing the obturator reflex.

Conclusion(s): Electrophysiological measurements made with EMG in the evaluation of the obturator reflex that may occur in transurethral bladder surgery are of no value due to the intense artifacts that occur during the cauterization procedure. Use of systems to prevent electrocautery artifacts may make these measurements more useful.

References:

Qualitative analysis of nitrous oxide’s subjective effects

P Valtonen¹, S. Markkanen², K. Järventausta¹, M. Tenhunen³, M.-L. Kalliomäki²
¹Tampere University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Technology, Tampere, Finland, ²Tampere University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Tampere, Finland, ³Tampere University Hospital, Department of Ear and Oral Diseases, Tampere, Finland

Background and Goal of Study: Nitrous oxide (N2O) is best known as laughing gas although its effects are far wider. Quantitative studies on subjective effects of N2O have had conflicting results, as N2O has remarkable variability in its effects ranging from sedation to stimulation (1) and pleasantness to unpleasantness (2). All N2O effects are not therefore pleasurable and due to its wide use, this effects many patients. Aim of this study was to examine the subjective effects of N2O with qualitative content analysis.
Materials and Methods: 20 healthy male volunteers received 20 minutes of 50% N2O. Data consists of free-form text answers to an open-ended question of N2O’s subjective effects. This data was analysed with classical qualitative content analysis, which aims to produce a conceptual description of a phenomenon without predetermined categories. (3)

Results and Discussion: Analysis produced two themes. First is that N2O is mind-altering and the second that N2O produces sensory overload, where existing enhances and non-existing appears. Mind-altering capabilities could be further divided into dreamlike states and heightened emotions.

Dreamlike states produced a variety of dreams spanning from transcendent experiences to surreal. Euphoria was just one of the emotions N2O produced, whereas fear was represented both in scary dreams and fears of losing control. Sensory overload describes how different sensations seem to blend into one another, which distorts perception, accentuates external noises and increases bodily sensations. This sensory overload highlights the importance of a calm, noise-free environment during clinical use of N2O with minimal monitoring, as these sensory inputs are heightened.

Conclusion(s): Subjective effects of N2O can be significant and confusing to the participant, as profound fear, scary and transcendent dreams occur. Subjective effects of N2O should be studied qualitatively in different populations and settings, as experiences are likely to vary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dantrolene stocking</th>
<th>Dantrolene in stock</th>
<th>Stock 1–17 vials</th>
<th>Stock 18–35 vials</th>
<th>Stock 36–47 vials</th>
<th>Stock 48+ vials</th>
<th>Fully restock after use</th>
<th>Median number of MH cases reported in previous 3 years</th>
<th>Fully restock after 1 year of expiry</th>
<th>Agreements in place to enable access to additional dantrolene</th>
<th>Dantrolene restocking processes</th>
<th>Restocking is an informal process, after confirmation of usage or expiry by colleagues</th>
<th>Restocking is a fully automated, immediate process</th>
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References:

01AP06-04
Hospital stocking levels of dantrolene for the treatment of malignant hyperthermia: a survey of five European countries

R. Hinde1, J. Halonen1, M. Watson1, A. Cieniewicz2
1Norgine, Norgine House, Harfield, United Kingdom, 2Medical University of Warsaw, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Warsaw, Poland

Background and Goal of Study: The only treatment widely available for the rare life-threatening condition malignant hyperthermia (MH) is dantrolene. European MH Group (EMHG) guidelines state that facilities using halogenated inhalation anaesthetics and/or suc-
cynicholine should hold 36 vials of dantrolene, but evidence suggests stock levels are sub-optimal. The recommended starting dose is 2.5 mg/kg, and doses of up to 10 mg/kg may be needed. Even short delays to administering dantrolene can lead to complications.

Materials and Methods: To investigate dantrolene stocking processes and reasons for shortfalls relative to EMHG guidelines, we commissioned IPSOS to conduct interviews with 150 HCPs based in centres using potential MH trigger agents, recruited via an online panel and emailed invitations. The panel consists of many centres, without known bias towards any centre/specialism.

Results and Discussion: Most centres (97%) stock dantrolene, but 47% stock less than the EMHG minimum guidance of 36 vials. Although 99% restock after use, only 75% restock the full amount, mainly due to agreements for emergency supplies from elsewhere (41%), low probability of MH (36%) and high cost (14%).

A mean of 1.5 cases/centre/year was reported, on which basis stocks are calculated. In 50% of centres, restocking is informal, after HCPs confirm use/expiration; in 25% restocking is done through automated ordering. Only 13% set stocking levels by European guidelines; most use national, hospital or HCP recommendations. Table 1 lists details by country.

Conclusion(s): Dantrolene stocking and restocking levels are often lower than EMHG guidelines recommend. Given the importance of adequate stock for the timely and complete treatment of MH, this could increase risks of negative outcomes.

References:

01AP06-05
Underbody contact carbon-fiber versus forced-air warming to prevent hypothermia during gynaecological laparoscopic surgery: a randomized trial

C. Velasco¹, M. Chanzá¹, C. Rodríguez¹, H. Rivera Ramos¹
¹Parc de Salut Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Inadvertent perioperative hypothermia is a common side effect in patients undergoing surgery, and active warming is recommended. Forced-air and resistive systems, mainly overbody, are so far the most commonly used in our daily practice and also the most studied. However, many different blankets are available, designs are heterogeneous, and results appear controversial.

The goal of this study was to compare core body temperature after laparoscopic surgery using a forced-air heating system versus a carbon-fiber electric blanket, both underbody systems.

Materials and Methods: This is a single-centre, randomized, parallel-group, and open clinical trial. We recruited consecutive patients undergoing elective major laparoscopic surgery for gynaecological cancer with an expected operative time of at least 2 h.

Thirty patients were randomly assigned to 2 groups: Group A: Coviën® forced-air blanket (n=15); group C: WARMTAC™ electric contact blanket (n=15). Body temperatures were continuously measured using an oesophageal thermometer and recorded every 15 minutes during the procedure. Warming rescue (extra air blanket) was used in case of temperature ≤ 35°C. The primary outcome was the difference in oesophageal temperature between forced-air heating system and carbon-fiber electric blanket measured at the end of surgery. Categorical variables were compared with Chi-square or Fisher exact test, as appropriate, and quantitative variables with Student t-test. Temperature trajectories were compared using mixed models.

Results and Discussion: No differences between groups were observed for temperature at the end of surgery. Trajectories of temperatures were different (Fig. 1). However, mean temperature was always above 36°C in both groups. Warming rescue was needed only in one patient in the contact blanket group.

01AP06-06
The use of TIVA vs inhalational anesthesia; comparison of anaesthesia practice in the UK and the UAE

F. Maree¹, A. AlKhateri¹, S. AlNaqbi¹, R. Al Khateeri¹, N. Rajashekarappa¹, V. Gadiyar²
¹Tawam Hospital, Anaesthetics, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, ²Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics, Bury, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: In the growing field of anesthesia, there has been an increasing popularity for the use of total intravenous anesthesia (TIVA) for induction and maintenance of anesthesia. Literature has shown that TIVA offers superior outcomes as compared to Sevoflurane, such as less incidence of PONV, reduced recovery time, and reduces postoperative agitation in the paediatric population.

This study aims to compare the anesthetic practice and perspectives of anesthetists on the use of TIVA vs Inhalational anesthesia between the UK and the UAE.

Materials and Methods: It was a prospective audit. Data were collected by completing a questionnaire, which included questions on the mode of anesthesia preferred by the anesthetists, and their perspectives regarding the reasoning behind using a particular technique. As well as, uses of TIVA, frequency of monitoring during the
use of TIVA, and barriers to its use. A total of 23 responses were collected from Fairfield General Hospital (UK) with the same number of responses collected from Tawam Hospital (UAE). Data was transferred to an Excel sheet and converted into diagrams.

**Results and Discussion:** Using both techniques was more common in the UAE compared to UK (UK-78% vs UAE-82%). Better patient recovery from anesthesia and reduced post-operative nausea and vomiting were the main reasons for the use of TIVA at Tawam Hospital. Cost-effectiveness was the main reason for the use of TIVA in the UK followed by better recovery. Both centres agreed that the risk of awareness was less likely and hemodynamic stability was better with inhalational anesthesia.

**Conclusion:** The results show that although the practice of TIVA is less at Tawam Hospital, both centres agree on the potential benefits of TIVA. We noticed that the depth of anesthesia monitoring was the most common barrier to the use of TIVA at Tawam hospital. We plan to present these results and propose the availability of depth of anesthesia monitoring equipment, which may increase the use of TIVA at Tawam hospital.

In particular, we aim to increase awareness of the possible benefit of TIVA in cancer surgery and on the environment compared to inhalational technique.

**01AP06-07**

Prevalence of patient-reported perioperative anxiety and its relation to patient satisfaction

C. Bello1,2, M. Nübling3, K.-L. Koster1, T. Heidegger1,2

1Spitalregion Rheintal Werdenberg Sarganserland, Department of Anaesthesiology Spital Grabs, Grabs, Switzerland, 2Inselspital Bern, University Hospital Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, 3Data and Consulting, GDB mbH, Denzingen, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Perioperative anxiety is a widespread complaint.(1) The mutual relation between anxiety and patient satisfaction with anesthesia care is still under debate. We aimed to assess the prevalence and different types of perioperative anxiety and their association with patient satisfaction.

**Materials and Methods:** This retrospective observational study used clinical data from a previous study.(2) A psychometric developed questionnaire including 10 anxiety questions (one main and nine specific triggers of anxiety) and 29 quality items determining patient satisfaction(3) was sent one to two weeks after discharge and a reminder two weeks later. Originally, sample size was calculated to recruit a minimum of 300 participants with complete data. Statistical analysis included bivariate and multivariate analyses.

**Results and Discussion:** For analysis, 474 completed questionnaires were included (response rate 79%). 141 patients (30%) reported anxiety regarding anesthesia before hospital admission.

**References:**

**01AP06-08**

Perfusion index: which finger does tell the truth?


1University of Health Sciences, Mersin Health Application and Research Center, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Mersin, Turkey, 2University of Quebec in Montreal, Biology, Montreal, Canada, 3University College London, Institute of Sport, Exercise and Health, Intensive Care, London, United Kingdom, 4Tokat Gaziosmanpasa University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Tokat, Turkey, 5University of Health Sciences, Ankara Health Application and Research Center, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Ankara, Turkey

**Background and Goal of Study:** Perfusion index is a relative evaluation of the pulse’s infrared signal strength returning from the monitoring site.1 In this respect, the aim of this study is to define which finger is the best choice for the perfusion index measurement.

**Materials and Methods:** Healthy subjects were placed in a room, and blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and oxygen saturation were recorded. Perfusion index was simultaneously measured on all fingers of one hand (first the right, then the left) for at least five minutes.

**Results and Discussion:** The highest mean perfusion index value was 3.68±2.84 in the right ring finger, while the lowest one was 2.34±1.81 in the right thumb. The right ring finger has an intermediate effect size of 0.111 and observed power of 0.949 compared to mean perfusion index value of all fingers (p < 0.01). Right middle finger and left ring finger have factor loadings of 0.838 and 0.822, respectively (Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trigger</th>
<th>Absolute Number</th>
<th>Relative Number (%)</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Fear of not waking up from anesthesia</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>29.75</td>
<td>45.763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Fear of waking up during anesthesia</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>31.65</td>
<td>46.681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Fear of being at mercy</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12.95</td>
<td>33.696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Fear of postoperative nausea and vomiting</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16.55</td>
<td>27.295</td>
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<td>e) Fear of paralysis and damage of the spinal cord</td>
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<td>f) Fear of problems with concentration, memory or forgetfulness</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>31.65</td>
<td>46.681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Fear of cardiovascular problems</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10.07</td>
<td>30.205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Fear of pain</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14.39</td>
<td>35.224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Other trigger</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>24.697</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Table 1:** Prevalence and specific triggers of perioperative anxiety

**References:**
Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Mean ± SD</th>
<th>Effect Size*</th>
<th>Observed Power</th>
<th>Factor loadings†</th>
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<tr>
<td>RF1</td>
<td>2.34±1.81</td>
<td>0.201</td>
<td>0.700</td>
<td>-0.01*</td>
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<tr>
<td>RF2</td>
<td>2.89±2.16</td>
<td>0.119</td>
<td>0.754</td>
<td>0.275</td>
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<tr>
<td>RF3</td>
<td>2.90±1.97</td>
<td>0.018</td>
<td>0.838</td>
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<tr>
<td>RF4</td>
<td>3.68±2.84</td>
<td>0.111</td>
<td>0.949</td>
<td>0.776 &lt;0.01*</td>
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<tr>
<td>RF5</td>
<td>3.27±2.37</td>
<td>0.026</td>
<td>0.814</td>
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<tr>
<td>LF1</td>
<td>2.56±1.82</td>
<td>0.134</td>
<td>0.771</td>
<td>-0.01*</td>
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<tr>
<td>LF2</td>
<td>3.32±2.38</td>
<td>0.036</td>
<td>0.795</td>
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<tr>
<td>LF5</td>
<td>3.03±2.37</td>
<td>0.051</td>
<td>0.750</td>
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<tr>
<td>RHPI</td>
<td>3.02±1.84</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHPI</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p<0.05

*The individual effect size (partial eta square-η²)

†Principal components analysis

PI, perfusion index; RF1, right thumb; RF2, right index finger; RF3, right middle finger; RF4, right ring finger; RF5, right little finger; LF1, left thumb; LF2, left index finger; LF3, left middle finger; LF4, left ring finger; LF5, left little finger; RHPI, mean perfusion index value of right hand; LHPI, mean perfusion index value of left hand; SD, standard deviation

Conclusions: The present study demonstrated that perfusion index has the highest value on the right and left ring finger, those could be used to measure perfusion index on right hand dominance individuals.

References:

01AP06-09
Trends in anaesthetic techniques before and after the Covid pandemic in outpatient unilateral inguinal hernia repair

B. de la Quintana Jimenez1, A.L. Vilchez-Monge1, R. Rojas Giraldo1, C. de Castro Rodríguez2, Y. Lorenzo del Pío1, T. Tijero Paramo1
1Hospital Universitario Santa Cristina, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Outpatient unilateral inguinal hernia repair (IHR) is a very frequent surgical procedure and anaesthetic techniques are constantly adapted to optimize patient care reducing the length of postoperative stay. The Covid pandemic prompted changes in anaesthetic techniques according to the Ministerial recommendations. This study aimed to evaluate anaesthetic trends in outpatient surgery for unilateral IHR.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective analysis including all patients undergoing outpatient unilateral inguinal hernia repair from 1 October 2019 to 27 November 2020 in Hospital Universitario Santa Cristina, Madrid, Spain. Two study periods were defined: 1, before March 2020; 2, after March 2020 (Covid pandemic). Discharge from hospital required fulfilling the criteria of the modified Aldrete scale, including urination and oral feed tolerance. Prolonged Postoperative Recovery (PPR) was defined as over 6 hours of Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) stay.

Results and Discussion: A total of 249 patients were included, 125 and 124 in period 1 and 2, respectively. Overall, laparoscopic cases (18%) had shorter PACU stay compared to open surgery. Sedation with local anaesthesia (n=1) had the shortest PACU stay, followed by general anaesthesia (GA), intradural (ID) with 2% hyperbaric prilocaine, and ID with 0.5% hyperbaric bupivacaine. We found increased use of ID anaesthesia techniques after the declaration of pandemic (52% vs. 65% in period 2). The use of 2% hyperbaric prilocaine allowed faster discharge than 0.5% hyperbaric bupivacaine (mean difference of 60 minutes). PPR was observed in 30.5% of open repair cases (64.5% of them with the use of hyperbaric bupivacaine). The type of anaesthesia and PACU stay are shown in the figure.

Conclusions: Apart from sedation with local anaesthesia, general anaesthesia is associated with the shortest PACU stay in outpatient unilateral IHR, especially in laparoscopic surgery. However, during Covid pandemic a significant increase of intradural techniques over GA was observed. Among intradural medication, prilocaine allows for a faster discharge than bupivacaine.

01AP06-10
The effects of irrigation solution on body temperature in HoLEP surgery. A prospective observational study

A. Capdevila1, M. Vendrell1, B. Tena1, M.J. Valencia1, A. Duran1
1Clinic Barcelona, Anaesthesiology, Reanimation and Pain Management, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Holmium laser enucleation of the prostate (HoLEP) is an endoscopic surgical procedure increasingly used to treat benign prostate hyperplasia. As clinical experience suggests, HoLEP requires longer operative time and intravesical irrigation fluid volumes. The aim of this study is to evaluate if this is associated with greater hypothermia incidence and short-term postoperative complications.
Materials and Methods: In this unicentric prospective observational study (HC8/2022/1038), all HOLEPs under general anesthesia are recorded over a 6-month period. Medical history, perioperative characteristics (core temperature via esophageal thermometer, operative time, and irrigation fluid volume), and postoperative information (cutaneous temperature, shivering) are registered. Information on short-term postoperative complications is later obtained from medical records. Data is analyzed using SPSS 19.0.

Results and Discussion: Preliminary data from October 1st to November 30th, 2022, included 15 patients. Most patients were ASA 2 (60%) or 3 (33.3%). The mean age was 74.9± 6.7 years. 26.7% had an IMC ≥30 and 13.3% had a medical history of cardiovascular disease. The prostatic volume was 104.7±41.6 cc. Mean irrigation time and volume were respectively 97±41.7 min and 38.266,7±25.126mL. The temperature drop was 0.7±0.5ºC at the end of surgery. In almost all patients (93%), an air blanket and warm mattress for hypothermia prevention were used. A strong correlation was seen between the length of general anesthesia and irrigation time (r 0.98; p 0.000) and volume (r 0.865; p 0.000). A low-strength correlation was observed between temperature decrease and irrigation volume (r 0.209; p 0.472). Regarding postoperative data, the median length of stay was 3 days. One patient (7.14%) presented with a cardiovascular complication (transient ischemic stroke) and five (35.7%) had difficulty in hemostasis control. No correlation between temperature drop and postoperative complications was seen.

Conclusion(s): HoLEP seems to be indicated in patients with bigger prostates; which implies longer surgeries, higher intravesical infusion times and volumes. However, this doesn’t seem to be associated with a significant drop in core temperature and postoperative complications, which may be due to the use of active preventative measures. These are preliminary results, and further data must be collected in order to determine if this directly relates to irrigation fluid volumes.

01AP06-11
5HT3 receptor antagonists (5HT3RA): Does one “size” fit all patients? A narrative literature review

P. Theodossopoulou1, M. Rekatsina1, C. Staikou1
1Aretaieio University Hospital, NKUA, Anaesthesiology, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Genetic variants may affect drug efficacy on postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV). The understanding of these mechanisms will help to identify the surgical patients who might benefit from specific antiemetic treatment.

Materials and Methods: We included 29 articles published from 2005 to 2022, utilizing the electronic databases PUBMED, EMBASE, COH RANE Library and ScienceDirect. The aim of the present review was to explore the relationship between genetic variations and 5HT3RA efficacy in PONV. A comparison was made with the relevant genetic variations and their impact on 5HT3RA efficacy in the context of chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting (CINV).

Results and Discussion: We focused on three different gene polymorphisms: the cytochrome P450 mono-oxygenase system gene (CYP2D6), the adenosine triphosphate (ATP)-binding cassette subfamily B gene (ABCB1), and the 5HT3 receptor gene (5HT3R). According to literature, ultra-rapid metabolizers, linked to a genotype of more than three functioning alleles of the CYP2D6 gene, are associated with reduced activity of 5HT3RAs in PONV, with the exception of granisetron. Carriers of the 2677TT or 3435TT variations of the ABCB1 gene seem to have greater concentration of 5HT3RAs in the CNS and better drug response in PONV. The -100_-102AAG deletion variant of the 5-HT3BR gene might predict failure of ondansetron in PONV, as well as of tropisetron and ramelseron in CINV.

Conclusion(s): Personalized medicine will definitely be affected by pharmacogenetics and their determination of the medication type and dose that is most suitable for an individual’s genotypic/pheno- typic profile. Thus, possibly in the future, the genetic variations will also be considered when 5HT3RA are given as antiemetics, in the context of either PONV or CINV.

References:

01AP06-12
Waist to height ratio and ASA status. A valid marker of visceral obesity and of co-morbidities?

T. Thompson1, M. Roche1, Q. Nyugen1, M. Margarson1, S. Clarke1
1St Richards Hospital, Anaesthetics, Chichester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Increased abdominal visceral adipose tissue (VAT) has been shown to be an independent risk factor for mortality in obese patients (1). There also appears to be a link between VAT and metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular disease (2). While visceral adiposity can be measured using imaging modalities such as DXA, this is an expensive, not widely available and time-consuming tool. Surrogate indicators of visceral adiposity are required as practical clinical tools. Waist to Height Ratio (WHtR) has been suggested as a useful anthropometric variable when it comes to predicting VAT (3). It follows that there should be a correlation between WHtR and patient co-morbidities. This study tests that hypothesis by looking at the relationship between WHtR and the ASA status of a cohort of patients more than 1500 patients who underwent bariatric surgery.

Figure. Waist to height ratio vs ASA status in Bariatric patients (n = 1569)
Materials and Methods: An anaesthetic database of patients undergoing primary bariatric was analysed, and WHtRs were calculated. The patients were then grouped by ASA grade, and the WHtRs of adjacent groups compared. T-Tests determined whether the differences were statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: WHtRs were calculated for 1569 patients. The results are shown in the graph below. There is a clear and step-wise increase in the Waist to Height ratios between the ASA 2 and 3 groups (p<0.0001) and ASA 3 and >3 groups (p<0.0001).

Conclusion: There appears to be a stepwise and fairly strong correlation between patients' WHtR and their comorbid state, as measured by ASA status. This is consistent with other reports of WHtR as the best marker of comorbidities and mortality.

This surprisingly simple anthropometric marker may turn out to be a useful indicator of peri-operative risk, and certainly warrants further investigation.

Acknowledgements: No conflicts of interest to declare.

References:

01AP06-13
Outcomes and anaesthetic challenges of bariatric surgery in patients with a BMI of 70 or greater

T. Thompson1, R. Newton2, M. Mlotshwa2, M. Margarson1, S. Ninan1
1St Richards Hospital, Anaesthetics, Chichester, United Kingdom, 2St Richards Hospital, Surgery, Chichester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Patients with severe obesity present a number of anaesthetic challenges. Over the twenty years of our bariatric surgical service, we have anaesthetised a large number of patients with a high BMI, and maintained a detailed anaesthetic database throughout. We report here our experiences and some key aspects of airway and anaesthetic practice from those patients with a BMI >70kg/m2.

Materials and Methods: Our Bariatric anaesthetic database of >5000 surgical cases was interrogated to identify patients with a BMI of 70 or greater. We then compared selected parameters in this group against the BMI<70 cohort. Where differences occurred, Chi-square test was used to determine significance.

Results and Discussion: A total of 156 patients with a BMI of 70 or greater were identified. Of these patients: 142 underwent gastric bypass, 5 had endoscopic placement of gastric balloons, 5 underwent sleeve gastrectomies, 1 had a gastric band placed, and 3 were re-operations. The median age was 41 years (IQR 36-47). There were 65 male patients (42% of BMI >70 patients, vs 22% of the entire cohort).

Two patients were classed as ASA 1, 16 as ASA 2, 99 ASA 3 (this included 28 high-risk classed as ASA 3+) and 33 as ASA 4. There were six deaths within 30 days of surgery (3.6% vs 0.3% overall): five males, all identified as ASA 3+ or 4, and one female death on day 28 - from incidental COVID pneumonitis. One early death was surgical and one anaesthesia-related, with intra-operative acute cardiac decompensation and subsequent MOF.

There were no airway issues, with 92 grade 1 laryngoscopies, 37 grade 2 and only 3 were grade 4 (all in females).

Conclusion: The intra-operative anaesthetic management of patient with a BMI >70 was surprisingly straightforward, although surgical complications were more common. The 30-day mortality rate was significantly elevated, greater than 20 times that of the BMI<70 group.

References:
Learning points: The awareness of the operator and of the anesthesiologist for the early recognition and prompt handling of such complications can influence patients outcomes.

01AP07-02
Post-operative visual loss (POVL) after head and neck (H&N) surgery

V. Kalogianni1, F. Vlahos2, E. Patsoura3, D. Loggitsi4, I. Giannakikou5
1King’s College Hospital, Critical Care Medicine, London, United Kingdom, 2University of Milano-Bicocca, Medicine, Milan, Italy, 3Hygeia Hospital, Ophthalmology, Athens, Greece, 4Hygeia Hospital, CT-MRI Department, Athens, Greece, 5Hygeia Hospital, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Athens, Greece

Background: POVL in non-ocular surgery is a rare anaesthesia complication. This is a case of permanent POVL after a H&N surgery due to Central Retinal Artery Occlusion (CRAO).

Case report: Elderly male with oropharynx cancer (previous surgery, chemotherapy and radiation) presented for cervical lymph node excision. PMH: coronary artery disease (on statin, b-blocker, dual antiplatelet therapy). Figure 1 summarises the perioperative period.

Emergency ophthalmic exam revealed hand movement recognition only. Table 2 details examination findings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fundoscopy</th>
<th>Microemboli in smaller arterial branches of the temporal retina (R)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carotid US</td>
<td>Rt Internal Carotid 50-60% stenosed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT (Figure 2)</td>
<td>Space-occupying mass in the right carotid space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Causes severe stenosis in R CCA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Post-operative investigations of POVL

Management of the CRAO focused on improving retinal artery circulation: -eye massage (displaces emboli) -CO2 inhalation (induces vasodilation) -IV acetazolamide (decreases intraocular pressure) -clopidogrel continuation
Next day visual acuity improved to counting fingers and patient gained awareness of temporal visual fields. Remained unchanged at follow up.

Discussion: POVL is mainly due to Ischaemic Optic Neuropathy (ION) due to intraoperative anemia and hypotension at cardiac/spine cases. However this case is due to an emboli from the CCA causing CRAO. Radiation arteritis, side effect of neck irradiation, results in accelerated atherosclerosis and plaque formation. Imaging and fundoscopic findings suggest that neck manipulation caused plaque rupture and CRA embolisation.

Learning Points: Consider additional preoperative testing in patients with previous neck radiation (risk of Ca atherosclerosis) and take steps to prevent embolisation.

References:
01AP07-03
When the airway is difficult... But so is the heart: managing Brugada syndrome

F. Ramos1, R. Freitas1, I. Gordillo1
1Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, Anaesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Brugada syndrome (BS) is an autosomal dominant genetic disorder characterized by abnormal findings on the electrocardiogram (ECG), an increased risk of ventricular tachyarrhythmias and sudden cardiac death. The prevalence in the population is 0.1 to 1% and it is 2 to 9 times more likely in men.(1)

Many drugs have been reported to induce arrhythmias in BS patients, and so should be avoided by the anaesthesiologist.(2)

But what if in addition to BS, which precludes the use of local anaesthetics, the patient also has a known difficult airway?

Case report: A 63-year-old man, with dyslipidemia and an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) placed for suspected BS, was proposed for bilateral ear canaloplasty. He also had a history of difficult orotracheal intubation in past surgery, but easy face mask ventilation.

As a strategy, we chose to perform a rapid sequence induction after preoxygenation, with fentanyl, etomidate and rocuronium, given the impossibility of approaching the airway with the patient awake. He was intubated with videolaryngoscope at first try. Anaesthesia was maintained with sevoflurane; a second peripheral access was placed, and the radial artery was catheterized.

During surgery, to maintain hemodynamic stability, atropine and isoprenaline boluses were administered, followed by isoprenaline infusion. The magneto was available in case of need. The surgery was uneventful, and the patient was successfully extubated.

Discussion: BS should be familiar to the anaesthesiologist in order to manage it correctly: a meticulous pre-anaesthetic evaluation, planning and perioperative management should be carried, with prompt diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmias. (3)

In this case, an additional challenge of the difficult airway existed, with the impossibility of performing local anaesthesia of the oropharynx. Decisions must be individualized, based on current guidelines, and the planning of the anaesthetic approach must encompass several hypotheses.

References:
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2. Postema. Heart Rhythm, 2009
3. Dash, S. Anaesthetic Management in Brugada Syndrome. JCDR2017

Learning Points: Regarding BS, decisions must be individualized, based on current guidelines, and the planning of the anaesthetic approach must encompass several hypotheses, with prompt diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmias. When, in addition, a difficult airway presents, alternatives to using local anaesthetics must be encountered.

01AP07-04
Postponed extubation after EVAR in a patient with severe renal and hepatic dysfunction: is delayed postoperative curarization a concern?

J. Moreira1, J. M. Cabral1, P. Sant’Ana Ramos1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Department of Anaesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: In patients with compromised kidney and liver function, there is a change in rocuronium pharmacokinetic profile with reduced clearance. We report the case of an extremely prolonged residual blockade in a patient with end-stage renal disease and liver cirrhosis.

Case report: A 74-year-old man underwent fenestrated endovascular repair of a juxtarenal aortic aneurysm. His medical history included chronic kidney disease, hypertension, chronic alcoholism and liver cirrhosis. He was 168 cm tall and weighed 80 kg. Creatinine serum level was 4.41 mg/dL, with an estimated clearance of 12 mL/min. Liver function tests showed an isolated elevation of alkaline phosphatase.

He received 80 mg of rocuronium at induction. Surgery had a total duration of 7 hours. Repeated boluses of rocuronium were administered in a total of 160 mg (initial 80 mg for induction and 4 additional boluses of 20 mg each). The patient was transferred to the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) intubated, with no reversal of the blockade.

Six hours after the end of surgery, PACU team prepared to awake and extubate him. After withdrawal of sedative drugs, the patient attempted to open his eyes but was unable to move his limbs. One of the hypothesis considered was spinal ischemia during the procedure.

At this time, neuromuscular block was assessed with train-of-four (TOF) stimulation. There was a TOF count of 2/4, suggesting a moderate neuromuscular block 6 hours after the last rocuronium bolus. After reversal with 400 mg of sugammadex, the patient showed no clinical signs of residual paralysis, was able to maintain spontaneous ventilation and was extubated without complications.

Discussion: Cases of residual curarization as prolonged as the one we present are rare. This severe prolonged effect of rocuronium was due to a combination of multiple conditions affecting its pharmacokinetcs: renal injury, liver disease and advanced age, which result in reduced clearance and a change of distribution volumes.

Reference:

Learning points:
• Although no dosage adjustment is formally indicated in renal and hepatic impairment, physicians should be aware these are risk factors for residual blockade.
• Even in cases of postponed extubation, neuromuscular monitoring and pharmacological reversal should be ensured.
01AP07-05
Membranous tracheal rupture after endotracheal intubation in elective surgery

T. Cvjetković Tomanić¹, N. Šobot¹, R. Zdravković², M. Kanter³, B. Tomanić¹, S. Mirković¹
¹University Clinical Centre of the Republic of Srpska, Clinic for Cardiac Surgery, Banjaluka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ²University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, ³University Clinical Centre of the Republic of Srpska, Clinic of Thoracic Surgery, Banjaluka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ⁴University Clinical Centre of the Republic of Srpska, Clinic for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Banjaluka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Background: Postintubation tracheal laceration (PITL) is extremely rare; the incidence is only 1/20,000 intubations [1]. Despite the low incidence, it carries the risk of life-threatening complications. Depending on the size and location of the injury, it can present with a variety of symptoms.

Case report: We present a female patient with an elective surgical procedure of total hip replacement and tracheal laceration after endotracheal intubation (EI). EI was performed without difficulty in the first attempt, using the usual tube. We present to you a 77-year-old patient who underwent surgery for a femur fracture. The patient suffers from hypertension, atrial fibrillation and COPD. She uses Acenocoumarol (Sintrom®) as therapy, which was discontinued before the operation and LMWH was introduced. The patient was operated on under general anesthesia, which passed without significant complications. After 12 hours, the patient developed subcutaneous emphysema of the neck and chest, and an X-ray of the chest and a CT scan of the chest were immediately performed. After receiving the results, a bronchoscopy was performed, where a lesion of the membranous part of the trachea was confirmed, 35 mm long, 3 cm above the bifurcation of the trachea. The patient underwent a surgical procedure with single sutures on the membranous wall and tracheal reconstruction with a flap of the fourth intercostal muscle over the reconstructed trachea.

Discussion: This case showed that even a small laceration of the trachea can create severe subcutaneous emphysema of the head, neck, and upper trunk, as well as pneumomediastinum. Treatment of PITL can be conservative, namely for lacerations below 3 cm, surgical or endoscopic, according to size and location of the laceration and ventilatory efficiency [2]. Our decision for surgical treatment was the presence of pneumomediastinum.

References:

01AP07-06
Non-invasive respiratory support with High Flow Nasal Cannula in endoscopic surgery in a patient with pneumonia legionella: a case report

V. Pota¹, M. Del Prete¹, A. Scalvenzi¹, P. Sansone¹, M.C. Passavanti¹, M.C. Pace¹
¹University of Campania “L. Vanvitelli”, Dept of Women, Child, General and Specialistic Surgery, Napoli, Italy

Background: Legionella pneumophila is one of the most important causes of respiratory disease in human. More than 30% of hospital-acquired pneumonia is caused by Legionella. Ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) is an infection acquired in hospital wards, particularly in intensive care unit (ICU). This disease approximately affects 9% to 20% of intubated patients. Mortality in these patients varies between 8% and 76%. Legionella is one of the important factors for infection in intubated patients. Post-operative anastomotic leak after esophageal resection represents a serious complication or disease with significant morbidity and mortality. Prompt diagnosis and initiation of therapy are essential to improve outcome. It offers a minimally invasive therapeutic approach regarding sepsis control, which however is also associated with procedure-specific complications.

Case presentation: We describe the case of an anastomotic leak in a 77-year-old patient who had previously undergone gastrectomy. During his ICU stay, the patient was found to be suffering from legionella pneumonia. To avoid re-intubation during the procedure, we decided to treat his hypoxic respiratory failure with HFNC. Throughout the operation the patient maintained spontaneous breathing, absence of significant desaturations and hemodynamic alterations.

Conclusions: HFNC may represent a valid alternative to intubation and the placement of supraglottic devices in periprocedural sedation in frail patients with underlying hypoxic pathology.

Learning Point: HFNC can be useful during the procedural sedation for endoscopic procedure.

01AP07-09
Cervical edema after internal jugular vein cannulation: when thyroid enters the equation

A. Ricardo Correia¹,², P. Gonçalves², B. Carvalho²
¹Universidade do Algarve, Faculdade de Medicina e Ciências Biomédicas, Faro, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Universitário de São João, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal

Background: Acute neck swelling after internal jugular vein (IJV) cannulation requires prompt evaluation. IJV cannulation can easily damage large vessels and lead to airway compromise due to hematoma on prevertebral, mediastinal and retropharyngeal spaces.

Case report: A 52 year-old man with unknown relevant medical history was admitted to the operation room in decompenated hypovolemic shock due to a duodenal ulcer perforation. An emergent exploratory laparotomy was performed. After balanced general anesthesia induction an IJV cannulation was established using landmarks. A large cervical edema was noticed after one hour. To rule out vascular complications, a cervical ultrasound was performed. It revealed no signs of vascular damage. A cervical CT scan was obtained after surgery, describing no ana-
Background: Undiagnosed pheochromocytoma patients have higher morbidity and mortality rate under anesthesia. Here, we report a case of a patient undergoing elective surgery with an unrecognized pheochromocytoma.

Case report: 81-year-old women with arterial hypertension of difficult control and type 2 diabetes mellitus was hospitalized for pyelonephritis. During disease workup, a CT shows a large mass in the superior pole of left kidney. After antibiotic therapy, she’s scheduled for left radical nephrectomy by laparotomy.

A combined anesthesia technique with epidural catheter placement and general anesthesia was conducted. After induction, the patient remained hypertensive and epidural boluses were administered. During kidney dissection, a laceration of the spleen occurred with estimated blood losses of 1 liter and the patient became hypotensive. Crystalloids fluids and a bolus of tranexamic acid were administered. Hypotension persisted, especially after tumor removal, hence, 2 units of red blood pack cells were transfused and a perfusion of noradrenaline was started.

After surgery, the patient was transferred to the intensive care unit with noradrenaline perfusion until hemodynamic stability was restored.

The anatomic pathology report of the surgical sample revealed a pheochromocytoma.

Discussion: Pheochromocytoma is a rare neuroendocrine tumor and the classic triad of symptoms are headache, palpitations, and diaphoresis. This patient had arterial hypertension of difficult control that could have raised suspicion for pheochromocytoma but no other known signs of the disease.

The preoperative titration of a blockers enables the control of arterial pressure and the expansion of intravascular volume. In this case, hypovolemia was pointed as the main cause of hypotension. Patients with unrecognized pheochromocytoma have higher risk of arrhythmia, severe hypertension or hypotension and cardiovascular collapse. Management of hypotension crisis includes fluid therapy and vasopressors, such as noradrenaline.

References:

Learning points: Pheochromocytoma should be suspected in hemodynamic unstable patients under anesthesia in order to treat adequately and diminish morbidity.

Learning points: Esmolol and clididine infusions are a safe choice for hypertensive peaks and normotensive maintenance in bilateral adrenalectomy due to pheochromocytoma in patients with Brugada syndrome.

01AP08-01
Perioperative management in a laparoscopic cholecystectomy case with multiple acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency

M.B. Dincer¹, N. Rustamov¹, C. Uzunturk¹, N.N. Ciftci¹, A.K. Koltka²
¹Istanbul University Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Istanbul, Turkey

Background: Multiple acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency, also known as Glutaric Acidemia type II (GAII) is a rare autosomal recessive metabolic myopathy with a defect at electron transfer in mitochondria. Low lipid diet and riboflavin treatment are recommended; prolonged starvation, dehydration, and metabolic stress can cause acute decompensation.

Case report: A 23-year-old patient with GAII, had acute cholecystitis and was scheduled for laparoscopic cholecystectomy. For preoperative management, we avoided metabolic compensation by infusion of 10% dextrose and ICU admission was planned after surgery. The patient was monitored with pulse oximetry, ECG, invasive blood pressure, TOF, BIS, and temperature probe. Anaesthesia was induced via IV anaesthetics: 2 mg midazolam, 150 mcg fentanyl, 5 mg/kg thiopental, and 0.6 mg/kg rocuronium. After intubation, TIVA was administered with 3-5 mg/kg/h thiopental and 0.05-0.2 mcg/kg/min remifentanil infusion for maintenance, and BIS values were kept between 40-60. IV 10% dextrose infusion continued during the operation, and there was no hypoglycemia, elevated lactate, or metabolic acidosis. The duration of surgery was 103 minutes, the TOF ratio was >0.9 and the max BIS value was 76 at the end of the operation.

The patient with delayed emergence wasn’t extubated and was admitted directly to the ICU. After 90 minutes, he was extubated without any problem and was discharged from the hospital on 3rd day without any complications.

Discussion: Perioperative regulations were sufficient and any severe complications weren’t observed during our management. Our plan was GA rather than neuraxial due to the side effects of IV lipids essential in a possible LA intoxication.

Volatile might have a hypersensitive effect on mitochondria in metabolic myopathies and might depress oxidative phosphorylation theoretically. Propofol infusion might cause PRIS even if small doses were used in those patients. There are reports volatiles and propofol were applied or avoided.¹,² We preferred to administer thiopental infusion which hasn’t been regularly used for TIVA.

Besides metabolic regulations, thiopental infusion might be applied in these critical patients with precautions for prolonged emergence, when other agents have possible side effects.


Learning Points: Patients with critical metabolic disorders may undergo surgery safely with perioperative anaesthetic and metabolic precautions.

01AP07-12
Fiberoptic intubation to assess the conditions of extubation

R. Noversa¹, R.A. Ramos¹, C. Gaio Lima¹, R. Resende¹, S. Pé D’Arca¹
¹Unidade Local de Saúde de Matosinhos - Hospital Pedro Hispano, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Neck masses may distort the airway anatomy, making airway management difficult. The use of a flexible fiberoptic bronchoscopy (FOB) has been an effective and safe method for intubation as well as to assess local conditions for safe extubation (1). We describe a case where the use of fiberoptic endoscopy revealed essential for both.

Case report: A 65-year-old male, ASA-PS III, was brought to the emergency department with hoarseness, mild respiratory distress and dysphagia after a rapid growth of a known cervical mass. His past medical history was relevant for thyroid disease. CT scan of the neck revealed a soft tissue mass on the left side, compressing and deviating all adjacent structures contralaterally, and significant laryngeal stenosis and distortion. Placement of a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) was sought to allow for nutritional support. ENT surgery declined to perform an elective tracheostomy as the patient wasn’t in severe respiratory distress. Airway evaluation revealed a Mallampati IV and significant shift of the midline structures. After reviewing the case the airway management was plan A, FOB intubation; plan B, awake/emergency cricothyrotomy. With informed consent provided, the cricothyroid membrane (CTM) was preemptively identified and marked with ultrasound. The patient was then monitored, topical anesthesia applied, and sedation started for a RASS of -1. Nasotracheal intubation with a 6 ETT was achieved at the end of the operation.

Discussion: This case highlights the value of FOB in a safe intubation and extubation strategy, and the importance of US CTM marking for a solid backup plan.


Learning points: An airway evaluation before extubation is as important as before intubation in patients with anatomic alterations or laborious airway manipulation. Fiberoptic visualization of an intubated patient’s airway can help to assess the safety of extubation and to implement and adequate strategy.
01AP08-02
Myotonic dystrophy type 1 (Steinert’s disease) – anaesthetic management of a rare disease

A.R. Reis Aguiar1, C. Pinto1, C. Gaio Lima1, L. Cruz1
1ULSM - Hospital Pedro Hispano, Anaesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Myotonic dystrophy type 1 (MD1) is a rare systemic disease characterized by myotonia and muscle weakness. Other manifestations include cardiac conduction abnormalities, impaired lung function, aspiration risk and cognitive impairment.

**Case report:** 47-year-old woman with MD1 diagnosed 20 years ago, ASA III, proposed for vitrectomy due to epiretinal membrane with retinal detachment. Her comorbidities were chronic bifascicular block with a permanent pacemaker, central sleep apnoea under CPAP therapy, severe restrictive ventilatory disorder, cognitive impairment and hypoacusia. Physical examination revealed facial muscle weakness and high-arched palate. She had regular consultations with her cardiologist, neurologist and pulmonologist, and her comorbidities were optimized.

After discussion involving Anaesthesiology and Ophthalmology, it was decided to conduct general anaesthesia (GA). Aspiration prophylaxis was performed, following TIVA with propofol and remifentanil TCI, and rocuronium bolus. Airway was uneventfully managed with videolaryngoscope. ASA standards, neuromuscular block, anasthesia depth and invasive blood pressure were monitored intraoperatively. Normothermia was maintained and possible myotonia-triggers were avoided. No adverse events were reported. Postoperative period was planned in the ICU, where she recovered uneventfully.

**Discussion:** MD1 is a rare disease that can affect multiple organ systems, increasing perioperative complications risk, such as dysrhythmias, aspiration and impaired ventilatory function. Knowledge of these risks by Anaesthesiologists allows careful planning for elective procedures and effective management in emergent surgeries.

In this case, regarding patient’s increased ventilatory impairment risk, it was crucial to ensure postoperative care in a level 2 or 3 unit. When possible, regional anaesthesia was advised in MD1. If GA is needed, it should be performed with short-acting drugs, and possible myotonia triggers (succinylcholine, neostigmine, volatile agents, hypothermia) should be avoided. Multidisciplinary discussion and planning is paramount in MD1 and should involve anaesthesiologists, surgeons, intensivists and other specialties managing the patient’s comorbidities.

**Reference:** Case Rep Anesthesiol 2019;2019:4282305

**Learning Points:** This case highlights the relevance of recognizing MD1 anaesthetic risks, as well as a careful perioperative planning, which should include a multidisciplinary approach.

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01AP08-03
A rare case of post polio syndrome: anaesthetic challenges

D. V Gladston1, R. Cherian Koshy1, M.S. Shabana1
1Regional Cancer Centre, Department of Anaesthesiology, Trivandrum, India

**Background:** Postpolio Syndrome (PPS) is a disorder related to the recurrence of neuromuscular symptoms in survivors of paralytic poliomyelitis. This case report discusses the anaesthetic challenges and considerations during perioperative and postoperative period. Only a few cases of PPS have been reported.

**Case report:** A 60 year old lady with ASA 111 posted for laparoscopic surgery for carcinoma endometrium. She had poliomyelitis at 3 years of age following which she developed PPS. She is hypertensive, diabetic and has BMI of 34.9 kg/m2. She has bilateral lower limb muscle weakness of power 1/5.

The polio virus destructs anterior horn motor neurons resulting in limb paralysis.(1) The main concerns are fatigue and muscle weakness as in PPS, axonal sprout degeneration occur leading to denervation and muscle weakness. Regional anaesthesia can be safely used. Limbs are adequately padded and positioned. To prevent cold intolerance warming devices are used. Titrated doses of drugs administered due to increased sensitivity of motor neurons(2). Complete reversal of neuromuscular blockade ensured before emergence from anaesthesia. Prophylactic antiemetic administered to prevent aspiration risk.(3) There is postoperative risk of respiratory failure due to weakness or oversedation.

**References:**
3. Hiremath VR. Anaesthetic Management of Patient with Post Polio Syndrome with Head Injury. 2014;4:3

**Learning points:** Anaesthetic management includes altered sensitivity to general and regional anaesthetics, with considerations for compromised respiratory function, aspiration risk, cold intolerance and chronic pain syndrome.
01AP08-04
A patient with relapsing multiple sclerosis: is general anaesthesia safe? – A case report

K. Ferreira Paramés1, I. Faria Capito1, A.P. Carvalho1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is an autoimmune disease characterized by antibody-mediated demyelination in the central nervous system leading to axonal damage. This condition has many triggers for exacerbation in which perioperative stress and anesthesia are examples.1

If an exacerbation event occurs, elective surgery can be postponed until the remission of the symptoms.2 However, in urgent conditions this is not possible and surgery must be done with significant anesthetic implications.

Case report: We describe the successful use of general anesthesia in a 60 y/o female patient, diagnosed with MS since 2004, untreated by option, in a relapse. She experienced an urgent eye condition (retinal detachment) requiring immediate surgical approach with no chance to postpone.

After multidisciplinary team discussion, a preoperative evaluation and neurologic examination were done with decreased sensitivity in right tight and decreased strength at left eyelid. Intraoperative neuromuscular monitoring-guided titration of rocuronium was made with ASA standard, with lowest necessary dose. In order to minimize risk factors of exacerbation, special attention to temperature and any other stressors were taken. The patient’s ventilation was closely monitored with no residual muscle relaxant postoperatively. Neurologic examination after surgery and day after was similar to the initial assessment.

Discussion: General anaesthesia was successfully achieved. The procedure was uneventful with effective ventilation during the anesthetic emergency and the postoperative recovery without any registries worthy of note, with the patient being discharged the day after the procedure.

References:

Learning Points: General anesthesia may be a safe approach for urgent surgical conditions that can’t be postponed in patients suffering from relapsing MS. The neurological assessment has a crucial role and the reduction of stressors can minimize the impairment.

01AP08-05
Anaesthetic considerations for chronic traumatic diaphragmatic hernias surgery: a case report

C. López León1, H. Villanueva Sánchez2, L. Carmona Serrano1, I. Castellnou Asens1, M. Martin Ortega1, A.M. Hostalot Sanchez2
1Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology Department, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Traumatic diaphragmatic hernias (TDH) are caused by the migration of abdominal viscera into the thoracic cavity through a solution of diaphragmatic continuity after a traumatic event. TDH are divided into acute or chronic. Chronic can be latent (asymptomatic or with non-specific mild symptoms) or obstructive (incarcerated). Up to 30% of the TDH are diagnosed in the chronic phase. Surgery should be scheduled as soon as possible, in order to avoid incarceration which has a high mortality rate.

Case report: 68-year-old male with chronic left sided TDH after blunt trauma, needing urgent laparoscopic surgery due to incarceration of the gastric body. Prior to induction a nasogastric tube (NGT) was placed. Uneventful rapid sequence induction (RSI) intubation, with a single-lumen endotracheal tube, was performed. After pneumoperitoneum and reduction of the hernial content, a sudden drop of SpO2 from 98% to 91% was observed. Auscultation stated hipofonesis of the left hemithorax. Oxygenation improved after deflating the pneumoperitoneum and alveolar recruitment maneuvers (ARM).

Two hours after admission to the surgical recovery area, the patient presented again dyspnoea, and a SpO2 92%. A chest X-ray showed pneumothorax. A pleural drainage tube was placed with clinical improvement.

Discussion: Evidence exists in favour of laparoscopic surgery for TDH, despite the higher risk of pneumothorax due to the passage of CO2 into the thoracic space through the hernial whole (1). Some anaesthetic considerations should be taken into account. The presence of intrathoracic abdominal contents increases the risk of bronchoaspiration during induction, therefore the placement of a NGT prior to RSI is recommended. Cricoid compression or even awake intubation may be useful.

The use of intraoperative PEEP and ARM may help to expand the atelecatic areas and increase the functional residual capacity. Intraoperative pneumothorax is almost a constant; use of low intraabdominal pressure, early detection and immediate placement of a pleural drainage tube may be needed. It may be necessary to interrupt surgery and deflate the pneumoperitoneum.

Reference:

Learning points: TDH is uncommon and an anaesthetic challenge due to the risk of complications, such as aspiration, pneumothorax or lesion of abdominal viscera.
01AP08-06
The anesthetic challenges of bilateral adrenalectomy in a patient with Cushing’s syndrome: a successful case

A.C. Fernandes de Freitas¹, B. Carvalho Gonçalves¹, M. Mendonça¹, T.M. Gouveia Azevedo¹, L. Câmara¹
¹Hospital Dr. Nélio Mendonça, Anesthesiology Department, Funchal, Portugal

Background: Cushing’s syndrome is caused by an excessive glucocorticoid level, resulting in several features such as central obesity, supraclavicular fat, hyperglycemia, hypokalemia, hypertension and proximal muscle weakness. Treatment consists in normalizing cortisol levels and its systemic effects. When medical treatment fails, surgical treatment is an option. The anesthesiologist plays a vital role in perioperative management.

Case report: A 48-year-old male with a personal history of adrenocorticotropic hormone-dependent Cushing’s syndrome, massive pulmonary embolism with cardiac arrest, antiphospholipid syndrome, asthma and obstructive sleep apnea, was proposed for laparoscopic bilateral adrenalectomy. Preoperative evaluation revealed central obesity, moon face, extreme fatigability and weakness. Serum electrolytes, blood pressure and glycemic control were all optimized. Intravenous hydrocortisone 100mg was given prior to induction and the surgery was performed under balanced general anesthesia. Due to a predictable difficult airway, he was intubated using a videolaryngoscope. Intraoperatively, insulin infusion was required, as well as hypokalemia correction. Another dose of hydrocortisone 100mg was administered after 4 hours of surgery. He remained hemodynamically stable. The patient was extubated and admitted to an intermediate care unit. In the first 24 hours, intravenous hydrocortisone 50mg was administered every 6 hours with posterior adjustments by the endocrinologist. He was discharged with endocrinology monitoring.

Discussion: As this patient was not controlled with medical therapy and ectopic causes were excluded, bilateral adrenalectomy was the treatment of choice. In the perioperative period, the anesthesiologist must deal with difficult airway management, hemodynamic disturbances, volume overload, hypokalemia, hyperglycemia, maintaining the blood cortisol level and preventing glucocorticoid deficiency. The features of these patients make them more likely to develop respiratory complications.

Reference:

Learning points: The anesthesiologist should be aware of Cushing’s syndrome’s high perioperative morbidity and mortality. Perioperative management is a challenge due to clinical features. Although bilateral adrenalectomy is considered a high-risk procedure, it can be performed safely with close multidisciplinary perioperative support.

01AP08-07
Anesthesia management of a young woman with tuberous sclerosis for urgent nephrectomy: a case report

D. Liazou¹, K. Papakonstantinou¹, E. Liazou¹, K. Zinovia¹, M. Xrisanthi¹, I. Despoina¹
¹Ippokrateio General Hospital of Thessaloniki, Anaesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background: Tuberous sclerosis (TS) is a rare autosomal neurocutaneous disorder, with an incidence of 1:6000 new births(1). Typical clinical features are mental retardation, epilepsy and adenoma sebaceum, but it can also affect many organs, most commonly the brain, skin, heart, kidneys, and lungs, leading these patients often to the operating room(2).

In this case report we present the anaesthetic management of a young woman with TS and renal angiomyolipomas (AMLs) who was scheduled for urgent nephrectomy.

Case report: A 24-year-old woman (BW 60Kg) with a history of congenital TS, epilepsy, left renal AMLs and anaemia presented in the emergency department with intense abdominal pain and a loss of consciousness episode. CT scan confirmed the presence of multiple ruptured AMLs of left kidney and retroperitoneal haematoma, leading to the need for urgent left nephrectomy. Preoperative hemodynamic parameters showed a developing shock. Anaesthesia induction achieved with fentanyl, propofol and rocuronium while maintenance included sevoflurane and remifentanil infusion. Postoperative analgesia with morphine (0.1mg/kg) and paracetamol 1g were administered. Due to intraoperative hemodynamic instability, noradrenaline infusion was added. Blood transfusion was guided by ABG samples and ROTEM testing, while cerebral activity was monitored using cerebral oximetry and depth of anaesthesia index. Postoperatively the patient remained hemodynamically stable without additional transfusion needs, neither epileptic episodes.

Discussion: Lack of anaesthetic experience and multi-organ involvement in TS make this case an anaesthesia challenge, necessitating high perioperative awareness. In such cases, meticulous hemodynamic, coagulation and cerebral oxygenation monitoring is of significant value with a view to minimizing perioperative complications.

References:
1. Genetics of Tuberous Sclerosis Updated: Sep 02, 2021 Author: Robert A Schwartz, MD, MPH; Chief Editor: Luis O Rohena, MD, PhD, FAAP, FACMG more.
2. Tuberous Sclerosis Complex: A ReviewStephanie Carapetian Randle PMID: 28414398DOI: 10.3928/19382359-20170320-01

Learning points: Specific/intensive perioperative monitoring under general anaesthesia is the cornerstone for optimizing patients with TS for nephrectomy.
01AP08-09
Anesthetic management for a patient with Eisenmenger syndrome undergoing inguinal Lichtenstein hernioplasty: a case report

M.T. Homem, F. Pereira, C. Antunes, V. Mondim, S. Cadilha
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Central, Anesthesiology Department, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Eisenmenger syndrome (ES) is a rare condition. It is defined as pulmonary hypertension, usually irreversible, with an intracardiac or aortopulmonary communication resulting in a bidirectional or reversed shunt. Patients with ES must have a close monitoring during non-cardiac surgery because of a high vulnerability to hemodynamic instability induced by anesthetics or surgery. The perioperative mortality is high, may reach up to 30%.

Case report: We report the successful management of a 49-year-old male patient with ES and an aortopulmonary communication, NYHA class III, on anti-failure and antiarrhythmic medications, erythrocytosis with an hemoglobin of 20,5 g/dL and an hematocrit of 61,4%, a baseline oxygen saturation of 89%, undergoing an inguinal Lichtenstein hernioplasty under subarachnoid block (bupivacaine 10 mg and sufentanil 2.5 mcg). Blood loss was minimal. Fluid shifts were not expected, which led only to the usage of non-invasive monitoring and the ASA standard. The patient stayed in the hospital for 48h after the surgery, and was discharged without complications.

Discussion: The prevalence of ES varies from 1-9/1000.000. Patients with ES are clinically cyanotic, frequently with dyspnea on exertion, decreased exercise tolerance, signs and symptoms of congestive heart failure, such as signs of right ventricular overload and failure, peripheral edema, syncope, and eventually alterations in end-organ function.

Different anesthetic techniques including general and regional are employed, being the choice of the best technique controversial. The main anesthetic goal is the avoidance of hypotension by maintaining both the cardiac output and systemic vascular resistance. Prevention of hypoxia, hypercarbia, acidosis and hypothermia are also crucial. Patients with ES can be challenging to manage by anesthesiologists, due to inability to adapt to sudden changes in hemodynamics, since their pulmonary vascular bed and cardiac output are fixed.

Learning points: It remains crucial to practice a safe operative and perioperative care of patients, by understanding the pathophysiological changes which occur in the ES. We highlight the use of subarachnoid block as a safe and effective technique in selected surgeries in patients with ES, avoiding general anesthesia.

01AP08-10
Volatile anesthetics and myopathy: friend or foe? A report of two distinct cases

R. De Oliveira, R. Jorge Ameiro, A. Panzina, F. Rodrigues
1Centro Hospitalar Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Anaesthesiology, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

Background: Patients with myopathies represent anesthetic challenges. In addition to potential multisystemic involvement, susceptibility to malignant hyperthermia (MH) is usually a major concern. Due to the existent heterogeneity, anesthesiologists are often unfamiliar with anesthetic implications, generally excluding volatile agents from the anesthetic plan. We present the cases of 2 patients with distinct myopathies, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) and mitochondrial disease, undergoing surgery under different anesthetic techniques.

Case report: Case 1: A 14 year old male with a history of DMD presented for equinovarus foot correction. He had tetraparesis and mild hypoventilation. Intravenous anesthesia with target-controlled propofol infusion was combined with ultrasound guided popliteal sciatic nerve block.

Case 2: A 20 year old female with a history of mitochondrial myopathy presented for equinovarus foot correction. General anesthesia with sevoflurane was combined with an epidural block.

Discussion: Due to the vast origin of myopathies, there is unfamiliarity with individual anesthetic implications. Firstly, there is a mis-conception that all myopathic patients are at risk for MH (1). For this reason, volatile agents are frequently discarded. Secondly, one must differentiate MH from anesthesia induced rhabdomyolysis (AIR), as presentation is similar but management differs (2).

Learning points: In regards to myopathies, an anesthetic “one fits all approach” is not recommended. Certain myopathies are at major risk of rhabdomyolysis, warranting a volatile-free approach, whereas propofol based techniques are not recommended in other myopathies, calling for volatile-based anesthesia.

01AP08-11
Carcinoid tumor, a challenging anaesthetic management

M.J. Quelhas, R. Noversa, M. Soares
1ULSM Hospital Pedro Hispano, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Matosinhos, Portugal

Background: Carcinoid tumors (CT) are uncommon, slow-growing tumors, capable of secreting numerous bioactive substances. Surgical excision of CT could lead to unpredictable and hazardous physiological changes due to the release of these substances during the procedure. These case report describes a successful perioperative and multidisciplinary management of a patient with a CT.

Case report: Female, 59 years old, ASA III, presented for an elective laparoscopic CT excision, at the terminal ilium, right ovarium and multiple lymph nodes. She presented at the emergency department with manifestations of carcinoid syndrome (CS). All needed exams were done to meet the diagnosis: neuroendocrine tumor positive for Chromogranin A (Crg-A) and synaptophysin. Elevated urinary 5-HIAA and serum Crg-A were present. Multidisciplinary evaluation (including by an endocrinology expert) were made to plan and prepare the patient to surgery. Cardiac work-up with NT-proBNP measurements and echocardiography excluded carcinoid heart disease. Treatment with long-acting somatostatin analogues was initiated 2 months before surgery. 12h before surgery...
an octreotide perfusion was initiated at 100ug/h and maintained during the procedure. A combined general and epidural anaesthesia were performed under invasive blood pressure monitoring. Central venous line was placed. 50ug bolus of octreotide was needed prior to induction due to hypertension and the perfusion changed to 200ug/h. Temperature was monitored and actively controlled. Hypertension was the main symptom of CS during the procedure and hemodynamic stability was maintained by adjusting octreotide perfusion (to a maximum of 400ug/h) and optimizing epidural analgesia. No other events were registered. The octreotide perfusion were maintained at 100 ug/h during 24h. Post op were at the intensive care unit for 48h and went uneventfully.

**Discussion and Learning points:** These case shows us what is mandatory for a successful anaesthetic management of patients with CS: good communication between surgeons, anaesthesiologist and endocrinologist; multidisciplinary plan; pre-op optimization of the patient. Although octreotide plays a major role on symptom control and acute treatment of CS, the ideal dose is unclear. Further studies into the anaesthetic management of this CS should be encouraged.

**References:**

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**01AP09-02**

**Is atelectasis the risk factor of pneumonia?; retrospective analysis of the correlation with postoperative atelectasis and pneumonia**

E. Ko¹, K.Y. Yoo², C.H. Lim³, Y.H. Kim⁴

¹Korea University Anam Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, ²Chonnam National University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Gwangju, Korea, Republic of, ³Korea University, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, ⁴Hanyang University Changwon Hanmaeum Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Changwon, Korea, Republic of

**Background and Goal of Study:** Atelectasis may be related to the development of pneumonia; however, the pneumonia has never been evaluated as a primary outcome of atelectasis. We aimed to determine whether atelectasis is associated with an increased risk of postoperative pneumonia, ICU admission and length of hospital stay (LOS).

**Materials and Methods:** The electronic medical records of adult patients who underwent elective non-cardiothoracic surgery under general anesthesia between October 2019 and August 2020 were reviewed. Demographic and clinical variables (age, sex, body mass index, asthma, COPD, hypertension, heart failure, diabetes mellitus, anemia, smoking, serum albumin, ASA-PS class, pre- and postoperative CXRs, type of surgery, duration of anesthesia and type of reversal agents for neuromuscular blockade) were obtained.

Patients were divided into two groups: one with atelectasis within postoperative day 7 (atelectasis group) and the other without (non-atelectasis group).

The primary outcome was pneumonia occurred within the 30 days after the surgery. The secondary outcomes were ICU admission rate and postoperative LOS.

**Results and Discussion:** Of 1,941 patients, 61 (3.1%) developed postoperative pneumonia, which was significantly higher in the atelectasis group (4.6%) than in the non-atelectasis group (2.8%) (binary logistic regression analysis; OR 1.92 [95% CI, 1.01 – 3.65]; P = 0.047). The duration of postoperative LOS was significantly longer in the former group (median 7 [IQR, 5-10] days) than in the latter group (6 [3-8] days) (Unstandardized regression coefficient 1.83
Conclusion(s): To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report to suggest postoperative atelectasis as a risk factor for pneumonia in surgical patients. This finding may alert the need for postoperative management of atelectasis to reduce the adverse events including pneumonia and the burden of hospitalizations.

Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) program shorten hospital stay and improve survival rate in minimal invasive esophagectomy patients: a retrospective case control 3-year survival analysis

S.J. Chen1, Y.T. Chang1
1Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Taichung City, Taiwan

Background: Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) program is focusing on multi-disciplinary collaboration and has been suggested correlated with reduced complications, shorten hospital stay and better prognosis in colorectal surgeries. However, there were limited evidences regarding benefits of ERAS on esophageal cancer patients. The aim of this study is to evaluate clinical efficacy and survival analysis of ERAS protocol in esophagectomy patients.

Materials and Methods: We included patients receiving esophagectomy from 2017 to 2022. Patients’ characteristics, intraoperative variables and postoperative variables were collected by electronic medical records. Primary outcome were length of stay (LOS) after operation and in ICU. Secondary outcome was 3-year survival.

Results: 132 patients enrolled in the study, 66 in ERAS group and 66 in historical cohort. Demographic data including age, gender, cancer stages, neoadjuvant chemoradiation therapy, comorbidity and surgical approach were comparable between two groups, while control group had lower BMI (p= 0.037) and lower preoperative albumin (p= 0.007).

Intraoperative data including anesthesia duration and vasopressor dosage were similar between groups while ERAS group had milder blood loss and receive lower crystalloid and colloid volume. Postoperative composite complications and severity were not significant different between groups (ERAS vs. control 33(50%) vs. 35(63%), Clavien-Dindo Grade I/II/IIIb/IV 54.6%/42.4%/(0%/3%/0% vs. 25.7%/57.1%/2.9%/11.4%/2.9%). ERAS group had significant reduction in mean postoperative LOS by 8.42 days and in mean ICU stay by 2.59 days compared with the control group (p < 0.001). In 3-year survival analysis, ERAS group had significant higher survival rate than historical control group (ERAS group: 70.16%; control group: 45.29%, p=0.028).

Fig. 1 revealed that among patients with albumin <4, cancer stage I&II, and age <65yrs, the ERAS group had significant higher survival.

Conclusion: Application of ERAS program in esophageal cancer surgery shorten LOS and improve survival. The beneficial effects remain significant in patients with lower albumin, younger age and early tumor stage.

Anaesthesia and aphasia in the post anaesthesia care unit

A. Banerji1, J. Sleigh1, P. Garcia2, A. Gaskell1
1University of Auckland, Anesthesiology, Auckland, New Zealand, 2Columbia University Medical Centre, Anesthesiology, New York, United States

Background and Goal of Study: In the PACU an uncommunicative patient, is commonly attributed to sedation and rarely considered to be a consequence of specific perturbations in the speech language networks of the brain. A pragmatic assessment was formulated to test PACU patients, the aim being to be able to classify post operative language problems into a particular type of aphasia and thereby determine the neuroanatomic basis for PACU aphasia and its possible relation to return of cognitive functions following anaesthesia.
Materials and Methods: This was a post-hoc secondary analysis of data collected during the alpha max study which included 200 adults aged over 60 years old and scheduled for elective surgery under general anaesthesia expected to last at least 2 hours. These patients were administered the speech language assessment at 30 minutes following arrival in the PACU. Four areas tested by the assessment were Verbal Fluency, Repetition, Naming and Discourse. A subgroup (Validation Group) of 30 participants were followed up after one year to establish a baseline comparator. A within subject comparison was conducted on the Validation Group, compared with the remaining 170 patients. Statistical analyses included t-test (unpaired) for normally distributed continuous data, chi square or Fisher’s exact test for categorical data and Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for non-parametric data.

Results and Discussion: Compared to their one-year follow-up, participants had a significantly lower word output in the PACU, an unimpaired level of comprehension and ability to repeat correctly. Patients could comprehend spoken language but were unable to engage in longer conversations. This pattern is commonly caused by lesions of the pre-frontal region and delayed return of cognitive functions performed by these regions may be responsible.

### Materials and Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Validation Group 1 year Follow up</th>
<th>Validation Group PACU</th>
<th>Difference (Follow Up−PACU)</th>
<th>Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verbal Fluency (Overall words per minute)</td>
<td>18 (8)</td>
<td>13.5 (8)</td>
<td>6 (7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naming (number of correct responses out of 4)</td>
<td>4 (0)</td>
<td>4 (0)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repetition (number of correct repetitions out of 4)</td>
<td>4 (1)</td>
<td>3.5 (2)</td>
<td>0 (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discourse Content and Fluency (0-3)</td>
<td>3 (0)</td>
<td>2 (1)</td>
<td>p&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: This analysis of speech and language following anaesthesia is unique. Individuals appear to present with a form of transcortical motor aphasia following anaesthesia, possibly due to the differential recovery of pathways connected to the pre-frontal cortex. Future work could help localize the pathways and networks involved and confirm the role of sub-cortical structures.

01AP09-05

Association between preoperative functional capacity and postoperative complications in patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery

S. Roth¹, E. Mauermann², S. Spadaro³, D. Ionescu⁴, S. Howell⁵, G. Lurati Buse⁶

¹University Hospital Duesseldorf, Department of Anaesthesiology, Duesseldorf, Germany, ²University Hospital Basel, Clinic for Anaesthesia, Intermediate Care, Prehospital Emergency Medicine and Pain Therapy, Basel, Switzerland, ³University of Ferrara, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Unit, Department of Translational Medicine, Ferrara, Italy, ⁴Iuliu Hașieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, ⁵University of Leeds, Leeds Institute of Medical Research, Leeds, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: In Europe, 37-40 million operations are conducted annually. About 5% of these patients suffer from major postoperative complications within 30 days. Preoperative risk assessment is crucial to guide perioperative management. In addition, intensive care unit (ICU) capacities to monitor patients with increased risk are limited. Self-reported functional capacity is regularly used to estimate perioperative risk. However, data quantifying the association with postoperative complications are limited. We hypothesized that reduced preoperative functional capacity is associated with:

1. Postoperative complications, and;
2. Unplanned ICU admissions.

Materials and Methods: This is a secondary analysis of the Clinical Trial Network multicenter cohort study MET-REPAIR (NCT NCT03016936) that enrolled patients with increased cardiovascular risk undergoing non-cardiac surgery between 2017 and 2019 in 150 centers in 26 countries. Main exposure was self-reported preoperative functional capacity defined as a) metabolic equivalents (METS, Cutoff <4) and b) reduced physical activity (= inactivity or less than 20 minutes activities like brisk walking or jogging per week).

The primary endpoints were postoperative complications defined by Clavien-Dindo-classification ≥1 and unplanned ICU admission, respectively. For statistical analysis, multivariate logistic regression models including 12 predefined covariables were performed.

Results and Discussion: Out of 15984 prospectively included patients, 15617 could be included into final analysis (39.5% female, mean age 72±8 years). 2472 (15.5%) patients had preoperative METS<4 and 10601 (66.3%) reported limited regular physical activity.

A postoperative complication occurred in 4532 (29%) patients and 492 (3.2%) had an unplanned ICU admission. METS<4 were not associated with postoperative complications or unplanned ICU admission (complications: Odds Ratio (OR): 1.06 [95% Confidence Interval (KI) 0.96-1.18]; unplanned ICU: OR: 1.12 [95%KI 0.87-1.43]). There was an independent association between limited physical activity and complications (OR=1.12 [95% CI 1.02-1.20]), but not with unplanned ICU (OR=1.08 [95% CI 0.88-1.32]).

Conclusion(s): Self-reported daily activity is independently associated with postoperative complications, but not with unplanned ICU admission after non-cardiac surgery. METS seem not to be suitable for preoperative risk stratification in this context.
Post-operative pain, recovery, and discharge after robot-assisted radical prostatectomy – a multi-centre, single blinded, randomized controlled trial

S. Hallengren1, A. Schenning1, A.-C. Lindström1,2, J. Eriksson2, M. Aly4,5, A. Gupta1,2
1Karolinska University Hospital, Perioperative Medicine and Intensive Care, Stockholm, Sweden, 2Karolinska Institute, Pharmacology and Physiology, Stockholm, Sweden, 3Karolinska Institute, Division of Biostatistics, Stockholm, Sweden, 4Karolinska University Hospital, Pelvic Cancer, Stockholm, Sweden, 5Karolinska Institute, Moleculare Medicine and Surgery, Stockholm, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: General anaesthesia (GA) is the standard of care for patients undergoing robot-assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy (RALP). In this study, we sought to determine if GA combined with spinal anaesthesia reduces postoperative pain and side effects following RALP, allowing earlier home readiness compared to GA alone.

Materials and Methods: We randomised 211 patients to general anaesthesia with multimodal analgesia (Group GA) or spinal anaesthesia combined with GA (Group SG). Multimodal analgesia included parecoxib and morphine intraoperatively. Local anaesthesia and paracetamol were given to all patients, and postoperative pain was treated using opiates as needed. We registered pain intensity, urge to pass urine, dissatisfaction, and complications. Home readiness was registered using standardized international criteria. Data was analysed using statistical models for continuous and dichotomized data as well as normally and not normally distributed data, as appropriate.

Results and Discussion: 202 patients were analysed. Almost one third of patients (27%) reached home readiness criteria on the day of surgery, without differences between the groups. Pain intensity, postoperative nausea and vomiting and time to home readiness and home discharge were similar between the groups. The urge to pass urine was greater in GA than in SG (p <0.001) and lasted for a median of 2h. More patients were satisfied with early postoperative care in group SG (p < 0.001). Two patients (1%) were re-operated due to postoperative bleeding, no other major adverse events were recorded.

Conclusion(s): Spinal anaesthesia in addition to general anaesthesia did not lead to earlier home readiness, but it did decrease discomfort and bladder spasm in the early post-operative period, in comparison to multimodal pain management. Therefore, spinal anaesthesia may be a suitable alternative to multimodal pain management in patients undergoing RALP. Although major complications were rare, fewer than one-third of patients were ready for home discharge the same evening, suggesting that RALP may only be appropriate as a day surgical procedure in a selected group of patients.

Further studies are needed to better identify which patients may not be suitable for same day discharge.

Making handover safer by making it C.O.L.D.

L. MacDonnell1, S. Rooney1, R. Junkin1, P. Johnstone1
1University Hospital Crosshouse, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Anaesthetics, Kilmarnock, United Kingdom

Background & Goal of Study: Handover involves the transfer of professional responsibility & accountability for care. It occurs frequently between Anaesthetist & nurse in postoperative recovery units when patients are clinically at high risk. Miscommunication is one of the leading causes for adverse events resulting in serious adverse events. Given the importance of recovery handovers it was decided to examine & improve current practice at University Hospital Crosshouse (UHC).

Materials & Methods: Our methods were two-fold. A questionnaire was distributed amongst the anaesthetic & nursing teams exploring multidisciplinary views on handover performance with identification of key priorities. Additionally, observational data was collected during prospective scrutiny of real world recovery handovers in our unit.

Results & Discussion: There were 41 questionnaire respondents & 11 real handovers observed. Large variation in handover practice was identified highlighting a lack of structure (54%) & deficiencies in establishing monitoring prior to information transfer (50%). There was clear consensus on the information which should be communicated. During handover observation none of the handovers had an obvious structure & 3 took place prior to the transfer of monitoring being completed.

Conclusion(s): Our results show the need for implementing a structured approach to recovery handover. We frequently observed handover occurring when receiving staff were not ready or task focused in establishing patient monitoring & unable to devote full attention to information transfer. Previous work by Redley et al created COLD: Connect, Observe, Listen, Delegate. This was adapted to UHC changing to Connect, Observe, Listen, Discuss & has now been introduced. COLD empowers a structured approach & includes the introduction of a clear “Pause” for safety. Now staff routinely complete tasks and only then pause for handover of information allowing for full concentration. On reassessment ongoing compliance was proven to be high illustrating a sustained improvement in communication & safety.

References:
1: The Joint Commission Sentinel event data: root causes by event type The Joint Commission, 2016 tinyurl.com/4xb5s7
**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative pulmonary complications (PPCs) increase postoperative mortality, hospital stays, and healthcare costs. Recent studies have emerged that the use of sugammadex for complete reversal of neuromuscular blockade can reduce PPCs, but these are still controversial. Spine surgeries often take long and are often performed in elderly patients, thus increasing the risk of PPCs.

We aimed to find out if the use of sugammadex could more effectively reduce PPCs than pyridostigmine (AChEi) in patients who had undergone spine surgery, especially in prone position intraoperatively.

**Materials and Methods:** From March 2019 to February 2021, adult patients who underwent elective spine surgery at the Department of Neurosurgery, Korea University Anam Hospital were eligible. PPCs, especially pneumonia and respiratory failure (RF) that occurred within 28 days after surgery were the primary outcomes. As this is a preliminary study, secondary outcomes have not yet been analyzed.

The patients were divided into two groups (Sugammadex group and AChEi group), and the incidence of PPCs was compared. A separate multivariable logistic regression model was used to exclude the effects of other covariates and confirm the effect of the type of reversal agent on the outcome.

**Results and Discussion:** Among 447 cases, 112 patients are Sugammadex group and 335 patients are AChEi group. When analyzed by chi-squared test, the use of sugammadex did not reduce PPCs, pneumonia, or RF in patients who underwent spine surgery ($P = 0.656$, $0.344$, and $0.461$, respectively). Even in the results of regression analysis, the use of sugammadex did not reduce PPCs ($P = 0.504$). Regression analysis was performed for 402 patients in the prone position, but the use of sugammadex did not reduce PPCs, pneumonia, or RF ($P = 0.804$, $0.995$, and $0.326$, respectively).

**Conclusion(s):** Although there are evidences that the use of sugammadex can attenuate the development of PPCs, this study did not show positive effects of sugammadex on patients with spine surgery. In particular, even when only patients in prone position were targeted, incidence of PPCs did not differ between two groups. Since there are deficiencies in this preliminary results, secondary outcomes will be added in the future.
01AP09-11
Design and implementation of an enhanced recovery after surgery protocol in scoliosis patients undergoing corrective surgery: a retrospective, comparative study

K. Girish1, S. Murlidharan2, P. Khanna1, B. Garg3, N. Mehta2
1All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Anesthesiology, Pain Medicine, and Critical Care, New Delhi, India, 2All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Orthopedics, Raipur, India, 3All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Orthopedics, New Delhi, India

Background and Goal of Study: Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) is now getting popularized in many surgical subspecialties. Corrective surgeries for scoliosis are complex and are challenging for the anesthesiologist and the orthopedic surgeon. We hypothesized that these patients would benefit immensely from ERAS that aims at minimizing the surgical stress response. We devised a protocol and studied the changes in outcome after its implementation in a tertiary care center situated in a developing country.

Materials and Methods: This was a retrospective analysis of prospectively collected data from a single institutional database. After obtaining approval from the institute’s ethics committee, we recruited 150 patients who underwent corrective surgeries for scoliosis. ERAS protocol was formulated and implemented in scoliosis surgeries in our hospital from 2019. This divided our patient group into a ‘pre-ERAS’ category between July 2016 to December 2018 and a ‘post-ERAS’ category between January 2019 to March 2022.

The outcome measures for comparison were length of hospital stay (LOS), postoperative complications, Intensive Care Unit (ICU) stay, post operative mechanical ventilation and patient-reported outcome measures (visual analogue scale [VAS] and Oswestry Disability Index [ODI] score) at stipulated time intervals. Statistical analysis was done using SPSS software, categorical variables were compared using Pearson’s chi square test and continuous variables were compared using two sample t tests.

Results and Discussion: A total of 150 patients were included—with 71 patients in the pre-ERAS group and 79 patients in the post-ERAS group. There was no significant difference with respect to age, sex distribution, body mass index, comorbidities, distribution of diagnosis, type of surgical approach, average number of levels fused, or estimated blood loss. 45% of patients in pre-ERAS group suffered from perioperative complications while only 31% in the post ERAS group had any.

Days to ambulation and the ODI scores measured 1 month after the surgery were also significantly lower in the post-ERAS group. ICU admission, post operative mechanical ventilation, and readmission rate were lower in the post ERAS group, but not significantly. The LOS was comparable between the two groups.

Conclusion(s): ERAS protocol implementation is feasible in scoliosis surgeries and results in reduction in complication rates and better recovery.
**Conclusion(s):** In patients undergoing TAVR under MAC, remimazolam was non-inferior to dexmedetomidine in terms of timely recovery. Additionally, remimazolam may be associated with a better recovery profile in some aspects, such as the postoperative requirement for vasopressors/inotropes and the use of temporary pacemakers.

**01AP10-03**

**Does intravenous injection of ramosetron affect the hemodynamic changes during anesthesia induction by total intravenous anesthesia with propofol and remifentanil? - A randomized controlled trial**

S.H. Kim¹,², K.Y. So¹,²
¹Chosun University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Gwangju, Republic of Korea, ²Chosun University, School of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Gwangju, Republic of Korea

**Background and Goal of Study:** Serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine; 5-HT) induces the triphasic blood pressure response consisting of early short-term hypotension due to bradycardia, a middle pressor phase, and longer-lasting hypotension. Considering the triphasic effect on blood pressure of 5-HT, the 5-HT3 antagonist, ramosetron, may skip the phase of early short-term hypotension, enhance a middle pressor phase, and result in the prevention of significant hypotension.

We investigated whether ramosetron could affect the hemodynamic changes during anesthesia induction (AI) under total intravenous anesthesia with propofol and remifentanil.

**Materials and Methods:** After obtaining IRB approval and the patient’s informed consent, 67 patients aged 20 to 70 years with an ASA PS of I-III were randomly assigned to three groups receiving normal saline (group C, n = 23), ramosetron 0.3 mg (group R3, n = 23) or ramosetron 0.6 mg (group R6, n = 23) once 5 minutes before the start of AI. AI was initiated with a bolus dose of propofol 1 mg/kg followed by 6 mg/kg/h and Remifentanil 60 μg/kg/h, which were infused until endotracheal intubation (EI).

The primary outcome was the changes in hemodynamic values between baseline and before EI. We recorded hemodynamics (systolic arterial pressure (SAP), diastolic arterial pressure (DAP), mean arterial pressure (MAP), and heart rate), and calculated their changes between baseline and each time point.

We analyzed data using the one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and repeated measures ANOVA, appropriately. p values < 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

**Results and Discussion:** No significant differences in SAP (p=0.808), DAP (p=0.335), MAP (p=0.160), and heart rate (p=0.530) were observed among the groups. The differences in hemodynamics value from baseline were lesser in group R6 than in groups C and R3 during AI, and they showed more positive changes in group R6 than in groups C and R3 after EI (without significant differences).

In subgroup analysis, the antihypertensive drug being taken has been shown to offset the effect of ramosetron 6 mg (group R6) on the hemodynamic changes occurring during AI and after EI.

**Conclusion(s):** Ramosetron in the clinical dose range has no significant effect on hemodynamic changes after AI and EI. A high dose of ramosetron can be expected to reduce the degree of blood pressure drop that occurs during AI, but this effect can be offset in patients taking antihypertensive drugs.

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**01AP10-02**

**Impact of drug nebulisation inside the abdomen on peritoneal CO2 absorption during laparoscopy. A randomised controlled trial in pigs**

H. Mullier¹,², J. Mullier³,⁴,⁵
¹KULeuven, Anesthesia, Leuven, Belgium, ²ORSI Academy, Research & Education, Melle, Belgium, ³AZ Sint Jan Brugge, Anesthesiology, Brugge, Belgium, ⁴UGent, Anesthesiology, Gent, Belgium, ⁵KULeuven, Cardiovasculaire Wetenschappen, Leuven, Belgium

**Background and Goal of Study:** CO₂ absorption during pneumoperitoneum (PP) starts within 30 minutes when intra-abdominal pressure (IAP) is more than 8 mmHg (1) and peritoneal inflammation is insufficiently blocked. Lidocaine (L) and Dexmedetomidine (D) are effective in reducing CO₂ absorption (2) when given intravenously, but is a dose given by nebulisation at the start of PP more protective?

**Materials and Methods:** L 6 mg/kg, D 3 mcg/kg or SoluMedrol (S) 2 mg/kg were at random nebulised in each time 4 pigs and compared with 4 pigs that got saline nebulisation and 4 pigs that got intravenous L (Liv) in the same dose. The Aerogen nebulisation device was adapted for intra-abdominal use. An electrostatic precipitator (Ultravision from Alesi Surgical) charges the water droplets to give a better spreading and penetration via electrostatic attraction to the peritoneum. (3) A metabolic computer (GE Healthcare) measures CO₂ absorption assuming no change in RQ since the start of PP.

**Results and Discussion:** 20 pigs after ethical committee approval were investigated under general anesthesia with small minute volume ventilation adaptations at minimum 10 minutes before taking a RQ measurement to keep end tidal CO₂ around 40. A constant venous L (Liv) in the same dose. The Aerogen nebulisation device was adapted for intra-abdominal use. An electrostatic precipitator (Ultravision from Alesi Surgical) charges the water droplets to give a better spreading and penetration via electrostatic attraction to the peritoneum. (3) A metabolic computer (GE Healthcare) measures the amount of exhaled CO₂ and consumed O₂ to calculate the Respiratory Quotient (RQ). This allows to calculate the amount of CO₂ absorption assuming no change in RQ since the start of PP.

**Conclusion:** CO₂ absorption in ml/min after 120 min PP: Control group 98 +/- 46; S 83 +/- 35; Liv 57 +/-65; L 35 +/-52 and D 33 +/- 67. Kruskal-Wallis p=0.083. When combining the nebulised drugs D and L and comparing it to Liv and the control or S, a significant difference was found in favor of nebulisation with the Kruskal-Wallis test p = 0.022. S being a much larger molecule had no effect when nebulised. The high dose of D and L was equally effective and L was more effective when nebulized. It remains to be investigated if the side effects will be less compared to iv applications and thus a larger patient population is now needed to verify the effects.

**References:**


**Acknowledgements:** Thanks to Patrick Martens and to Eva Vanderstraeten, Kevin Bauwens from ORSI in assisting the experiments.

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**52 General Anaesthesiology**
**01AP10-04**

**Pharmacodynamic relationship of dobutamine and dynamic hemodynamic variables during pancreaticoduodenectomy: preliminary results**

J. Leyman1, J. Van Limmen1, P. Wyffels1, F. Berrevoet1, S. De Hert1, L. De Baerdemaecker1
1University Ghent / UZ Gent, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Gent, Belgium

**Background and Goal of Study:** The inodilator dobutamine (DOBU) is used to improve cardiac function. Augmentation of cardiac index (CI) is provided by enhanced left ventricular contractility however in some patients, the dominant mechanism to increase CI, is an increased heart rate (HR)1.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the effect of DOBU on dynamic haemodynamic variables at two different dosages.

**Materials and Methods:** After written informed consent, patients scheduled for pancreaticoduodenectomy were included. All patients received standardized anaesthesia case, using target-controlled anaesthesia with propofol (Schnider) and remifentanil (Minto). PulsionflexTM was used to measure and guide haemodynamic data. After baseline measurements (T1), DOBU was started at 2 mcg.kg⁻¹.min⁻¹ (T2) and increased to 5 mcg.kg⁻¹.min⁻¹ (T3). A minimum of 10 minutes stabilization period was before each measurement. At these designated time-points, haemodynamic variables such as mean arterial blood pressure (MAP), CI, HR, dP/dtmax, central venous pressure and systemic vascular resistance (SVRI) were measured. Stroke volume indexed (SVI) was calculated post-hoc. These variables were related to different dosages of DOBU, and linear mixed modelling was used for statistical analysis.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 16 patients were included. DOBU dose-dependently significantly increased CI, dP/dtmax and HR (p < 0.05). The net effect on CI was minimal between T2 and T3 but SVRI and SVI decreased at higher dosage of DOBU (p < 0.05).

### Table 1: data are mean (SD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>T1</th>
<th>T2</th>
<th>T3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAP (mmHg)</td>
<td>73 (11)</td>
<td>78 (10)</td>
<td>73 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI (L.min⁻¹.m⁻²)</td>
<td>3.0 (0.5)</td>
<td>3.4 (0.5)#</td>
<td>3.5 (0.6)#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR (bpm)</td>
<td>79 (6)</td>
<td>95 (12)</td>
<td># 117 (16) # *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dP/dtmax (mmHg.sec)</td>
<td>1178 (191)</td>
<td>1609 (281)</td>
<td># 1969 (328)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVP (mmHg)</td>
<td>8 (3)</td>
<td>8 (2)</td>
<td>8 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVRI (dyn.sec.cm⁻⁵.m⁻²)</td>
<td>1754 (382)</td>
<td>1671 (312)</td>
<td># 1527 (272)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVI (ml.m⁻²)</td>
<td>38 (5)</td>
<td>36 (6)</td>
<td>31 (7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# statistical difference versus T1 (p < 0.05)
* statistical difference versus T2 (p < 0.05)

**Conclusion(s):** DOBU increased both contractility and heart rate. At higher dose however, the effects on MAP and CI seemed counterbalanced by the decrease in SVRI.

**Reference:**

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**01AP10-05**

**Electromyographic signals of Bispectral Index™ (BIS™) Monitoring System predicts Train of Four in neuromuscular monitoring well during emergence of general anesthesia**

K.-J. Lin1,2, H.-Y. Wang1, Y.-S. Jheng1, W.-K. Chang1, C.-K. Ting1
1Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Anesthesiology, Taipei city, Taiwan, 2Lotung Poh-Ai Hospital, Anesthesiology, Yilan County, Taiwan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Bispectral Index (BIS) has gained popularity in anesthetic practice for monitoring consciousness, yet electromyography activity recorded in BIS monitoring (BIS-EMG) was rarely studied for clinical implication. The aim of this prospective and observational study was to explore the connection between BIS-EMG and routine neuromuscular monitoring in patients under general anesthesia.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients scheduled for video-assisted thoracoscopic surgeries were recruited. 1 mg/kg of rocuronium was administrated during induction of anesthesia and maintained based on neuromuscular monitoring parameters. 2 mg/kg of sugammadex was given to reverse neuromuscular blockade at the end of the surgery. BIS, BIS-EMG values and neuromuscular monitoring parameters including train-of-four (TOF) ratio, TOF count and post-tetanic count (PTC) were collected from the induction of anesthesia to extubation of endotracheal tube. Patient characteristics were also recorded and analyzed. Multivariate logistic regression analysis was conducted to examine the relation between patient characteristics, BIS-EMG and neuromuscular parameters. To prevent overfitting, 75 percent of dataset was assigned as the training set and the remaining 25% was used as the test set. Area under ROC curve was measured to evaluate the performance of the model.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 36 patients were enrolled and 4840 set of data were recorded. BIS-EMG was significant elevated when TOF ratio was above 0.9. (odds ratio=1.137, p=0.000) Area under ROC curve was 0.801. Neuromuscular monitoring parameters were independent of patients’ gender, age, weight and total rocuronium dose.

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**Conclusion(s):** Electromyographic signals of Bispectral Index™ (BIS™) Monitoring System predicts Train of Four in neuromuscular monitoring well during emergence of general anesthesia.
Conclusion(s): BIS-EMG may assist in evaluating the timing of extubation and excluding clinically significant residual neuromuscular blockade.

01AP10-06
Haemodynamic stability of remimazolam versus propofol in anaesthetic management of unruptured-aneurysm coil embolization using LMA

J. Oh1, H.B. Joe1, S.K. Min1, J.Y. Song1, B.K. Moon1
1Ajou University School of Medicine, Dept of Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Suwon, Korea, Republic of

Background and Goal of Study: Anaesthesiologists are responsible for maintaining a tight haemodynamic stability during induction and endovascular treatment of intracranial unruptured-aneurysm patients. Previous studies reported that remimazolam exhibited fewer hypotensive events than propofol. The aim of the present study was comparing the safety profile of remimazolam to propofol using LMA for the unruptured intracranial aneurysm patients, based on an analysis of haemodynamic stability.

Materials and Methods: The study protocol was approved by the Institutional Review Board and a written informed consent were obtained to all patients. Using computer-generated random numbers, total of 22 patients were randomly allocated to remimazolam group (n = 11) or propofol group (n = 11). Both groups were co-administered with remifentanil target-controlled infusion at effect site concentration of 2.5 ng/ml. The bolus induction dose of remimazolam and propofol was 0.25 mg/kg and 2 mg/kg, respectively. Remimazolam was maintained by 1-2 mg/kg/h and propofol was maintained by 5-10 mg/kg/h in each group.

The blood pressure, heart rate, peripheral oxygen saturation (SpO2) and anaesthetic depth monitor for sedation index (ADMS) data were collected at ten measurement points: before anaesthesia induction (T0), after loss of consciousness (T1), immediately after LMA insertion (T2), 5 min after LMA insertion (T3), 10 min after LMA insertion (T4), skin puncture time (T5), during arteriography (T6), during intravascular coil insertion (T7), at the completion of remimazolam or propofol infusion (T8) and after LMA removal (T9).

The primary outcome was the difference between maximum systolic arterial blood pressure and minimum systolic arterial blood pressure (ΔSBP) during anaesthetic induction and LMA insertion time. Hypotension (mean arterial pressure < 65 mmHg) incidence throughout the study period were also assessed.

Results and Discussion: ΔSBP was significantly lower in the remimazolam group than in the propofol group, 27.9 ± 17.1 mmHg and 43.7 ± 12.7 mmHg, respectively (p=0.035). Hypotension incidence in the remimazolam group was 5 (45%), and in the propofol group was 8 (73%). Heartrate, SpO2 and ADMS value throughout the study period did not shown significant difference between the two groups.

Conclusion(s): General anaesthesia with remimazolam using LMA ensured more haemodynamic stability than propofol for coil embolization of intracranial unruptured-aneurysm patients.

01AP10-07
What could be the ideal anesthetic in mechanical circulatory support patient for non-cardiac surgery?

M. Durán-Aparicio1, V.E. Vega Sánchez1, I. Fernández-López1, H. Abejaro2, K. Jinat3, B. Quintana-Villamandos1
1Gregorio Marañon General University Hospital, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain, 2Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Anaesthesiology Department, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Treatment of cardiac failure with Mechanical Circulatory Assist Devices (MCAD) has increased in the last years, and therefore it is becoming more common to find a patient with a MCAD in elective non-cardiac surgery. There are no reports in literature that mention which anesthetic drug would be the most appropriate for maintenance in these patients.

The objective of our research was to compare two anesthetics, propofol and desflurane, through the study of organ blood flow in a porcine model of MCAD in total assistance (providing 100% of the specimen’s cardiac output).

Materials and Methods: Once the study was approved by the Ethic Committee on Animal Investigation (CEEA), a total of 16 minipigs were spread in two groups, 8 animals each, according to the anesthetic applied (desflurane vs. propofol) during the general anesthesia maintenance. A continuous flow pump was placed to assist the left ventricle in total assistance.

Afterwards, the colored microspheres method was implemented to measure blood flow in different tissues at two moments of the study: before assistance start and 30 minutes after total assistance. At the end of the experiment the animal was sacrificed, and the organs were biopsied. Statistical analysis was performed using the independent samples t-test. Statistical significance: p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: A statistically significant increase in cerebral, cardiac, hepatic, renal, pulmonary and intestinal blood flow was found after 30 minutes of total assistance in the desflurane group compared to the propofol group.

Conclusion(s): Desflurane could be the most appropriate option to apply on anesthetic procedures for patients with a mechanical circulatory assist device that provides total assistance to the left ventricle.

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**01AP10-08**

Differences between visually inspected and processed burst suppression detection in the SEDLine monitor

O. Barreto Chang1, N. Pawar1, A. Wise2, P. Garcia3, M. Kreuzer4

1University of California San Francisco, Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Care, San Francisco, United States, 2University of California San Francisco, Department of Neurology, Memory and Aging Center, San Francisco, United States, 3Columbia University Medical Center New York Presbyterian Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, New York, United States, 4Technical University of Munich, School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Munich, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Burst suppression (BS) has been implicated as a risk factor for perioperative neurocognitive disorders in older adults; thus, correctly identifying these episodes may influence the decisions about the intraoperative anesthetics that the patient receives. Anesthesiologists using commercially available monitors rely on processed burst suppression algorithms to make intraoperative decisions regarding anesthesia. In this study, we seek to understand if there are differences between visually inspected and processed burst suppression identification and duration.

**Materials and Methods:** We evaluated the processed and raw EEG Sedline data from a cohort of 233 patients that underwent spine surgery at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF IRB 18-26716). In 134 patients BS could be visually identified. Those with BS underwent additional analysis by visual inspection of the raw data by two independent researchers. For analysis of the processed BS, we defined different BSR thresholds.

**Results and Discussion:** The median duration of visually identified BS was 16min [7 to 28] minutes (25th and 75th percentile). Up to a BSR=10, the processed BS duration was significantly longer than for the visually inspected. Figure 1A presents the durations for the different thresholds and the visual approach. Figure 1B highlights the agreements/discrepancies between visual and processed BS detection. The discrepancies of longer BS episodes in the processed detection for low threshold may be found in the long analytical windows used for BS detection that will lead to positive BSR even after BS goes away.

**Conclusion(s):** At lower BSR values, there is an overestimation of burst suppression duration, and at higher BSR values, there is an underestimation of BS duration. BSR can provide information about possible BS, but the overestimation and underestimation point to the importance of incorporating visual analysis of the EEG for the interpretation of BS.

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**01AP10-09**

Association of alpha frequency of the frontal intraoperative EEG and postoperative delirium: a retrospective propensity-matched analysis

D. Hight1, A. Ehrhardt6, F. Lersch1, M. Lüdi1, F. Stüber1, H.A. Kaiser2,1

1Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, 2Hirslanden Clinic Aarau, Center for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Aarau, Switzerland

**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative delirium (POD) is a serious complication often resulting in negative postoperative outcomes. It has been proposed that decreasing the amount of anesthetics intraoperatively by titrating to an EEG index will lower delirium incidence, but clear evidence is missing. Strong anti-correlation has been reported between alpha frequency and end-tidal anesthetic concentration1, but it is unknown if slower alpha oscillations are associated with subsequent POD. As RCTs on POD using spectral EEG are lacking, we planned to investigate the association of frontal alpha frequency and POD in this retrospective analysis.

**Materials and Methods:** Ethical approval was granted by the Bernese Ethics committee. Frontal EEG was recorded using a Narco trend monitor. Peak alpha frequency was measured at highest power between 7 to 17 Hz. Delirium was assessed by chart review. Demographic and clinical characteristics were compared between POD and non-POD groups using Pearson chi-square test for categorical variables. Selection bias was addressed using a 5:1 nearest neighbour propensity score matching (PSM) for best balance. The PS for each individual was defined as the probability of suffering from POD given the patient’s baseline characteristics and comorbidities. This incorporated 18 variables (Figure 1). Patients with missing variable information or without an alpha oscillation were excluded.

**Results and Discussion:** Of the 1072 patients in the original study, 828 were included - 73 with POD, 755 without. PSM allowed 328 patients into the final analysis, 67 with, 261 without POD. Before PSM, 8 variables were significantly different between POD and non-POD groups, none thereafter (Figure 1).

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**Figure 1.**

**Results and Discussion:** Of the 1072 patients in the original study, 828 were included - 73 with POD, 755 without. PSM allowed 328 patients into the final analysis, 67 with, 261 without POD. Before PSM, 8 variables were significantly different between POD and non-POD groups, none thereafter (Figure 1).
Mean alpha frequency was significantly lower in the POD in contrast to the non-POD group before and after matching (7.9 vs 8.9 Hz, 7.9 vs 8.8 Hz respectively, SD 1.3 respectively, p < 0.001).

Conclusion(s): A slower frontal alpha frequency is independently associated with POD and may be a simple intraoperative pathophysiological marker of a vulnerable brain with decreased cognitive capacity.

Reference:
1. Hight et al. (2017), Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience

01AP10-10
Nitrous oxide use in GGC: a snapshot audit and survey of opinions
A.-M. Tiah1, A. Beck1, J. Church1
1Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Anaesthetic, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: The environmental impact of nitrous oxide (N2O) has been highlighted in an attempt to decelerate global warming. Anaesthetic gases account for 2% of NHS emissions with a calculated reduction of one third of emissions by eliminating N2O. There was an estimated 5.7 million litres of N2O delivered to the Greater Glasgow and Clyde trust (GGC) trust over 3 years. In a bid to reduce wastage of N2O, we conducted an audit to determine N2O use in the general theatre suite.

Materials and Methods: Anaesthetists working in GGC were surveyed on their use of N2O in daily practice. Anaesthetic machines within GGC trust were interrogated to determine N2O used in litres. 49 respondents to the survey. N2O was used for the following: 23/49 inhalation induction, 16/49 additional analgesia and 11/49 to reduce required concentration of volatiles. 48/49 were aware of environmental impacts of N2O. 34/49 anaesthetic practices would not be affected by removal. 20/49 favoured having cylinders on request to reduce wastage. 48/49 were aware of environmental impacts of N2O. 34/49 anaesthetic practices would not be affected by removal. 20/49 favoured having cylinders on request to reduce wastage. 48/49 were aware of environmental impacts of N2O. 34/49 anaesthetic practices would not be affected by removal. 20/49 favoured having cylinders on request to reduce wastage.

Results and Discussion: 49 respondents to the survey. N2O was used for the following: 23/49 inhalation induction, 16/49 additional analgesia and 11/49 to reduce required concentration of volatiles. 48/49 were aware of environmental impacts of N2O. 34/49 anaesthetic practices would not be affected by removal. 20/49 favoured having cylinders on request to reduce wastage. Extrapolated data for N2O use during 477 cases on anaesthetic machines reviewed in anaesthetic rooms and theatres. 454/477 consumed 0 Litres (L) of N2O. 15/477 consumed 0.01-1L of N2O. 1/477 consumed 1.1-10L of N2O. 6/477 consumed 11-100L of N2O. 1/477 consumed over 100L of N2O.

Conclusion(s): Chakera et al estimate that most of the N2O emissions across NHS Scotland health boards is due to system loss. The majority of anaesthetists surveyed don’t use N2O in their daily practice and a significant proportion favoured having cylinders on request to reduced wastage. Audit of N2O use supports this sentiment, with the majority of cases using no N2O. 3% of cases had less than 1L use which may be attributed to system loss, supports the argument for making N2O available on demand in certain clinical areas.

References:

01AP10-11
Real life analysis of intraoperative ventilation with regard to dynamic parameters of fluid responsiveness
M. Prütz1, A. Zitzmann1, A. Bozkurt2, S. Haas1, B. Löser1, D.A. Reuter∗
1University Medical Center Rostock, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, Rostock, Germany, 2Gesundheit Nordhessen Klinikum Kassel, Department of General Surgery, Kassel, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Pulse pressure variation (PPV) is commonly used to predict fluid responsiveness. Reliably assessing fluid responsiveness with PPV has been shown to be superior to other conventional parameters. In contrast, standard lung-protective ventilation strategies favor VTs of 6-8 ml/kg. This study aimed to evaluate how often ventilation criteria for PPV are met for patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery with a particular focus on abdominal surgery, where assessment of volume responsiveness is most likely needed.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective Data of 10,845 patients were collected pseudonymously from three large tertiary care centers in Germany and Switzerland between January and December 2018 using electronic patient records. Exclusion criteria were cardiac surgery, a duration < 120 minutes and an endtidal CO2 < 3.44 kPa. Along with ventilation data, demographic, medical and surgical data were analyzed. Statistical analysis was performed using IBM SPSS.

Results and Discussion: Of 3,398 included patients, 46.4% were classified as female and 53.6% as male. Mean age was 59.8 years. Most patients were of normal weight or preadipose (34.1% and 33.3% respectively). The major indication was categorized as ASA status II and III (44.0% and 42.1% respectively). 88% of patients were ventilated based on a PEEP of 5-10 mbar. Overall, 6.3% of patients qualified for PPV as they were ventilated with a VT > 8 ml/kg. In 75% lower VTs of 6-8 ml/kg and in 18.6% VTs < 6 ml/kg were used. Considering patients undergoing abdominal surgery (75.5% of analyzed cases), in 5.5% a VT > 8 ml/kg was used, which was not different between laparoscopic (45.9%) and open (55.1%) approach.

Reasons for using lower tidal volumes – e.g. a lung-protective ventilation strategy – remain unclear. Cardiac rhythm was documented in 88.9% of analyzed cases, with regard to dynamic parameters of fluid responsiveness.

Conclusion(s): Data suggest that only few patients meet the currently requested VT for assessment of fluid responsiveness during surgery. Either punctual adjustments of ventilator settings or further development of PPV for lower tidal volumes to reliably guide fluid therapy during surgery is needed.
01AP10-12

Time-course analyses of mechanical power variations during robotic-assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy

D. Chiumento1,2, G. Bruno3, I. Fratti3, L. Gilardi3, E. Tomarchio3, S. Coppola1
1ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Milan, Italy, 2University of Milan, Department of Health Sciences, Milano, Italy, 3University of Milan, Department of Health Sciences, 20122, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Our primary target was to evaluate the effects of Trendelenburg position and pneumoperitoneum during Robotic-Assisted Laparoscopic Prostatectomy (RALP) on Mechanical Power and its determinants during the different surgical phases.

Materials and Methods: This is a prospective observational study performed on 58 anesthetized and paralyzed patients during RALP; patients were ventilated in volume-controlled mode with a tidal volume of 6-8 ml/kg of IBW and a respiratory rate set to obtain an end-tidal CO2 between 35-45 mmHg. PEEP and FiO2 were adjusted to perform on 58 anesthetized and paralyzed patients during RALP; patients were ventilated in volume-controlled mode with a tidal volume of 6-8 ml/kg of IBW and a respiratory rate set to obtain an end-tidal CO2 between 35-45 mmHg. PEEP and FiO2 were adjusted to ensure a peripheral saturation greater than 92%. Anesthesia, hemodynamic and respiratory intraoperative management were decided by the attending physician.

We computed MP [1] 10 minutes after induction (A), during pneumoperitoneum and at the end of the surgery (C). Differences within timepoints were assessed by one-way repeated measures ANOVA or Friedman test.

Results and Discussion: MP increased from timepoint A to B and a decreased thereafter at timepoint C (9.9 ± 3.0 vs 14.5 ± 3.7 vs 11.0 ± 3.2 J/min, p < 0.001), because of variations in driving pressure (8.5 ± 3.0 vs 16.6 ± 4.1 vs 9.1 ± 2.6, p < 0.001) and respiratory rate (12 ± 1 vs 13 ± 1 vs 13 ± 1, p < 0.001). Elastic (2.9 ± 1.3 vs 6.1 ± 1.9 vs 3.4 ± 1.2, p < 0.001) and resistive (3.3 ± 1.7 vs 4.4 ± 2.5 vs 3.5 ± 2.1, p < 0.001) MP components behaved accordingly.

Conclusion(s): Driving pressure and respiratory rate were the main ventilatory factors causing increase in elastic and resistive MP during RALP.

Reference:

01AP10-13

Realtime model to estimate the slow-wave activity in general anaesthesia

M.C. Tran1, M.S. Fabus1, J. Sleigh2, M. Allen3, I. Tracey6, C. Warnaby1
1University of Oxford, Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging and Nuffield Division of Anaesthetics, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Oxford, United Kingdom, 2University of Auckland, Department of Anaesthesia, Hamilton, New Zealand, 3University of Oxford, School of Geography and the Environment and Department of Physics, Oxford, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Several EEG-based depth of anaesthesia monitors are commercially available, including GE-Entropy. However, most current monitors are calibrated using population data [1]. Slow-wave activity saturation (SWAS) is a potential individualised EEG marker of perception loss [2]. Post-hoc sigmoid fitting of the slow wave power-hypnotic dose response is the gold-standard to identify SWAS [3]. Here, we demonstrate dynamic real-time titration of surgical anaesthesia to SWAS. Furthermore, we compared GE-Entropy values at SWAS and loss of responsiveness (LOR) based on the isolated forearm test.

Materials and Methods: EEG data was collected in N=20 patients (age 53±18, weight 94±29kg) undergoing surgery at Waikato Hospital, NZ with a GE-Entropy module (GE Healthcare, Medical Diagnostics, UK). Raw EEG was streamed to the real-time SWAS model program in Matlab, which computed the SWAS level based on the anaesthetic drug inputs.

The real-time SWAS model was validated by comparison with post-hoc fitting using linear regression and Bland-Altman plots. Mean entropy values at LOR and SWAS were calculated, and entropy variability at SWAS was explored for each patient.

Results and Discussion: Several patients required real-time SWAS dosing that was surprisingly high or low (Figure 1A); as loosely validated by eye-opening at high or low anaesthesia concentrations after surgery.

Strong agreement was observed between the power and concentration at SWAS for real-time and post-hoc fitting models (Figure 1A&B). The bias between the models was negligible (PSWAS: 0.43dB, CSWAS: -0.09MAC).

Entropy values changed significantly between LOR and SWAS (77±14 vs 52±16, p<0.0001; Figure 1C). At SWAS, within-patient entropy values widely fluctuated due to noise and high-frequency influences (Figure 1D).

Conclusion(s): Individualised titration to SWAS was achieved in real-time during surgical anaesthesia. In contrast to entropy, SWAS was found to be more stable and linked to the drug response.

References:
01AP11-01
The effects of intra-operative acupuncture of PC6 on postoperative nausea and vomit after laparoscopic cholecystectomy: a double-blind randomized control trial

T. Tsoleridis1, G. Georgoudis2
1General Hospital of Rhodes, Anesthesia and Pain Unit, Rhodes, Greece, 2University of West Attica, School of Health and Care Sciences, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV), represents a common condition after surgery and anesthesia. Acupuncture has been used for centuries for analgesia and quality of life improvement including nausea and vomiting. This study is a double blind randomized control trial examining the antiemetic efficacy of acupuncture delivered intra-operatively as an additive effect when used in combination with intravenous antiemetics in laparoscopic cholecystectomy, in comparison to patients under only antiemetic intravenous administration.

Materials and Methods: One hundred patients were enrolled and randomly allocated in one of the two groups. No significant changes were observed for their sex, age, and comorbidity. Both anesthesia and antiemetic medication were personalized according to each patient’s medical history.

Both groups followed identical anesthesia procedures. In the experimental/study group, after anesthesia induction and before pneumoperitoneum application, a sterile 0.25x25, stainless steel acupuncture needle was inserted bilaterally at the Pericardium 6 acupuncture point (PC6) for 20 minutes, rotated manually clockwise and then anticlockwise every 5 minutes and then removed.

The primary study outcome measure was considered as the number of PONV incidence in the two groups. The secondary outcome measure of this study was the number of participants who manifested PONV and were in need of antiemetic medication of any kind in both groups.

A comparison of PONV cases between the groups would highlight the additive effect of acupuncture on antiemesis. The Fisher’s exact test was chosen for the statistic evaluation of both outcomes.

Results and Discussion: There were 8 PONV cases in the experimental group against 18 cases in the control group. Fisher’s exact test highlighted a significant difference between the groups (p-value=0.03). Apart from the antiemetic and analgesic effects of acupuncture, the safety that it offers as well as the financial benefits in comparison to medication costs have to be noted.

Conclusion(s): Intra-operative PC6 needling presents a statistically significant additive effect of antiemesis compared to standard anesthesia procedure in patients undergoing laparoscopic cholecystectomy.
01AP11-04
Effect of dobutamine and noradrenaline on hepatic blood flow: preliminary results

J. Van Damme1, J. Van Limmen1, P. Wyffels1, F. Gryspeert3, S. De Hert1, L. De Baerdemaecker1
1University Hospital Ghent, Anaesthesiology, Gent, Belgium, 2University Hospital Ghent, General Surgery, Gent, Belgium

Background: Dobutamine (DOBU) and noradrenaline (NOR) regulate systemic and regional blood flow. Both affect hepatic blood flow (HBF) by stimulation of adrenergic receptors. The aim of the study is to compare the effect of NOR and DOBU on HBF.

Methods: Data from 2 trials were used to compare the effect of DOBU and NOR on HBF. Both trials used similar methodology. Pulsoflex™ was used to measure and guide haemodynamic data. HBF was measured using ultrasound transit time (Medi-Stim AS). In both studies baseline measurements (T1) were taken before the start of the study medication. In the NOR study, NOR was titrated to increase mean arterial pressure (MAP) to plus 10% (T2) and plus 20% (T3) of baseline. In the DOBU study, patients received incremental dosages of 2 mcg.kg⁻¹.min⁻¹ (T2) and 5 mcg.kg⁻¹.min⁻¹ (T3). Haemodynamic variables were related to indexed hepatic arterial flow (HAF) and indexed portal vein flow (PVF). Linear mixed modelling was used for statistical analysis.

Results: A total of 44 patients were included. In the DOBU study (n = 16) both CI and HR increased (p < 0.05). Total HBF increased at T3 which was primarily related to an increased PVF (p < 0.05). In the NOR study (n = 28) MAP increased (p < 0.05) but CI and HR (HBF) by stimulation of adrenergic receptors 1. The aim of the study late systemic and regional blood flow. Both affect hepatic blood flow.

Conclusion: DOBU and the NOR study.

Table 1: haemodynamic variables at different time points in the DOBU and the NOR study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time point</th>
<th>DOBU study (n = 16)</th>
<th>NOR study (n = 28)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total HBF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ml.min⁻¹.m⁻²)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>499 (139)</td>
<td>548 (182)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>539 (137)</td>
<td>465 (149)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>570 (129)*</td>
<td>458 (144)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ml.min⁻¹.m⁻²)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>148 (98)</td>
<td>215 (118)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>140 (94)</td>
<td>163 (83)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>115 (93)</td>
<td>142 (70)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ml.min⁻¹.m⁻²)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>351 (94)</td>
<td>333 (137)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>399 (125)*</td>
<td>392 (117)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>455 (127)**</td>
<td>315 (120)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(L.min⁻¹.m⁻²)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>3.0 (0.5)</td>
<td>3.1 (0.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>3.4 (0.5)*</td>
<td>3.1 (0.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>3.5 (0.6)*</td>
<td>3.2 (0.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP (mmHg)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>73 (11)</td>
<td>73 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>78 (10)*</td>
<td>84 (10)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>72 (9)*</td>
<td>93 (12)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>79 (8)</td>
<td>78 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>95 (11)*</td>
<td>75 (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3</td>
<td>117 (12)**</td>
<td>75 (12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*statistically significant compared with T1 (p < 0.05), *statistically significant compared with T2 (p < 0.05)

Data are shown as mean (SD).

Table 1: haemodynamic variables at different time points in the DOBU and the NOR study.

Conclusion: DOBU increased CI with only minimal effect on MAP while NOR resulted in increased MAP with only minimal effect on CI. DOBU increased total HBF due to an increased PVF while NOR decreased total HBF due to a decreased HAF.

References:

01AP11-05
Detecting intraoperative troponin elevation improves the accuracy of the best predictive score for posttransplant mortality after liver transplantation

A.L. Vilchez-Monge1, I. Garutti2, S. Diaz Ruano3, P. Cruz Pardos4, F. Duque Gonzalez5, J.M. Pérez-Peña2
1Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria Gregorio Marañón, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Patients undergoing liver transplantation (LT) are at very high risk of perioperative complications. The BAR-score is the most accurate predictive tool for post-LT mortality. Recently, we demonstrated that Intraoperative Troponin Elevation (ITE) during LT is independently associated with all-cause 30-day and one-year mortality. This study aims to investigate whether the predictive ability of BAR-score may be improved by adding the variable “Intraoperative Troponin Elevation” to the score.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective analysis of all patients undergoing primary LT who had an intraoperative determination of troponin (high sensitivity troponin T, -HsTnT- Roche Elecsys) between 2011 and 2017 in Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Madrid, Spain. Intraoperative Troponin Elevation was identified, as previously defined, as hsTnT≥ 61ng/L at the closure of the abdominal wall.

We calculated and compared the C-statistics of the BAR-score (alone) and the combination of ITE and BAR-score (combined ITE+BAR) in our dataset referred to 30-day and one-year posttransplant mortality. Statistical study was performed with SPSS and STATA.

Results and Discussion: A total of 203 patients were included. As shown in figure 1, combined ITE+BAR-score shows significantly better predictive capacity compared to BAR-score alone for both, 30-day mortality (AUCROC 0.80 vs. 0.60, p=0.034) and one-year mortality (AUCROC 0.77 vs. 0.63, p=0.047).

Conclusion(s): Our results suggest that adding the variable “Intraoperative Troponin Elevation” to the BAR-score enables more accurate identification of transplant recipients at significantly higher risk of all-cause posttransplant mortality. We suggest Intraoperative Troponin Elevation should be monitored and included in the BAR-score to improve its predictive capacity.

References:
01AP11-06
Accuracy of non-invasive spectrophotometric measurements of haemoglobin during live donor liver resection for living related liver transplantation. A diagnostic test accuracy

Y. Kamel1, A. Amar2, O. Baiomy3, M. Lotfy3, E. Hegazy3, K. Yassen3
1Menoufia University / National Liver Institute, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 2Menoufia University / Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 3King Faisal University / College of Medicine, Anesthesia Unit, Surgery, Hofuf, Saudi Arabia

Background and Goal of Study: Non-invasive monitoring reduce risks and improve live liver donors safety. Aim is monitor continuous noninvasive spectrophotometric measured haemoglobin (SpHb, g/dl) during major hepatic resection compared to laboratory haemoglobin (Hb, g/dl).

Materials and Methods: PACTR20190285547795. Living related donors undergoing right heptotomy for living related donor liver transplantation were included. SpHb and Pleth variability Index (PVI, %) were calculated via finger probe sensors (Masimo Radical 7, Irvine, CA, USA). Laboratory Hb were measured by Sysmex XE-2100 (Sysmex, Kobe, Japan) analyzer utilizing. T0 = ten minutes after induction, T1-T3 = 1, 2 and 3 h after opening fascia, T4 = post-hepatic resection T5 = end of surgery. p<0.05 indicates statistical significance.

Results: 34 donors (18-45, ASA I) were enrolled (2018-2021). Attached figures will demonstrate: A simple scatter plot with regression (best-fit) line showed a positive correlation between Hb (g/dl) and SpHb (g/dl) at the different times. A good degree of reliability were observed between Hb (g/dl) and SpHb (g/dl) (n=204 readings) with a narrow range of bias (-1.9424 to 2.7248). Intra Class Correlation (ICC) was 0.665 with a 95% CI from 0.556 to 0.747 (F=5.375.776, p<.001).

However laboratory Hb were consistently higher than SpHb. No significant correlation existed between PVI (%) and SpHb (g/dl), \( r = 0.066, p=0.189 \) (>0.05 NS). Significant changes with time were observed with PVI and laboratory Hb, but not with SpHb. Volumes of blood loss was 400 mL (400-500), infused Ringer lactate, 4000 mL (3500-4500) and albumin 5% was 250m L (0-500.0).

Conclusion(s): SpHb demonstrated a positive correlation with laboratory Hb with a good degree of reliability and a narrow range of bias. SpHb as a continuous trend monitor during liver resection among live liver donors can replace laboratory Hb putting in consideration that laboratory Hb is consistently higher than SpHb. SpHb was not affected by fluid restriction during dissection phase or by fluid administered post resection, this could be due to the low blood loss that associated the dissection of healthy liver of this study group of liver donors.

Acknowledgements: El Sayed Amr Basma for statistics.
01AP11-08
Effectiveness of intraoperative and early postoperative hyperoxia in the prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting after breast cancer surgery. A randomised controlled trial

N. Mihalek1,2, S. Zahorjanski1,2, D. Radovanovic1,2, J. Vukoje1, D. Juhas1, G. Erdoes3
1. Oncology Institute of Vojvodina, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 2University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, 3Inseispital, University Hospital Bern, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) is one of the most common causes of patient dissatisfaction in the postoperative period after general anaesthesia. Hyperoxia may prevent PONV after abdominal surgery, but the effectiveness of intraoperative and early postoperative hyperoxia in preventing PONV after breast cancer surgery has not been adequately studied so far.

Materials and Methods: Forty female patients with breast cancer were recruited, all of whom underwent surgical treatment of breast cancer with axillary sentinel node extirpation or axillary lymph node dissection. Balanced general anaesthesia with propofol induction and sevoflurane maintenance was administered. Twenty patients received a volatile mixture with inspiratory fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO₂) of 0.8 intraoperatively and 3l/min oxygen via face mask for two hours after surgery. The other 20 patients received a FiO₂ of 0.4 during the intervention, without further administration of oxygen in the early postoperative period. Analgesia was provided intraoperatively with boluses of fentanyl (50 - 100 mcg), and all patients received metamizole 2.5g iv and ondasetron 4mg iv at the end of the procedure. The presence and severity of PONV was assessed at 30 minutes, 4/24/32/48/56 hours after surgery (0 – no nausea or vomiting; 1 – mild nausea; 2 – severe nausea; 3 – nausea and vomiting; 4 – severe vomiting). Data were collected in Excel spreadsheet and analysed using the independent Student’s t-test.

Results and Discussion: The overall incidence of PONV 30 minutes after the intervention was 15% in the group of patients receiving FiO₂ of 0.8 intraoperatively and 20% in the group of patients receiving volatile mixture with FiO₂ of 0.4. Mild nausea was observed in 5% of the patients undergoing surgical treatment under hyperoxic conditions and in 10% in the control group. Severe nausea occurred in 10% of cases in both groups. Four hours after surgery, the overall incidence of PONV was 10% in the hyperoxia group and 15% in the control group. There was no statistically significant difference (p=0.05) between the two groups in the frequency and severity of PONV.

Conclusion(s): We found no benefit of intra- and postoperative hyperoxia in reducing the incidence of PONV. The data do not support routine administration of hyperoxia in addition to antiemetics in patients undergoing breast cancer surgery for the prevention of PONV.

01AP11-09
Biomarkers for the preoperative prediction of flap loss in microvascular flap surgery: a single-center prospective analysis

R.P. Rocans1,2, J. Zarins3,4, R. Deksnis5, M. Citovica6, S. Donina7,8, B. Mamaja1,2
1. Riga East University Hospital, Department of Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 2Riga Stradins University, Institute of Microbiology and Virology, Riga, Latvia, 3Riga East University Hospital, Department of Oncological Surgery, Riga, Latvia, 4Riga East University Hospital, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Riga, Latvia, 5Riga Stradins University, Department of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 6Microsurgery Centre of Latvia, Department of Microsurgery, Riga, Latvia, 7Riga East University Hospital, Department of Hand and Plastic Surgery, Riga, Latvia, 8Riga East University Hospital, Department of Hematology, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Free flap surgery has become a generally acknowledged procedure for significant defect reconstruction. Complex microvascular techniques and in-depth knowledge of blood rheology and microanastomoses is required for this kind of surgery. Although substantial progress has been achieved in preventing complications through anaesthesia and surgical considerations, the rate of flap loss is still significant. Multiple patient related risk factors have been identified yet there is limited data on laboratory biomarkers for preoperative prediction of flap loss [1].

We aim to investigate the link between flap complications and a set of immunological and rheological biomarkers.

Materials and Methods: This prospective cohort study includes 52 adult patients undergoing elective microvascular flap surgery. The study was conducted with the approval of the Ethics Committee of Riga Stradins University. Preoperative blood draws for analysis of full blood count and plasma fibrinogen concentrations were collected preoperatively on the day of surgery before initiation of crystalloid infusion. Postoperative data on flap complications and duration of hospitalization was obtained.

Results and Discussion: Malignancy was the primary indication for surgery in 59.6%, trauma in 13.5% and preceding defects in 26.9% of all cases. Flap loss with subsequent anastomosis revision occurred in 7.7% and other less severe flap complications occurred in 9.6% of all cases. Patients with flap complications were not different in gender or age distribution, proportion of malignancy, choice of anaesthesia or ASA score from patients with no complications.

Patients with flap complications had higher preoperative hematocrit (40.6 ± 3.1 vs 36.4 ± 6.1; p=0.046) higher plasma fibrinogen (4.01 ± 0.47 vs 3.25 ± 1.03; p=0.041) lower lymphocyte count (1.06 ± 0.41 vs 1.61 ± 0.86; p=0.045) and lower monocyte count (0.35 ± 0.18 vs 0.58 ± 0.29; p=0.031). Duration of hospitalization after surgery was positively correlated with plasma fibrinogen (r=0.33; p=0.026) although this association is unlikely to be linear.

Conclusions: Our findings indicate that plasma lymphocyte count, monocyte count, hematocrit and fibrinogen could be implied as predictive biomarkers for flap complications. Larger studies are needed to further elucidate the concept of predictive biomarkers in microvascular flap surgery.

Reference:
**01AP11-12**

The transplanted kidneys’ first breath - an inside look at reperfusion

**R. Schwartz**, A. Nevo, Y. Goichman, E. Ovdat, I. Matot, O. Goren

Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anesthesia, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

**Background andGoal of Study:** Studies found a link between renal graft blood flow and oxygenation to function. Our goal was to measure renal graft saturation with NIRS expecting to measure different saturations at pre-set time intervals.

**Materials and Methods:** This study included patients receiving live organ donations at the Tel Aviv medical center between February 2021 and January 2022. Demographic and clinical data were collected from electronic medical records. NIRS electrode directly placed on the cortex at 5 and 10 minutes post-reperfusion, and before and after fascia closer. Brain NIRS and NIRS electrode directly placed on the cortex at 5 and 10 minutes to measure different saturations at pre-set time intervals.

**Results and Discussion:** The recipients: 80% males, mean age 54.7 years (±11.4), 36% with diabetic renal failure and 33% glomerulonephritis.

### Table 1. Haemodynamic variables at four timepoints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>T1</th>
<th>T2</th>
<th>T3</th>
<th>T4</th>
<th>p-value T1 vs. T2</th>
<th>p-value T3 vs. T4</th>
<th>p-value T4 vs. T3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean Arterial Pressure (mmHg)</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[96-99]</td>
<td>[96-111]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[57-62]</td>
<td>[59-96]</td>
<td>[59-102]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Rate (bpm)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[52-66]</td>
<td>[52-66]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[50-58]</td>
<td>[49-53]</td>
<td>[45-53]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Index (L·min⁻¹·m⁻²)</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0.015</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[2.8-4.1]</td>
<td>[3.3-4.5]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[1.5-2.5]</td>
<td>[2.7-5.7]</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean systemic filling pressure (mmHg)</td>
<td>16 (5)</td>
<td>19 (5)</td>
<td>15 (4)</td>
<td>17 (4)</td>
<td>0.007</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data are presented as mean (SD) or median [IQR]. A p-value of 0.017 was considered statistically significant (Bonferroni adjusted).

**Conclusion(s):** NIRS evaluation of renal grafts can be reproduced and aid to identify rectifiable complications. Further research is needed to determine whether the absolute indices or change in saturation over time has clinical significance and can predict DGF.

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**01AP12-01**

Effects of norepinephrine and general anaesthesia on the mean systemic filling pressure

I.N. de Keijzer, J.P. van den Berg, M.M. Struys, T.W. Scheeren

University Medical Center Groningen, Anesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands

**Background and Goal of Study:** Effects of norepinephrine (NE) administration are mainly appraised on the arterial side of the circulation. It however influences the venous side of the circulation as well, of which its vascular tone and intravascular volume may be reflected by the mean systemic filling pressure (Pmsf). Pmsf can be estimated using the arm-stop-flow method (Parm).

We evaluated the net effect of NE administration on Pmsf, estimated by Parm, in healthy volunteers while awake, and subsequently while under general anaesthesia (GA).

**Materials and Methods:** This secondary analysis included 36 healthy volunteers (18-70 years), who received a NE step-up dosing scheme from 0 to 0.20 mcg kg⁻¹ min⁻¹, while being awake and under GA.

Predefined safety limits were installed. Pmsf and haemodynamic variables were measured at before the start of NE administration (T1) and at the highest NE dosage step (T2). This was repeated under GA (T3 and T4, respectively) and timepoints were compared using a paired t-test or Wilcoxon signed rank test.

**Results and Discussion:** Pmsf was 16 (5) mmHg at the start of the awake phase (no NE administration) and 19 (5) mmHg at the peak NE administration (p=0.007). Pmsf was 15 (4) mmHg at the start of GA (if necessary, NE administration was started and titrated to the minimal required NE dose to maintain MAP >50 mmHg) and increased to 17 (4) mmHg (p<0.001) for peak NE administration. Baseline Pmsf under GA was comparable to the awake baseline (p=0.400). Mean arterial pressure (MAP), heart rate, and cardiac index are reported in table 1.

A gradual increase in measured saturation was observed. No correlation between changes in brain and renal graft indices. The observed gradual increase in saturation may reflect increase in blood flow over time. Low saturation and a reduction over time reflect long-term vasoconstriction, while higher indices may reflect cell dysfunction. No significant similarity was found with to brain measurements concluding that measurements were local.

**Conclusion(s):** NIRS evaluation of renal grafts can be reproduced and aid to identify rectifiable complications. Further research is needed to determine whether the absolute indices or change in saturation over time has clinical significance and can predict DGF.
Conclusion(s): NE administration increased Pmsf in awake and anaesthetised healthy volunteers. Baseline Pmsf awake and under GA were comparable, provided that a minimal MAP of 50 mmHg was maintained. These results suggest that irrespective of the hypnotic state, NE increases (venous) vascular tone and thus cardiac preload.

01AP12-04
The influence of pressure support ventilation during laparoscopic and robotic abdominal surgery on norepinephrine requirement

A. Klimov1, V. Subbotin1,2, A. Malakhova1, O. Nekrasov1
1Moscow Clinical Scientific Center n.a. A.S. Loginov, Department of Anaesthesiology and Resuscitation, Moscow, Russian Federation, 2V. A. Negovsky Research Institute of General Reanimatology, Federal Research and Clinical Center of Intensive Care Medicine and Rehabilitation, Research Laboratory, Moscow, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: Norepinephrine is a first line choice medicine to control arterial pressure during different type of operations [1,2]. It is widely known that pneumoperitoneum have a strongest influence on hemodynamic during laparoscopic and robotic abdominal surgery [3]. We hypothesized that moderate neuromuscular block (NMB) with pressure support ventilation (PSV) during laparoscopic and robotic abdominal surgery may decreases norepinephrine consumption. The aim of our study was to assess of the impact of moderate NMB with PSV during prolonged laparoscopic and robotic abdominal surgery on norepinephrine consumption.

Materials and Methods: 70 patients undergoing elective long (2 and more hours) laparoscopic (n=60) or robotic (n=10) abdominal surgery under general anaesthesia were included. All patients were randomly assigned in two groups.

Group 1 – moderate NMB and PSV;
Group 2 – deep NMB and mandatory ventilation. In both groups we use norepinephrine to avoid an intraoperative mean arterial pressure decreases of >20% from baseline values or <60-70 mmHg. HR, mean BP, intraabdominal pressure and BIS values were assessed every 15 min. Norepinephrine consumption was assessed during surgery.

Results and Discussion: HR, MBP and BIS values were comparable between groups in all points (all $p > 0.05$, Mann-Whitney U-test). The median of intraabdominal pressure was 11 [10; 12] mmHg in the group 1 and 12 [11; 14] mmHg in the group 2 ($p < 0.00001$, Mann-Whitney U-test). We have needed to use norepinephrine in 12 patients in the group 1 and 23 in the group 2 ($p = 0.008$, Pearson’s $\chi^2$).

Conclusion(s): Moderate NMB with PSV significantly decrease norepinephrine requirement during laparoscopic or robotic abdominal surgery. This may be related to low abdominal pressure in PSV group.

References:
Controlling arterial blood pressure during pheochromocytoma resection - "old problem, new approach"

M. Abu Diab¹, H. Mazeh², D. Weiss², M. Umansky¹, E. Koganov¹, A. Ronen¹
¹Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Jerusalem, Israel, ²Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, Department of Surgery, Jerusalem, Israel

Background: Intraoperative hemodynamic fluctuations are the most dreaded phenomenon associated with the treatment of pheochromocytoma. Preoperative alpha-adrenergic blockade protocols aimed at abating these fluctuations have achieved controversial results. Deliberate compensated vasoplegia (DCV) is a novel pharmacological regimen developed at our institution intended to decrease severe hypertensive events. This regimen conjoins pharmacologically induced non-adrenergic vasodilation with concurrent alpha-agonist administration so as to control both arms of vascular tone.

In this retrospective study, we compared outcomes of pheochromocytoma resection with and without use of the DCV protocol.

Methods: A retrospective analysis of all pheochromocytoma resections performed between 2012-2020. These comprised of 41 laparoscopic resections, 20 performed under DCV protocol. The primary outcome measured was the incidence of severe hypertension during surgery. Secondary outcomes included other abnormal blood pressure, perioperative data and complications.

Results: No significant difference in preoperative parameters including patient characteristics, tumor size, or alpha-blockade protocol. The use of the DCV protocol resulted in a significant decrease in the incidence of severe hypertensive and was not associated with any adverse events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pharmacological Agent</th>
<th>HR</th>
<th>SVR</th>
<th>CO</th>
<th>Cardiac Contractility</th>
<th>Coronary blood flow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isoflurane</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isosorbide dinitrate (Isoket®)</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicardipine</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noradrenaline</td>
<td>↔↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↔↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propofol</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↔</td>
<td>↔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: DCV anesthesia protocol can decrease the incidence of severe hypertensive episodes during pheochromocytoma resection. We describe a highly effective protocol for controlling intraoperative hypertension in pheochromocytoma patients.

Antalgic spinal effect on haemodynamic stability, assessed by Hypotension Prediction Index (HPI) monitoring in patients undergoing robotic prostatectomy surgery: preliminary data

R. Ciaramellietti¹, G. Curci¹, M. Matella¹, A. Discenza¹, A. Cotoia¹, G. Cinnella¹
¹University of Foggia, Medical and Surgical Sciences, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Unit, Foggia, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Intraoperative arterial hypotension, defined as a mean arterial pressure (MAP) ≤ 65 mmHg, is a severe and common complication during robotic prostatectomy surgery. Hypotension Prediction Index (HPI) is a new machine-learning algorithm, obtained through measurement of arterial pressure values based on waveform analyses. The aim of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of antalgic spinal, in the context of blended anaesthesia and in preserving good haemodynamic stability, assessed by HPI monitoring, in patients undergoing robotic prostatectomy surgery.

Materials and Methods: Patients scheduled for elective robotic prostatectomy were enrolled. In all patients, analgesia was maintained by a single-shot spinal technique with levobupivacaine 0.5
% (15mg), 0.1 mg/kg ketamine, 0.1 mg morphine. Intraoperative invasive arterial monitoring through the use of Acumen sensor connected with Hemosphere software (Edwards Lifesciences®) was performed. Two groups were defined: "HPI" received a HPI monitoring, while "NON HPI" received the standard invasive hemodynamic monitoring.

Results and Discussion: Fifty-two patients underwent to elective robotic prostatectomy, were recruited. The mean age was 65.3 ± 5.75. Data are presented as median, IQR, number, percentage. P-value <0.05 is considered significant. Results are shown in the table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>HPI n 26</th>
<th>NON HPI n 26</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time Weighted Average (TWA)</td>
<td>0.19 [0-0.37]</td>
<td>0.24 [0-0.44]</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Hypotensive Events per Patient</td>
<td>1 [0-2.25]</td>
<td>2 [0-2]</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in Hypotension per Patient (min)</td>
<td>2.67 [0-8.88]</td>
<td>3.67 [0-10.74]</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Under Hypotension Threshold per Patient (%)</td>
<td>1.085 [0-2.8]</td>
<td>1.85 [0-5.67]</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Patients with Ipotension</td>
<td>17 [60.4%]</td>
<td>18 [60.7%]</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): The antalgic spinal would appear to be effective in the anesthetic management of patients undergoing robotic prostatectomy surgery, because it seems to maintain hemodynamic stability by reducing the number and duration of hypotensive event compared to what has been reported in the literature.

01AP12-07
Quantifying myocardial oxygenation during the induction of general anaesthesia with perioperative cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging

K. Fischer¹, C.D. Utz¹, G. Erdoes¹, S. Terbeck¹, A.T. Huber², D.P. Guensch¹
¹Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, ²Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Diagnostic, Interventional and Paediatric Radiology, Bern, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: General anaesthesia (GA) bears many potential triggers for perioperative myocardial ischaemia. Yet, if and when this occurs during induction remains a black-box. Novel cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) techniques can now image perturbations in myocardial oxygenation. We optimized a free-breathing CMR sequence that measures left ventricular tissue oxygenation every heart beat and applied it to investigate the dynamics of myocardial oxygenation changes in patients undergoing GA induction.

Materials and Methods: To validate the imaging technique, 12 healthy spontaneously breathing controls performed pre-induction-like breathing maneuvers: 2.5 min with a respiration rate of 14, followed by 5 deep breaths, then apnea up to one min. Two healthy patients scheduled for orthopedic surgery underwent GA induction inside the MRI. Myocardial oxygenation CMR imaging was applied continuously for the entire breathing procedure in awake controls and in patients from the awake stage through GA induction, intubation, and for 10 minutes of the maintenance phase.

Results and Discussion: In the awake controls, deep-rapid breathing (coronary vasoconstriction) significantly reduced myocardial oxygenation (-5.4 ± 7.0 %, p < 0.01), while apnea had an opposite effect (15.7 ± 10.0 %, p < 0.01). In both GA patients, the preoxygenation phase with deep breathing also reduced myocardial oxygenation. However, in the first patient undergoing GA, myocardial oxygenation did not return to baseline until well into the maintenance phase (Figure).

In the second patient myocardial oxygenation after deep breathing, myocardial oxygenation returned to baseline by intubation with the reduced breathing rate and apnea.

Conclusion: Interim results show in the first study to ever use CMR to monitor the heart during GA induction, that the impact of GA on myocardial oxygenation can be assessed. In heart-healthy patients, GA induction has a dynamic effect on myocardial oxygenation, which resulted in periods of reduced myocardial oxygenation prior to normalizing during maintenance. This will be further investigated in more healthy and cardiovascular patients undergoing GA.

01AP12-08
Diagnostic accuracy of subclavian vein collapsibility index v/s inferior vena cava collapsibility index for predicting postinduction hypotension: an observational study

S. Mohammed¹, G. Chaudhary¹, P. Bhatia¹, M. Kamal¹, R. Kumar², K. Kumar³
¹AIIMS Jodhpur, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Jodhpur, India

Background: Ultrasound (US) guided measurement of inferior vena cava (IVC) diameter and its respiratory variability i.e. collapsibility index (CI) has been shown to predict the postinduction hypotension after general anaesthesia (GA). Recently, the subclavian vein (SCV) CI during deep breathing was shown to predict postinduction hypotension after GA.

The present study was carried out to compare the diagnostic accuracy of IVC and SCV parameters for the prediction of postinduction hypotension after GA.

Materials and Methods: A total of 132 patients of either sex, aged above 18 years, scheduled for elective surgery under GA were enrolled. On the day of surgery, US-guided measurement of IVC and
SCV parameters was done in the preoperative holding area, with patients lying supine and spontaneously breathing. Maximum (dmax) and minimum (dmin) diameters over a single respiratory cycle were measured and the CI was calculated. After the examination of veins, patients were shifted to the operating room and standard monitoring was attached. Induction was performed using the standard technique in all the patients. Episodes of hypotension [MAP less than 60 mmHg and/or >30% fall in MAP] in the 20 minutes period after induction of anaesthesia were recorded. The primary outcome of the study was the comparison of diagnostic accuracies of SCV-CI and IVC-CI for the prediction of postinduction hypotension during quiet breathing. Secondary outcomes were the incidence of hypotension after induction and a comparison of the diagnostic accuracies of SCV-CI and IVC-CI for the prediction of postinduction hypotension during deep breathing.

Results: Out of the 132 patients enrolled, 57 (43.2%) developed hypotension following induction of anaesthesia. Demographic profile, fasting status, drugs used, and baseline vitals were comparable between yes hypotension and no hypotension groups. The IVC-CI and SCV-CI during both quiet and deep breathing were significantly higher in the yes hypotension group compared to the no hypotension group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vein</th>
<th>AUC</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
<th>Cut off</th>
<th>Sensitivity</th>
<th>Specificity</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IVC quiet breathing</td>
<td>0.672</td>
<td>0.58 to 0.76</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IVC deep breathing</td>
<td>0.679</td>
<td>0.59 to 0.77</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCV quiet breathing</td>
<td>0.659</td>
<td>0.56 to 0.75</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCV deep breathing</td>
<td>0.662</td>
<td>0.57 to 0.76</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): For predicting this hypotension, the IVC-CI and SCV-CI have comparable and moderately good diagnostic accuracy both during quiet as well as deep breathing.

01AP12-09
Pressure vs. volume-controlled ventilation and their impact on dynamic parameters of fluid responsiveness

A. Zitzmann1, P. Frenkel1, M. Prütz1, F. Müller-Graf1, S.H. Böhm1, D.A. Reuter1
1University Medical Center Rostock, Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, Rostock, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Pulse pressure variation (PPV), which is based on the pressure force caused by controlled mechanical ventilation, is commonly used to predict fluid responsiveness. When PPV was introduced into clinical practice, volume-controlled ventilation (VCV) with tidal volumes (VT) ≥ 10 ml/kg was most commonly practiced. Nowadays, lower VT and the use of pressure-controlled ventilation (PCV) has widely become the preferred ventilation mode.

Due to their specific flow characteristics VCV and PCV result in different airway pressures at comparable tidal volumes. We hypothesized that higher inspiratory pressures would result in higher PPVs and aimed to determine the impact of VCV and PCV on PPV.

Materials and Methods: 16 anesthetized, paralyzed, and mechanically ventilated (goal: VT 8 ml/kg) pigs were instrumented with catheters for continuous arterial blood pressure measurement and transpulmonary thermodilution. At four different intravascular fluid states (IVFS; baseline [BL], hypovolemia [Hypo], resuscitation [Res] I and II), ventilatory and hemodynamic data including PPV were assessed during VCV and PCV. Statistical analysis was performed using U-test and RM ANOVA on ranks.

Results and Discussion: Complete data sets of eight pigs were available. VT (7.7 ml/kg for VCV vs 7.8 ml/kg for PCV; p = .69) and respiratory rates (25.5/min for VCV and PCV; p = .978) were similar in both modes. Heart rate, central venous, systolic, diastolic, and mean arterial pressures were not different between VCV and PCV at any IVFS.

Figure 1 shows airway and transpulmonary pressures and the corresponding PPVs (median, IQR and range; * p < 0.05). Peak inspiratory pressure was significantly higher in VCV, while plateau and driving pressures were significantly higher in PCV. However, these higher pressures did not result in different PPVs at any IVFS.

01AP12-10
Assessment of intra-abdominal pressure with a novel continuous bladder pressure monitor – a clinical validation study

L. Jacobovici1, D. Karol1, Y. Baar1, S. Zarour1, O. Goren1, B. Cohen1
1Tel-Aviv Medical Center, Division of Anesthesia, Intensive Care and Pain, Tel-Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Intra-abdominal hypertension and the resulting abdominal compartment syndrome are serious complications of severely ill patients. Diagnosis requires intra-abdominal pressure (IAP) measurement, which is currently cumbersome and underused. We aimed to test the accuracy of a novel continuous IAP monitor.

Materials and Methods: Adults having laparoscopic surgery and requiring urinary catheter intra-operatively were recruited to this single arm validation study. IAP measurements by the novel monitor and a gold-standard foley manometer were compared. After anesthesia induction, pneumoperitoneum was created through a laparoscopic insufflator, and 5 randomly pre-defined pressures (between
5 and 25 mmHg) were achieved and simultaneously measured by both methods in each participant. Measurements were compared using Bland-Altman analysis.

**Results and Discussion:** In total, 29 participants completed the study and provided 144 distinct pairs of pressure measurements that were analyzed. A positive correlation between the two methods was found (R = 0.962). There was good agreement between the methods, with a mean (95% CI) bias of -0.4 (-0.6, -0.1) mmHg, that was statistically significant but of no clinical importance. The limits of agreement (where 95% of the differences are expected to fall) were -2.9 and 2.2 mmHg, both within the pre-defined allowed delta of 3 mmHg. The proportional error was statistically insignificant (P=0.85), suggesting a constant agreement between the methods across the range of values tested.

**Conclusion:** Continuous IAP measurement by the novel monitor performed well in the clinical setup of controlled intra-abdominal hypertension across the evaluated range of pressures. Further studies should expand the range to more pathological values.

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**01AP12-11 Continuous non-invasive blood pressure monitoring in renal transplantation: a safe alternative?**

N. Romero-García¹, A. Devis-Peiro¹, J. Marti-Cervera¹, M.L. García-Perez¹, R. Badenes¹
¹Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valencia / Instituto de Investigación INCLIVA, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Valencia, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Strict intraoperative hemodynamic monitoring and fluid-replacement strategies are of utmost importance for adequate graft function in kidney transplantation [1]; thus, invasive blood pressure (IBP) is common practice. However, renal patients often have limited vascular accesses; hence, current guidelines advocate to minimize vascular punctures. Clearsight System™ is a novel system for continuous non-invasive blood pressure (cNIBP) monitoring based on photo-plethysmography, validated in procedures where strict control of BP is required [2].

The aim of this study is to investigate the safety and effectiveness of cNIBP monitoring for hemodynamic management during kidney transplantation in the recipient.

**Materials and Methods:** In this observational study, we included data from patients who received a kidney transplant from a deceased donor in our centre. Hemodinamic monitor consisted of either IBP (n=5) with ProAQT or cNIBP (n=10) with Clearsight System™. To evaluate safety of cNIBP, we recorded intraoperative adverse events, such as cardiac arrest or new-onset arrhythmias. To evaluate graft function, we collected creatinine, urea, urine output before surgery and at hospital discharge. We recorded the use of postoperative hemodialysis and hospital readmission in the next 30 days.

**Results and Discussion:** Patients were evenly distributed by age and sex in both groups. Both groups had a significant decrease in creatinine (p<0.01) and an increase in urine output (p<0.05) after transplant, with no significant differences between them (p=0.4 and p=0.03, respectively). Urea values did not significantly decrease in either group. No patients required postoperative hemodialysis or were readmitted due to kidney failure.

To our knowledge, this is the first study to compare safety and graft function between invasive and non-invasive blood pressure monitoring in renal transplantation.

**Conclusion(s):** This case series suggests that cNIBP devices could be a safe and effective alternative to IBP monitoring in hemodynamically stable patients who receive kidney transplantation under general anesthesia, with the benefits of reducing bleeding and risk of infection at postoperative care units.

**References:**
**01AP13-01**

Opioid-free anesthesia in bariatric surgery - a prospective case series

N. Sojcic¹, A. Brkljacic¹, S. Peremin¹, S. Sakan¹, S. Hleb¹, J. Persec¹,²
¹University Hospital Dubrava, Clinical Department of Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Intensive Care Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, ²University of Zagreb, School of Dental Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** According to ERAS guidelines¹ for perioperative care in bariatric surgery (BS) opioid-sparing anesthesia with multimodal approach should be used to improve postoperative recovery. Recently published article² showed that opioid-free anesthesia (OFA) improved pain outcomes after BS. The goal of the study was the efficacy of OFA for laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy.

**Materials and Methods:** 22 patients (ASA III, 77% female) who met the inclusion criteria underwent OFA protocol.³ After premedication with pregabalin, infusion of dexmedetomidine, lidocaine and ketamine in 1 syringe was initiated 10min before induction (propofol, rocuronium). For anesthesia maintenance the mixture was titrated to hemodynamics and sevoflurane according to BIS. Dexamethasone, thiethylperazine, ketoprofen and acetaminophen were added postinduction.

Patients were assessed during 24h postoperatively every 4h for VAS (10 points analgesia score) and PONV . Simple analgesics were given as needed, pethidine was used as rescue analgesia in case of VAS≥4. Patient satisfaction was assessed 24h after surgery.

**Results and Discussion:** Patients median(IQR) age was 41(29–51), BMI 45.6(40.3–53.3), 77% had comorbidities (2 with OSA). Length of surgery ranged from 50-115min and anesthesia from 75-150min. Time to extubation was 5(3-8)min. VAS values were significantly lower 12h postoperatively compared to the values in the first 8h. Additionally, 24h postoperative VAS values were significantly lower compared to all other measurements (Friedman test, P<0.001). 8(36%) patients received rescue opioid analgesia with median (IQR) time 1,3(0,5-7,2)h postoperatively. PONV occurred in 12(55%) patients (2 with vomiting, 10 with nausea).

Postoperative hypoxemia was detected in 3 patients. 18 patients reported maximal satisfaction score. Median postoperative hospital LOS was 2,5d. Although this population is prone to respiratory complications, no major was encountered. Even less PONV and need for rescue analgesia may be achieved by preventive use of more potent antiemetics and regular administration of non-opioid analgesics, respectively.

**Conclusion(s):** There is room for modifications of the OFA protocol to achieve more effective analgesia (particularly in the first 8h after surgery) and PONV control, although overall patient satisfaction was excellent with fast hospital discharge.

**References:**
1. World J Surg. 2022 Apr
2. Obes Surg. 2022 Sep

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**01AP13-03**

The impact of the head position on the laryngeal mask airway leak in paediatric patients: prospective randomized control trial

J. Klůčka¹,², D. Fabián¹,², P. Štourač¹,², E. Klubusayová³, M. Kosinová¹,³, T. Sekišovská¹,², SNIFF Study Group
¹Masaryk University, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, University Hospital Brno and Faculty of Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, ²Masaryk University/Faculty of Medicine, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, ³Masaryk University, Faculty of Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic

**Background and Goal of Study:** Horizontal alignment of the tragus and jugulum (sniffing position) is the recommended head position for the laryngeal mask airway (LMA) insertion and direct laryngoscopy for every patient. Recent studies show, that beyond sniffing position (25% increase in the head elevation) can lead to better larynx visualisation and easier airway management. Nevertheless, data from paediatric patients are lacking.

The aim of this trial was to compare the incidence of first try LMA insertion failure and the LMA leak between neutral, sniffing and beyond sniffing head position in paediatric patients.

**Materials and Methods:** Eligible for inclusion were patients from 2 to 19 years of age undergoing an elective surgery with controlled ventilation during general anaesthesia and without predicted difficult airway management with LMA. The head position for the LMA insertion was randomized (sealed envelopes). After the LMA insertion, the LMA leak volume was measured in all three head positions consequently. The LMA leak volume was defined as a mean difference of three consequent mesurements between the inspiration and the expiration tidal volume.

**Results and Discussion:** Until 12/2022, 32 patients were enrolled in this study with the age median od 14 years. Fisher’s exact test did not demonstrate any difference in the first try LMA insertion failure incidence (1/11; 0/12; 1/9 for neutral, sniffing and beyond sniffing position, respectively). Wilcoxon’s test did not demonstrate any significant difference in the LMA leak volume for the different head positions either. The LMA leak volume median was 0.48; 0.42 and 0.46 ml/kg body weight for the neutral, sniffing and beyond sniffing head position, respectively.

**Conclusion:** In the current study population, there is no significant difference in the first try LMA insertion failure and LMA leak volume for the different head positions.

**Acknowledgements:** Supported by RVO (FNBr, 65269705) and MŠMT (MUNI/A/1109/2022, MUNI/A/1105/2022).
Background & Goals: Physiological wound healing requires the timely transition of 4 phases: hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation, and remodeling. Failure to initiate or transit may promote slow-healing wounds, associated with complications such as infections, dehiscence, and seromas. These complications greatly impact patients and families, as well as burden health systems and economies. Opioids are widely used in modern anesthesia, and while largely regarded as immunosuppressors, literature regarding their wound-healing effects is surprisingly scarce and of contradicting nature.

Furthemore, the mainstay of scientific literature revolves around morphine and largely neglects other opioids such as fentanyl. In this study we compared wound healing effects of fentanyl and morphine in vitro.

Materials & Methods: A549 cells were grown to confluence and scratched with a pipette tip. Media was replaced to media with or without fentanyl or morphine in clinical concentrations, scratch healing rate was monitored by serial photography and image analysis.

Results & Discussion: Fentanyl exposure resulted in a dose-dependent faster wound-healing rate whereas exposure to morphine resulted in dose-dependent scratch expansion.

While morphine exposure effects well coincide with its described immunosuppressive effect, fentanyl exposure results are surprising considering that both drugs are suggested to elicit effects via the same receptor. Taken together, these results suggest the existence of other opioid-related pathways yet to be revealed.

While anesthetists and ICU doctors give great consideration to a multitude of physiological aspects when choosing opioids for analgesic purposes, little consideration is given to effects on wound healing and the wound environment. These results suggest that these effects may vary dramatically with possible profound implications for clinical practice, especially in surgical anesthesia and ICU recovery context.

Conclusion(s): Great discrepancies exist in the wound-healing effects of morphine and fentanyl, suggesting the existence of more elaborate and complicated pathways with possible implications for surgical anesthesia and ICU care.

References:
Dexmedetomidine effect on postoperative stress and pain response to patients undergoing pelvic osteosynthesis surgery under general anaesthesia

E. Svareniece1,2, A. Ozolina1,3, N. Vnukova1, J. Kobzeva1, J. Movcans1, P. Svareniece2
1Riga East Clinical University Hospital, Anaesthesiology Clinic, Riga, Latvia, 2University of Latvia, Faculty of Residency, Riga, Latvia, 3Riga Stradins University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 4Riga East University Hospital, Traumatology and Orthopedics Department, Riga, Latvia, 5Riga Stradins University, Faculty of Medicine, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Dexmedetomidine (Dex) sedative and analgetic effects might be desirable for hemodynamically stable adult polytrauma patients undergoing surgery since those often present significant stress response with anxiety, tachycardia, opioid hyperalgesia and emotional distress. The goal was to evaluate the effect of Dexmedetomidine on postoperative stress and pain response in patients under general anaesthesia after pelvis osteosynthesis.

Materials and Methods: In prospective trial stable patients undergoing pelvis osteosynthesis with general anaesthesia were included. Patients in a single-blinded way were randomly assigned to general anaesthesia (GA) with Phentany (Ph-GA) or Phentany with Dexmedetomidine (Ph-DEX-GA) groups. Ph-DEX-GA group received Dex 1 mcg/kg over 10 min after intubation, followed by a continuous infusion 0.4 mcg/kg/h until the end of surgery. Ph-GA group received standard approach without Dex. Additional Phentany was adjusted based on BIS monitoring, keeping Sevoflurane level MAC 0.8-1.

Cortisol, Il-6 and CRP plasma levels after intubation and 24 h postoperatively were detected to analyse postoperative stress response. Pain intensity with NRS was analysed 24 hours postoperatively. Primary outcome was to analyse postoperative stress response. Secondary - total Phentany dose during surgery and pain intensity was evaluated 24h after surgery. P < 0.05.

Results and Discussion: Preliminary results of 18 patients: Ph-GA (n=9), Ph-DEX-GA (n=9) with mean age 51.5 ± 9.9 years were collected in Riga East University Hospital, Latvia. Mean duration of surgery (244 ± 91 min) and mean duration of anaesthesia (314 ± 99 min) in both groups were similar. We observed that cortisol plasma level increased in Ph-GA group by +16% (MD 2.08) and decreased in Ph-DEX-GA by 4% (MD 0.6). Il-6 and CRP increased in both Ph-GA and Ph-DEX-GA groups similarly with MD 81.4 and 91.9 for Il-6, and with MD 36.4, and 27.4 for CRP.

Pain intensity at rest was similar during all analysed time points Ph-GA vs. Ph-Dex-GA: T0 2.4 vs. 2.6, T6 2.9 vs. 3.4, T12 2.8 vs. 3.2, T24 2.6 vs. 2.9, despite the fact that total phentanyl dose during surgery was lower in Ph-DEX-GA group 0.28±0.1 mg vs. 0.7±0.2 mg; p=0.3.

Conclusion(s): Dex for general anaesthesia may have an impact to reduce postoperative stress response and it provides good analgetic effect, reducing phentanyl consumption during general anaesthesia for pelvis osteosynthesis surgery patients.

Anesthetic management of a patient with glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency undergoing cochlear implant surgery - a case report

A. Almeida Pires1, I. Gordillo1, M. Jesus Correia1
1Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, E.P.E., Department of Anaesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD) is a recessive hereditary disease linked to the X chromosome. It can lead to acute hemolysis episodes from exposure to oxidative drugs1.

Even though it is the most common enzymatic deficiency, not much information is available in the literature regarding the anaesthesia approach to patients with this disease2,3.

Given that drugs with hemolytic potential such as certain antibiotics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, local anaesthetics and analgetics such as paracetamol are regularly used in surgical-anaesthetic procedures, it is essential that they be avoided in any anaesthetic approach to patients such as this.

Case report: Male, age 24, 53kg, with a history of G6PD deficiency and secondary cerebral palsy and hiperbilirubinemic encephalopathy. No record of previous anesthetic procedures. To undergo cochlear implant surgery. The surgical procedure occurred under general intravenous anaesthesia using a Target Controlled Infusion (TCI) of remifentanil and propofol. Morphine was administered for analgesic purposes.

Neuroumascular block maintained with rocuronium and reverted at the end of the procedure through administration of sugamadex. ASA standard monitoring. Successful pain relief and no postoperative nausea. Patient was discharged without occurrences.

Discussion: The anaesthesia approach to G6PD deficient patients must avoid oxidative stress generating drugs and reduce the effects of surgical stimulation with use of appropriate analgesic methods and optimal ventilation, so as to reduce acidosis and hemolytic effects triggered by hypercapnia.

Additional monitoring of the latter may be an option, namely by use of an arterial catheter. Furthermore, perioperative monitoring for erythrocyte lysis is essential. Total intravenous anaesthesia with propofol and remifentanil has proven effective and safe for G6PD deficient patients. We are unaware of any mention in the literature of a similar approach to this procedure.

References:

Learning Points: The anaesthesia approach to G6PD deficient patients must avoid oxidative stress generating drugs and reduce the effects of surgical stimulation. Perioperative monitoring for erythrocyte lysis is essential. Total intravenous anaesthesia with propofol and remifentanil has proven effective and safe for G6PD deficient patients.
01AP14-02
Inverted Takotsubo cardiomyopathy following a laparoscopic surgery

I.Z. Aguado Acevedo¹, N. Sánchez López¹,
R. García Álvarez², C.H. Salazar Zamorano¹, L. Peña¹
¹Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Madrid, Spain

Background: Takotsubo cardiomyopathy (TKM) is an acute heart failure (AHF) characterized by transient alterations in the contractility of the left ventricular (LV) wall secondary to sympathetic overstimulation. The prevalence is around 1%.

Case report: A 46-year-old female obese patient underwent a scheduled laparoscopic cholecystectomy in which the manipulation of meso led to bradycardia. The need of atropine produced tachycardia up to 140 beats per minute and a hypertensive crisis correctly controlled. Prior to extubation reddish frothy secretions were observed through the orotracheal tube with bilateral moist crackles.

Suspecting acute pulmonary edema (APE), furosemide was administered and she was transferred to the Anesthesiology Intensive Care Unit (ICU-A), presenting dyspnoea as only symptom. The chest X-ray revealed APE and the transthoracic echocardiogram (TTE) showed midbasal hypokinesia of the LV wall with apical hyperkinesia compatible with reversed TKM. During the first 24 hours of continuous monitoring diuretics were prescribed. In the control ECG decreased T waves and prolonged QT interval were observed. The patient was discharged from ICU-A 48h after admission to a telemetry ward, where the ECG changes normalized.

Discussion: We find several triggers of TKM as preoperative anxiety or the surgical act itself (pneumoperitoneum, meso manipulation or intraoperative drugs). On the basis of an increased susceptibility to catecholaminergic toxicity in midventricular regions, our patient suffered a cardiac stunning ending in AHF and causing APE. This heart condition was diagnosed by bedside TTE, compatible with reverse TKM, which is the less frequent variant of the syndrome.

Since the patient did not have typical central thoracic pain, no alterations in the ST segment and the InterTAK score was >70 points, a high probability of TKM could be assumed and no coronary angiography was needed.

References:
1. Rev Urug Cardiol 2018; 33:291-294 doi: 10.29277/cardio.33.3.8

Learning points: TKM is a rare syndrome but it has to be taken into account as a differential diagnosis of acute LV failure in patients subjected to surgical stress and administration of sympathomimetic drugs. As noveltys, we consider this case an example of the importance to perform point of care ultrasound, which offers dynamic images in real time, help to make a quicker diagnosis of a rare variant of the TKM and the possibility of avoiding coronary angiography.

01AP14-03
Beating the odds: successful total hysterectomy in a patient with low Ejection Fraction using epidural anesthesia

A.C. Fernandes de Freitas¹, B. Carvalho Goncalves¹,
M. Mendonça¹, M. Lopes¹, T.M. Gouveia Azevedo¹
¹Hospital Dr. Nélio Mendonça, Anesthesiology Department, Funchal, Portugal

Background: Anesthetic management of patients with dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is a challenge due to poor left systolic function, risk of malignant arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death. Anesthesia goals include maintaining forward flow by preserving normovolemia, decreasing afterload, and avoiding myocardial depressant drugs.¹

Case report: A 41-year-old woman with a personal history of DCM was admitted to the hospital with shortness of breath and orthopnea. The electrocardiogram revealed left bundle branch block and echocardiography showed severe dilatation of the left ventricle with an estimated ejection fraction (EF) of 10% and moderate to severe mitral regurgitation.

During the hospitalization, due to metrorrhagia and abdominal pain, imaging exams were made and a pelvic mass suspicious of leiomyosarcoma was detected. She was proposed to total hysterectomy and bilateral salpingectomy.

In a multidisciplinary discussion with cardiology and gynecology, it was decided to proceed with the surgery and preoperative levosimendan infusion was initiated. Noradrenaline (NA) was required to balance its vasodilator effects. An epidural catheter was inserted (T12-L1 level) and graded epidural doses of ropivacaine 0.75% were administered under vigilant monitoring. A total of 8mL was required to achieve T6 sensory block dermatome level. NA infusion was maintained intraoperatively with hemodynamic stability. The rest of the surgery went uneventful. The patient was transferred to the intermediate care unit for clinical monitoring.

Discussion: The major anesthetic concern in our patient was maintenance of hemodynamic parameters. In general anesthesia, airway instrumentation leads to sympathetic stimulation and use of anesthetic agents can lead to hypotension. Epidural decreases stress response to surgery and reduces afterload, increasing left ventricular forward flow and cardiac output. Compared with spinal anesthesia, epidural anesthesia with incremental low doses of local anesthetic drugs avoids hypotension and provides postoperative analgesia.

References:

Learning points: Management of patients with low EF is a challenging condition for anesthesiologists due to its associated complications and risks. Graded epidural anesthesia was a safe alternative with multiple advantages that allowed us to maintain hemodynamic stability.
01AP14-04
Percutaneous stereotactic radiofrequency ablation of a paraganglioma below aortic bifurcation in a patient with cyanotic congenital heart disease. Case report

J.Y.H. Murata¹, R.A.G. Barbosa¹, A.Pd.S. Filho¹, L.F.B.d.S. Costa¹
¹Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo, Instituto de Radiologia, São Paulo - SP, Brazil

Background: Cyanotic congenital heart disease (CCHD) present with systemic hypoxemia and hypoxia, has diverse multisystem effects. In the last decade, scientists hypothesized that exposure to chronic hypoxia in CCHD would increase the risk for developing pheochromocytoma and paraganglioma (PGL)¹.

Case Report: 26-year-old female, ASA P4 complex congenital heart disease (cardiac isomerism, total atrioventricular septal defect, pulmonary valve stenosis, single aortic valve) undergoing elective stereotactic radiofrequency ablation (SRA) for asymptomatic PGL inferior to the aortic bifurcation.

The procedure was performed under general anesthesia, followed by left radial artery catheter and central venous catheterization. The surgery had 4 cycles of SRA, in each cycle presented with release of catecholamines, there was need to increase nitroglycerin until it peaked 6 mcg/kg/min, associated with intermittent bolus of 20 mcg nitroprussiate, reaching a total of 1000 mcg. Also, due to increase in cardiac frequency, the use of 25 mcg esmolol. In a short time, noradrenaline 0,05 mcg/kg/min was used. The patient only experienced pressure lability during the ablation. After the procedure a normal pressure was achieved without any drugs.

Three days after the procedure, the patient complained of abdominal pain, refractory a common analgesics, CT scan shows extensive pneumoperitoneum. An urgent exploratory laparotomy was performed, during the intraoperative period, pressure liabilities were not observed, and a small burn injury at the ileum was found. Enterectomy and anastomosis were successfully performed. Patient had a full recovery after these procedures.

Discussion: A SRA for PGL is a challenge for anaesthesiologists, as it increases the periods of catecholamine release in large amounts. In this case there were 4 key moments of catecholamine release. Bearing in mind that it increases the risk of acute myocardial infarction, stroke, hypoglycemia, arrhythmias, cardiomyopathy.

References:
1. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2015 Apr;100(4):1325-34.

Learning Points: CCCHD associated with paraganglioma is a rare disease, with difficult perioperative care. The need to use high dose of vasoressors to stabilize the blood pressure during SRA was important as it would worsen the pulmonary circulation. Planning was the key to successful perioperative management.

01AP14-05
Anaesthesia management of the mine-blast injury to the brachial artery: a case report

A. Masoodi¹, A. Abramenko², D. Dziuba¹
¹Kyiv Clinical Regional Hospital, Anesthesiology, ICU and ED, Kyiv, Ukraine, ²Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital, Vascular Surgery, Kyiv, Ukraine

Background: In the period from February 24 to March 31 2022, 296 patients with mine-blast and gunshot wounds were admitted to the Kyiv regional clinical hospital. 75% from them were civilians and 25% were in camouflage. Among the civilians 8% had damage to the main vessels (subclavicular, femoral and upper extremities). Most of them were in severe hemorrhagic shock. Some patients had cardiac arrest even at the pre-hospital stage in the ambulance. In 3 cases cardiac arrest occurs when access to damage vessels was obtained. Here is an example of the one positive result of treatment.

Case report: Patient M, 56 years old, was admitted to the hospital with a diagnosis of mine-blast injury combined shrapnel damage to the lower limbs, back, lower back, upper limbs with damage to the left brachial artery without injury to the left brachial vein. The patient was transported by an ambulance 20 minutes after the injury. The patient is a civilian, not a military officer.

At the time of admission, patient’s condition was serious, caused by significant blood loss and a state of shock. Pulse was -120 per min, blood pressure 80/40 mm.Hg, SPO2-96%. The initial management of the patient was conducted according to the principles of the advanced trauma and life support (ATLS) guidelines for trauma management and damage control resuscitation.

Primary survey, EKG, X-rays of thoracic, abdominal cavity, extremities, Pocus and Fast protocol, point of care laboratory IV access. There were no special deviations except for the level of hemoglobin 75g/l. Transfusion of blood components were initiated at the emergency department. 35 minutes after patient’s stabilization he was transferred to the surgery room. Surgery was performed with revision of the wound, stopping of arterial bleeding, saphenous vein bypass graft to the left brachial artery. The total time of the tourniquet on the limb to the start of the surgery was 1 hour.

Discussion: By taking to consideration the nuances of the correctly stabilization of the patient, anaesthesiology monitoring and surgical intervention it gives a great chance to save the limb and life to the patient.

References:

Learning points: Damage control resuscitation and team work are bringing succes.
01AP14-06
The dynamics of atrial sept defects and anesthesia – a case report

A. Ladeira1, L. Guariento1, A. Caldeira1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Anesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Atrial septal defect (ASD) is a common congenital heart defect (CHD) and may be encountered in patients presenting for anesthesia. The flow mechanism is predominantly a left to right shunt with long-term maladaptive changes in untreated patients. General anesthesia affects systemic vascular resistance (SVR) and pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR), altering the flow dynamics of the shunt, with increased risk of hypoxic shunt phenomenon and paradoxical embolisms. Perioperative morbidity and mortality risk is particularly high in emergent cases.

Case Report: A 70-year-old woman presented at the Emergency Department with a cervical hematoma. The patient had an uncorrected ASD as well as dilated cardiomyopathy, heart failure with ejection fraction of 29%, and pulmonary hypertension. Anesthetic approach included preemptive placement of an arterial line for a reliable hemodynamic monitoring and a central venous access for administration of vasoactive drugs. Noradrenaline perfusion was started previously to the induction of general anesthesia. Special care was taken to avoid air embolism via intravenous lines. General anesthesia was induced with etomidate and maintained with sevoflurane. Mechanical ventilation was performed with a tidal volume of 6mL/kg and a positive end-expiratory pressure of 5cm H2O. The inspired fraction of oxygen was titrated to the minimum necessary. The procedure occurred uneventfully. Postanesthetic care was successfully assured by a cardiology intensive care unit.

Discussion: Anesthetic care of patients with left to right shunts requires strict management to minimize physiologic changes in SVR and PVR - the cornerstone to avoid right to left shunt and its complications. An emergent scenario prevents further investigation and optimization of the patient’s condition. Anesthetic agents with a more stable cardiovascular profile such as etomidate is preferred. Avoiding hyperoxegenation and hyperventilation as well as protective lung ventilation promotes hemodynamic stability.

References:
- DOI: 10.1097/ACO.0000000000000849
- DOI: 10.1097/ACO.000000000000468

Learning Points:
- Untreated CHD frequently have a high risk perioperative morbidity and mortality, particularly in emergent cases.
- Avoiding right to left shunt is essential to minimize complications. Therefore, knowing the physiology of the shunt is crucial to guide clinical decisions.

01AP14-07
Expect the Unexpected

A. Calçada1, J. Guimarães1, L. Rodrigues1, L. Cordeiro1
1Centro Hospitalar de Setúbal, Anesthesiology, Setubal, Portugal

Background: Chiari malformation encompasses 4 different types of craniovertebral junction malformations with downward dislocation of the cerebellar structures and associated anomalies1,2,3. Chiari type 1 malformation (CM1) is a congenital condition characterized by abnormally cerebellar tonsils herniation (> 5 mm) below the foramen magnum1. The most frequent symptoms are dizziness and occipital headaches. 30% remain asymptomatic1. We report an incidental finding of CM1 after general anesthesia (GA).

Case report: A 64-year-old female was admitted for a bronchoscopy under GA due to chronic cough. She had hypoacusia, sleep apnea, poorly controlled hypertension and diabetes type 2, class 1 obesity, dyslipidemia, HCM and CKD stage IIIa. Airway evaluation revealed no signs of difficult airway management and she was classified as ASA PSII. Under standard ASA monitoring with BIS and TOF, GA started with a TCI of propofol, rocuronium, dexamethasone, and lidocaine. After Sugammadex administration, neuromuscular block was assessed with full recovery and the LMA i-gel removed. During the 40 min procedure, she remained hypertensive. At PACU she felt dizziness and presented an ataxic gait. Neurologic observation noted bilateral horizontal torsional nystagmus and positive Romberg sign. Emergent CT showed a herniation of the cerebellar tonsils. The patient was discharged by Neurology after 3 days without symptoms.

Discussion: CM1 is a congenital condition estimated to be present in 1:1000 or 5000. Our patient had leading risk factors for heart disease and stroke, and symptoms that were consistent with an acute cerebral event or space occupying lesion, but CT was diagnostic of CM. Probably the neck’s hyperextension, increased the pressure of the bony edges of the foramen magnum2 and the already impacted neural elements suffered additional compression, leading to these acute symptoms. Retrospectively, hypoacusia and sleep apnea2 might be related with evolving characteristics of CM1. A literature search reveal no cases of incidental CM1, diagnosed postoperatively after an uneventful GA.

References:
3. Am. J. Otalaryngol., 23(2), 99–104

Learning points: If previously diagnosed, a different anesthetic approach would be expected, namely difficult airway, autonomic dysfunction, prevention of an increase in intracranial pressure and abnormal sensitivity to neuromuscular blockade1.
Diagnosis of Pseudocholinesterase Deficiency during electroconvulsive therapy – a case report

A. Ladeira1, J. Laranjeira1, A. Paulino1, P. Victor1
1CHLN, Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

**Background:** Succinylcholine (Sch) is disappearing from our current practice but it is still the most used neuromuscular blocking agent (NMBA) for electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)1, a procedure in which depth of anesthesia and neuromuscular block is often based on observation, making clinical suspicion of Pseudocholinesterase Deficiency (PD) a hard task.

**Case report:** A 34-year-old female, healthy, irrelevant anesthetic personnel or family history, 60kg, presented to the first of a series of twelve ECTs in the context of a pharmacotherapy-resistant schizophrenia. Continuous electrocardiography and heart rate, pulse oximetry and blood pressure were monitored.

General anesthesia was induced with Propofol 80mg followed by 60mg of Sch. ECT was administered producing a convulsion lasting 22 seconds and an electrographic seizure lasting 29 seconds. After the seizure, 24 minutes passed until motor function was fully recovered, during which the patient was mildly tachycardic and hypertensive. The possibility of PD was considered. BIS monitor values, then applied, were 55-65 until the anesthetic emergence. Neurostimulator was malfunctioning.

Ventilation was maintained resorting a face mask. Brice Interview didn’t point to awareness. Laboratory work revealed a serum cholinesterase level of 3745U/L (5320 – 12920 U/L). Enzyme activity measurement, dibucaine number, wasn’t available. Subsequent ECTs were performed with Rocuronium and spontaneous ventilation was immediately resumed after Sugammadex.

**Discussion:** Based on its rapid onset and short duration of action Sch is the most used NMBA for ECT. But Sch problems did not vanish. It has a significant number of contraindications, serious side effects, risk of malignant hyperthermia and unpredictable paralysis duration, as a result of genetic pseudocholinesterase variability. Dibucaine number is frequently not available and cholinesterase level alone does not translate to function. Most important, there are safer, although costly, alternatives.

Diagnosis of PD can be a difficult task during ECT because it can be masked by the sympathetic response triggered by the seizure, the post ictal state and the BIS value not corresponding to the patient’s level of consciousness2.

**References:**
1. https://doi.org/10.3390/life11090981
2. https://doi.org/10.1093/bja/88.2.184

**Learning points:**
- Rocuronium-sugammadex seems to be a legitimate alternative to Sch.
- Use of neuromuscular block monitoring should be routinely used during ECT.


A. Maciel1, A.C. Segundo1, A. Lares1, A. Gouveia1
A. Andre1, E. Afonso1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Algarve, Anesthesiology Department, Faro, Portugal

**Background:** Pitt-Hopkins syndrome (PTHS) is a rare neurodevelopmental disorder, characterized by intellectual disability, specific facial features, and marked autonomic nervous system dysfunction, especially with disturbances of regulating respiration and intestinal mobility. These abnormalities may present challenges to the anesthesiologist.

There are almost no cases of anesthetic management described for PTHS, and we believe this is the first report in the literature of anesthesia about an adult person with PTHS.

**Case report:** A 34-year-old female undergoing surgical hip fixation, with PTHS causing severe intellectual disability with absent speech, agitation, chronic constipation and bilateral amaurosis. No breathing regulation anomalies, but predicted difficult airway.

We used combined anesthesia technic with general anesthesia and peripheral block of femoral and lateral femoral cutaneous nerves. No neuromuscular blocking agent or opioids were used. Airway was secured with a laryngeal mask. She was hemodynamic stable all times with unremarkable postoperative course, with early mobilization, low pain scores. No seizures, gastrointestinal problems, breathing issues or behavior alterations were reported.

**Discussion:** In this case none of the expected complications associated with PTHS occur and the perioperative management was linear. Because of PTHS characteristics, difficult airway management, seizures, aspiration, constipation were potential risks in this patient.

Poor quality of emergence is also a problem reported. Parents perspective regards to their child’s history of medications and reactions when devising an anesthetic plan is considered an asset.

**References:**

**Learning points:** He hope to strengthen the data available concerning PTHS for anesthetic approach, which might help develop specialized protocols for improved patient-centered care.
Continuous spinal anaesthesia in a patient with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: a case report

P. Gaspar¹, I. Carrapatoso¹, T. Esteves³
¹Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) is associated with a high risk of perioperative morbidity and mortality. Anesthetic management is challenging and the major goal is to maintain perioperative hemodynamic stability. Evidence regarding the safety of anesthetic management of patients with HFrEF is lacking.

Continuous spinal anesthesia (CSA), an underutilized technique, allows titration of reduced local anesthetic (LA) doses and is associated with fewer hemodynamic changes and adverse effects than other neuraxial techniques while maintaining adequate sensory and motor block.

Case report: A 74-year-old man, ASA IV, with ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy with low ejection fraction (EF 37%), class IV heart failure (NYHA), presented with left trochanteric femur fracture for hemiarthroplasty. His medical history also included severe mitral regurgitation, an implanted CRT-D, hypertension, dyslipidemia, type 2 diabetes Mellitus and stage 3 chronic kidney disease. The patient was monitored with ASA standard monitorization and placement of an left radial arterial line. Dural puncture was made at the L4-L5 level, using a 21G needle, and the catheter was inserted 3cm intrathecally. An initial dose of 2,5mg of 0,1% levobupivacaine and 2,5μg of sufentanil was given through the catheter. During the procedure, another dose of 0,5mg levobupivacaine 0,1% was administered. Perioperative hypotension was treated with norepinephrine infusion, titrated to a maximum of 6.66μg/min for medium arterial pressure >65mmHg. The surgery lasted for 60 minutes, without any apparent complications.

At the end of the surgery, the intrathecal catheter was removed. The patient was comfortable and hemodynamically stable, with no vasoactive support, and was transferred to the coronary intensive care unit for postoperative care. There were no postoperative side effects reported.

Discussion: Careful anesthetic planning is required to minimize the high risk of perioperative morbidity and mortality associated with HFrEF. While the evidence is scarce, CSA has been reported to provide adequate sensory and motor block and hemodynamic stability.

Although underutilized, CSA is a safe and effective anesthetic technique for the management of patients with HFrEF.

References:
Mulugeta, H. et all (2020) Local and Regional Anesthesia, Volume 13, 135–140.

Learning points: While unpopular, CSA is a safe and effective anesthetic technique for the management of patients with HFrEF.
Central venous catheterization - which challenges in patients with head and neck tumors?

S. Morgado1, A. Windels1, J. Maia1, P. Fernandes1
1Hospital do Espírito Santo de Évora, Anesthesiology, Évora, Portugal

Background: The need for central venous catheterization can result from difficult or poor peripheral access, administration of long-term drug and infusion of irritant drugs and vasopressors.1

Case report: A 44-years-old women, ASA IV, with esophagus squamous cell carcinoma with lymph node metastasis and food intolerance under chemotherapy underwent a Witzel feeding jejunostomy. On the 3rd postoperative day, the patient was in hypovolemic and septic shock due to gastro-intestinal occlusion and peritonitis, requiring revision of the jejunostomy under balanced general anesthesia.

Due to the patient condition, it was decided to catheterize the right internal jugular vein with ultrasound guidance. After multiple attempts, the guidewire didn’t progress along the vein, and the common carotid artery was punctured.

Due to partial respiratory failure, the patient was admitted intubated in ICU, where the left femoral vein was catheterized.

On the same day, the patient underwent a cervicothoracic CT-scan which revealed an extensive esophageal neoformative lesion in the cervicothoracic transition, promoting invasion of underlying structures, leading to occlusion of the internal jugular vein.

Discussion: Choosing the most appropriate anatomical site for central venous catheter insertion depends on many factors including the indication, contraindications, previous line insertion sites and intended duration of use1.

In cases of head and neck tumors can exist internal jugular vein occlusion by tumor invasion besides the high risk of vascular thrombosis and stenosis common to other tumors2.

The multiple attempts result in an iatrogenic complication.

References:

Learning points:
The use of ultrasound reduce the number of complications and to increase the safety and quality of central venous catheter placement1,2.

We should predict a difficult jugular internal vein catheterization in patients with advanced head and neck tumors.
Ambulatory Anaesthesia

02AP01-01
Acute pulmonary edema in electroconvulsive therapy. Use of short acting drugs as preventive measure

D. Ly-Liu¹, N. De Luis Cabezon¹, O. Romero Menchaca², I. Sanchez Castro²
1Basurto Universitary Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Bilbao, Spain, 2Urduliz Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Urduliz, Spain

Background: Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) can be a lifesaving treatment in some psychiatric disorders. Acute pulmonary edema (APE) is an infrequent but highly mortal complication among major cardiac events after ECT. The incidence of APE is reported to be 1.5 per 1,000 ECTs (1).

Case report: A 75-year-old man with major refractory depression was scheduled for ambulatory ECT. It was his 13th session with no previous complications. His medical history included hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, previous APE, dilated cardiomyopathy with severe systolic dysfunction of left ventricle, incomplete left bundle branch block and moderate COPD.

ECT was performed under general anesthesia. After the procedure the patient started with agitation, dyspnea, belly breathing, desaturation, hypertension and tachycardia. Intubation was required. Foamy pinky secretions came out through the endotracheal tube despite of the treatment received. An CT angiogram was performed. Pulmonary embolism was discarded, signs compatible with APE were observed.

The patient was admitted to the ICU. The echocardiogram hilighted a dilated left ventricle and ejection fraction of 45% due to diffuse hypokinesia. He was extubated during the first 24 hours. Up to four different antihypertensives were necessary for an adequate arterial pressure control. The patient was discharged after five days.

Discussion: Excess catecholamines are associated with increased vascular permeability, contributing to APE development (2). As ECT incidence increases, anaesthesiologists will be required to better understand the physiological changes, complications and pharmacological actions of adjuvant drugs related to this procedure. Cardiovascular stress could be prevented by administration of short acting drugs such as esmolol, nitroglycerin or dexmedetomidine.

References:

Learning points: Prevention of hypertensive crisis with short acting drugs in selected patients could minimize the risk of developing APE after ECT. There are lack of studies comparing different medications regarding this issue. Updated investigations following this line would be of great interest.

02AP01-02
Propofol induced seizure-like phenomena in a young female patient after procedural sedation

P Lauš¹, I. Kurjaković¹, D. Dedić¹, Z. Safaric Oremus¹, M. Milić¹, J. Peršec¹
¹University Hospital Dubrava, Anaesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Background: Due to rapid onset and short acting hypnotic effects propofol is widely used in procedural sedation. Despite anticonvulsant properties, its rare side effect are seizure like phenomena (SLP) consisting of generalized tonic-clonic seizures, focal motor seizures, increased tonus with twitching and rhythmic movements, opisthotonos and involuntary movements (3).

We present a case of propofol–induced delayed-onset seizures resistant to antiepileptic therapy.

Case report: An 18-year-old woman was scheduled for colonoscopy under sedation. Besides GI symptoms her medical history included knife surgery. No history of epilepsy, drug abuse or recent infection was reported. A total of 200mg of propofol was used over 30 minutes. Half an hour after emergence from anaesthesia the patient experienced generalized seizure-like movements lasting 10-30 seconds. Over 15 episodes of involuntary movements of similar duration followed in the next hour. In-between seizures the patient was awake. She received a total of 30mg of diazepam iv with no effect on duration or recurrence of seizures. Another 10-15 seizure episodes occurred in the next 12 hours, despite antiepileptic therapy with levetiracetam 1000mg iv. She was admitted to the Neurological ICU until the next morning with no further seizures.

Discussion: Propofol effects on CNS include decreased cerebral blood flow and metabolic rate² but there have been reports of its proconvulsant properties³. Some systematic reviews have concluded that this phenomenon tends to occur during changes in cerebral concentration of propofol. Dramatic clinical presentation of this complication is associated with increased medical costs since most of the patients are subsequently admitted to ICU.

References:

Learning Points: Seizure like phenomena is a rare and dramatic, albeit self-limiting side effect of propofol which often leads to unplanned and prolonged hospital stay and diagnostic resource utilization. Further research is needed to elucidate all propofol effects, due to its widespread use in clinical practice.
02AP01-03
Anesthetic management of a child with Cohen syndrome in outpatient surgery

A. Eliseu, A. Aguilar, S. Gestosa, A. Lares
Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Algarve, Hospital de Faro, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Faro, Portugal

Background: Cohen syndrome is a rare autosomal recessive genetic disorder caused by mutation of VPS13B gene. It leads to mental deficiency, truncal obesity, hypotonia, limb and craniofacial abnormalities which can be very challenging for the anesthesiologist.

Case report: A 16-year-old male child with Cohen syndrome was referred to dental reconstruction under general anesthesia on day surgery. Pre-operative evaluation revealed mental deficiency and at physical examination kyphoscoliosis, maxillary hypoplasia, truncal obesity and hypotonia. Airway evaluation with prominent upper central incisors, micrognathia, short neck, small mouth and Mallampati score 3. Pre-operative exams without alterations. Before induction, nasal topical anesthesia with lidocaine 1% and phenylephrine was given. General balanced anesthesia was performed and there was no difficulty in mask ventilation. Intubation was performed using McGrath™ MAC X3 blade with flexible fiberoptic bronchoscopy simultaneously and airway was secured with a 6.0mm nasal RAE tube. Surgery lasted 2h30 and sugammadex 100mg was administered at the end. Extubation was performed with the patient fully awake without complications. Post-operative follow-up occurred during 6h, with discharge after that.

Discussion: Anesthesia and airway management of Cohen’s syndrome can be very difficult. The importance of preparation and planning how to secure the airway was critical to a good outcome in this case. Despite the airway was secured with videolaryngoscopy, the presence of flexible fiberoptic bronchoscopy guaranteed an alternative plan immediately available in an outpatient surgery facility far from other resources.

References:
1. Ishikawa, Emi et al. (2022); https://doi.org/10.17245/jdampm.2022.22.2.155

Learning points: Knowledge of the characteristics of a rare disorder in anesthesia literature allows anticipation of difficulties and possibility to create a plan that makes “first attempt best attempt”. We should be aware of the possibility of a difficult airway caused by characteristic craniofacial deformities in Cohen syndrome.

02AP01-04
Paediatric anaesthetic management in patients with congenital metabolopathy

R. Urruchi Quintano, M.J. Sanz De León, T. Villan González, E. Agustin Del Rio, L. Leal Casado, A. Gudina Sanz
Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Anestesia y Reanimación, Valladolid, Spain

Background: Multiple Acyl-CoA Dehydrogenase (MAD) deficiency is an autosomal recessive disease of fatty acid and amino acid metabolism. The deficiency is in the electron transfer flavoprotein or its oxido-reductase.

Clinical manifestations include fatal acute neonatal metabolic encephalopathy with/without multi-organ abnormalities (types I and II) and late onset acute metabolic crises, myopathy or neurodevelopmental delay (type III) triggered by prolonged fasting periods or intercurrent illness.

Case report: 5-year-old girl weighing 21.2 kg diagnosed with Multiple Acetyl-CoA Dehydrogenase deficiency (Glutaric aciduria type II), responsive to Riboflavin. History of neonatal Reye’s Syndrome secondary to metabolopathy requiring venovenous haemofiltration, with neurological risk due to serious neonatal hyperammonaemia. On chronic treatment with Ubidecarenone, Carnitine, Thiamine and oral Riboflavin. He was admitted to the paediatric ward the day before the MRI scan of the brain under sedation. She begins with an absolute diet 8 hours prior to the procedure, starting intravenous intake, serum therapy at basal needs with 10% SG and ions, and glucose supply. Intravenous Carnitine is pre-scribed and the rest of the medication is administered orally after the MRI.

Heart rate, O2 saturation and etCO2 are monitored. Premedication with 2 mg intravenous midazolam, induction with sevoflurane, insertion of laryngeal mask i-gel number 2 and anaesthetic maintenance with 2% sevoflurane.

The procedure was carried out without incident and the patient was transferred to the Paediatric Intermediate Care Unit. The patient remained haemodynamically stable without neurological focality or signs of metabolic decompensation.

Discussion: In MAD deficiency, early diagnosis and rapid introduction of dietary treatment is important to prevent life-threatening metabolic crises. Treatment is usually based on low protein and low fat diets, supplemented with riboflavin (vitamin B12), carnitine and co-enzyme Q10 as appropriate. The anaesthetic precautions common to all patients with myopathies should be taken. Prolonged fasting should be prevented by adequate carbohydrate intake.

Reference:

Learning points: In MAD deficiency, early diagnosis and rapid introduction of dietary treatment is important to prevent life-threatening metabolic crises.
02AP01-06
Nonoperating room anesthesia in a patient with Rett syndrome: a case report

J.M. Pérez de la Serna1, J. Bragado Domingo1, L. González Pérez Villacastín1, M.D. Calle Ortiz2, M. Cruz Baquero3, J.L. Ayala Ortega1
1Hospital Universitario Rey Juan Carlos, Anestesiología, Reanimación y Unidad del Dolor, Madrid, Spain

Background: Rett syndrome (RS) is a rare inherited neurodevelopmental disorder. It affects females on the MECP2 gene. They have increased sensitivity to sedative drugs with high risk of adverse events.

Case Report: We present a 14-year-old girl with RS who received nonoperation room anesthesia (NORA) 2 times. Like most RS she had microcephaly, epilepsy, apnea-hypoperturbation episodes.

Case 1: In 2021 Neuropediatric requested a brain MRI due to an increased number of seizures. General anesthesia (GA) was induced and maintained exclusively with sevoflurane on spontaneous ventilation. No other drug was administered. The MRI lasted 30 minutes. The airway was isolated with a laryngeal mask (LMA) which was removed with a 1% sevoflurane exhaled. She was transferred to the PACU with 2l oxygen. She did not present desaturations or perioperative apnea. After 3 hours and oral tolerance, she was discharged according to the usual protocol.

Case 2: In 2022 Endocrinology requests a fine needle thyroid biopsy. During the preparation she suffered a generalized tremor. That morning she did not take levetiracetam, we gave her the same dose iv.

Again, induction and maintenance were with sevoflurane on spontaneous ventilation, we isolated the airway with a face mask. No opioids during the biopsy. We proceeded with an early discharge.

Discussion: Episodes of pneumonia and bronchitis have been reported after GA procedures as well as severe desaturation after minimal midazolam administration in surgery with regional anesthesia[2]. Although publications on NORA in patients with RS are rare, it has been reported that the dose of propofol required for sedation may be lower[1].

Our patient received 2 NORA just with sevoflurane with a similar length of stay in the PACU to patients without other comorbidities.

References:

Learning Points: Patients with RS have increased sensitivity to anesthetic agents and delayed recovery. Our patient received inhalational anesthesia with sevoflurane as a single agent. No complications were identified. The patient was discharged according to usual times.

We conclude that NORA alone with sevoflurane could reduce procedural complications. This would allow outpatient treatment of patients with RS.

02AP01-07
Pneumoperitoneum and hypertensive pneumothorax during a mucosectomy: an unexpected and challenging complication for anaesthesia

P. Camões1, P. Marques1, T. Monteiro1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: The mucosectomy is an endoscopic technique used in gastroenterology for diagnostic and treatment of gastrointestinal tract superficial lesions. For this technique a constant flow of air or CO2 is necessary. In this case we present a possible, yet unusual, complication associated with this endoscopic technique with severe clinical implications and a major challenge for the anaesthesiologist.

Case report: A male, 82-years-old patient with an history of arterial hypertension, DPOC and obesity, is proposed for a gastric mucosectomy of a sessile lesion in the lesser curvature of the stomach under general anesthesia. After 3 hours into the procedure, abdomen distention of the patient occurs accompanied with a sudden rise of etCO2 and airway tract pressure. There is also haemodynamic instability and hypoxemia. Pneumoperitoneum is observed and a pulmonary echography also confirms a hypertensive pneumothorax. The anaesthesiologist decides to interrupt the procedure immediately and needle decompression of the pneumothorax ensues with one ABBOCATHR-needle 14G inserted on the 2nd intercostal space in the midclavicular line.

Two ABBOCATHR-needles 14G are also inserted for abdominal gas decompression. Afterwards a pulmonary thoracic chest tube is inserted for drainage, resulting in normalization of SpO2 and airway tract pressure accompanied by haemodynamic stability. Arterial gas blood test (ABG) detects a sudden haemoglobin drop with 4 units of erythrocyte concentrate and 4 units of plasma being administered.

The gastroenterologist (GE) performs an endoscopy where a gas dissection between the muscular and mucosa’s layers with a considerable blood clot was found.

The probable cause was the air translocation through the mucosa due to long duration of the procedure. The patient is then transferred for an intensive care unit (ICU).

Discussion: The mucosectomy can present severe complications requiring the anaesthesiologist to be vigilant. In this case a rare complication of endoscopic mucosectomy with pneumoperitoneum and hypertensive pneumothorax needing immediate care and intervention of the anaesthesia team was fundamental for the patient.

References:
02AP01-08
Methylene blue - the perfect liar
M. Ferreira Neves1, S. Lopes1, A. Mendes de Castro1, M. Sousa1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal

Background: Methylene blue (MB) is currently used in breast surgery to help identify malignant tissue and for the sentinel lymph node biopsy. It acts on reducing the ferrous ion of hemoglobin to the ferric state and in some patients can induce methemoglobinemia. It has the capability of absorbing most of the pulse oximeter light emission generating a false desaturation and a blue grayish skin color that can be misleading, making false diagnosis as anaphylaxis or respiratory insufficiency. However, because there are some cases of pulmonary edema following its administration, secondary desaturation should lead to further investigation so it could rule out some more serious outcomes.

Case Report: We present a case of an 84-year-old female, with a history of hypertension, diabetes and auricular fibrillation admitted for a bilateral breast lumpectomy and sentinel lymph node biopsy in an outpatient surgery regimen under general anesthesia. After administration of MB, the patient presented with desaturation in pulse oximetry, with a SpO2 from 97-88%, without hypotension and normal capnography. Physical examination showed a bluish discoloration of the skin and mucosa and chest auscultation was normal. After checking the position of the endotracheal tube and verifying the equipment, a sample of arterial blood gas was taken. Besides the brown color blood and methemoglobin’s fraction (FMetHb) 13.6% no alterations were found. At the end of surgery, we proceeded to tracheal extubation and she had no further complication during the postoperative period. By this time, the bluish sky color improved but it was noticed a blue color urine with no alterations on its output. Despite the good clinical state, she stayed for clinical monitoring and was discharged on the 1st postoperative day.

Discussion: This case highlights a secondary effect of MB administration that should be recognized since its wide use in general surgery. These side effects should prompt further investigation to exclude some important differential diagnosis or consequences of its use. A blood gas sample and chest auscultation are the key elements to identify what is the true cause of the desaturation.

Learning Points: The use of MB during surgery can mimic arterial oxygen desaturation on pulse oximetry and methemoglobinemia on arterial blood gas. Even with high suspicion of the desaturation cause, we should always exclude other diagnoses as the drug can bias our judgment.

02AP02-01
Day case surgery evaluation of two different types of supraglottic devices in the prone position
C. Docampo Sierra1, J.D. Jimenez1, B. García Rivas1, J.T. Puchol Castillo1, A. Guiu Pérez1, P. Argente Navarro1
1Hospital Universitario y Politecnico La Fe, Anestesiologia, Valencia, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: For day case surgery, laryngeal mask airway in prone position is a suitable airway management strategy. There haven’t been many studies done on the Supreme™ mask and the i-gel™ mask in the prone position for day-case surgery. This study compares how long and how difficult it is to position patients in the prone position for day-case surgery.

Materials and Methods: Due to local ethics committee approval, 100 adult patients scheduled for any day-case surgery were given written informed permission. They were then assigned at random to either Proseal™ laryngeal mask (group S) or I-gel™ laryngeal mask for airway management (group I).

Patients having a BMI more than 35 mg.kg-1 or anticipated difficult airway were eliminated. In the operating room, each patient placed themselves in a prone position with their heads positioned laterally. SpO2, a three-lead ECG, the bispectral index, and NIBP were all constantly tracked. After starting an IV and taking the patient’s baseline vital signs, fentanyl (0.1 mcg.kg⁻¹) and propofol were used to induce anesthesia while the patient was instructed to breathe 100% oxygen through a face mask (2.5 mg.kg⁻¹; given over 20 seconds).

An expert anesthesiologist connected a number 3 or 4 laryngeal mask to an anesthesia machine (VT=6-8 mL.kg⁻¹; RR:12 r.min⁻¹; RR was modified to ETCO₂=30 mmHg, and spontaneous breathing was permitted) when BIS dropped below 60. The head should be put in the lateral position when inserting the mask (difficulty grade 1), but if that is not possible, the head is stretched and elevated in the sagittal plane, inserting the mask in a “sniffing” prone posture (difficulty grade 2).

If assistance or repositioning was required after more than two attempts, grade 3 difficulty was assigned. The Supreme mask cuff had a 60 mmHg air pressure. Vital signs, the time it takes to put on the mask (Tmask), get CO₂ (T CO₂), start the induction (T ind), stop the bleeding, and there were notes of sore throat.

Results and Discussion: All patients had effective implantation of gastric tubes and ventilation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>Height (cm)</th>
<th>Weight (kg)</th>
<th>Sex (M/F)</th>
<th>ASA (I/II/III)</th>
<th>T_ind (sec)</th>
<th>T_mask (sec)(*)</th>
<th>T_CO₂ (sec)</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>S group</td>
<td>43.2 ±15.47</td>
<td>161 ±8.6</td>
<td>77.7 ±12.4</td>
<td>28/22</td>
<td>40/8/2</td>
<td>46.8 ±9.6</td>
<td>16.5 ±11.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>l group</td>
<td>39.3 ±12.1</td>
<td>159 ±7.9</td>
<td>75.4 ±11.8</td>
<td>26/24</td>
<td>37/10/3</td>
<td>44.8 ±8.9</td>
<td>9.2 ±4.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 (*)p<0.05

Conclusion(s): The Supreme mask requires more time and effort to position in the prone position for day-case surgery than the I-gel mask.
The impact of pre-anesthetic appointment in outpatient surgery cancellations

A. Lidia Rouxinol-Dias¹, R. Leite Aquiar¹, C. Sousa², M. Fernandes¹, E. Moreira¹, E. Carneiro¹
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário São João, Anesthesiology Department, Porto, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Anesthesiology Department, Vila Real, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: In addition to the well-known financial burden of late surgical cancellation, canceling elective surgeries on the scheduled date can also affect the motivation of the surgical team and have a relevant socio-emotional impact on patients. The careful selection of patients and preoperative assessment are essential to ensure efficiency and quality of resource management. The present study is sought to evaluate the outpatient surgery cancellations rate, reasons, and impact of pre-anesthetic appointment in outpatient surgery cancellations rate.

Materials and Methods: In this cross-sectional study, a consecutive sampling of all patients proposed for outpatient surgical procedures with anesthesia at the Ambulatory Surgery Unit (ASU) of a tertiary Portuguese hospital, from March 2019 to February 2020. The ASU protocol comprised a pre-assessment by the surgeon that then proposed for outpatient surgical procedure indicating the patient’s risk. Accordingly, the patient could be referred to a nursing preoperative screening appointment and for a pre-anesthetic appointment. Data related to surgery cancellation and pre-anesthetic appointment were collected independently, by blinded investigators, from patients’ clinical records. Comparisons were made with chi-square test.

Results and Discussion: There were 1053 (22.0%) cancellations of a total of 4782 procedures scheduled. Cancellation rate was significantly associated with the surgical specialty (p<0.001) and were more frequent for neurosurgery procedures (3 out of 8, 37.5%), followed by maxillofacial (10 out of 33, 30.3%) and orthopedic (435 out of 1492, 29.2%). Most of the cancellation regarded logistical issues (5.6%), followed by patient refusal of surgery (4.7%), patient health status changed (4.6%), others non specified (3.3%), unavailability of human resources (2.7%) and patient not attending (0.9%).

During the considered period, 831 (17.3%) patients were evaluated by nursing preoperative screening appointment and the cancellation rate among these was significantly lower than in those without nursing screening (18.2% vs 22.8%, p=0.004). A total of 350 (7.3%) patients were referred to pre-anesthetic appointments, the cancellation rate among these was also significantly lower than in those without pre-anesthetic appointments (16.9% vs 22.4%, p=0.019).

Conclusion(s): Pre-anesthetic appointments in outpatient surgery significantly reduced cancellations rate.

Opioid prescribing pattern in elderly patients undergoing outpatient surgery

J. García Coronel¹, A. Calle¹, A. Gallo¹, L. Velasco¹, A. Reyes¹, M. Zaballos¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The increasing concern about the epidemic in opioid prescribing is not exclusive to countries such as the United States, since its misuse can lead to dependence and even death due to overdose. Recently, the role of professionals who prescribe opioids in the context of major outpatient surgery has gained relevance. In this regard, prescribing opioids to geriatric patients requires greater caution due to the more pronounced side effects of opioids in this population.

The aim of the study was to analyze the prescription of opioids in geriatric patients undergoing major ambulatory surgery, since there is little published information on this subject.

Materials and Methods: A cohort study of patients undergoing outpatient surgery who were divided into two groups, geriatric group (GG)>65 years and younger group (YG)<65 years of age was performed. Anthropometric data, ASA classification, type of surgery, anesthetic technique, expected postoperative pain (mild, moderate, severe) and opioid prescription at discharge were collected. A telephone call was made to evaluate postoperative pain using a verbal numerical rating scale (vNRS) at 24h and one week after discharge.

We collected the consumption of opioid analgesics in these two periods. Statistics were performed using the SPSSv20 program. Data are shown as means, medians, IQR and percentages. Comparisons between groups were performed using Student’s t-test for independent samples, or Mann-Whitney U test and Chi-square test or Fisher’s exact test when appropriate.

Results and Discussion: A total of 880 patients (163>65 years) were consecutively evaluated in a 3-month period. Mean age in GG was 74±6 and 44±13 in YG, without differences in the proportion of men/women. ASA III patients were higher in GG: 36% vs 15%, p<0.001. There was a higher proportion of diabetic patients in GG: 17% vs 5.4%, p<0.001. Orthopedic surgery were most common in GG: 60% vs 42%, p<0.001. The predicted moderate-intense pain according to the surgery was higher in YG 70% vs 60%, p=0.019. Intraoperative local anesthesia was used more frequently in GG 83% vs 74%, p=0.008; however, the administration of dexamethasone was lower in GG 41% vs 54%, p=0.002. The prescription of minor opioids was performed in 12% of patients and was higher in GG: 17% vs 11%, p=0.018. Median (IQR) vNRS at 24 h was lower in GG: 3 (1-4) vs 4 (2-6), p<0.001; and at 7 days GG: 2 (0-3.75) vs 2 (0-4), p<0.04. There were no differences in opioid use at 24 h and 7 days (~10% and 8%) respectively.

Conclusion(s): The results of our study have shown that, although the prescription of opioids has been infrequent in patients who underwent day surgery, it was higher in elderly patients. This could be related to a higher frequency of orthopedic interventions.

The study has reflected an insufficient prescription of adjuvants such as dexamethasone in elderly patients probably in relation to a higher proportion of diabetes in this group. While the use of opioids is not desirable, especially in the elderly patient, in procedures with anticipated intense postoperative pain their administration as part of analgesic treatment or as rescue may improve pain control and patient comfort.
Implementation of a major outpatient surgery program in robot-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy in a tertiary hospital

A. Vilches García¹, A. Pardo Bedía¹, L. Fumadó Ciutat², C. Solà Marques³, J.M. Abascal Junquera³, M. Corcòy Bidasolo¹
¹Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, ²Hospital del Mar, Urology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Prostate cancer is the most common type of tumor in men worldwide. Radical prostatectomy is a therapeutic option for localized prostate cancer. During last decades, new surgical techniques have been proposed to replace open surgery, such as laparoscopic surgery and robot assisted surgery. Improvements in surgical and anesthetic techniques allow outpatient surgery for more complex surgeries.

The aim of outpatient surgery is to provide the same efficacy and safety as inpatient surgery. Outpatient robot assisted radical prostatectomy (ORARP) has not yet been widely adopted as there are insufficient data demonstrating its safety and feasibility. The project aims to improve clinical care through the audit process of our experience in ORARP and to provide data for future research.

Materials and Methods: Data from 11 patients proposed for ORARP was collected between January and November 2022. Patients with localized disease who underwent RARP without pelvic lymph node dissection, were included. Exclusion criteria were IV ASA classification, BMI >35 Kg/m², age >74 years, antplatelet and anticoagulant therapy, intraoperative bleeding >500 ml, and living away from the hospital.

Results and Discussion: 11 patients signed the informed consent document to undergo surgery without admission: 9.1% were ASA I, 63.6% ASA II and 27.3% ASA III. Mean age was 64.6 years (SD±8.2). 45.5% underwent ORARP while 54.5% were discharged the day after surgery. Reasons for delayed discharge were an accidental ureter section (n=1), pain control (n=1), patient refusal (n=1) and lack of experience of the urology team in the early discharge protocol (n=3). 3 patients in ORARP group consulted the emergency department (hematuria, acute urinary retention after urinary catheter removal and fever) as opposed to 2 patients in the inpatient group (hematuria and feeling of oliguria despite a correct functioning urinary catheter).

Conclusion(s): None of the ORARP patients had serious complications. 4 patients did not achieve surgery without admission. This could have been avoided by improving interdisciplinary communication. It appears that outpatient RARP is safe and feasible in selected patients. In the future, we intend to design a prospective study with a larger sample size to confirm our results.

Reference:

Satisfaction and pain perception related to anaesthetic technique for ambulatory inguinal hernioplasty: a survey

E. Sandín López¹, S. Heras Cruz¹, J.M. Calle Isorna¹, B. Fernández Torres¹, J.M. González Valencia¹, M.L. Berraquero Caraballo¹
¹University Hospital Virgen Macarena, Anaesthesia, Sevilla, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Inguinal hernioplasty is commonly performed in ambulatory surgery though there is no clear consensus on the anaesthetic technique. Both general anaesthesia (GA) and locoregional anaesthesia (LRA) are effective options. The main objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of the anaesthetic technique for ambulatory inguinal hernioplasty on pain perception and patient satisfaction.

Materials and Methods: Prospective descriptive study from a survey of ambulatory patients who underwent inguinal hernioplasty from 2020 to 2022 in our hospital. The main variable was the relationship between anaesthetic technique, pain perception and level of satisfaction.

To assess pain and postoperative satisfaction a telephone survey was made 24 hours after surgery assessing the maximum level on theVAS scale(0-10) during the first 24 hours and the level of satisfaction (not satisfactory, adequate, satisfactory).

Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 25.0. Chi2 test was used for qualitative variables and Student’s t test for quantitative variables. A p value<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: Our sample was 373 patients with a mean age of 58.0 ± 13 years. 82 patients were ASA I, 204 ASA II and 87 ASA III. Surgery was performed under GA(68%) or LRA(32%). Most patients (63.5%) were operated by open approach and 36.5% by laparoscopic surgery. Young patients, ASA I-II and operated with laparoscopic technique underwent GA more frequently than LRA (p< 0.0001).

Regarding the level of pain 71.8% of the patients described pain 2-3 on the VAS scale during the first 24 h after surgery with greater perception of pain in patients with LRA (p=0.001). The degree of satisfaction achieved after surgery was higher after GA although it did not reach statistical significance possibly due to the size of the sample or the use of qualitative scales to measure satisfaction.

Our study is limited to ambulatory surgery patients and the results may not be extrapolate to patients with high anesthetic risk who, in our setting, are operated in our associated tertiary care hospital.

Conclusion(s): Both GA and LRA are two effective options for inguinal hernioplasty. Postoperative pain perception was better in those who underwent GA. The degree of satisfaction was higher after GA, although it did not reach statistical significance. GA is preferred over LRA in young patients, with low anesthetic risk, and laparoscopic surgery.
02AP02-06
Target-controlled infusion anesthesia with spontaneous breathing for transperineal fusion magnetic resonance imaging-guided prostate biopsy

J. Borrell-Vega¹, M. Magaldi¹, M. Costa², M. Baixauli², J. Kim², B. Tena¹
¹Clinic Hospital Barcelona, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, ²Clinic Hospital Barcelona, Department of Urology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: European Association of Urology prostate cancer guidelines recommend transperineal prostate magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)-guided biopsies of suspicious lesions. To ensure complete immobility, this procedure is usually performed in the operating room under general anesthesia (GA). However, the long operating room waiting list leads some teams to opt for the use of local anesthesia (LA), although moderate to severe pain has been reported during the procedure.

In our center we started to perform this procedure under GA maintaining spontaneous breathing in the urologic diagnosis unit, outside the operating room. The aim of our study is to assess if GA with target-controlled infusion (TCI) of propofol (P) and remifentanil (R) maintaining spontaneous breathing provided optimal and safe conditions during the procedure, promoting a fast recovery and patient and surgeons’ satisfaction.

Materials and Methods: After approval by our local Ethics Committee (HCB/2022/1260) a retrospective study was conducted in patients who underwent transperineal prostate MRI-guided biopsy from January 2020 to March 2022. Age, ASA score, comorbidities, body mass index (BMI), dosage of P and R, anesthesia duration, immediate complications and 24h post-procedure phone call assessment (haematuria, suppuration, pain, nausea or vomiting) were collected. Statistical analysis was performed with SPSS v27.

Results and Discussion: 101/103 patients were available for analysis. The performance of the biopsy was possible in all patients. The mean total time in operating room was 42 ±11 min. Two patients received 24 mg of prilocaine, and the rest of patients received 20 mg. The maximal expansion of the sensory block was to the T12 dermatome in 13; T11 in 7; T10 in 9; L5 in 12; L4 in 13; L3 in 6; L2 in 4; L1 in 17 patients and below S5 in 20 patients. The motor block was Bromage score 0: in 74; 1: in 18; 2 in 5 and 3: in 4 patients. Hyperbaric prilocaine can be applied in dosages of 20 mg for MR-UF guided prostate biopsy. Because of sufficient analgesia, missing motor block and shorter recovery times, hyperbaric prilocaine can be recommended for outpatient MR-UF guided prostate biopsy.

Conclusions: The increase in ambulatory procedures makes it necessary to plan an anaesthetic technique guaranteeing short length of stay and maintaining patients’ safety and surgeons’ satisfaction. The use of TCI in spontaneous breathing could improve the quality of care and patients’ safety in an ambulatory setting, delivering adequate immobility and analgesia for a faster and more efficient procedure.

02AP02-07
Low-dose spinal hyperbaric prilocaine in patients undergoing transperineal magnetic resonance ultrasound fusion guided prostate biopsy

S. Gonzalez Santillana¹, P. Molina Garrigos¹, P. Cabrerizo Torrente¹, M. Portas Gonzalez¹, M. Zaballos Garcia¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañon, Anestesiologia y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Magnetic resonance (MR) ultrasound fusion (UF) guided prostate biopsy is a relative emergent technique associated with an increased likelihood of detecting clinically significant prostate cancer. This procedure can be safely performed in an outpatient setting; however, the anaesthetic method for this procedure has not been standardized.

We aim to evaluate the efficacy of low-dose spinal hyperbaric prilocaine in patients undergoing transperineal magnetic resonance ultrasound fusion guided prostate biopsy in day surgery.

Materials and Methods: One hundred and three patients (48–84 years/ American Society of Anesthesiologists grade I–III) were enrolled in this study. Under aseptic conditions, the spinal anaesthesia was performed with the patient in a sitting position and the anaesthesiologist administered a dose of 2% hyperbaric prilocaine. The prilocaine dose used was under anaesthesiologist criteria. The patients remained in a sitting position for at least 2 min until they were brought into lithotomy position for biopsy. We measured expansion of the sensory and motor block, evaluated times to walk, void and being eligible for discharge, and determined the demand of analgesics.

Results and Discussion: 101/103 patients were available for analysis. The performance of the biopsy was possible in all patients. The mean total time in operating room was 42 ±11 min. Two patients received 24 mg of prilocaine, and the rest of patients received 20 mg. The maximal expansion of the sensory block was to the T12 dermatome in 13; T11 in 7; T10 in 9; L5 in 12; L4 in 13; L3 in 6; L2 in 4; L1 in 17 patients and below S5 in 20 patients. The motor block was Bromage score 0: in 74; 1: in 18; 2 in 5 and 3: in 4 patients. Hypotension and bradycardia requiring treatment occurred in 6 and 4 patients respectively. The mean time when patients were discharged was: 70 ± 21 min. Thirteen patients experienced urinary retention that was resolved with single in and out evacuation.

Conclusion: Hyperbaric prilocaine can be applied in dosages of 20 mg for MR-UF guided prostate biopsy. Because of sufficient analgesia, missing motor block and shorter recovery times, hyperbaric prilocaine can be recommended for outpatient MR-UF guided prostate biopsy.
02AP02-08
Hospital readmissions after ambulatory surgery

C. Peixoto de Sousa1, P. Martins Lima2, A. Lídia Rouxinol-Dias2, E. Moreira2, E. Carneiro2
1Centro Hospitalar Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Anesthesiology Department, Vila Real, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar e Universitário São João, Anesthesiology Department, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: There are important advantages of ambulatory surgery when compared to inpatient surgeries, such as reductions in waiting times, hospital costs and the risk of nosocomial infection. Ambulatory surgery advantages dissolve in cases in which an emergency occurs, or an unplanned hospital admission is required. The purpose of this study is to determine the readmission rate and respective reasons within 30 days after ambulatory surgery at a major ambulatory surgical center.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study was carried out, including patients admitted to the ambulatory surgical service of a tertiary Portuguese hospital, from January 2019 to December 2020. All unplanned readmissions were identified through databases and registers.

The unplanned hospital readmissions were categorized as emergency room visits, re-interventions or inpatient admissions. Fisher’s exact tests was used for statistical analysis using IBM SPSS v28.

Results and Discussion: Of a total of 15014 outpatient elective procedures, 83 (0.6%) resulted in unplanned admissions, corresponding to 39 (47.0%) unplanned inpatient admission, 23 (27.7%) re-interventions and 21 (25.3%) emergency room visits - 19 (90.5%) for uncontrolled postoperative pain, 1 (4.8%) surgical site hemorrhage, 1 spontaneous pneumothorax.

Of the procedures that resulted in unplanned hospital readmission, 38 (45.8%) were of general surgery, 17 (20.5%) of orthopedic surgery, 11 (9.6%) of vascular surgery and 10 (8.8%) of gynecology. Unplanned readmission rate was significantly higher in general surgery (2.0% vs 0.3%, p<0.001) compared to other specialties. Among general surgery procedures, breast surgery (8 out of 109, 7.3%) and laparoscopic cholecystectomy (12 out of 202, 5.9%) presented significantly higher readmission rates, compared to other procedures (p<0.001).

Conclusion: Unplanned readmission rate in our hospital is low and is mainly related to general surgery procedures. Uncontrolled postoperative pain represents most of the urgency services attendance motive.

02AP02-09
A prospective randomized controlled monocentric study comparing digital sedation versus intravenous sedation among patients undergoing colonoscopy

C. Knauf1, J. Mortier1, A. Gilbeau1, D. Blero1, T. Tuna1
1ULB, Medicine, Bruxelles, Belgium

Background and Purpose: This trial evaluates performance of colonoscopy using Digital Sedation (DS) with Oncomfort Sedakit™ device as primary outcome, compared to intravenous sedation (IVS).

This study evaluates, inter alia, safety, drug sparing, patient experience as secondary outcomes. It may facilitate the screening of colorectal cancer, improving patients comfort and lowering anxiety.

Methods: This prospective RCT started after approval of the ethical committee. Adult patients scheduled for screening or diagnostic colonoscopy under IVS were recruited after providing their written informed consent. Patients with known intestinal disease, low auditory or visual acuity, head or face wounds, schizophrenia, dizziness, non-proficiency in French or Dutch were excluded. 90 patients were randomized (2:1) between two arms: DS group (n=60), with rescue IVS (propofol) if needed and IVS group (n=30). ECG, NIBP and SpO2 were used. In both groups, IVS started with doses of 1 μg/ml to 6 μg/ml (TCI – Schnider model) and titrated incrementally by 0.5μg/ml. Doses were adapted according to the observed level of comfort and patient’s need.

The primary outcome was the cecal intubation rate to confirm feasibility and performance of DS. Secondary outcomes were patient experience measured by VAS and Likert scale, need for rescue IVS, average drug consumption, frequency of adverse events and physicians experience. Means, standard deviations, frequency values and ratio values were used for descriptive statistics.

Results: There was no significant difference between groups for cecal intubation. In the DS group, rate of rescue IVS was 63.6% and there was a significant reduction of total dose of propofol (mg/kg) in the DS group as compared to IVS (1.15 vs 4.41, P<0.0001). Patients in the DS group experienced higher pain and lower comfort (P<0.0001). Nevertheless 80% of them recommend DS. Time spent in the recovery room was significantly shorter (P<0.05).

There was no difference between groups for apnea episodes, desaturation episodes and adverse events. Evaluation by the anesthesiologists was lower in the DS group (P<0.05) and stress was significantly higher (P<0.05).

Conclusion: DS is a suitable and effective alternative to IVS. Despite a relatively high rate of rescue IVS and a lower general comfort for patients and anesthesiologists during the procedure, which can be explained by apprehension of this new technology, there is a benefit in terms of drugs sparing and recovery.
Our application of neuronavigation guided deep cervical plexus block for postoperative analgesia in two cases

O. Sarban1, E. Mendes1, Ö. Adıyeka1, F Gümüş Özcan1
1Basaksehir Cam ve Sakura City Hospital, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey

Background: Deep cervical plexus block (dCPB) can be used for analgesia of head and neck surgeries. In this case report, we aimed to share our experience of dCPB with neuronavigation guidance in addition to ultrasound (USG) to increase the safety of block.

Case report: 42 years old male patient, scheduled for radical mastoidectomy and a 58-year-old male patient, scheduled for subtotal temporal bone resection due to squamous cell carcinoma without any known additional disseases were taken to the operating table. In supine position under general anesthesia, 3-dimensional (3-D) images of tumors and target areas of dCPB were marked within 0.2-millimeter margin of error with help of neuronavigation according to MRI and CT images.

Under the guidance of marked point, USG guided dCPB was applied from the C3 level with 8 mL of 0.25% bupivacaine preoperatively. Patients were extubated after surgeries and transferred to service. The Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) scores of the patients within postoperative 24 hours period were recorded. Patients were questioned for chronic pain after 2 months. No complications were observed.

Discussion: Technological advances have increased safety and accuracy for many procedures. Although, clinical studies are needed to claim, we believe with additional guidance methods to increase safety, dCPB or any other nerve blocks will be preferred more.

References:
03AP01-03
Dual-site nerve blocks for elbow surgery
T. Al-Ani1, L. Inglis1
1Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Anaesthetic Department, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background: Combining regional anaesthesia blocks at different anatomical locations targeting the same nerves supplying the surgical site may improve the success, and speed of onset of surgical anaesthesia, prolong block time and prevent the need for rescue blocks or conversion to general anaesthesia. Although the evidence is scarce, few combination techniques have been described in the literature for elbow surgery, including interscalene and axillary brachial plexus block, supraclavicular and axillary brachial plexus block [1]. This case report describes a novel approach of combining supraclavicular and infraclavicular brachial plexus block for elbow surgery in a high-risk patient.

Case report: A 63-year-old patient with a known difficult airway required surgery for open reduction and internal fixation of a complex left elbow fracture. The patient was unfit to have general anaesthetic due to an undiagnosed cardiac condition leading to arrhythmias and loss of consciousness, which caused her hospital admission and elbow fracture.

The patient was under cardiologist care in the perioperative period. The cardiology team requested a 24-hour ECG that revealed sinus arrhythmias with heavy ventricular and supraventricular ectopic burden and an echo, which showed moderate LV impairment with septal hypokinesia-akinesia with normal plasma troponin levels.

After consenting and agreeing to the anaesthetic technique, the patient was transferred to the theatre and connected to appropriate anaesthesia monitoring. Then, an ultrasound-guided infraclavicular block, supraclavicular and axillary brachial plexus block [1]. Any adverse event was reported during recovering phase and the patient comfort, allowing outpatient surgery and avoid general anesthesiology complications.

Discussion: As the brachial plexus was part of the surgical approach and necessity of neuromuscular monitoring it has made regional anaesthesia more complex. Therefore a continuous cervical ESPB was chosen for perioperative pain management, aiming decreased use of opioid, sensory block only and postoperative analgesia.

Learning Points: Combined supraclavicular and infraclavicular brachial plexus block for elbow surgery is a safe technique and may improve block efficacy compared with single site block.

References:

03AP01-04
Awake spine surgery in a lung hypoplasia patient: a case report
S. Costa Santos1, H. Silva1, J. Borba1, T. Nascimento Cabral1, J. Borges1, A. Paiva1
1Hospital do Divino Espírito Santo, Anestesiologia, Ponta Delgada, Portugal

Pulmonary hypoplasia is a rare anomaly in which gross morphology of the lung is preserved, but there is a decrease in number or size of airways, vessels, and alveoli. Consequently, there is an enlargement of the contralateral lung. This compensation often results in a more fragile tissue with abnormal blood flow. Therefore, anesthetic management for these patients often poses a challenge, especially if there are other comorbidities. Intermittent positive pressure ventilation (IPPV) increases the risk of barotrauma, pneumothorax and interstitial emphysema on the unaffected side.

As a result, a lung protective strategy with low tidal volume and increased respiratory rate are recommended. Additionally, airway resistance can be increased, requiring higher peak pressure to overcome resistance and prevent shunting and hypoxemia. Moreover, positioning of a patient intraoperatively is also an important factor to consider.

A 54-year-old male, ASA III, diagnosed with L4-S1 discal hernia, was scheduled for endoscopic lumbar decompression. His past medical history included previous open L4-L5 discectomy, hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia and obesity (BMI 41 kg/m2). He had been diagnosed with hypoplasia of the right lung in his teenage years, without other developmental defects.

The patient was placed in prone position and the adequacy of the contralateral lung. This compensation often results in a more fragile tissue with abnormal blood flow. As a result, a lung protective strategy with low tidal volume and increased respiratory rate are recommended. Additionally, airway resistance can be increased, requiring higher peak pressure to overcome resistance and prevent shunting and hypoxemia. Moreover, positioning of a patient intraoperatively is also an important factor to consider.

A 54-year-old male, ASA III, diagnosed with L4-S1 discal hernia, was scheduled for endoscopic lumbar decompression. His past medical history included previous open L4-L5 discectomy, hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia and obesity (BMI 41 kg/m2). He had been diagnosed with hypoplasia of the right lung in his teenage years, without other developmental defects.

The patient consented, a median subarachnoid block at L2-L3 level was performed with hyperbaric bupivacaine 0,5% 12,5 mg and sufentanyl 2,5 mcg.

The patient was placed in prone position and the adequacy of block for surgery was tested before the incision, following sedation with propofol infusion. Oxygen was administered via nasal cannula at 2Lmin⁻¹. Surgery lasted 130 minutes and was uneventful. The patient remained hemodynamically stable during the whole procedure and at the end of it, he was transferred to post-anesthesia care unit.

Any adverse event was reported during recovering phase and the patient was safely discharged home in less than 24h post-procedure, with adequate pain control and sensory-motor block reversal.

Regarding the side effects of general anesthesia and IPPV, neuraxial anesthesia has been explored as alternative to overcome the challenges faced with ventilating a patient with pulmonary hypoplasia. Moreover, in minimally invasive procedures for lower spine surgery, subarachnoid anesthesia has gained popularity due to improved patient comfort, allowing outpatient surgery and avoid general anesthesia complications.

Discussion: As the brachial plexus was part of the surgical approach and necessity of neuromuscular monitoring it has made regional anaesthesia more complex. Therefore a continuous cervical ESPB was chosen for perioperative pain management, aiming decreased use of opioid, sensory block only and postoperative analgesia.

Learning Points: Combined supraclavicular and infraclavicular brachial plexus block for elbow surgery is a safe technique and may improve block efficacy compared with single site block.

References:
03AP01-05
Use of Bilateral Brachial Plexus (BP) catheters via costoclavicular approach with Programmed Intermittent Boluses (PIB) of Local Anaesthesia (LA) for analgesia, sympatholysis and improved graft survival following complex microsurgical repair of damaged structures in both hands

S.M. Leong¹, E.S.R. Tan², S. Das De³, S.J. Sebastin², X.L.D. Khoo¹
¹National University Hospital, Anaesthesia, Singapore, Singapore, ²National University Hospital, Hand & Reconstructive Microsurgery, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Complex hand injuries and surgical repair pose challenges for analgesia and graft survival. Regional anaesthesia (RA) may improve outcomes by providing vasodilatation, sympatholysis and analgesia. The costoclavicular space for brachial plexus catheter placement enables LA spread to all three cords.¹ We describe the use of a multimodal regime incorporating PIB of LA via bilateral costoclavicular catheters to achieve opioid-sparing analgesia and optimise flap survival of both hands post-operatively.

Case report: A 41-year-old man sustained bilateral open hand blast injuries following a firecracker explosion. Extensive repair including nerve graftings and free flap transfers were planned. Costoclavicular catheters were placed under ultrasound guidance and ropivacaine 0.2% 25ml was deposited to each side prior to general anaesthesia. Surgery lasted for 12 hours with top ups of 5ml each side hourly after the 4 hour mark from catheter insertion. Post-operatively, he had oral paracetamol, etoricoxib, tramadol, gabapentin and oxycodone, with delivery of PIB 5ml ropivacaine 0.2% hourly to each side. Numeric pain scores at rest were 0-1 and 2-4 on movement. Breakthrough doses of oxycodone 5mg were between 1-4 per day while the catheters were in-situ (total 4 days). Opioids were tapered off after catheter removal. Occupational therapy was well tolerated and he was very satisfied with the analgesia regime. There were no adverse complications. The surgeons were pleased with the aesthetics and functional outcome of both hands.

Discussion: The use of RA enabled complex surgery without high dose opioids. Bilateral BP catheters are rarely used due to potential issues such as risks of pneumothorax and LA toxicity. However, careful placement of costoclavicular catheters with optimal LA titration can harness the benefits of RA without complications and avoid side effects of high opioid use. Sympatholysis and vasodilatation from RA may contribute positively to the viability of free flaps.

Reference:

Learning Points: PIB of LA via costoclavicular catheters as part of multimodal analgesia is a feasible method for providing excellent pain control, ensuring tissue survival and facilitating rehabilitation following complex upper limb reconstructions.

03AP01-07
Regional anesthesia for supracondylar amputation in a frail patient – case report

C. Domingues¹, L. Gonçalves¹, L. Gonçalves¹, E. Valente¹
¹Centro Hospitalar de Leiria, Anestesiologia, Leiria, Portugal

Background: Frailty is a multidimensional condition characterized by loss of functional reserve, which results in increased vulnerability to adverse outcomes following surgery.¹-² Its prevalence increases with age and can reach more than 50% in patients above 85 years.¹-² As the population ages, frailty will be increasingly seen in surgical patients receiving anesthesia and appropriate anesthetic plans should be designed to fit the patient needs and improve their outcome.

Case report: Woman, aged 87 years, ASA IV, proposed for urgent supracondylar amputation of the left lower limb due to acute ischemia. Relevant medical history included poorly controlled diabetes mellitus, decompensated chronic kidney disease, auricular fibrillation, congestive heart failure and dementia. The patient was monitored under ASA standard. Mild sedation was achieved with 2 mg midazolam and 25 μg fentanyl. Ultrasound-guided left femoral and sciatic blockades were performed with 0.5% ropivacaine (20 mL each). After 15 minutes, the blockades were tested and deemed adequate for surgery. The patient remained stable throughout the surgery (30 minutes) and in the post-anesthesia care unit.

No complications were documented in the perioperative period. Adequate post-operative analgesia was achieved with scheduled paracetamol and metamizole. The patient was discharged 5 days after surgery, without complications.

Discussion: There is no significant evidence to support a single best anesthetic plan for frail patients.¹-² Anesthetic management will depend on surgical requirements and patient comorbidities. While general anesthesia can affect cardiovascular, pulmonary and cerebral functions, neuraxial anesthesia is associated with hypotension and potential complications (including epidural hematoma, infection and post-dural puncture headache).¹

In this case, regional anesthesia was adequate for the surgery and contributed to post-operative analgesia.³-⁵

References:

Learning points: Frail patients are highly vulnerable to physiologic changes in the perioperative period and frailty-specific anesthetic plans are required to minimize these changes should be advocated.
Pneumothorax following shoulder arthroscopy and interscalene block. A case report

R. Saz Castro¹, A. Camarón Menéndez², S. Gholamian Ovejero¹, P. Sánchez Zamora¹, A.C. Orozco Vinasco¹, S. Arenas Fernández¹
¹Hospital Severo Ochoa Madrid, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Leganes, Spain

Background: Interscalene brachial plexus block provides adequate anesthesia and postoperative analgesia for shoulder procedures¹. Pneumothorax is a rare complication described after shoulder arthroscopy with or without interscalene block.

Case report: A 31-year-old man underwent left shoulder arthroscopy due to a glenoid lesion. General anesthesia combined with interscalene plexus block in-plane ultrasound (US) guided is performed, 50mg of bupivacaine was injected. Afterwards, during anesthetic awakening, ventilatory assistance is required due to desaturation. After extubation, was maintained SatO2 92% with a 50% venturi mask and mild dyspnea. In post-anesthesia resuscitation unit, auscultation reveals absence of breath sounds and US shows absence of pleural sliding, barcode sign and lung point sign, diagnosis of pneumothorax. A chest tube is placed.

Discussion: Interscalene block was first described in 1970 by Winnie. It has been shown to improve postoperative pain control, decrease hospital stay, and optimize the outpatient surgery. Complications, although infrequent, can be potentially serious, including pneumothorax (0.2-3%)¹. Pneumothorax is a complication with low incidence after shoulder arthroscopy whether or not interscalene block is performed. Multiple risk factors have been described such as: patient position, pulmonary hyperinflation due to smoking or asymptomatic pleural bulge, interscalene block, prolonged surgical time, size of the rotator cuff tears and the pressure of the irrigation system.

The use of US has increased the safety of performing nerve blocks, reducing complications. The high sensitivity compared with chest X-ray and similar specificity make US the best technique to assess the extent of pneumothorax.

Chest x ray with pneumothorax

Stratosphere sign in US

Reference:

Learning points: Pneumothorax should be suspected in case of desaturation and dyspnea after shoulder arthroscopy with or without interscalene block. US is the best technique for diagnosis.

Combination of ultrasound-guided infraclavicular and intercostobrachial nerve block for surgical anaesthesia of an open low transcondylar humerus fracture in a patient with end-stage COPD

F.V. Lukács¹, J. Lőrincz², S. Rugonfalvi-Kiss³
¹Medical Centre, Hungarian Defence Forces, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Budapest, Hungary

Background: Ipsilateral phrenic nerve blockade is a common adverse event after blockade of the brachial plexus above the clavicle, which can result in respiratory deterioration in patient with preexisting pulmonary condition. The following case study is to demonstrate the phrenic nerve sparing potential and effectiveness of blocks below the clavicle as an anaesthetic method in an elderly patient with severe COPD, who suffered an open humerus fracture.

Case Report: A 80 year old male, ASA IV patient has had suffered a low transcondylar fracture of the humerus. He had severe COPD (GOLD D, FEV1 < 20%) with bullous emphysema, considering these, traumatologists decided to treat it conservatively. Six weeks later the broken humerus cut through the skin, resulted in an open fracture.

On presentation he had tachypnoe without dyspnoe at rest, SpO2 88% on room air, constantly using his auxiliary respiratory muscles. The surgical plan was a bicolumnar plate fixation through a combined medial and lateral approach on the distal two-third of the humerus in three hours in a supine position.

Our aim was to carry out surgical anaesthesia avoiding general anaesthesia, positive pressure ventilation and phrenic nerve palsy. After assessing anatomical landmarks and Ultrasound (US) anatomy we decided to chose a single shot US-guided infraclavicular block with 20 mL of bupivacaine 0.4% with 2 mcg/mL adrenaline as adjuvant and an additional intercostobrachial nerve block with 4 mL lidocaine 1% and 8 mg of iv dexamethasone (1).

For rescue analgesia we performed US-guided axillary nerve block. The blocks provided complete analgesia with intact diaphragmatic movement on US.

On ABG was no sign of CO2 retention, so we used a high-flow nasal cannula oxygen supply with low FiO2 during the operation in order to avoid the use of CPAP, NIV. Sedation with fractionally given low dose clonidine and ketamin boluses were administered during the procedure. The sedation recorded at -1 evaluated using RASS scale. He had no pain during the 3 hours long operation, pulse rate, SpO2, BP were stable.

Discussion: Our regional technique resulted in a safe and effective anaesthesia in a high risk patient with potential hazardous consequences of narcosis.

References:

Learning Points: US-guided infraclavicular block was phrenic nerve sparing and effective, with this alternative method we were able to avoid the positive pressure ventilation in a high risk patient.
Two probable cases of unintended subdural block following a subarachnoid injection

R. Noversa¹, L. Rodrigues¹, I. Goveia¹, C. Santos¹, A.P. Ferreira¹, S. Coelho¹
¹Hospital Pedro Hispano, Anesthesiology, Matosinhos, Portugal

Background: Subdural block remains an underdiagnosed complication of neuroaxial anesthesia and is more frequently described after attempted epidural anesthesia. It can have a variable presentation and radiological confirmation is not always feasible nor needed. We present two cases of probable subdural block after spinal anesthesia.

Case Report: A 38-year-old woman, 39 weeks pregnant, ASA II, was admitted for an elective cesarean under sequential combined spinal epidural anesthesia. This technique was performed in sitting position at L3-L4 interspace. 11mg of hyperbaric bupivacaine 0.5% were administered intrathecally and the patient was held in supine position. A few seconds later, she complained of asymmetrical weakness of the upper limbs and had hypotension and bradycardia. She had lower body sensory block as expected, but no motor block at this level. It was possible to perform the procedure. Epidural catheter was removed. She was fully recovered after 3h.

A 60-year-old female, ASA II, diagnosed with avascular necrosis of the femoral head, was scheduled for total hip arthroplasty. We performed an analgesic ultrasound-guided lateral femoral cutaneous plus a femoral nerve block and a paramedian subarachnoid block at L3-L4 level with 9 mg of isobaric bupivacaine 0.5% and 2mcg of sufentanil.

After 20 minutes, the patient presented with a patchy block, maintaining thermal sensitivity at L5 level, without any type of sensitivity in the upper levels, kept mobility of the foot but was unable to flex the knee. Furthermore, she kept pain during the abduction of the leg. Conversion to general anesthesia was decided. During the procedure, she had significant hypotension. She was safely discharged from the post-anesthesia care unit 1 hour after surgery only with sensory-motor block in the area of the peripheral nerves blocked.

Discussion: Both cases show an atypical spinal anesthesia and some usual and unusual presentations of subdural block that have already been described in literature. It is known that differences could be related to anatomical variations and to the amount of drug actually injected into de subdural space. Both of them had a favorable outcome, without any major adverse event, such as loss of conscience nor respiratory depression.

Reference:

Learning Points: The differential diagnosis of a possible subdural block should be considered in cases of atypical spinal anesthesia.
03AP02-03 Comparison of peripheral nerve block versus spinal anaesthesia in foot or ankle surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis of RCTs with trial sequential analysis

M. Lee1, C. Lee2, H. Kang3
1 Konkuk University Chungju Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Chungju, Republic of Korea, 2 Wonkwang University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Iksan, Republic of Korea, 3 Chungang University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: The purpose of this study was to perform a systematic review and meta-analysis of RCTs with trial sequential analysis (TSA) examining perioperative outcomes following peripheral nerve blocks (PNBs) and Spinal anesthesia (SA) during elective foot and ankle surgery.

Materials and Methods: We registered it in the PROSPERO network (CRD42021229597). Two investigators independently performed searches in the PubMed, EMBASE, and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials databases on 28 June 2021 and updated it through weekly e-mail alert. The primary outcome was the pain scores during surgery and postoperative period.

The secondary outcomes were the block performance time, patient satisfaction, postoperative analgesic requirements, adverse effect such as hypotension, bradycardia, post dural puncture headache (PDPH), conversion to general anesthesia, urinary retention.

Results and Discussion: This meta-analysis of 8 RCTs, including 745 patients (of whom 372 patients were performed PNBs and 373 patients were performed spinal anesthesia) demonstrated that block performance time (WMD: 7.470; 95% CI 6.072 to 8.868; I² = 88.66), onset of sensory (WMD: 5.098; 95% CI 0.783 to 9.414; I² = 99.58) and motor block (WMD: 7.80; 95% CI 2.78 to 12.83; I² = 98.98), duration of sensory and motor block were significantly shorter, and SBP at 30 min and DBP at 30 min were significantly lower in the SA group compared to PNB group.

In these outcomes, cumulative Z curve crossed the trial sequential monitoring boundary, which suggested the results of TSA were reached a sufficient level of evidence, therefore conclusive. Also, this meta-analysis showed that PNB was associated with the reduction of postoperative analgesic requirements, incidence of hypotension and vasoactive medication, decrease of HR at 30 min. This meta-analysis and trial sequential analysis.

Conclusion(s): Block performance time, onset of sensory and motor block, duration of sensory and motor block were significantly shorter, and SBP at 30 min and DBP at 30 min were significantly lower in the SA group compared to PNB group.

03AP02-05 Postoperative coagulopathy and epidural catheter removal practices: an audit

K. Keerthana1, A. Chatterjee1
1 Tata Memorial Hospital, Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain, Mumbai, India

Background and Goal of Study: Major oncological surgeries and associated significant perioperative blood loss results in immediate postoperative coagulopathy, which may extend beyond 4th postoperative day and complicate epidural catheter removal. We therefore planned the study with the aim of reviewing the practices of epidural catheter removal in such patients at our hospital. The primary aim of our study was to identify the percentage of patients with deranged coagulation profile in the postoperative period potentially delaying/interfering with epidural catheter removal.

Materials and Methods: Study Design: Prospective observational study

Ethics: Approval from hospital IEC

Registration: Clinical Trial Registry of India CTRI/2021/01/030571 [Registered on: 19/01/2021]

Statistics and Analysis of Variables: Descriptive analysis was performed to identify distribution of variables under study. Normal distribution of the values was tested using the Kolmogorov–Smirnov test and homogeneity of variance was tested using Levene’s test. The primary endpoint analysis was done using descriptive statistics frequency and percentage with 95% confidence interval.

Results: Seventy four patients (23.4%) had deranged coagulation in the immediate postoperative period which could potentially delay epidural catheter removal and increase risk for an epidural hematoma. Sixty (19%) patients with deranged INR received Vitamin K to correct the coagulation parameters and 10 (3.16%) patients were transfused blood products to correct coagulation prior to epidural catheter removal.

A TEG was performed in 12 (3.8%) patients to evaluate the clotting process and help guide transfusion of blood products prior to epidural catheter removal. Median epidural catheter in-situ days was 4 (IQR: 0-6) and over 90% of the epidurals removed by 4th postoperative day. Median blood loss was 1000 ml (IQR: 650 - 1800).

In our study 1 (0.3%) patient had a documented epidural hematoma (on postoperative day 3 with epidural in situ) which was immediately evacuated surgically (in 6-8 hours) with subsequent improvement of motor function.

Conclusion(s): Following major oncological surgeries, we found that 1/5th of patients had a deranged coagulation profile which potentially increases risk of epidural hematoma as well delay in epidural removal, risking infection and epidural abscess. Viscoelastic tests may have a role in guiding epidural catheter removal but requires further evaluation with high quality large studies.
Axillary brachial plexus block for hand surgery: Peripheral nerve block top-ups, local anaesthetic mix and adjuncts

M. Shumeyko1, T. Al-Ani1
1Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Department of Anaesthesia, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Regional anaesthetists frequently mix local anaesthetic (LA) solutions, add adjuncts or perform peripheral nerve block top-ups to improve the speed of onset and extend the sensorimotor block effects. However, are these techniques effective in clinical practice?

This service evaluation project aims to answer this question by analysing the anaesthetic practice of performing axillary brachial plexus block for hand surgery.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective data were collected from anaesthetic charts and electronic records between June 2020 and May 2022. Fifty-two patients who underwent axillary plexus block for hand surgery were included. The following data were collected: (A) the type of LA solution and adjuncts used, (B) whether peripheral nerve block top-ups (median, ulnar, radial) were performed or not. These were analysed against the following outcomes: (1) total anaesthetic time, (2) intraoperative and postoperative analgesic opioid requirements, and (3) length of stay in the recovery unit and hospital stay. All data were found to be non-parametric and were analysed with Kruskal-Wallis and Mann-Whitney U tests.

Results and Discussion: There is no statistically significant difference in median anaesthetic time between the LA solutions, other than 0.5% levobupivacaine/1% lidocaine being longer than others (Figure 1).

There is no statistically significant difference found in intraoperative (p=0.87) or postoperative (p=0.43) analgesic opioid requirement, nor in time spent in the recovery unit and hospital stay when comparing the different LA solutions. There is no statistically significant difference (p=0.2) in the anaesthetic time between patients receiving peripheral nerve block top-ups (40min) versus no top-ups (35min).

Conclusion: The 0.5% levobupivacaine/1% lidocaine mix resulted in a longer anaesthetic time. Otherwise, no other statistically significant differences were detected within the above-measured parameters.

Effects of the eighth cervical nerve root block performed during interscalene brachial plexus block on the surgical anesthesia in the posterior aspect of the shoulder in patients undergoing arthroscopic shoulder surgery

J. Kim1, C.H. Choi2, E. Kim3, S.Y. Lee1, E. Choi1, W. Jo1
1Daegu Catholic University School of Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Republic of Korea, 2Daegu Catholic University School of Medicine, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Daegu, Republic of Korea, 3College of Medicine, Hanyang University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Posterior portal placement during arthroscopic shoulder surgery causes pain in patients receiving conventional interscalene brachial plexus block (ISBPB) because it does not block the C8 nerve root innervating the posterior aspect of the shoulder.

We hypothesized that adding a C8 nerve root block to the conventional ISBPB targeting C5-to-C7 nerve roots would reduce pain upon posterior portal placement.

Materials and Methods: In this prospective, single-blinded, parallel-group, randomized controlled trial, patients were randomized to receive either C5-to-C7 (C5-7 group, n=37) or C5-to-C8 nerve root block (C5-8 group, n=36) with 25-30 ml of 0.75% ropivacaine. The primary outcome was the pain intensity upon posterior portal placement, which was graded as 0 (no pain), 1 (mild pain), or 2 (severe pain).

The secondary outcomes were bilateral pupil diameters measured 30 minutes after ISBPB placement; the incidence of Horner’s syndrome defined as an ipsilateral-minus-contralateral difference in pupil diameter < -0.5 mm; the onset of postoperative pain; postoperative numerical rating pain scores, where 0 and 10 represent no pain and the worst pain imaginable, respectively.

Results and Discussion: Less pain upon posterior portal placement was reported in the C5-8 group than in the C5-7 group (median [IQR], 0 [0-0.75] versus 1 [0-1], median difference [95% CI], 1
More patients reported no pain upon posterior portal placement in the C5-8 group than in the C5-7 group (27/36 [75.0%] versus 13/37 [35.1%], P=0.003). The incidence of Horner’s syndrome was higher in the C5-8 group than in the C5-7 group (33/36 [91.7%] versus 22/37 [59.5%], P=0.001). No significant differences were found between the two groups regarding postoperative numerical rating pain scores and the onset of postoperative pain.

**Conclusion(s):** C5-to-C8 nerve root block during ISBPB reduces the pain intensity upon posterior portal placement. However, it increases the incidence of Horner’s syndrome with no improvement of postoperative pain compared to the conventional ISBPB (C5-to-C7 nerve root block).

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**03AP02-08**

The influence of anterior quadratus lumborum block for robot-assisted partial nephrectomy on postoperative quadriceps strength: a prospective observational study

Y Kadoya1, N. Tanaka1, T. Suzuka1, T. Yamanaka1, M. Iwata2, M. Kawaguchi1

1Nara Medical University, Anaesthesiology, Kashihara, Japan, 2Yamatotakada Municipal Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Yamatotakada, Japan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Previous reports claimed that quadratus lumborum block (QLB) caused a decrease in quadriceps strength; however, quantitative evaluation on muscle strength is yet to be applied. We designed this prospective observational study to investigate the incidence of quadriceps weakness after anterior QLB by quantifying the strength with a handheld dynamometer.

**Materials and Methods:** After Institutional Review Board approval (No. 2777) and registration (UMIN000042112), we enrolled patients undergoing robot-assisted partial nephrectomy. In all patients, anterior QLB was performed at the L2 level with 30 mL of 0.375% ropivacaine under general anaesthesia. We evaluated maximal voluntary isometric contraction (MVIC) of each quadriceps using a handheld dynamometer (MT-100, Sakai Medical Co., Ltd., Japan) before surgery, and at postoperative days (POD) 1 and 4. We investigated the incidence of muscle weakness, defined as a 25% MVIC reduction compared to preoperative baseline, and also defined “MVIC reduced possibly by nerve block” as a 25% MVIC reduction compared to that of the non-block side. In addition, we assessed numerical rating scale (NRS) and quality of recovery-15 (QoR-15) scores at the same time points as the muscle strength measurements.

**Results and Discussion:** Of 38 included participants between November 2020 and June 2022, 8 were excluded due to refusal to undergo the postoperative muscle evaluation. The number of cases with no muscle weakness on POD 1 was 21 out of 30 (70%). Of the nine cases with muscle weakness on POD 1, four showed an over 25% decrease in MVIC compared to the non-block side (Figure), 7 cases (77.8%) had NRS≤4, and 7 cases (77.8%) had QoR-15≤121, which is classified as moderate or poor. All nine cases ambulated within 24 h after surgery. These results showed that the main causes of muscle weakness include postoperative pain and recovery; however, we also hypothesized that four of the cases may have been affected by the anterior QLB.

**Conclusion(s):** In our study, the incidence of quadriceps weakness after QLB was 30%, and 13.3% may have been affected by anterior QLB; however, all of them were able to ambulate on POD1.

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**03AP02-09**

Could addition of ultrasound-guided carotid sheath block to superficial cervical plexus block prolong postoperative analgesia in patients undergoing carotid endarterectomy?

A. Kruc1, L. Ljovics1, M. Škrtić1, I. Pažur1, T. Radočaj1

1University Hospital Centre Sestre Milosrdnice, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Carotid endarterectomy (CEA) is a common procedure performed under regional anaesthesia providing monitoring of cerebral function in real time. Numerous techniques of regional cervical blocks exist but superficial cervical plexus block (SCB) is one most commonly used. The aim of this study was to compare regional anaesthesia using only superficial cervical plexus block with an ultrasound-guided carotid sheath block combined with superficial cervical plexus block for CEA.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients undergoing elective CEA surgery were randomly assigned into two groups: one received ultrasound-guided carotid sheath block and SCB (n=12) while another group received SCB only (n=18). Patients did not receive any premedication. All patients were ASA grade II and III and had invasive blood pressure monitoring with parameters noted every 5 minutes. Both groups received mixture of 2 mg/kg 0.5% levobupivacaine and 2 mg/kg 2% lidocaine supplemented with saline to a volume of 50 mL. The onset and duration of sensory block and time to first analgesia were recorded. Analgesia was measured using numeric pain rating scale (NPRS) every 2 hours, up to 12 hours after regional block was performed. A log-rank test was performed to compare a probability of NPRS≤3 during follow-up time, with results described as Kaplan-Meier curves.

**Results and Discussion:** Demographic data and surgical characteristics were comparable in both groups. Block onset time and duration of sensory block were not statistically different in both groups. Time to first analgesia was slightly higher in the group of patients receiving ultrasound-guided carotid sheath block with SCB (difference of medians 124 minutes), but the difference was
not statistically significant. Also, postoperative pain in the first 12 hours described as a probability of NPRS ≤ 3 was more prominent in patients having received only superficial cervical plexus block (66.6% as opposed to 58.3%), but log-rank test showed no significant difference.

**Conclusion(s):** Our early research data do not show benefits of addition of ultrasound-guided carotid sheath block in prolonged postoperative analgesia i.e., time to first analgesia. However, a larger sample size is needed for better statistical power to confirm whether the use of ultrasound-guided technique could prove more beneficial in prolonging postoperative analgesia and sensory block duration time.

**03AP02-11**  
Analgesic effect and safety of programmed intermittent bolus infusion concomitant with serratus anterior plane block for minimally invasive cardiac surgery: a randomized, double-blind controlled trial

Y. Sato¹, M. Kumagai¹, Y. Kaho¹, S. Sugino¹, J. Ito², M. Yamauchi¹  
¹Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Sendai, Japan, ²Sendai Kousei Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Sendai, Japan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Minimally invasive cardiac surgery (MICS) is associated with fewer complications and faster recovery compared with median sternotomy. However, postoperative pain in the lateral intercostal region after MICS can negate its benefit. The serratus anterior plane block (SAPB) provides effective analgesia for thoracic surgery, and programmed intermittent bolus infusion (PIBI) with an SAPB may potentially be useful for post-MICS pain management.

In this study, we investigated the effects of PIBI with an SAPB on postoperative pain using post-MICS fentanyl administration. We also investigated the adverse effects and plasma concentrations of ropivacaine and fentanyl to determine the safety of analgesia.

**Materials and Methods:** The study included 20 patients randomly allocated to the SAPB and control groups. All patients underwent preoperative SAPB followed by catheter insertion. Participants in the SAPB group received a bolus of 20 mL 0.25% ropivacaine every 6 hours postoperatively, whereas those in the control group received a bolus of 20 mL saline. All participants received intravenous fentanyl via patient-controlled analgesia. Blood samples were obtained 10, 20, 30, and 60 min after preoperative ropivacaine infusion, during and after cardiopulmonary bypass and on postoperative day (POD) 1–5.

The primary outcome was the cumulative fentanyl usage up to POD5. We performed intergroup comparison of non-normally distributed data using the Wilcoxon test and of categorical variables using the Fisher exact test.

**Results and Discussion:** We observed no significant intergroup difference in cumulative fentanyl usage on POD5 (SAPB group: median [interquartile range] 512 μg [457–753] vs. control group: 654 μg [439–982], P=0.96). The plasma concentration of ropivacaine did not reach the threshold for systemic toxicity in any patient. The incidence of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) was significantly lower in the SAPB than in the control group (11% vs. 63%, P=0.05), and we observed no intergroup difference in the median plasma concentration of fentanyl on POD1 (P=0.82). Further studies are warranted to determine other etiologies contributing to the lower incidence of PONV in the SAPB group.

**Conclusions:** Compared with the control group, post-MICS fentanyl usage was not lower in patients who received PIBI with an SAPB. The plasma concentration of ropivacaine during PIBI with SAPB was below the toxic level.

**03AP02-12**  
Incidence and severity of post-dural puncture headache in patients undergoing subarachnoid block

L. Aniceto Gomes¹, L. Vieira Gonçalves¹, R. Soares Mateus¹, T. Santos¹, L. Gonçalves¹, E. Valente¹  
¹Centro Hospitalar de Leiria, Anestesiologia, Leiria, Portugal

**Background and Goal of Study:** Post-dural puncture headache (PDPH) is a complication of neuraxial (subarachnoid or epidural) block1. Its incidence ranges from 3-40% and is affected by different factors such as age, gender, needle size and shape, number of puncture attempts and history of headache. Due to the lack of data in the non-obstetric population, this study proposes to evaluate the incidence and severity of PDPH after subarachnoid block (SAB).

**Materials and Methods:** A prospective observational study was carried out in patients undergoing SAB during the last trimester of 2020. Data collected on the day of the procedure was: surgical specialty, elective or urgent surgery, gender, age, ASA status, previous history of headache, technique performer, needle type, needle caliber, number of punctures, positioning, median or paramedian, presence of blood in the skin or needle and presence of pain. The patients were evaluated at 48 hours and 7 days after the procedure and the following data was collected: presence of PDPH, location of headache, intensity of pain, associated symptoms, treatment of PDPH, symptoms after treatment and return to deambulation.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 143 patients were assessed (median age 62 years, 53% women). The incidence of PDPH 21.7% (n=31) and most PDPH cases occurred in female gender (n=20, 64.5%) and on an outpatient basis. When using 25G needles, the incidence of headache was 2.5 times higher compared to the use of 27G needles (71.0% versus 29.0%, respectively) and when using Quincke needles was twice as high when compared with Whitacre needles (64.5% versus 35.5%, respectively).

Regarding the intensity of the PDPH, the majority had a mild intensity 54.8% (n=17), 25 patients had frontal headache (86.6 %) and 15 with associated symptoms (48.4%). Of this sample, 8 patients (25.8%) already had a previous medical history of headache. The relationship between the group of PDPH showed a statistically significant difference when compared to the number of punctures, the age groups and history of previous headache.

**Conclusion:** More than 1 in 5 patients (21.7%) undergoing SAB in our non-obstetric population had PDPH. Female gender, history of headache, larger caliber and Quincke needle use is associated with higher incidence of PDPH.

**References:**
Learning curve to correct identification of the vertebral interspace for epidural puncture by ultrasound imaging validation

T. Mashima1,2, S. Sugino1, T. Tamii2, Y. Okada2, K. Kamata1, M. Yamauchi1
1Tohoku University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Sendai, Miyagi, Japan, 2Ishinomaki Red-Cross Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Ishinomaki, Miyagi, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Anaesthesiologists usually palpate the spinous processes and several landmarks such as the superior iliac crest or tip of the scapula to identify the target vertebral interspace for epidural puncture (landmark method). However, anaesthesiologists often fail the target interspace in puncture that rely solely on landmark identification. Ultrasonography application facilitates the success of epidural anaesthesia by improving the rate of correct identification of the vertebral level.

The aim of this study was to determine the difference in rates of correct vertebral level identification using ultrasound-assisted and conventional landmark methods and to determine the effectiveness of repeat ultrasound-assisted identification for improving landmark identification accuracy.

Materials and Methods: We enrolled 75 patients aged 20-90 years who underwent surgery in the period between September 2021 and November 2021. Each patient was placed in the lateral position on the operating table for epidural puncture. First, the anaesthesiologist identified the target vertebral interspace by the landmark method. This was further validated by using the ultrasound-assisted method. Briefly, using the Th12 vertebra, where the most caudal rib originates, the target vertebral interspace was identified by sliding the ultrasound probe in a parasagittal view. By using the two methods, we identified vertebral levels and measured number of vertebral interspaces from the Th12/L1 interspace. We used a cumulative sum (CUSUM) technique to analyse learning curve for identification of the vertebral level.

Results: In 21 (28%) of the 75 patients, the target interspaces determined by using the two methods were different. The landmark method incorrectly identified the target interspace caudally in 17 (23%) of the 75 patients. Figure 1 showed that the CUSUM of coincidence improved after a total of 30 cases.

Conclusions: Epidural puncture practitioners may benefit from training to identify the vertebral interspace with the aid of ultrasonography in the first 30 cases.

Plan A blocks course for anaesthetic trainees: adding extra teaching session on the management of unexpected or persistent postoperative neurological dysfunction following peripheral nerve block

C. Hall1, T. Al-Ani1, L. Inglis2
1Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Anaesthetic Department, Glasgow, United Kingdom, 2University of Dundee, Undergraduate, Dundee, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: RAUK, in collaboration with the British Society of Orthopaedic anaesthetists, has developed an algorithm to guide the management of unexpected or persistent neurological symptoms after peripheral nerve blocks and surgery [1]. This quality improvement project assesses anaesthetic trainees’ knowledge of the updated guidelines and introduces a teaching session covering this topic to an established Plan A blocks teaching programme.

Materials and Methods: A survey was submitted to anaesthetic trainees to test their awareness and knowledge of the current guidelines:
1. Do you know of any local/national pathways for the management of unexpected/persistent neurological dysfunction after peripheral nerve block?
2. Do you know what constitutes an urgent lesion and how to manage this?
Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Madrid, Spain

After administration of LA, an intense increment up to 33%, 153% significantly higher in animals in the B group, p=0.01. Fifteen minutes 345%), p=0.02 in R, L and B groups respectively. The effect was sig- 265%), p=0.018; and from 97±12ms to 431±22ms (Δ 148%), p=0.02 in R, L and B groups respectively. The effect was

The use-dependent effect at paced cycle length of 400ms increased Δ 75%), p=0.04; and from 75±13 to 184±38ms (Δ 148%), p=0.02 in R, L and B groups respectively. The effect was higher in the B group, p=0.009.

The use-dependent effect at paced cycle length of 400ms increased from 95±9ms to 347±78ms (Δ 265%), p=0.018; from 98±12ms to 372±52ms (Δ 280%), p=0.018; and from 97±8 to 431±22ms (Δ 345%), p=0.02 in R, L and B groups respectively. The effect was significantly higher in animals in the B group, p=0.01. Fifteen minutes after administration of LA, an intense increment up to 33%, 153% and 142% still persisted in the R, L and B groups respectively in stimulated QRS. However, QRS interval in sinus rhythm showed values in normal range.

Conclusions: R and L have a huge cardiotoxic effect that has been shown with rapid stimulation frequencies similar to bupivacaine. A hidden cardiotoxic phenomenon has been unmasked with all three anesthetics, that persists intensely even after 15 minutes. In accidental intoxication precaution should be maximized as well as avoiding sympathetic stimulation until cardiotoxicity parameters are completely restored.

03AP03-04
Study of the frequency-dependent cardiotoxicity of amide local anesthetics

J. Orallo1, L. Rodríguez1, I. Fernández1, Ó. Quintela1, S. Velázquez1, M. Zaballos1, HGUGM
1’Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The cardiotoxicity of local anesthetics (LA) is related to the inhibition of the fast inward sodium current during cardiac depolarization. Ropivacaine (R) and levobupiva- caine (L) are considered less cardiotoxic compared to bupivacaine (B).

However, several clinical reports have described severe complica- tions including arrhythmias, ventricular tachycardia and even cardiac arrest with their accidental administration. Our aim was to characterize and compare the frequency-dependent cardiotoxicity of R, B and L.

Materials and Methods: Twenty-one pigs were anesthetized and instrumentalized. Three quadripolar catheters were used for stimulation and intracardiac recordings, placed in the high right atrium, right ventricular apex, and in the His bundle recording area.

After stabilization, pacing was performed at 30 mA with a programmable stimulator. Right ventricular pacing was performed for at least 10 beats at a two basic cycle length of 400 and 500 ms. This pacing protocol was performed immediately before and at 1, 5, 10, 15 and 30 minutes of the administration of R (5 mg/Kg), L (4 mg/Kg), and B (4 mg/Kg).

Results and Discussion: LA induced an intense toxicity effect in sinu- ral rhythm as well as in stimulated rhythm. QRS interval in sinus rhythm increased from 68±5 to 114±24ms, (Δ 70%), p=0.018; from 71±7 to 120±20ms (Δ 75%), p=0.04; and from 75±13 to 184±38ms (Δ 148%), p=0.02 in R, L and B groups respectively. The effect was higher in the B group, p=0.009.

Post-operative pain and phantom limb pain follow-up are presented in Tables 2 and 3. We gathered data from patient anaesthesia forms and patient interview. We analyzed the data with IBM SPSS software. t-test was used.

03AP03-05
Effect of single shot femoral and sciatic nerve blocks, combined with general anaesthesia, in postoperative pain levels and phantom limb pain development in patients undergoing lower limb amputation

D. Katsaros1, M. Pilakouta-Depaskouale1, E. Koutsouli1, A. Dimakopoulou1
1’G. Gennimatas’ General Hospital of Athens, Anaesthesia, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Phantom limb syndrome and pain often presents in patients undergone lower limb amputation. Post- operative pain is common.

We studied the effect of femoral and sciatic nerve blocks, combined with general anaesthesia, in postoperative pain levels and phantom limb pain development in patients undergoing lower limb amputation.

Materials and Methods: 72 patients were included in the study. We included patients undergoing lower limb amputation 10cm cephalad or 10cm caudal of the knee, due to Peripheral Arterial Disease. We excluded patients with any form of dementia.

We assessed pain levels with numerical rating scale (NRS) 0-10. We assessed phantom limb pain with NRS, DN4 questionnaire and opioid use. Anaesthetic techniques used are described in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP A (N=35)</th>
<th>GROUP B (N=37)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDUCTION</strong></td>
<td><strong>INDUCTION</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>propofol 2mg/kg IV</td>
<td>propofol 2mg/kg IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10mcg fentanyl IV</td>
<td>10mcg fentanyl IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6mg/kg norcuronium IV</td>
<td>0.6mg/kg norcuronium IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAINTENANCE</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAINTENANCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sevoflurane 0.7 MAC</td>
<td>sevoflurane 0.7 MAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>remifentanil 0.02-0.12 mcg/kg/min</td>
<td>remifentanil 0.02-0.12 mcg/kg/min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NERVE BLOCK</strong></td>
<td><strong>NERVE BLOCK</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>femoral nerve block (5cm caudal of the femoral crease)</td>
<td>sciatic nerve block (classic posterior approach)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTRA-OPERATIVE</strong></td>
<td><strong>INTRA-OPERATIVE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.05mg/kg morphine IV</td>
<td>30mg ketamine IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30mg ketamine IV</td>
<td>4g MgSO4 IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4g MgSO4 IV</td>
<td>60mg clindamycin IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60mg clindamycin IV</td>
<td>1gr paracetamol IV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1gr paracetamol IV | 0.5% ropivacaine (15ml for femoral, 20ml for sciatic) with U/S guided technique. All patients from both groups received 1grX3 paracetamol IV for 3 days and 75mgX2 pregabalin P.O. from the first post-operative day through the end of the study period. Rescue analgesia: tramadol 100mg IV (max. 300mg/day).

Table 1. Anaesthetic techniques used
**Results and Discussion:** Pain levels and opioid use are presented in Table 2. Pain levels and opioid use were lower in Group B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GROUP A RESC. ANALG.</th>
<th>GROUP B RESC. ANALG.</th>
<th>GROUP A NRS (MEAN)</th>
<th>GROUP B NRS (MEAN)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAY 0</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAY 1</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAY 2</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAY 3</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Post-operative pain levels and opioid use.

Follow-up results are presented in Table 3. Pain levels, patients with DN4>4 and patients that used opioids >2/week was lower in Group B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GROUP A NRS&gt;3 (SUSTAINED FOR &gt;3H/DAY)</th>
<th>GROUP B NRS&gt;3 (SUSTAINED FOR &gt;3H/DAY)</th>
<th>GROUP A DN4&gt;4</th>
<th>GROUP B DN4&gt;4</th>
<th>GROUP A USE OF OPIOIDS &gt;2/WEEK</th>
<th>GROUP B USE OF OPIOIDS &gt;2/WEEK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1ST MONTH</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RD MONTH</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6TH MONTH</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12TH MONTH</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Post-operative follow-up results. GROUP A (G.A.), GROUP B (G.A. + nerve block)

**Conclusion(s):** Patients undergoing lower limb amputation due to PAD have lower pain levels, less phantom limb pain and use less opioids, when G.A. is combined with regional nerve blocks, versus G.A. alone.

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**Feasibility study of a new epidural simulator to learn loss of resistance technique**

Y. Binyamin¹, T. Hayuni¹, I. Nisky², N. Davidor², S. Orbach Zinger³, A. Zlotnik¹

¹Soroka University Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Beer Sheva, Israel, ²Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Beer Sheva, Israel, ³Rabin Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel

**Background:** Epidural analgesia is the most effective form of pain relief during labor yet it is associated with numerous complications including accidental dural puncture and failed epidural. Anesthesiologist’s experience is thought to influence success rate of epidurals and effort has been made to develop models to simulate epidural loss of resistance technique. However most models are unable to control for interindividual variations such as depth of loss of resistance or ligamentum flavum thickness. We therefore designed a bimanual haptic simulator to train anesthesiologists and optimize epidural analgesia skill acquisition.

**Materials and Methods:** We designed a bimanual epidural simulator with two Phantom Omni haptic devices: Device 1 is mounted by a Touhy needle and Device 2 is connected to a LOR syringe. To render resistive forces, we implemented the model and added variability in the thickness of the layers and their stiffness according to a weight-based estimation.

**Results and Discussion:** The simulator is able to distinguish between real-life novices and experts demonstrates good construct validity. Experienced users’ VAS scores were relatively high (in overall impression and suitability as a training tool) demonstrates adequate face validity. Little use of the probing method can lead to a higher chance of resulting in Dural punctures. Expert anesthesiologists probe with the LOR syringe more than novices. Errors of novices are bigger in size than those of experts.

**Conclusion:** This is a preliminary exploratory feasibility study using a robotic simulator.
03AP03-08
Effectiveness of Fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB) to the patients with hip fractures in the emergency department

R. Tanaino, J. Sauka, A. Miscuks, I. Golubovska
1The University of Latvia, Faculty of Medicine, Riga, Latvia, 2Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics, Emergency Department, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Patients with hip fracture experience moderate to severe pain in the emergency department. Aim of our study was to evaluate the effectiveness of Fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB) on the pain relief in patients with femoral fracture where the analgesia was performed by a trained trauma surgeon.

Materials and Methods: A prospective randomised study was conducted at the Hospital of Traumatology and orthopaedics, Riga, Latvia (April 2022 to November 2022) and enrolled 80 patients with hip fractures. All subjects were randomised into the 2 groups, using the online tool on www.randomiser.org. Treatment group (R) was allocated to block with Ropivacaine (75-112 mg depending on the patient weight). Both groups (R and control (C)) received multimodal analgesia.

The primary outcome was the intensity of pain. Pain level was evaluated using Numerical Rating Scale (NRS) in the admission period, then 15 minutes, 1h, 2 h, 4 h and 8 h after FICB. The data were analyzed using SPSS Version 27.0.

Results and Discussion: 80 patients (60 females and 20 males) aged 40-96 years were included in the study. Pain in the emergency department after admission - in the C group 6.73 in the NRS scale, in the R group 7.13. 1h after FICB pain in the C group was 4.48 [4.26; 4.69], in the R group 2.28 [1.95; 2.60], p< 0.0001, 2 h after in the C 4.48 [4.19; 4.76], in the R group 2.20 [1.87; 2.53], p< 0.0001, 4 h after in the C group 4.13 [3.88; 4.37], in the R group 2.28 [1.95; 2.60], p< 0.0001, 8 h after in the C group 4.30 [3.96; 4.64], in the R group 2.45 [2.16; 2.74], p< 0.0001.

Analyzing patients with pain level >5 NRS points, in the C group, 25% of the patients did not exceed 5 points, while, in the R group, 97.5% did not exceed 5 points.

Conclusion(s): FICB performed in the Emergency department is an effective method that significantly reduces pain in patients with hip fractures.

03AP03-09
eLogbook: improving audit in the block room

J. Keohone, A. Beck, I. Thomson
1Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: The Queen Elizabeth University Hospital ‘Block Room’, introduced in response to the Covid-19 pandemic to improve theatre efficiency, has been running for 18 months. Local data has previously demonstrated high uptake in the service and low block failure rates1 in previous cases (n=1029). Data collection had been manual and time-consuming, with some data points incomplete.

By implementing a site-wide electronic logbook, this project aimed to: improve ongoing audit of the service; allow real-time data collection; and increase capture rate of cases seen by the regional anaesthesia service.

Materials and Methods: An electronic logbook (eLogbook) was created to log and store case details digitally. A Microsoft Forms template was created in order to capture all relevant clinical details in spreadsheet format for analysis. Access to the form was provided to clinical staff using QR code scanning and direct links. This enabled data entry concurrent with the performance of clinical procedures. Implementation of the change was announced to clinical staff via email and posters displayed in the block room.

Project approval was sought and received from the Caldicott Guardian and information governance teams in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Results and Discussion: The eLogbook was launched in August 2022 and has subsequently captured 100% of cases (n=37) occurring throughout the hospital site. For all cases, required clinical and procedural data was fully complete – this will allow retrospective analysis of block success, complication and failure rates to be audited more effectively. Low total case numbers have been observed compared to historical data1, attributed to service and staffing pressures.

Conclusions: Implementation of an eLogbook has been a successful intervention to increase capture of data at the time of procedure performance in the block room. Data obtained will contribute to service evaluation and audit as it becomes embedded in departmental practice.

References:

Acknowledgements: Thanks to QEUH theatres staff for their ongoing support throughout this project.

03AP03-10
Artificial Intelligence for ultrasound-guided Peripheral Nerve Block procedures: assistive tool for medical image interpretation

1Gazi University School of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Ankara, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Identification of anatomical structures through reliable interpretation of the ultrasound image supported via artificial intelligence (AI) for a number of peripheral nerve block (PNB) procedures has been recently shown (1). We aimed to assess the accuracy of AI-based real-time anatomy identification for ultrasound-guided PNB in eight block regions.

Materials and Methods: After obtaining IRB and the Council of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices approval (15.12.2020/E.595466), written informed consents were collected from 40 healthy volunteers (n=20 men, n=20 women). Participants’ age and body mass index (BMI) were noted.

An ultrasound device (GE LOGIQ, USA) installed with AI software (Nerveblox, SmartAlfa, Turkey) were used to scan selected block (superficial cervical plexus, axillary brachial plexus, pectoralis nerve, rectus sheet, femoral nerve, adductor canal, popliteal, and erector spiniae plane) regions. AI software represents a scan success that enables confidently recognizing anatomical landmarks that appear on the ultrasound image. During scanning by a trainee, once the software indicates 100% scan success of associated anatomic landmarks, both raw
and labeled ultrasound images were saved, assessed, and validated using a 5-point scale by expert validators. Kappa test was conducted to examine the evaluation scores of the validators for each block. Independent sample t-test was used to elucidate accuracy scores. Correlation analysis was used whether the relationship (r) according to demographics (gender, age, and BMI) and block type exists.

Results and Discussion: The mean score of the overall images was 4.79±0.67. For the obese participants, the mean score was 4.78±0.65. Mean scores were highest for rectus sheath (4.98) and femoral nerve (4.93) blocks, and lowest for popliteal (4.21) and erector spinae blocks (4.69) without difference between females and males.

However, higher pecs and rectus sheath scores in males and higher popliteal scores in females were observed. In volunteers over 50 years old, the mean scores were the highest (4.81).

Conclusions: The AI technology can successfully interpret the anatomical structures in real-time sonography which would be valuable in assisting anesthesiologists to perform PNB.

Reference:

03AP03-11
Continuous infusion of remimazolam for intraoperative sedation as a safe and effective option: a prospective clinical study

A. Kustura1, L. Lijović2, A. Bolanča1, N. Kovači, I. Pažur1, T. Radočaj1
1University Hospital Center Sestre milosrdnice, Division of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia. 2Amsterdam UMC - Location VUmc, Dept of Intensive Care, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: The purpose of our study was to identify the appropriate dosage of continuous remimazolam that would provide satisfactory sedative and hypnotic effects to the patients, i.e., to procure a BIS score of 60 to 80 and/or Richmond sedation scale (RASS) value of -2 or -3.

Materials and Methods: 23 patients of ASA status II, III or IV undergoing surgical procedures in spinal anaesthesia were studied. After assessing for adequate quality of spinal block, and at the beginning of the surgical procedure, a bolus dose of remimazolam of 5 mg was applied, and syringe pump was set to deliver remimazolam 1 mg/mL at 15 mL/h, adjusting the rate of infusion to maintain BIS values between 60 and 80. BIS, Richmond sedation scale (RASS) and infusion rate were noted every 5 minutes. Side effects (hypotension, bradycardia, hypoxia) were monitored.

Results and Discussion: Mean patients' age was 67.3 ± 13.1 years with male frequency of 65.2%. There were 15 (65.2%) ASA II patients and 8 (34.8%) ASA III patients. When the BIS values were between 60 and 80, the median dose of infused remimazolam was 3.2 mcg/kg/min (ranging from 1.0 to 5.1 mcg/kg/min; Q1 2.4, Q3 4.1). Results are graphically represented in Figure 1.

Median time from discontinuation of infusion until full recovery of consciousness was 3.5 minutes (ranging from 0 to 8 min; Q1 1.5, Q3 5.0). Hypotension was recorded in 7 patients, with only 4 cases (17.4%) needing treatment with low doses of ephedrine. No other side effects were recorded. Patients reported satisfactory amnestic effects (86.9%) afterwards.

Conclusion(s): Continuous infusion of remimazolam with median dose of 3.2 mcg/kg/min has provided an effective and satisfactory sedative and hypnotic levels for non-healthy individuals, measured by BIS and Richmond sedation scale, with rapid offset and early recovery.
a higher level of stress markers (glucose, cortisol) was noted. Hypotension and bradycardia were noted in 16% of patients from these groups. Patients from the groups where peripheral blocks + spinal anesthesia were used did not experience pain during the first 40 hours after surgery. Episodes of hypotension and bradycardia were noted in 6% of patients. The level of stress markers (glucose, cortisol) was within the physiological norm.

Based on these facts, we assume that the use of peripheral blockades has advantages in arthroscopic operations on the knee.

**Conclusion:** The results of the study indicate the effective use of peripheral blockades (femoral and sciatic nerves) in combination with spinal anaesthesia.

**Acknowledgements:** Institutional Review Board Statement The study was conducted in accordance with the recommendations of the Declaration of Helsinki and was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Shupyk National University of Health Care, Kyiv (protocol code No. 13, approval date, December 3, 2020).

**03AP03-13 The use of cool sticks to assess level of spinal anaesthesia**

K. Belch1, J. Mitchell1
1University Hospital Ayr, Anaesthetics Department, Ayr, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Ethyl chloride has a profound negative impact on the environment; with long lasting harmful effects on aquatic life, birds, plants and directly on our own health. (1) The use of ethyl chloride to assess neuraxial blocks has, therefore, become less favourable. An alternative way to assess these blocks is by the use of CoolSticks. CoolSticks are plastic rods with metal ends that are stored in the refrigerator. The cooled metal end tests dermal sensory levels through temperature perception.

This study aims to explore the use of CoolSticks as an alternative to ethyl chloride in order to reduce environmental impact.

**Methods:** CoolSticks were introduced to theatres at University Hospital Ayr in September 2022 as a method of testing neuraxial blocks. After 3 months of use, a 7-question survey was sent out to staff members. 100% of staff members responded to the survey. 100% of staff members had used the CoolSticks to test neuraxial blocks and 81.3% (n=13) felt that it had reduced their use of ethyl chloride. Anaesthetist’s perceived reduction of ethyl chloride use has been summarised in Figure 1. 75% of participants (n=16) stated that their first method of testing a neuraxial block would now be the CoolStick.

**Figure 1: By what percentage has the introduction of CoolSticks reduced your use of ethyl chloride?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-99%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-75%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-50%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-25%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion(s):** From this study we can conclude that the introduction of CoolSticks has reduced our use of ethyl chloride as a department. We estimate that through the introduction of CoolSticks, we will have a 50-80% reduction in use of ethyl chloride which will eventually save money and reduce our environmental impact.

**Reference:**

**03AP04-01 Ultrasonographic validation of supra-inguinal fascia iliaca block (FICB) at infra-inguinal level**

T. Urabe1, Y. Ikejiri1, S. Taguchi1, M. Nakao1
1Shimura Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, Hiroshima, Japan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB) has been used for the patients in proximal femoral fractures, since FICB can block the femoral nerve (FN), the obturator nerve, and the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve at the same time (1). Thanks to ultrasonography (US), the technique is switched to supra-inguinal approach from infra-inguinal approach with classical pop sensation. The spread of injected local anesthetics (LA) to the FN periphery as well as to the iliac fascia can be confirmed ultrasonographically (2).

Some recommend ultrasound imaging of the FN area before and after FICB. However, there is no report on the effect of FICB regarding the spread of LA to FN. This study aimed to investigate whether the spread of LA around the FN by FICB affects the postoperative analgesic status.

**Materials and Methods:** This retrospective single-center study included patients (ASA I–III) diagnosed with proximal femur fracture (neck or trochanter) and underwent preoperative US guided supra-inguinal FICB at our facility between January and September 2022. We injected 30-40 ml of 0.375% ropivacaine and captured the spread of LA around the FN at infra-inguinal level following the block. Patients are divided into two groups, FN+; LA echo is observed around FN, FN−; LA is not observed.

Frequency of postoperative analgesic use and onset time to pain complaints were evaluated. Mann Whitney test and unpaired t-test were used for statistics. FICB was performed by two anaesthesiologists experienced in FICB. The spread of LA was judged by independent anaesthesiologists.

**Results and Discussion:** Ninety patients aged 59-102 years, 46 in the FN+ group and 44 in the FN− group, were included in the study, and the backgrounds showed no difference between the two groups. The number of analgesics used in the two groups were 1.37 ± 0.14 times in FN+ and 1.39 ± 0.14 times in FN− group, respectively (P = 0.9341). The median time that patients complained pain was 12 hours in both groups.

This data shows the effect of supra-inguinal FICB in both groups are comparable, suggesting that LA expands above the inguinal region at the same level, but LA does not expand infra-inguinal region in some cases.
**Conclusion:** We performed FICB in the suprainguinal approach in this study and found no correlation between the effectiveness of FICB and the spread of the LA around the femoral nerve.

**References:**

**03AP04-02**
The effect of regional nerve block on postoperative delirium in older adults undergoing hip surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

S.Y. Kim¹, H.-J. Shin¹, M. Cho² ¹Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seongnam-si, Republic of Korea

**Background and Goal of Study:** Peripheral nerve block reduces pain, which is a major risk factor for postoperative delirium. We performed this meta-analysis to find out whether peripheral nerve block reduces postoperative delirium in elderly patients undergoing hip surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** Databases of PubMed/MEDLINE, Embase, Web of Science and the Cochrane Library were searched for studies on April 26, 2022. Randomized controlled trials which investigated the effect of peripheral nerve block on postoperative delirium in elderly patients undergoing hip surgery were included.

**Results and Discussion:** Twenty randomized controlled trials with total 2,037 participants were included. Perioperative peripheral nerve block reduced postoperative delirium at postoperative day 3 (OR: 0.67, 95% CI [0.47 to 0.96], p = 0.03, F = 42%) but showed no difference at postoperative day 7 (OR: 1.26, 95% CI [0.76 to 2.09], p = 0.37, F = 0%).

In a subgroup analysis, sole fascia iliaca compartment block showed reduction of postoperative delirium at postoperative day 3 (OR: 0.59, 95% CI [0.37 to 0.94], p = 0.03, F = 2%) whereas sole femoral nerve block (OR: 0.47, 95% CI [0.18 to 1.25], p = 0.13, F = 77%) or other types of block (OR: 0.98, 95% CI [0.64 to 1.52], p = 0.94, F = 0%) showed no statistically significance with 41.8% of F score and 0.18 of p-value for subgroup differences.

Postoperative pain score on scale of 0-10 was also reduced (MD: -0.54, 95% CI [−0.89 to −0.19], p=0.002, F = 94%) when peripheral nerve block was performed.

**Conclusion(s):** Perioperative peripheral nerve block can reduce postoperative delirium and postoperative pain until postoperative day 3. Specifically, the effect of reducing postoperative delirium was statistically significant when fascia iliaca compartment block was performed.

However, because of the wide variety of peripheral nerve blocks performed in the included studies, more randomized controlled trials are needed to investigate the effect of each peripheral nerve block on postoperative delirium.

**03AP04-03**
Modified thoracoabdominal nerves block through perichondrial approach versus oblique subcostal transverse abdominis plane block in patients undergoing total laparoscopic hysterectomy: a pilot randomised controlled trial

T. Suzuka¹, N. Tanaka¹, Y. Kadoya¹, M. Idà¹, M. Iwata², M. Kawaguchi¹ ¹Nara Medical University, Anaesthesiology, Kashihara, Japan, ²Yamatotakada Municipal Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Yamatotakada, Japan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Modified thoracoabdominal nerves block through perichondrial approach (M-TAPA) has gained attention for providing widespread Th7-11 analgesia. Meanwhile, laparoscopic total hysterectomy (TLH) is associated with severe post-surgical pain, including visceral and somatic pain. Evidence on nerve blocks in TLH is inconsistent.

Therefore, we hypothesised that M-TAPA is effective for TLH and conducted a pilot study comparing M-TAPA with oblique subcostal transverse abdominis plane block (OSTAPB), which is proven to be effective for TLH. We also measured plasma concentration kinetics of the local anaesthetics, which has not been previously investigated.

**Materials and Methods:** Following IRB approval (No. 2853) and registration (UMIN000043336), we enrolled 40 female patients aged 20–75 years with ASA-PS 1–2 who were scheduled for TLH. Patients were divided into two groups using randomisation software: M-TAPA (intervention group) and OSTAPB (control group).

Two patients in the M-TAPA group were excluded owing to change in anaesthesia was induced, and 25 mL 0.25% levobupivacaine was administered per side. We measured quality of recovery-15 scores (QoR-15) before surgery and 24 and 48 h postoperatively (POD 1 and 2, respectively) as the primary endpoint.

Additionally, we measured the levobupivacaine plasma concentration at 15, 30, 45, 60, and 120 min following nerve block completion as the secondary endpoint.

**Result and Discussion:** The main results are shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QoR-15</th>
<th>M-TAPA</th>
<th>OSTAPB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before surgery</td>
<td>146 [143–149]</td>
<td>143 [140–147]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postoperative Day 1</td>
<td>111 [99–134]</td>
<td>120 [108–130]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Difference of QoR-15</th>
<th>M-TAPA – OSTAPB</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postoperative Day 1</td>
<td>-11.3 [-24.9 to -2.4]</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postoperative Day 2</td>
<td>-7.0 [-20.5 to -6.6]</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levobupivacaine plasma concentration</th>
<th>Mean [95% CI]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M-TAPA</td>
<td>1.06 [0.88–1.24]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSTAPB</td>
<td>0.99 [0.84–1.14]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Quality of recovery-15 scores (QoR-15) before and after surgery, and Levobupivacaine plasma concentrations in M-TAPA and OSTAPB groups.

No significant differences were observed between the groups in the QoR-15 values and the difference (M-TAPA-OSTAPB) at POD 1 and 2.

Although not statistically significant, the difference in QoR-15 at POD 1 was 11; notably, the minimal clinically important difference in QoR-15 is 8. Hence, compared with OSTAPB, M-TAPA may be
inferior for improving the quality of recovery at POD 1 after TLH. Changes in levobupivacaine plasma concentration levels showed a similar pattern in both groups. **Conclusion:** M-TAPA may not be superior to OSTAPB in improving the quality of recovery after TLH.

**03AP04-04**
Choice of level of an effective erector spinae plane block does not affect the analgesic efficacy in an established enhanced recovery pathway for lumbar spine surgeries

J.-Y. Liou¹,², H.Y. Wang¹,², Y.-C. Yao¹,², P.H. Chou¹,², C.-S. Sung¹,², C.K. Ting¹,²
¹Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Anesthesiology, Beitou District, Taipei City, Taiwan, ²National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, School of Medicine, Beitou District, Taipei City, Taiwan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Erector Spinae Plane Block (ESPB) is a sound choice for Enhanced Recovery Pathways (ERP) but there are variations in the recommended level of block for lumbar spine surgeries, ranging from low thoracic to lumbar. It poses a dilemma for teams starting ERP protocols. We report single-center findings for ESPB level selection from an ERP protocol in Taiwan.

**Materials and Methods:** Bilateral ESPB as a part of ERP is performed with ropivacaine or bupivacaine with a total volume of 40~50mL. Level is selected by the anesthesiologist in charge. Patients are collected (IRB 2022-09-009BC) and grouped according to the number of segments between ESPB and the median Surgical level (ES segments).

Three groups G1 (0~2 segments), G2 (2~3 segments) and G3 (>3 segments) are sorted. Postoperative pain scores are compared using the numerical rating scale (NRS) at 0, 1, 2, 6, 12, 24, 48, 72 hours after surgery. Postoperative opioid consumptions are presented as morphine sulfate equivalents (MSE) in mg. ANOVA is used to evaluate the difference between the groups.

A separate set of non-ERP patients is compared with ERP for NRS and MSE.

**Results and Discussion:** There are 62 and 128 patients in the ERP and non-ERP patients respectively. The ERP group had lower MSE (29.3mg vs 74.8 mg) and NSR. Average surgical segments, ES segments and ESPB to final surgical level are 2.92, 2.77 and 4.7 segments respectively.

Within the ERP group, there are no statistically significant differences in NRS and MSE between G1, G2 and G3. The choice of ESPB level does not affect postoperative NRS and MSE.

**Conclusion(s):** ESPB as a part of the MMA bundle is effective for reducing postoperative pain. The choice of level for ESPB injection does not affect its analgesic efficacy. Thoracic region injections carry the risk of pneumothorax and should be avoided.

**03AP04-05**
A modified ultrasound-assisted approach for lumbar punctures in patients with scoliosis: a prospective observational study

C. Huang¹, Y. Xiao¹, W. Luo¹, X. Feng¹
¹The First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, Department of Anaesthesiology, Guangzhou, China

**Background and Goal of Study:** Lumbar punctures (LPs) are challenging for patients with scoliosis. Previous ultrasound-assisted techniques for LPs using the medial angle of the probe as the needle trajectory required more guesswork, leading to an increased number of needle manipulations. We designed a horizontal and straight needle trajectory approach with ultrasound assistance and assessed its feasibility and safety.

**Materials and Methods:** In 2022, 42 patients with spinal muscular atrophy and scoliosis were referred to the anaesthesia department for intrathecal nusinersen administration. The caudad or cranial angulation of the needle was eliminated by posture correction, as indicated by the probe’s orientation (Fig. A-C). The angle (θ) of rotation of the vertebra relative to the horizontal plane was measured. The proposed needle entry point deviation from the “vertebral midline” was calculated using simple trigonometry (Skin-dura sac distance × Sin θ), and verified using a spirit level attached to the probe. A spinal needle was inserted through the marked entry point to access the subarachnoid space horizontally and perpendicular to the edge of the bed. (Fig. D-I) Success rates, performance time and adverse events were recorded.
Results and Discussion: 71% (30/42) of patients presented with moderate or severe scoliosis. Success was achieved in all 174 LPs, with first-attempt and first-pass success rates of 85% (148/174) and 67% (116/174), respectively, both higher than previous studies that used the standard ultrasound-assisted approach in patients with mild scoliosis or even normal spine anatomy. The median [IQR] needle time was 1.5 [1.0, 2.4] min. Adverse events were infrequent and mild.

Conclusion(s): This novel technique is effective and safe for patients with complex spines. Given its simplicity, non-ionizing and safety profile, it could be considered the first choice for intrathecal medication delivery and neuraxial block in patients with complex spine anatomy and generalized to medical centres worldwide, particularly those with limited availability of skilful personnel for real-time ultrasound-guided technique.

03AP04-06
Can spinal anesthesia be a regular procedure for endoscopic lumbar spine surgery in the future?

S. Costa Santos1, H. Silva1, J. Borba1, T. Nascimento Cabral1, J. Borges1, A. Paiva1
1Hospital do Divino Espirito Santo, Anesthesiologia, Ponta Delgada, Portugal

In recent years, spinal anesthesia (SA) has gained popularity in spinal surgery, due to its favorable recovery profile, reduced psychological burden on the patient and avoidance of the adverse effects of general anesthesia (GA). Despite its potential for improving outcomes, awake spine surgery is yet to be widely adopted as a reliable alternative to GA.

An observational retrospective study was conducted from March 2021 to September 2022 to compare the effects of SA with GA, in patients undergoing endoscopic spinal surgery (ESS), in terms of perioperative outcomes and cost effectiveness. Demographic data, anesthetic procedure, length of surgery, anesthesia and stay in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU), nausea and vomiting (PONV) and analgesic requirements were recorded.

A total of 66 patients were enrolled: 49 assigned to GA and 17 to SA. Mean age was 47 years and 54.5% of patients were female. 58 patients were scored ASA II and 12.1% patients ASA III. There were no significant differences in demographic characteristics between the two groups. However, there was a significant association between ASA score and anesthetic technique (P=0.01). Duration of surgery was significantly shorter in the SA group (P=0.045) but anesthetic time (P=0.091) was similar in both. Intraoperative analgesia was significantly higher in the GA compared with SA group (P=0.014). Duration of stay in the PACU (P=0.512) and length of hospital (P=0.358) did not differ significantly between the two groups. 21 patients in the GA group requested analgesic medication postoperatively and 2 in the SA group (P=0.036). The percentage of patients with PONV was similar in both groups (P=1.0). SA was performed with bupivacaine 0.5% or levobupivacaine 0.5% ± sufentanil in doses ranging from 6.25 to 15mg. In all cases, a dense block was achieved. Overall, the patients of the SA patient group and the surgeon expressed satisfaction with awake spine surgery.

The presented data shows that SA was associated with lower incidence of analgesic requirements. In contrast to the literature, duration of anesthesia was not significantly shorter in the SA group. However, the SA approach requires less positioning time and checking the patient responsiveness and airway control.

Additionally, SA has a lower cost of equipment and drugs, making it more cost-effective. In our study, SA was as effective as GA in patients undergoing ESS, making it a reliable alternative to consider in the future.

03AP04-07
Comparison of post-operative analgesia efficacy of Erector Spina Plane (ESP) block and Thoracic Epidural Analgesia (TEA) in patients undergoing lobectomy with thoracotomy incision

M. Aslan1, H. Yavuzel2, T. Satilmis2, O. Ekinci1
1Haydarpasa Numune Training and Research Hospital, Anesthesia, Istanbul, Turkey, 2Dr.Siyami Ersek Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Training and Research Hospital, Anesthesia, Istanbul, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: ESP block provides good recovery and good analgesic activity in the first 24 hours post-operatively in minimally invasive thoracic surgery (1). Although studies demonstrate the efficacy of ESP block, further research is needed to compare it with the gold standard TEA (2).

Therefore, in this study, we aimed to compare the post-operative analgesic efficacy of ESP block and TEA, two different techniques routinely performed in patients undergoing lobectomy with thoracotomy incision.

Materials and Methods: Sixty patients undergoing lobectomy with thoracotomy incision were observed prospectively, post-operative analgesia efficacy of continous ESP block and continous TEA between February and December in 2022. Primary outcome measures are visual analogue scale(VAS) and numerical rating scale(NRS) at 0, 2, 4, 8,16 and 24 hours. Secondary outcome measures are post-operative hemodynamic values change, pulse oximetry change, postoperative nausea and vomiting, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory and opioid drug usage need.

Results and Discussion: There are thirty patients in each group. There was no statistically significant difference in the mean of VAS/NRS of the groups in the follow-up (p=0.294 p=0.397 p=0.524 p=0.765 p=0.677 p=0.641). There was a statistically significant change in the VAS/NRS levels of the patients in the groups during the follow-up (p<0.001 for both).

In the study groups, coronary artery disease rate of the ESP block group, which is one of the general characteristics, was statistically significantly higher than the TEA group(p<0.005). It was observed that the anesthesiologist preferred ESP block instead of TEA if the patient was using anticoagulants. No statistically significant difference was found in the incidence of PONV, hemodynamic values change, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory and opioid drug usage need in the follow-up groups.

![VNS/NRS Graph](image-url)
Conclusion: The efficacy of ESP block in postoperative pain management in patients who underwent lobectomy with thoracotomy incision was similar when compared to TEA.

References:
1. DOI: 10.1016/j.bja.2020.06.020
2. DOI: 10.1016/j.jclinane.2020.110063

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03AP04-08
Analgesic efficacy of ultrasound-guided thoracolumbar interfascial plane block in lumbar spine surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis
S.K. Oh¹, S. Hong¹, H.B. Kim¹, S.S. Choi¹
¹Korea University Guro Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Background and Goal of Study: The classical thoracolumbar interfascial plane (cTLIP) block and modified TLIP (mTLIP) block have been used for periperative analgesia in lumbar spine surgery. We aimed to evaluate whether TLIP block (cTLIP/mTLIP block) could provide adequate analgesia in lumbar surgery.

Materials and Methods: Adult patients undergoing lumbar spine surgery under general anesthesia were included for this systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. PubMed, Embase, Web of Science, Scopus, and KoreaMed were searched to identify eligible trials comparing TLIP block with control (no block/sham block) or other interventions (wound infiltration/epidural analgesia at closure/erector spinae plane block) in lumbar surgery. The primary outcome was opioid consumption in 24 h after surgery.

Results and Discussion: Twelve studies with 1011 patients were included. Compared with control, TLIP block significantly improved opioid consumption (morphine milligram equivalents) (-11.22 mg; 95% CI, -13.33 to -9.11; P < 0.00001) and postoperative pain scores at various time points (at rest or while active) during 24 h after surgery.

Furthermore, TLIP block decreased rescue analgesia demand (RR, 0.44; 95% CI, 0.31 to 0.61; P < 0.0001), increased the time to initial supplementary analgesia (6.60 h; 95% CI, 5.58 to 7.61; P < 0.00001), and ameliorated postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) (RR 0.58; 95% CI, 0.34 to 0.97; P = 0.04), compared to control.

Compared with other interventions, TLIP block reduced opioid consumption (-5.21 mg; 95% CI, -8.82 to -1.61; P = 0.005) and rescue analgesia requirement (RR, 0.49; 95% CI, 0.28 to 0.87; P = 0.01).

Conclusion(s): Compared with the control or other interventions, TLIP block provided effective postoperative analgesia for lumbar surgery. TLIP block relieved postoperative pain, reduced rescue analgesia, and alleviated PONV compared with the control. Current evidence supports that the TLIP block offers analgesic efficacy comparable to that of the erector spinae plane block. (PROSPERO registration number: CRD42022332161.)

Reference:

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03AP04-09
Dexmedetomidine in spinal anesthesia - worth it?

B. Bodulica¹, O. Ozegic¹, L. Lijovic¹, I. Pazur¹, V. Hostic¹, T. Radocaj¹
¹UHC Sestre Milosrdnice, Department of Anesthesiology, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Spinal anesthesia is a preferred method of anesthesia for lower limb surgery. Antinociceptive synergism between local anesthetics and opioids is well studied. Dexmedetomidine, selective alpha2-agonist, is relatively new as an intrathecal agent.

The main goal of this study was to compare dexmedetomidine with opioids as adjuvant to spinal anesthesia, in terms of its effect on postoperative analgesia, as well as its effect on hemodynamic stability in elderly patients.

Materials and Methods: Spinal anesthesia was performed on thirty ASA Grade II and III geriatric patients undergoing hip surgery. Before the procedure all patients received 500 mL of i.v. saline. Non-invasive blood pressure, heart rate and SpO2 were noted every 5 minutes. NRS (numeric rating scale) was assessed 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 hours after spinal block. Patients were randomly assigned into two groups: control group (n=15) received levobupivacaine by body height nomogram with 2.5 mcg (0.5 mL) of sufentanil, while subject group (n=15) received levobupivacaine by body height nomogram with 5 mcg of dexmedetomidine. Groups were compared by hemodynamic parameters(systolic pressure, pulse) and NRS score in early postoperative stage of recovery.

Results and Discussion: Baseline patients’ characteristics were comparable in both groups. Analysis of hemodynamic data showed that incidence of hypotension, defined as systolic blood pressure lower than 90 mmHg, was not significantly different between groups.

When comparing analgesic effect, dexmedetomidine showed significantly better analgesic effect than opioids 10 and 12 hours after spinal block (p=0.03 and p<0.01), as shown in figure 1. Results are expressed as mean value with p value of 0.05 considered significant.

Figure 1.

Conclusion(s): Results of this study show that dexmedetomidine is a safe adjuvant to local anesthetics in elderly patients receiving spinal anesthesia. There is no significant difference between opioids and dexmedetomidine in hemodynamic stability. Dexmedetomidine showed significantly better analgesic effect in comparison to sufentanil in early postoperative period.
Application of continual reassessment method to dose-finding study for estimation of optimal dose of 2-chloroprocaine of the first iterative reinjection during continuous spinal anesthesia for lower limb surgery: sensory block results

B. Martens¹, I. Estruch-Pons¹, S. Ymeraj¹, E. Engelman¹, P. Pandin¹
¹Université Libre de Bruxelles / Hub Erasmus Hospital, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Brussels, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Underused, Continuous Spinal Anaesthesia (CSA) has several advantages compared to single-shot spinal anaesthesia (1).

Short-acting local anaesthetic, 2-Chloroprocaine (2-Ch) has not been yet studied regarding optimal dose of CSA first reinjection. The use of sequential experimental methods is justified in anaesthesia dose study (DS). Continual Reassessment (Bayesian statistical study design) allows estimation of any percentile of the dose-response relationships.

Materials and Methods: An optimal DS was performed in 27 ASA I-II patients scheduled for lower limb surgery under CSA with 2-Ch. After initial bolus (IB=2-Ch 10mg/mL¹, 4mL), first reinjection doses were randomly attributed: 7.5 or 10mg into an indwelling 25G catheter after 35min. We postulated the 90% efficacy probability as a sensory block (SB) ≥ T12.

Additionally, 3 different scenarios of occurrence of potential adverse events (AE) were used to calculate the 50% and 25% probability of AE (defined as SB > T10) and the 1% probability of obtaining a block ≥ T6.

Results and Discussion: No CSA failure was recorded (all SB reach SB ≥ T12). For the 10mg dose, the average efficacy is 88% and the probability of obtaining 90% of efficacy is 41%. These results drop to 38.4% and 0.1% respectively for a 7.5mg dose. The average probability of AE is 28.2% and 5.9% for 10mg and 7.5mg respectively (Fig 1 & 2).

Conclusion: The reinjection dose of 10mg is insufficient for 90% of patients to reach T12 level. However, the efficacy probability remains very close (88%). Finally, 28.2% of patients are at risk of exceeding T10 with 2-Ch 10mg.

The study shows an inability to achieve T12 block in 90% of patients by preserving from a T6 level block, regardless of the dose of 2-Ch. Finally, a 1mL bolus may be recommended.

Results and Discussion: A total of 128 patients were included, with a mean (SD) age of 59 (18) years. The T5-6 and T6-7 levels were chosen for nearly half of the needle insertions. Success was achieved in 96% of patients. The first-pass success rate was 75% and the median [IQR] time to access the epidural space was 59 [47, 123] seconds, both higher than that of the recently reported ultrasound-assisted techniques. Our method improved precision by tailoring the technique based on the anatomic information offered by ultrasound, accuracy of marking, and optimization of positioning. All patients reported appropriate dermatomal coverage and adequate analgesia. None experienced procedure-related complications.

Conclusion(s): The modified paramedian approach based on patient stratification facilitates the performance of mid-thoracic epidural placement and thus could be considered to be routinely utilized to simplify mid-thoracic epidural catheterizations.

03AP04-12
Quadratus lumborum block 1 (lateral) versus quadratus lumborum block transmuscular (anterior) for postoperative analgesia after total abdominal hysterectomy: a prospective cohort observational study

A. Ryzhkovskyi1, O. Filyk1, K. Semenchuk2
1Danylo Halytsky Lviv National Medical University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Lviv, Ukraine, 2Yuri Semenyuk Rivne Regional Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Rivne, Ukraine

Background and Goal of Study: Myofascial blockade techniques are widely implemented in the practice of perioperative analgesia in gynecology. The aim of our study was to assess two different types of the quadratus lumborum block for postoperative analgesia after total abdominal hysterectomy – Quadratus lumborum block 1 (QL 1) (lateral) or quadratus lumborum block transmuscular (QL transmuscular) (anterior). The study hypothesis: no matter whether QL 1 or QL transmuscular block is performed to reduce postoperative pain after total abdominal hysterectomy.

Materials and Methods: We examined the data of 24 patients 40-55 years old with complicated symptomatic uterus fibroids, who needed total abdominal hysterectomy. Both groups underwent general anesthesia. In addition, in I group after the surgery it was performed QL 1 block bilaterally via lateral access with ultrasound navigation; in II group – it was performed QL block transmuscular bilaterally via anterior access with ultrasound navigation. After surgery both groups of patients received multimodal analgesia with dextroprofen and paracetamol in a case of severe pain - morphine. They were assessed for Total 24 hours Analgesic Consumption in morphine milligram equivalent (mmeq), Time to first rescue analgesia, Time to T3 sensory block, Median NRS Score in first 24 hours, Hemodynamic affects and perioperative complications.

Results and Discussion: A total of 128 patients were included, with a mean (SD) age of 59 (18) years. The T5-6 and T6-7 levels were chosen for nearly half of the needle insertions. Success was achieved in 96% of patients. The first-pass success rate was 75% and the median [IQR] time to access the epidural space was 59 [47, 123] seconds, both higher than that of the recently reported ultrasound-assisted techniques. Our method improved precision by tailoring the technique based on the anatomic information offered by ultrasound, accuracy of marking, and optimization of positioning. All patients reported appropriate dermatomal coverage and adequate analgesia. None experienced procedure-related complications.

Conclusion(s): The modified paramedian approach based on patient stratification facilitates the performance of mid-thoracic epidural placement and thus could be considered to be routinely utilized to simplify mid-thoracic epidural catheterizations.
**03AP05-01**
Thoracic Epidural Anesthesia in the management of acute refractory ventricular electrical storm: a case report

D. Sousa¹, M. Machado¹, A. Neves², A. Braga¹, M. Barbosa¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Intensive Care Medicine, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Ventricular electrical storm (VES) is characterized by recurrent sustained ventricular arrhythmias in a short time. Develops in hearts with structural or electrophysiologic alterations after exposure to a trigger, like myocardial ischemia or sympathetic over-stimulation (SO). SO creates a vicious circle and plays a relevant role in pathophysiologic of VES. When conventional therapies fail, TEA (Thoracic Epidural Anesthesia) is an excellent option that allows block cardiac sympathetic output.

**Case report:** 44-year-old man, ASA III, history of ischemic cardiomyopathy and schizophrenia, presented in emergency department with chest pain and palpitations. The electrocardiogram showed ventricular tachycardia with hemodynamic instability, so immediate cardioversion was done. He was transferred to intensive care unit. Although electrolytes correction, antiarrhythmics, cardioversion attempts, sedation, and introduction of overdrive pacing, refractory VES with cardiogenic shock was perpetuated. Due to clinical repercussions of VES, catheter ablation was no option.

A multidisciplinary approach decided to insert a TEA with the goal to modulate autonomic nervous system (ANS). After ASA standard monitoring, the patient was placed in left lateral decubitus. TEA was performed with 18-G Tuohy epidural needle at T3-T4 interspace, midline approach, loss of resistance technique. Epidural catheter was advanced 5 cm into the epidural space, negative aspiration for cerebrospinal fluid and blood was confirmed.

Were administered bolus of ropivacaine 0.25% and started continuous infusion of ropivacaine 0.20% 2-4 ml/h. VES control with progression to sinus rhythm and hemodynamically stabilization was achieved. Two months of follow-up: he integrates cardiovascular rehabilitation with progressive increase in functional capacity.

**Discussion:** VES is a medical emergency that can progress to heart failure and cardiopulmonary arrest with high incidence of adverse outcomes and mortality.

In this case we tried ANS modulation to prevent perpetuation of SO. With TEA we started infusion of ropivacaine, titrated according to rhythmic response. This strategy allowed progression to sinus rhythm and hemodynamically stabilization.

**Learning Points:** A multidisciplinary integration of Cardiology, Intensive Medicine, and Anesthesiology allows offering technical tools, clinical evaluation and health care that is crucial to increase the chance of successful treatment of life threatening VES.

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**03AP05-02**
Thoracic segmental spinal anesthesia as an alternative to general anesthesia, breast surgery, cases-series

V. Shukriu¹, F Krasnici¹, E. Daku¹, N. Kolgeci²
¹University Clinical Center of Kosova, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Pristina, Kosovo, ²University Clinical Center of Kosova, Thoracic Surgery, Pristina, Kosovo

**Background:** Thoracic segmental spinal anesthesia is a technique of regional anesthesia that still needs to be explored to become popular or to be used as a routine. We are trying to contribute by adding our humble experience, an attempt to clarify the doubts and hesitations to this technique of regional anesthesia, where we came up with 6 cases of breast surgery.

**Cases Series:** All patients were ASA III, submitted for radical mastectomies, after diagnoses for breast cancer. We proceeded with high thoracic segmental spinal anesthesia at a level of Th/5-Th/6, with Quincke needle 25G.

Drugs injected intrathecal: plain Bupivacaine 3-5mg, Fentanyl 20-25mcg, adjuvants Dexamethasone 4mg and Midazolam 1-2mg. Intraoperatively: dense, rapid, block of sensitive fibers, started within 3-4 min, from Th-8/10 to Th-1/2. Generally we noticed less hemodynamic fluctuations among patients, we witnessed hypotension in two cases, which where managed with 10-20mg Ephedrine. One case showed transitory motor weakness grade 2-3. No case converted to general anesthesia. We noticed that its advantages are the quality of postoperative analgesia, lower incidence of nausea and vomiting, and shorter recovery time, with the consequent early hospital discharge.

**Discussion:** What makes THSSA feasible: in thoracic part, especially inTh-5/6 level the spinal cord is positioned anteriorly, leaving a significant amount of space between dura and spinal cord is Th2-4.7mm, Th5-6.4mm, Th10-5.1mm. Thoracic nerve roots are thin, favouring efficient blockade with low dose of drugs. Less bradycardia and hypotension due to sympathetic/lumbosacral sparing. Technical feasibility, not such difficult in hands of clinician with good learning curve. Economic feasibility: very economic. Utility for single shot THSSA, procedures 60 up to 90 min, practically for all thoracic wall procedures, radical breast surgery and some thoracoscopic procedures.

**Learning Points:** THSSA-thoracic segmental spinal anesthesia is a proper option, can be a preferred alternative to general anesthesia for radical breast surgery, especially among frail, older patients with comorbidities.
03AP05-03
Bilateral pecto-intercostal fascial block as a good analgesic alternative in pectus excavatum surgery

J. Valero García¹, R.A. Martínez Albaladejo¹, M. Luzón Martínez¹, S. Martínez Castro¹, B. Monleón López¹, R. Badenes Quiles¹
¹Hospital Clínico Universitario Valencia, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Valencia, Spain

Background: Surgical correction of Pectus excavatum (PE) is associated with significant postoperative pain. The pecto-intercostal fascial block (PIFB) constitutes an anteromedial block of the chest wall, consisting of the placement of local anesthetic in the interfascial plane between the pectoralis major and intercostal muscles, being an option for this surgery. The intercostal nerves here terminate in anterior cutaneous branches to supply superficial tissues of the parasternal region (1).

Case report: A 18-year-old male presents congenital deformity of PE. It is proposed for surgical correction. After general anesthetic induction, prior to the start of surgery, an ultrasound-guided PIFB was performed at the bilateral parasternal level (Figure 1). After locating the interfascial plane, a single dose of 0.3% levobupivacaine was administered, a total of 20ml on each side.

In the intraoperative period we used fentanyl 100mcg at the start of surgery, Paracetamol and Dextroprofen. There were no clinical signs of nociception during the intervention. After surgery, the patient presented good pain control (VAS 3/10).

In the first 48h, pain was controlled with prescribed analgesia without requiring opioid rescue.

Discussion: After reviewing the literature, we found series of clinical cases that propose the erector spinal block as an alternative technique with good results (2), but we have not found reports of this block for PE surgeries. The PIFB presents few complications and provides analgesia in the parasternal region. In our experience, multimodal management with opioids and NSAIDs associated with a regional technique has shown good results.

References:

Learning Points: PE correction surgery presents significant rates of postoperative pain. The PIFB can be a valid regional alternative with few complications. More experience is needed to know the effectiveness of this type of block.

03AP05-04
Continuous spinal anaesthesia in the orthopedic elderly population – a case report

B. Alves¹, G.S. Sousa¹, J.C. Brandão¹, I. Guedes¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela-Viseu, Anaesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

Background: Continuous spinal anaesthesia (CSA), although underused, is a useful and reliable anaesthetic technique in lower extremity procedures in the fragile elderly patient with severe cardio-pulmonary (CP) disease.

Case report: An 89-year-old woman was proposed for urgent hip fracture repair. Medical history included chronic anaemia, hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, heart failure and previous breast cancer with radiation induced lung injury and chronic respiratory disease. She had respiratory failure needing supplemental oxygen therapy.

Physical examination revealed aholosystolic murmur IV/VI and bilateral rales. The chest image showed ribs horizontalization and a right pulmonary effusion. Due to the high cardiovascular risk and the unstable CP patient condition, we decided to perform the procedure under CSA and peripheral nerve blocks.

Firstly, an ultrasound-guided femoral and lateral cutaneous femoral nerve blocks were performed with a total of 20mL of 0.5% ropivacaine, followed by intrathecal catheter placement at L3-L4 level using a 18G Tuohy needle and 20G catheter. We administered 1ml of 0.25% of hyperbaric bupivacaine through the catheter and pushed forward with 2mL of 0.9% saline.

Approximately 10 minutes later, further 0.6mL of 0.25% bupivacaine was administered and surgical sensitive blockade level was achieved. The procedure lasted 1hour without any further anaesthetic requirements.

No adverse haemodynamic effects or cardiac events were noted and postoperative recovery was uneventful. The catheter was removed upon arrival at PACU and patient didn’t complain of postdural puncture headache during the following days.

Discussion: CSA is a rarely-used technique in current practice. One of its greatest advantages is the possibility of slow titration of sensory level with small incremental boluses, allowing haemodynamic stability in the high-risk cardiovascular patient.

Additionally, the catheter allows block prolongation in case of a lengthy procedure where single shot spinal anaesthesia would prove insufficient.

Reference:

Learning Points: The frail elderly patient, with multiple comorbidities, is a challenging everyday-case presenting for emergency surgery. Anaesthesiologists need to provide effective and safe intraoperative care and being familiar with CSA in everyday practice is a powerful anaesthetic skill.
Continuous spinal technique: the ideal anaesthesia for aortic stenosis?

M. J. d. B. e. C. Bento Soares¹, R. Freitas¹, V. Pedroso¹
¹Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Ocidental, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Severe aortic stenosis (AS) poses an anaesthetic challenge as it requires very tight hemodynamic control. Severe hypotension associated with anaesthetic induction can further compromise an already diminished stroke volume and cardiac output. A continuous spinal block may be a good option to overcome the hypotensive response frequently associated with other anaesthesia techniques, as it may allow a slower titration of both the spread of anaesthesia and the degree of sympathetic blockade.

Case report: We present the case of an 84-year-old man, with a medical history of severe AS, ischemic heart disease, hypertension, dyslipidaemia, thrombophlebitis and glaucoma. He was scheduled for hemiarthroplasty of the left hip after neck femur fracture. Preoperative Cardiology evaluation stated no absolute contraindication for anaesthesia and the degree of sympathetic blockade.

It was decided to proceed with the surgery. A subarachnoid catheter (with an epidural catheter kit) was placed in a median lumbar approach, in right lateral decubitus. A total of 7.5 mg of 0.5% levobupivacaine was administered in fractional doses of 2.5 mg over 20 min, under invasive arterial pressure monitoring. We maintained a target of medium arterial pressure of 80 mmHg and heart rate of 75-80 with phenylephrine bolus, followed by phenylephrine infusion. In the end of the surgery the catheter was removed and the patient transferred to the post-anaesthetic care unit.

Discussion: A continuous spinal block allowed for adequate anaesthesia for accomplishing the surgical procedure and at the same time maintenance of the hemodynamic goals. Titrating the dose of local anaesthetic administered in the intrathecal space, with small increments and an overall reduced dose, is an unique advantage of this regional technique. This technique avoids the marked hypotension that comes with the sympathetic blockade associated with a single-shot dose and allows extending of the duration of blockade, revealing to be an important tool in diminishing the mortality of patients with AS.

Reference:

Learning Points: Since patients with AS will not tolerate rapid onset of a sympathectomy and the consequent hypotension and critical reduction in coronary perfusion pressure, a continuous spinal anaesthetic may be very slowly titrated.

Continuous spinal anesthesia for removal of osteosynthesis material in severe heart failure: case report

C. Domingues¹, L. Gonçalves¹, D. Gonçalves¹, L. Gonçalves¹, E. Valente¹
¹Centro Hospitalar de Leiria, Anestesiologia, Leiria, Portugal

Background: History of congestive heart failure (CHF) is associated with higher postoperative morbidity and mortality rates. Anesthetic techniques can cause myocardial depression and peripheral vasodilation, which are important cardiovascular events to control in CHF patients.

Case report: Male, aged 76 years, ASA IV, proposed for femoral bone removal of osteosynthesis material. Relevant medical history included CHF NYHA III (due to ischemic dilated cardiomyopathy and under cardiac resynchronization therapy initiated 3 months prior surgery), diffuse coronary artery disease (with placement of 3 stents 6 months before), atrial fibrillation and arterial hypertension. A preoperative echocardiogram revealed a left ventricle ejection fraction of 31%. With the patient positioned in left lateral decubitus, a Tuohy needle was inserted in the L3-L4 vertebral interspace. After entering the dura layer, a pre-filled catheter with levobupivacaine was introduced 4 cm into the subarachnoid space and secured to the skin. The patient was repositioned supine and after aspiration of cerebrospinal fluid, 2.5 mg of levobupivacaine were administered. The dose was readministered 3 times every 10 minutes until reaching T12 sensory block level, with stable hemodynamic conditions. The surgery lasted 30 minutes and was uneventful, without need for further doses of local anesthetic.

After recovery in the postanesthesia care unit, the patient was transferred to the general ward, leaving the hospital the following day. The patient was assessed daily for 5 days and no cardiovascular complications or post-dural puncture headache were registered.

Discussion: In CHF, the anesthetic approach must be planned with the goal of minimizing detrimental effects on cardiac output, considering careful preload and afterload management. Administration of high volumes of local anesthetics via spinal anesthesia decreases systemic vascular resistance and can compromise cardiac output.

Continuous spinal anesthesia can be an option, allowing the titration of the necessary dose for the desired effect, reducing cardiovascular complications.

References:

Learning points: Catheter-based neuraxial anesthesia with repeated small doses of local anesthetic can allow better hemodynamic control, which is important in patients with compromised ventricular function.
03AP05-07
An alternative anesthetic option for breast resection surgery – case report

R. Sa¹, A. Soares Cruz¹, J. Abreu¹
¹Hospital de Braga, Anesthesiology, Braga, Portugal

Background: Breast cancer is one of the most common neoplasms with highest mortality rate. Surgical resection is associated with improved outcome. Most breast surgeries are performed under general anesthesia, leaving regional anesthesia techniques for postoperative pain management, and not as the primary anesthesia.¹,²

Case report: We describe a case of a 85-year-old female patient ASA IV, scheduled for elective right upper third tumorectomy with sentinel node biopsy. She had atrial fibrillation (AF), diagnosed in the pre-operative evaluation. She had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease GOLD D, with long-term oxygen therapy 1L/15h/day, NYHA class III cardiac failure, dyslipidemia, and cerebrovascular disease. Anesthetic team decided to proceed with locoregional anesthesia, due to the risks inherent to general anesthesia in this patient. We administered 2 mg midazolam and 50 mcg fentanyl as pre-medication. Then we performed a pectoralis fascia block (PECS II) with 25 ml of ropivacaine 0,5%, and a serratus anterior plane block with 15 ml of ropivacaine 0,5%, under ultrasound control. Subsequently, dexmedetomidine was infused with a loading dose of 20 mcg for 5 minutes, followed by a maintenance dose of 0,6 mcg/kg/h, for patient comfort. Additionally, systemic multimodal analgesia was given. The surgical procedure was uneventful. At 24 hours after surgery, the patient referred no pain at rest or with movement. During hospital stay, she had no need for opioid medications and was discharged home after 48h, under orientation of Immunohemotherapy.

Discussion: We showed that this approach can be a good alternative to general anesthesia, because this combination of regional anesthesia with dexmedetomidine has very few cardiovascular or pulmonary side-effects, as compared with general anesthesia.²³

The regional anesthesia was also an effective technique in postoperative pain management, reducing the use of opioids, particularly important in COPD patient.²⁴

References:

Learning points: Due to her comorbidities, we wanted to avoid a general anesthesia due to the associated risk of ventilatory and hemodynamic changes, increasing the risk of severe complications. This is a case of successful anesthetic management of breast surgery using regional anesthesia and sedation with dexmedetomidine.

03AP05-08
Clavicular surgery under clavipectoral fascial block and spontaneous ventilation in patient with recent pneumothorax

R. Torres¹, R. Sá¹, B. Lima¹, P. Fragoso¹
¹Hospital de Braga, Servicio de Anestesiologia, Braga, Portugal

Background: The clavipectoral fascial plane block (CPB), described by Valdés [1], is simple to execute, and has no risk of phrenic nerve block, unlike other locoregional techniques used for clavicular fracture surgery. We describe the use of CPB in a patient with recent pneumothorax. Our approach allowed to keep the patient in spontaneous breathing, avoiding positive pressure ventilation, that could worsen his condition.

Case report: Male, 46 years old, ASA I, victim of thoracic trauma 8 days before, with fracture of 8 costal arches and clavicle on the right, associated with pneumothorax, drained with chest tube (already removed at time of surgery). Proposed for correction of the medial clavicle fracture, in “beach-chair” position.

Under ASA standard monitoring, anesthetic depth (BIS™, Medtronic©) and regional cerebral oxygen saturation (INVOS™, Medtronic©), we performed an ultrasound-guided CPB and superficial cervical plexus block (SCPB) with 0.5% Ropivacaine (25mL for CPB and 7mL for SCPB). Before and after the blockade, diaphragmatic excursion was evaluated with ultrasound. For greater comfort, we induced balanced anesthesia. To avoid complications of mechanical ventilation, adequate pre-oxygenation was done without positive pressure. Induction with propofol for supraglottic device insertion, followed by apneic oxygenation until resumption of spontaneous breathing (80 seconds). The procedure took place with adequate ventilation, hemodynamic stability, and cerebral perfusion. In the postoperative period the patient was comfortable (visual analogue scale <3) and satisfied.

Discussion: The clavicle has a complex innervation, from superficial cervical plexus and brachial plexus. The classic locoregional approach for clavicular fracture is an interscalene brachial plexus block (IBPB) usually combined with SCPB. The CBP, described in 2017, is a fascial block that is easy and has a lower complication risk (as frenic nerve block), compared with IBPB. There are just a few cases described on literature of CPB as anesthetic block.

References: 1- Valdés-Vilches LF. Analgesia for Clavicular Surgery/ Fractures: 36th Annual European Society of Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Therapy

Learning points: CPB is a viable and safe alternative to the IBPB for clavicle surgery.
#### 03AP05-09

**Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block efficacy and safety for middle third clavicle osteosynthesis**

A. Rando Pérez1, J.J. Tortajada Soler2, J.A. Flores García2, P.C. Cuesta Montero3, R Berrotarán Ayub4, C. Martínez Villar5

1Complejo Hospitalario de Albacete, Anestesia y Reanimación, Albacete, Spain, 2Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Albacete, Anestesia y Reanimación, Albacete, Spain, 3IMED Eleche / Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Albacete, Anestesia y Reanimación, Albacete, Spain, 4Hospital del Vinalopó, Anestesia y Reanimación, Alicante, Spain

**Background:** The Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block was described in 2017 by L. Valdés to provide perioperative analgesia in middle third clavicle fractures.

The present study aims to evaluate the efficacy and the appearance of complications derived from this technique, as single anesthetic method, in a 22 patients cohort.

**Case report:** A descriptive, observational study was carried out in 22 patients who underwent middle third clavicle osteosynthesis.

The initial anesthetic strategy was the Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block associated with Supraclavicular Nerve infiltration, both under sonographic control. Afterwards, the presence of pneumothorax and diaphragmatic dysfunction was evaluated by ultrasound exam. Besides Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block safety, the presence of motor block, reconversion to general anesthesia and analgesic rescue during admission in PACU were evaluated.

**Discussion:** Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block associated with Supraclavicular Nerve Block, showed effective anesthesia in nineteen patients (86.4%), as well as optimal postoperative pain control during their stay in PACU (VNS <3). In the three remaining patients (13.6%), conversion to general anesthesia was necessary due to technique’s failure.

In none of the evaluated patients was the presence of serious complications, such as pneumothorax or diaphragmatic paralysis, detected. Likewise, no motor block of the upper limb was observed.

**References:**

**Learning points:** Clavipectoral Fascia Plane Block seems to provide effective perioperative analgesia in middle-third clavicular osteosynthesis. As shown in literature and in our findings, this technique would present fewer unwanted effects and a better safety profile compared to traditional brachial plexus approaches. In addition to being a simple regional technique.

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#### 03AP06-01

**Horner’s syndrome: an underestimated complication**

M.L. Coutinho1, S. Sá1, J. Teixeira1

1Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

**Background:** Horner’s syndrome (HS) results from a sympathetic nervous system dysfunction and is characterized by ptosis, miosis, facial anhidrosis, and conjunctival hyperemia on one side of the face. Our aim is to present a clinical case of a patient who developed HS secondary to two possible rare causes related to the anaesthetic approach.

**Case Report:** A 42-year-old female patient with periprosthetic joint infection was proposed for a complete resection of foreign material and placement of a cement spacer. Combined epidural-general anesthesia was performed. An epidural catheter was placed at the L3-L4 interspace. After induction of anesthesia, it was performed an ultrasound-guided catheterization of the right IJV.

On postoperative day 1, the patient presented with ptosis, miosis, and conjunctival hyperemia of the right eye. Assuming the diagnosis of HS in the context of epidural analgesia, it was decided to remove the epidural catheter.

One week later, the patient still presented the same clinical condition. Neuro-ophthalmology confirmed the diagnosis of right sided HS with pharmacological testing using apraclonidine eye drops. It was assumed that the HS was probably secondary to IJV catheterization and the catheter was replaced with a left subclavian venous catheter.

**Discussion:** HS results from an interruption of the sympathetic pathway that supplies the head and neck region and can have numerous causes. In this case report, there were two possible iatrogenic and rare causes for the patient’s HS: epidural anesthesia and UV catheterization. HS remains a rare complication of IVJ catheterization.

According to most studies, the incidence in these contexts is 2-5%, but it seems to be underestimated. Direct needle puncture of the cervical sympathetic fibers or compression of these structures by hematoma is the two most common mechanisms.

**References:**

**Learning Points:** The rapid recognition of the condition allowed us to consider different iatrogenic etiologies and their correction in order to limit the duration of symptoms and possible complications.
03AP06-02
Palliative surgical gastrostomy under ultrasound-guided bilateral rectus sheath block in a patient with difficult airway due to carcinoma of the oral cavity

P. Zografidou1, O. Papagiannopoulou1, I. Grigoriou1, A. Mitragkas2, E. Koraki3
‘General Hospital of Thessaloniki “Papageorgiou”, Anesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Case report: A 47 year old female weighing 40 kg, with a known medical history of heart transplantation, was scheduled for palliative surgical gastrostomy. In 2021 she underwent a surgery in which a R0 resection of cSCC of the lower lip was performed, but afterwars a recurrence occurred. The mass was so extended, rendering endotracheal intubation impossible. Ultrasound-guided bilateral rectus sheath blocks was performed. An 50 mmm Ultraplex needle was inserted, using with the “in plane” technique. Ropivacaine 0.375% 20 ml was incrementally injected bilaterally. Intravenous dexmedetomidine was used for sedation, intraoperatively, with a bolus dose of 40mcg (1 mcg/kg) at the first 10 min and a continuous infusion dose of 0.5 mcg/kg/h. The operation was successfully performed and the patient was soon transferred to the ward.

Discussion: End-stage oral cavity cancer patients face unique challenges in managing the airway, rendering endotracheal intubation, sometimes, impossible and in maintaining adequate nutrition, due to severe dysphagia. Gastrostomy tube placement is a treatment option which ensures enteral feeding and nourishment. The rectus sheath block seemed as the ideal option, because it provides somatic anesthesia to the abdominal wall structures superficial to the peritoneum.

Learning points: Regional anesthesia can sometimes be the only feasible option in managing patients with difficult airway and severe comorbidities.

03AP06-03
Continuous ultrasound-guided adductor canal block for perioperative analgesia in a patient with Haemophilia A undergoing total knee replacement

M.R. Ferreira Maia Barbosa1, M.T. Ribeiro Gomes Boneco1, R. Lopes Tavares de Pina1, J.F. Fernandes Santos Alves2
‘Centro Hospitalar e Universitário Lisboa Norte, EPE, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Case report: A 50 year old male with a known medical history of severe Haemophilia A presented for total knee replacement due to haemophilic arthropathy. Given the deficit of Factor VIII, it was decided to carry out factor VIII replacement before the surgery. Physical examination was normal except for pain in the left knee joint when walking. After general anaesthesia induction, the patient was suitably positioned and the ultrasound-guided adductor canal block with catheter placement was performed.

Discussion: Many patients affected by Haemophilia A undergoing orthopaedic surgery. The maintenance of an adequate level of Factor VIII is possible through the administration of Factor VIII concentrate, which is extremely important in the perioperative period. Although guidelines for regional anaesthesia in patients on anticoagulant therapy exist, there are no clear evidence-based guidelines on performing these techniques in patients with congenital coagulopathies. As for PNB’s, these enable adequate analgesia and can be safely performed in patients with congenital coagulopathies and corrected factor levels, thus reducing the use of opioids and avoiding the risks arising from the neuroaxial approach in these patients.

Reference:

Learning points: Perioperative multimodal analgesia in patients with coagulopathies is a great challenge for the anaesthesiologist. Therefore, we consider that continuous adductor canal block as part of multimodal analgesia was a safe and effective method in a patient with Haemophilia A. Additionally, it allowed us to use an opioid sparing analgesic strategy, reducing the side effects of these drugs and allowing early recovery and mobilisation.

References:
03AP06-04
Local anaesthetic systemic toxicity (LAST) in a patient with portal hypertension: a case report

FA. Iglesias1, M.G. Rossi1, M.P. Marton1
1Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background: LAST is an infrequent but severe complication associated with administration of regional anaesthesia. A variety of risk factors have been reported and recommendations for prevention were issued but there is no single measure that can anticipate and avoid LAST. There is a wide spectrum of presentations that includes neurological and cardiovascular manifestations.

Case report: This is the case of a 69 year old woman with a history of cirrhosis and portal hypertension, scheduled for elective laparoscopic left hemicolectomy for treatment of adenocarcinoma. Eco guided bilateral transversus abdominis plane block was performed by the end of the surgery using 2.5 mg/kg of ropivacaine as local anaesthetic.

After a short stay in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU), the patient remained confused and disoriented and had a sudden episode of generalised tonic seizures followed by hypoxia and cardiac arrest. We started cardiopulmonary resuscitation manoeuvres and intubated the patient.

After considering and dismissing any other causes, LAST was considered by the medical team in the PACU and we started an infusion of MCT/LCT 20% (Lipofundin)1.

After a single bolus of 100 ml, the patient recovered spontaneous circulation. She was successfully extubated and as she remained disoriented for the following hours, we performed a brain MRI. No pathological signs were found. The patient was transferred to the intensive care unit. She was discharged after 5 days without any remaining sequelae.

Discussion: This case suggests that portal hypertension with concomitant venous collateral circulation in the abdominal wall might constitute a potential risk factor for developing LAST. Previous studies or reports in the primary literature mention liver disease as a risk factor but it does not specify whether it is related to metabolic impairment or due to abdominal wall abnormalities2.

Further studies are needed in order to evaluate the indications for adding epinephrine as a coadjuvant drug in the solution so as to rapidly recognise intravascular injection and generate local vasoconstriction.

References:

Learning Points: Anatomical or functional abnormalities of the abdominal wall must be taken into account before performing abdominal interfacial blocks. The rapid recognition of the situation and the initiation of an adequate treatment are vital in the patient’s prognosis.

03AP06-05
Regional Anesthesia in a patient with Myotonic dystrophy type 1 – a case report

R. Graça1, L. Guariento1, H. Cavaco1, L. Ormonde1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Lisboa Norte, Anaesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Myotonic dystrophy type 1 (DM1) is considered a rare, genetic, progressive and multisystemic disorder that affects skeletal and smooth muscle as well as other organs3.

Respiratory and cardiac involvement, stigmata of difficult airway, as well as a heightened sensitivity to sedative, anesthetic and neuromuscular blocking agents can also increase the risk of anesthesia related complications in DM1 patients1,2.

Appropriate measures should be taken to reduce risk.

Case report: A 37-year-old female patient diagnosed with an adrenal mass was proposed for a laparoscopic unilateral salpingo-oophorectomy. Past medical history included DM1 with characteristic features: long and narrow face, high arched palate, distal muscle weakness and myotonia, dysarthria, first-degree atrophicventricular block and a left anterior fascicular block.

Other known diagnosis included endometriosis and dyslipidemia. The patient was classified as ASA III and the case discussed in a multidisciplinary meeting, which resulted in a change of the surgical approach to a laparotomy and allowed for the use of regional anesthesia. An epidural block was performed at L3/L4 level, and an epidural catheter left in place for intraoperative anesthesia and postoperative analgesia.

Spontaneous ventilation was maintained throughout the procedure and the patient kept warm to prevent myotonic contractures. The procedure and recovery were successful and uneventful.

Discussion: There is limited literature available on the most appropriate anesthetic management for the DM1 patient. Careful consideration must be given to the selection of anesthetic technique and agents. Also of paramount importance is the communication between the anesthetic and surgical teams.

This case hopes to demonstrate a valid anesthetic approach in this type of patient and procedure as well as the importance of communication between teams.

References:

Learning points: Facing a rare disease with potentially serious anesthetic implications, we must be able to maintain a dynamic anesthetic and surgical approach based on the best scientific evidence available, while being familiar with the relevant pathophysiological features of the disease.
**03AP06-06**

**Vocal cord palsy after neuraxial anesthesia - an unsolved mystery**

A. Correia¹, S. Lopes¹, E. Pedrosa¹, C. Granja¹
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário São João, EPE, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Transient upper cranial neuropathy is a rare complication following spinal anesthesia (SA). However, lower cranial neuropathies, including the vagus nerve, are seldom described and little is known about its etiology and recovery time.

**Case report:** This case reports a 77-year-old male with a medical history of hypertension and snoring. He was proposed for an open suprapubic prostatectomy. We performed a spinal anesthesia using a 25 gauge Quincke needle at level L3-4 with bupivacaine 0.5% and sufentanil. There was no airway or cervical vascular manipulation. The intraoperative period was uneventful. During the transfer to the recovery room the patient developed acute respiratory insufficiency, stridor, loss of consciousness and eye retroversion that prompt orotracheal intubation. On the same day, the neurologic exam and cranial CT scan were normal, leading to extubation that was unsuccessful due to respiratory insufficiency. A flexible laryngoscopy revealed bilateral vocal cord palsy (BVCP).

On the fourth day the patient was submitted to tracheostomy and continued further evaluation. Cranial MRI revealed a recent ischemic event but without involvement of the vagus nerve nucleus. The patient was discharged home 50 days after surgery without etiological diagnosis and functional improvement.

**Discussion:** Cranial nerve palsy secondary to SA has been related to intracranial hypotension due to cerebrospinal fluid leakage following dural puncture. Despite being rare, vagal nerve neuropathy has been previously associated with SA. When considering the possible mechanisms of BVCP, SA was the only event that preceded the symptoms. Additionally, all the acute etiologies were excluded. However, there were further investigations that could have supported the differential diagnosis. Facing the focal nature of clinical symptoms, laryngeal electromyography would be an important diagnostic tool as it could help differentiate vagus nerve injury or an isolated laryngeal recurrent nerve palsy, although it was not possible to perform it.

**Learning points:** Spinal anesthesia is rarely associated with cranial nerve neuropathy, which is usually transient and without permanent disability. Our case describes an idiopathic acute bilateral vocal cord palsy that immediately followed a spinal anesthesia, raising suspicions about the etiologic mechanism. We aim to raise awareness about this clinical entity and support the diagnostic investigation in further episodes.

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**03AP06-07**

**Case report: regional anesthesia in enzymatic debridement**

L. Leal¹, M. Ramos¹, P. Baticon¹, L. Gomez¹, M.T. Fernandez¹, R. Urruchi¹
¹Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Anesthesiology, Valladolid, Spain

**Background:** Nowadays, the availability of non-surgical debridement techniques, for example, enzymatic debridement with NexoBrid®, force anesthesiologists to know analgesic techniques for their application. It is ve NexoBrid is a topically product used to remove scars that shed from healthy skin after a burn, applied in an intensive burnt care unit. This kind of debridement is so painful requiring deep sedation or other techniques.

**Case report:** We present a 34-year-old man with termal second-degree burns in upper and lower right limbs and surrounding neck region, equivalent to 11% of his body area. Feeling was partially affected in upper limb. NexoBrid was applied in his burns under ultrasound-guided axillary brachial plexus block with injections of levobupivacaine 0,25% and mepivacaine 0,5%, 20 ml. We did not consider supraclavicular or interescalene brachial block as an option because neck region was affected. Anesthesia and surgical procedure occurred without complications. The patient related an EVA of 3 when he was reevaluated 4 and 8 hours after the procedure. Just another aditional quirurgical debridement was needed to be done a month later. There was no infectious complication described.

**Discussion:** Nexobrid® has introduced a new concept in the treatment of burnt patients, minimizing their aggression, trying to reduce the risk of compartment syndrome and surgical debridements afterwards. It is mandatory to use analgesia during its application. Intravenous sedation has been usually used. Regional anesthesia has rarely been described under these circumstances, however, is interesting to consider it because it provides analgesia for several hours in a less invasive way than deep sedation.

Despite this, infection risks should be concerned. Studies comparing regional techniques against general anesthesia would be also interesting.

**References:**

**Learning points:** Regional anesthesia should be take into account as an option to provide analgesia in enzymatic debridement processes; regarding the risks that are involved.
Intrathecal exacyl injection

M. Seyour¹, V. Kamps², C. Karler²
¹Université Libre de Bruxelles, Anesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium, ²IRIS SUD Hospitals, Anesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium

Background: Tranexamic acid (TA) is increasingly used in high-risk bleeding surgeries. Its new found success is the result of recent studies that have demonstrated a benefit in limiting blood loss. In parallel with its availability, intrathecal injection errors of TA are also increasing and are of concern to WHO. The purpose of this case report is to document the effects of a TA administration error during epidural anesthesia.

Case Report: 32 year old man, without any notable history, presented for a right internal saphenectomy. During spinal anesthesia, 300mg of TA was mistakenly injected instead of bupivacaine. Ten minutes after the injection, the patient experienced pain in the lower extremities that rapidly progressed to involuntary myoclonus. Sedation and then intubation were initiated, and the patient was transferred to intensive care. The seizures were then treated with hypnotics, muscle relaxants, and anticonvulsants. Arterial blood gases showed metabolic acidosis with increasing hyperlactatemia. The cerebral scan returned normal, and the sedated electroencephalogram (EEG) showed dysrhythmias with slow delta and diffuse theta waves. The patient was transferred to another hospital in the area for continuous EEG monitoring.

Discussion: As demonstrated in this clinical case, ampoule confusion resulting in intrathecal injection of TA induces very deleterious effects. A recent review identified more than 20 cases worldwide of accidental TA injections. The mortality rate was as high as 50% and neurological morbidity was severe among the survivors. The main clinical symptoms and signs were severe back pain, generalized myoclonus, severe hypertension, tachycardia, and arrhythmias. Another 2019 study reported an increase in cases since 1980 with a clear incidence in the last 2 decades. They also suggested strengthening preventive measures to limit these errors such as double-checking ampoules or separating them, either in a different cart or by requiring firms to change the physical similarities of the ampoules. Early therapeutic measures such as saline lavage of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) have been shown to limit the effect of TA on the spinal cord and to result in earlier revalidation.

Learning Points: In view of the increase in TA injection errors in recent decades, preventive solution plans should be protocolized, focusing mainly on physical differentiation of ampoules, specific placement of local anesthetics and washing of CSF as soon as possible.

Local anesthetics systemic toxicity in orthopedic surgery: a case report

P. Gaspar¹, I. Carrapatoso¹, T. Estevens¹, A. Faisco¹
¹Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Local anesthetics systemic toxicity (LAST) is a rare but potentially fatal complication of regional anesthesia. Major risk factors include local anesthetic (LA) and patient-related factors.¹

Case Report: 47-year-old woman, 80kg, presented for shoulder arthroscopy and left humerus plating. Medical history included obesity and nephrolithiasis. Ultrasound-guided left interscalene block was performed, with 20mL of 0.75% ropivacaine after negative aspiration. The patient was placed in the beach chair position and sedated with a 2mg/kg/h propofol infusion. Subcutaneous infiltration of the posterior arthroscopic port with 5mL of 2% lidocaine was administered and, without informing the anesthetic team, 15mL of 2% lidocaine was injected intraarticularly by the orthopedic team. 30 minutes after the block and 15 minutes after lidocaine infiltration, the patient became tachycardic (155bpm) and hypertensive (190/110 mmHg) and right arm myoclonic movements were noticed. Thirty seconds later, a tonic-clonic seizure occurred. LAST diagnosis was assumed and 20% lipid emulsion therapy was initiated (100mL bolus followed by 250mL infusion). For seizure control, midazolam 5mg, diazepam 6mg, and propofol 30mg were given. Endotracheal intubation was performed after induction with fentanyl 100μg and propofol 100mg. A central venous access and an arterial line were placed.

45 minutes later the patient was stable and was transferred to the PACU. Tonic-clonic seizures recurred after 15 minutes, which resolved after administration of 100mL of lipid emulsion. She was then transferred to the intensive care unit. There was no recurrence of symptoms nor neurological sequelae reported and the patient was discharged after 6 days.

Discussion: The major contributing factor to LAST in this case was LA overdosage due to a lack of communication between the surgical and anesthetic teams. Close monitoring of the patient after the initial treatment was crucial for the timely management of the recurring symptoms.

Reference:

Learning Points: Clear communication between the surgical and anesthetic teams is fundamental. Due to increasing use of LA by non-anesthesiologists there is a need to raise awareness regarding LA pharmacology and associated risks, as well as proper LAST management. Prolonged monitoring after initial treatment of LAST is required due to the risk of recurring symptoms.
03AP07-01
Effects of combine dexmedetomidine and regional analgesia vs propofol on posttraumatic stress disorder after Combat Trauma

D. Dmytriev
1National Pirogov Memorial Medical University, Anesthesiology, Pain Management and ICU, Vinnitsa, Ukraine

Objective: Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a frequent and disabling consequence of traumatic events. A previous study found that early use of propofol was a potential risk factor for PTSD. This prospective study aimed to investigate the effect of propofol and Combine Dexmedetomidine and Regional Analgesia on PTSD after emergency surgery in trauma patients.

Methods: A total of 94 combat trauma patients undergoing emergency surgery were randomly divided into two groups and anesthetized with propofol and/or Combine Dexmedetomidine and regional analgesia (DMM+RA). Perioperative clinical data were collected. The incidence of PTSD was evaluated with the Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5) in the two groups 3 months after the operation. The relevance of the injury time and CAPS-5 scores was assessed by Spearman correlation analysis. Logistic regression analysis was used to analyze the risk factors for PTSD.

Results: The incidence of PTSD in the propofol group was higher than that in the DMM+RA group 3 month postoperatively (27.4 vs. 14.3%, P = 0.012). The injury time was negatively correlated with the CAPS-5 score in the propofol group (r=-0.217, P < 0.001). In the logistic regression analysis, the utilization of propofol was an independent risk factor for PTSD (P = 0.014).

Conclusion: Early use of propofol in surgery for combat trauma patients may decrease the risk of PTSD.

References:

03AP07-02
Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) with sedation and thoracic paravertebral block improve post-operative pain control and reduce side effect in breast cancer patients

P.C. Liu1, W.N. Teng1
1Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Anesthesiology, Taipei, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) has gained popularity in recent years in breast surgery. We have provided non-intubated intravenous sedation and regional anesthesia with thoracic paravertebral block (TPVB) as ERAS protocol, which has been used since 2018 in Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taiwan. This study aims to compare general anesthesia (GA) to ERAS group in breast surgery, with the primary outcome being total post-operative analgesics dosage. Secondary outcomes were post-operative numerical rating scale (NRS) pain score, and incidence of post-operative nausea and vomiting (PONV).

Materials and Methods: 30 female patients whom underwent unilateral elective breast tumor wide excision, mastectomy with or without sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) under ERAS protocol were identified as ERAS group. For the GA group, 30 patients who received general anesthesia were selected to match ERAS group with sex, age, BMI and type of surgery. Charts were reviewed for post-operative analgesic use.

Morphine, pethidine and tramadol were converted into intravenous morphine equivalents and compared with t-test. NRS were also reviewed and compared with t-test. Incidence of PONV were compared with chi-square test.

Results: The results showed patients in ERAS group had significantly less nausea in NRS (ERAS 3.0±2.4, GA 5.4±1.6, p<0.01) and post-operative analgesic dose at post-operative unit (ERAS 1.67±2.6mg, GA 3.9±2.2mg, p<0.01) compared to GA group. However, patient in the ERAS group showed no significant difference (6.7% in GA group vs 10% in ERAS group) to GA group in PONV due to 23% (n=7) of patients in GA group had been given PONV prevention such as dexamethasone or 5HT-3 antagonist. There were no conversion to GA in the ERAS group and no complications such as pneumothorax, hypotension or excessive movement during operation.

Conclusion(s): Compared to GA group, patients in ERAS group have lower NRS score and post-operative analgesics consumptions. PONV prevention ability is equivalent to intravenous PONV prevention medications such as dexamethasone and 5HT3 antagonist.

03AP07-03
Haemodynamic changes after the application of dexmedetomidine as adjuvant in fascia iliaca compartment block: a retrospective database analysis

M. Maleczek1, C. Breza1, R. Bologheanu1, D. Laxar2, O. Kimberger1, K. Schebesta1
1Medical University of Vienna, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine, Vienna, Austria, 2Medical University of Vienna, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Health and Patient Safety, Vienna, Austria

Background and Goal of Study: Adequate pain management in patients with hip fracture is challenging. A fascia iliaca compartment block (FICB) is one of the possible anesthetic options. To increase block duration, the use of dexmedetomidine (DEX) was shown to be highly effective. However, DEX may lead to significant cardiovascular compromise.

There is little evidence on the effect of perineural DEX on intraoperative blood pressure in patients undergoing surgery for hip fracture compared to patients treated with FICB without DEX.

Materials and Methods: All adult patients suffering from hip fracture undergoing surgery between 1.1.2014 and 31.3.2022 at an academic center were included. Data were extracted from the routine anesthesia documentation via SQL. Data processing and calculations were done using Python.

Incomplete datasets were excluded. Intraoperative time with a mean arterial pressure (MAP) under 65mmHg (MAP65) in patients receiving FICB with DEX compared
to FICB without DEX (NODEX) was the primary outcome parameter. MAP65 was calculated as the longest time in minutes with a MAP continuously below 65 mmHg. Descriptive statistics were calculated, a t-test was used to compare MAP65 between DEX and NODEX. A multivariable regression was modelled including vasopressor doses (Atropine, Epinephrine, Glycopyrronium bromide, Norepinephrine, Phenylephrine, ASA status and the usage of spinal anaesthesia). For this regression model, DEX dose was calculated relative to weight to show a dose dependent association.

**Results and Discussion:** Data was available for 338 patients (109 DEX, 229 NODEX) with a mean dose of 110mcg (1.6mcg/kg) of DEX used.

The overall mean MAP65 was 10.7 minutes (SD: 19.0). There was no significant difference between the two groups (DEX: 13.5 (SD: 24.0) vs. NODEX: 9.4 (SD: 15.9) min, t-test, p = 0.07). In the multivariate regression, DEX dose per kilo was significantly associated with longer MAP65 (OR: 30.0, CI: 2.4-368). This shows that there is a dose dependent association between perineural DEX and intraoperative blood pressure.

**Conclusion:** Perineural DEX influences time with a MAP below 65mmHg in a dose dependent way.

**03AP07-04**

**Comparison of opioid requirements in patients with surgical versus ultrasound-guided rectus sheath catheters following laparotomies using audit data**

M. Li1, X. Yu2, E. Jack1, M. Freer1
1Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Larbert, United Kingdom, 2University of Edinburgh, British Heart Foundation Centre for Cardiovascular Science, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Rectus sheath catheters (RSCs), used increasingly for post-laparotomy analgesia, can be inserted surgically under direct vision or with ultrasound (US) guidance. In our hospital, patients with RSCs are routinely prescribed intravenous morphine, delivered by patient-controlled analgesia (PCA), in the initial postoperative period. PCAs deliver a bolus upon patient request, termed a ‘good demand’, followed by a 5-minute lockout, where further requests may be made but no morphine will be delivered.

Following PCA termination, patients experiencing ongoing pain not managed by RSC alone are started on long-acting opioids. No study has directly compared the analgesic effect based on the RSC insertion method.

Thus, routine data collected during an audit on RSC use (audit number: FV2021/14.1) was used to compare the analgesic effects of surgical and US-guided RSCs through the evaluation of postoperative opioid use.

**Materials and Methods:** Data on PCA and subsequent long-acting opioid use on 37 patients (surgical: n=23; US-guided: n=14) undergoing elective and emergency laparotomies between July to November 2021 was obtained through examination of medical records.

**Results and Discussion:** Duration of RSC use was similar between the surgical and US-guided groups (Table 1). Comparison of PCA use showed no significant difference in the average (i) duration of use, (ii) dose of morphine consumed, (iii) total number of demands, which was a sum of the ‘good’ demands and requests made in the lockout period, or (iv) the ratio of good: total demands (Table 1).

There was also no significant difference in the rate of long-acting opioid initiation following PCA termination (Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Surgical (n=23)</th>
<th>US-guided (n=14)</th>
<th>P-value (statistical test)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duration (days) of RSC use</td>
<td>3.7 (2.3 – 4.2)</td>
<td>3.2 (2.3 – 4.1)</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose (mg/day) of morphine consumed through PCA</td>
<td>3.3 (0.9 – 2.1)</td>
<td>1.6 (0.9 – 1.7)</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of patients started on a long-acting opioid following PCA termination (number (%))</td>
<td>5 (22%)</td>
<td>2 (14%)</td>
<td>0.68 (Fisher’s exact test)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1. Results**

**Conclusion(s):** The similar postoperative opioid use in patients with surgically-inserted and US-guided RSCs suggests similar analgesic effectiveness between these methods. This finding increases the potential accessibility of RSCs, and thus eases the integration of its usage into existing analgesic regimes.

**03AP07-05**

**Dosing of intrathecal morphine for analgesia in total hip arthroplasty**

A. Mandaric1, Z. Orešković1, I. Marić2, M. Žura1, S. Mihaljević1
1University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Department of Anaesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia, 2Clinical Hospital Dubrava, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Joint replacement surgery is one of the most painful surgical procedures. The key factor for post-operative length of stay and rapid recovery is perioperative analgesia. Spinal anaesthesia incorporating intrathecal morphine has been used as a systemic opioid-sparing technique.

The advantage of intrathecal morphine is due to its delivery into the perineural space with surgical versus ultrasound-guided rectus sheath catheters following laparotomies using audit data.
score in control group was 2.39. The results suggest that the least pain felt patients in the group who have received 250 mcg. The p-value in 250 mcg group was 0.001 compared to control group. Meta-analysis published in 2022 included 29 trials concluded that dose of 100 mcg is 'ceiling' dose for analgesia and a threshold dose for increased rate of postoperative nausea and vomiting. In this study, doses between 200 mcg and 250 mcg were administered because lower doses have shown to have less analgesic effect. Respiratory depression or any similar hypoventilation problems were not encountered, and PONV was noted in 13% of patients who have received dose 200mcg or above.

Conclusion(s): Patients who have received intrathecal morphine of 200 mcg or 250 mcg had lower pain scores compared with morphine dose of 100 mcg. Also, patients who were administered intrathecal morphine had VAS scale lower than in those in test group. Nevertheless, this topic required further randomised control trials to prove the efficacy of intrathecal morphine in different dosing regimens.

03AP07-06
Effects of levobupivacaine and ropivacaine on transmural dispersion of repolarization. Study in a porcine experimental model

J. Orallo1, L. Rodríguez2, I. Fernández1, S. García1, E. Vázquez1, M. Zaballos1, HGUGM
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Ropivacaine (R) and levobupivacaine (L) are considered to have a wider margin of cardiovascular safety than other local anesthetics (LAs) such as bupivacaine. However, there are several reports of arrhythmias and cardiac arrest related to the unintentional administration of these anesthetics. Abnormal cardiac repolarization increases the risk of arrhythmias and ventricular repolarization markers (corrected QT, QT-dispersion, corrected Tpeak-Tend and Tpeak-Tend dispersion) are useful to in predicting the risk of malignant arrhythmias. We aim to compare the effects of R and L on the transmural dispersion of repolarization in an experimental model of a non-lethal local anesthetic intoxication.

Materials and Methods: Miniature pigs were anesthetized and instrumentalyzed. Three quadripolar catheters were placed in the high right atrium, right ventricular apex, and in the His bundle recording area. Simultaneous 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG) recording was performed, and the data were continuously recorded with a polygraph monitor. Pigs were randomized into two groups that received a non-lethal dose of R (5 mg/kg) or L (4 mg/kg). Ventricular repolarization was recorded by a 12-lead ECG and analyzed manually at baseline and at 5, 15 and 30 min after drug administration. Arterial blood samples were taken at 0, 5, 10, 15 and 30 and R and L were measured.

Results and Discussion: 14 pigs were included in the study. One animal in L group died from a severe hemodynamic collapse. Each LA induced significant changes in ventricular repolarization: QTc interval increased significantly in both groups (L = 12 ± 8% in the L group; p = 0.046) vs. (L = 6 ± 10% in the R group; p = 0.01), with no difference between groups. QTD increased by 123 ± 69% in the L group and 34 ± 32% in the R group (p = 0.005 between groups). Corrected Tpeak-Tend interval increased by 108 ± 69% in the L group (p = 0.028) vs. 53 ± 32% in the R group (p = 0.01), with no difference between groups. Tpeak-Tend dispersion increased by 145 ± 53% in the L group vs. 60 ± 43% in the R group (p = 0.04). The AUC of plasma concentrations of LAs was higher in the R group, p = 0.02.

Conclusions: L and R induced significant changes in ventricular repolarization parameters. These alterations were more intense in the L group. The results observed in our experimental model suggest a superior arrhythmogenic potential of L compared to R.

03AP07-07
PENG block in perisurgical pain management of intracapsular femoral fractures

P. Gil Esteller1, N. Garcia Medina1, M. Martinez Garcia1, A. Peig Font1, C. Espinós Ramírez1
1Consorci Sanitari de Terrassa, Anestesiologia, Terrassa, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Hip fractures are very common in elderly patients and are associated with significant morbidity and mortality. Different regional techniques have been described to improve perioperative analgesia, allowing a lower consumption of opioids and reducing postoperative delirium. The anterior capsule of the hip joint contains the largest number of sensory and mechanoreceptor fibers and is innervated by the femoral nerve, the obturator nerve and the obturator accessory nerve. Pericapsular Nerve Group (PENG) block is a pure sensory block and its target corresponds precisely with the described innervation. We believe is likely to be more effective because of its high selectivity in intracapsular fractures. For this reason, we have decided to follow up a series of cases to evaluate the effectiveness of PENG block in these fractures.

Materials and Methods: Forty patients with intracapsular femoral fractures who could undergo PENG block and spinal anesthesia were included. We excluded patients with cognitive impairment. 15mL of ropivacaine 0.2% were used for the PENG echoguided block. Spinal anesthesia was performed with 10mg of bupivacaine 0.5% plus 10mcg of fentanyl. Moreover, conventional analgesia was administered. In case of visu-al numeric scale (VNS) >3-tramadol 1mg/kg and morphine chloride 2mg were prescribed. VNS after the reversion of the spinal block-age, VNS at 24 hours after surgery and the need of analgesic res-cues during this period were evaluated.

Results and Discussion: The average age of our population was 80 years. 95% of patients were ASA II-III. The fractures were mainly subcapital (80%) and hip replacement was performed in 72.5% while the rest were treated with osteointe-sis. After the reversal of the spinal block, 75% had VNS 0 and 25% reported VNS 1-2. 24 hours after surgery, 92% of our population reported no pain or mild pain. Merely 15% of the patients needed analgesic rescue with tramadol, no one needed morphine.

Conclusion(s): PENG block targets the innervation of the anterior capsule of the femur. That’s why we believe that its high selectivity makes it more effective for intracapsular femoral fractures. In our study population, most of the patients either reported no pain or mild pain after reversal of intradural anesthesia and 24 hours later. Also, a minority required analgesic rescue. So, we can conclude that PENG block is an effective approach for peri-surgical pain control in intracapsular femoral fractures.
03AP07-08
Artificial intelligence for femoral nerve visualization in ultrasound images

J. Berggreen1,2, A. Johansson1, J. Jahr1, S. Möller1,3, P. Jildenståhl4,5,6, T. Jansson1,3
1Lund University, Department of Clinical Sciences Lund, Lund, Sweden, 2Skåne University Hospital, Intensive and perioperative care, Lund, Sweden, 3Skåne Regional Council, Department of Information Technology and Clinical Engineering, Lund, Sweden, 4Lund University, Department of Health Sciences, Lund, Sweden, 5 Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Surgery and Intensive Care, Gothenburg, Sweden, 6Örebro University Hospital and School of Medical Sciences, Örebro University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Örebro, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: The number of hip fractures per year is estimated to reach 6 million worldwide by the year 2050. The most central intervention in emergency care for patients with hip fracture is pain relief. Despite many advantages of regional blocks when managing pain from such a fracture, these are used to a lesser extent than general analgesia. One reason is that the opportunities for training and obtaining clinical experience in applying nerve blocks can be a challenge. Ultrasound image guidance based on Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be one way to increase nerve block success rate. We propose an approach using AI to identify the femoral nerve in ultrasound images.

Materials and Methods: In order to obtain sufficient data to train a model, 1410 ultrasound images of the femoral nerve were collected from 48 patients and were annotated by a clinical professional. The image set was divided into train-, validation-, and test-sets with a 70/20/10 percent split. The segmentation model architecture of choice for this project was U-net as presented by Ronneberger et al [1]. Intersect over Union (IoU) was used as the primary metric. The intersect represents the overlap between the manually annotated image mask and the predicted mask. The union is the combined area of the two masks, hence, the quota between the two expresses the percentage of overlap of the two total areas.

Results and Discussion: After training the model we achieved a Mean IoU of 69%. In order to further validate the result a 10-fold crossvalidation was performed and this resulted in a Mean IoU of 74%. Figure 1 shows an image with an IoU of 57%.

Figure 1. Left: Expert’s manual annotation of the femoral nerve. Right: Trained U-net segmentation of the femoral nerve.

Conclusion(s): The results indicate that the technique shows potential for assisting the inexperienced user when performing nerve blocks. In further studies we aim to evaluate what performance is needed for this to be used as a clinical tool and at which experience level the tool can provide the most benefit.

Reference:

03AP07-09
The postoperative analgesic effect of liposomal bupivacaine on gynecological and obstetric surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis

B. Jiao1, C. Chen1
1West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Anesthesia, Chengdu, China

Background and Goal of Study: Effective measures should be taken to reduce postoperative pain in female patients undergoing gynecological and obstetric surgery. The nerve block is an important component of perioperative multimodal analgesic methods, but it may not be effective in controlling postoperative pain for long periods due to the limited duration of action of current local anesthetics. Liposomal bupivacaine is a local anesthetic with a sustained slow release that lasts 72 hours. However, the effect of this drug in patients undergoing gynecological and obstetric surgery is unclear. Therefore, the aim of this meta-analysis was to investigate the effect of liposomal bupivacaine on postoperative pain in this population.

Materials and Methods: This meta-analysis was conducted in line with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses. The database, including PubMed, Web of Science, Embase via Ovid, and the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, were searched by two searchers independently to gain relevant research from inception to 09, November 2022. In addition, the relevant pieces of literature have been hand-searched. The randomized controlled trials (RCTs) concerning the effect of liposomal bupivacaine on postoperative pain, meeting the inclusion criterion, were brought into this meta-analysis.

Results and Discussion: A total of 25 full-texts were screened and a final number of 12 studies were included. Of these studies, eight studies evaluated the effect of liposomal bupivacaine on total opioid consumption at 72h postoperatively, and there was no statistical significance between the liposomal bupivacaine and control groups (Standardized mean difference 0.08, 95% Confidence interval -0.24 to 0.41, P=0.61). Eight studies evaluated the effect of this local anesthetic on pain score at 72h postoperatively, and the difference was also not statistically significant (Standardized mean difference -0.24, 95% Confidence interval -0.53 to 0.04, P=0.10).

Conclusion(s): This systematic review and meta-analysis suggested that the liposomal bupivacaine could not reduce opioid consumption and pain intensity at 72h postoperatively. Therefore, in this population, more studies were needed to further investigate the effect of liposomal bupivacaine on postoperative pain and analgesics.

Acknowledgements: We are much grateful that the studies included in this meta-analysis.
03AP07-11
Effectiveness of different doses of prophylactic dexamethasone in post-spinal anesthesia hypotension mitigation, in elective abdominal surgery elderly patients

I. Cîndea1, A. Balcan2, V. Gherghina1, B. Samoila3, D.O. Costea1, M. Prazaru1
1Emergency Clinical Hospital of Constanta, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Constanta, Romania, 2Ovidius University of Constanta, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Constanta, Romania, 3John Radcliffe Hospital, Intensive Care, Oxford, United Kingdom, 4Emergency Clinical Hospital of Constanta, General Surgery, Constanta, Romania

Background and Goal of Study: Spinal anesthesia is used for surgery in elderly, being preferred for its efficacy, minimal impact on mental status and protection against thromboembolic disease. However, it comes with an increased risk of potentially harmful hemodynamic disturbances. Post-spinal anesthesia hypotension in elderly is challenging. Fluids and vasoactive agents that are used to treat this condition prone the patient to the risk of hypervolemia and myocardial ischemia.

This randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study evaluates the effect of 2 doses of prophylactic dexamethasone (4 and 8mg) vs placebo, on the hemodynamics during elective surgery under spinal anesthesia in elderly.

Materials and Methods: 108 patients (ASA I-III), aged >65 years, scheduled for abdominal elective surgery under spinal anesthesia, were included. They were randomly assigned to 3 groups, each with 36 patients. They received 1h preoperatively 4, respectively 8mg of intravenous dexamethasone for groups D4 and D8, while group P was given normal saline.

The primary outcome was the incidence of hypotension assessed every 10min, during first 30min after spinal anesthesia.

The secondary outcome measures the requirement of ephedrine for the same interval. The incidence of nausea/vomiting, bradycardia, pruritus and shivering were recorded, too. Collected data were analyzed using Student’s t-test and Fisher’s test, p<0.05 being considered as statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: The incidence of spinal anesthesia induced hypotension was significantly lower in groups D8 (p<0.01) and D4 (p<0.05) vs placebo, for all time intervals. Group D8 had an advantage in terms of hemodynamic stability against D4, without statistical value. The epinephrine consumption was significantly less in dexamethasone patients vs placebo (p<0.05). Nausea/vomiting was less experienced in dexamethasone groups vs placebo (p<0.05).

No difference was mentioned among groups concerning bradycardia. Pruritus and shivering were detected with a statistically lower incidence in D8 vs D4 (p<0.05), respectively in D4 vs placebo (p<0.01).

Conclusion: Our data suggest that prophylactic dexamethasone could be efficient in reducing the incidence of spinal anesthesia-induced hypotension and of vasopresor request, without significant differences between doses, in elderly undergoing abdominal elective surgery. A favourable impact on other spinal anesthesia associated adverse events should be considered, too.

03AP07-12
Perineural dexamethasone inhibits neuronal excitability and exerts a neuroprotective effect in human nociceptive dorsal root ganglion neurons

P.S.H. Smulders1, M.E. Pakker1, J. Hermanides1, M.W. Hollmann1, N.C. Weber1, W. ten Hoope1,2
1Amsterdam UMC Location AMC, Department of Anaesthesiology – Laboratory of Experimental Intensive Care and Anaesthesiology (L.E.I.C.A.), Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2Rijnstate Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Arnhem, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Dexamethasone is often used as a perineural additive to prolong the duration of analgesia of regional anaesthesia. However, controversy remains over the existence of a peripheral mechanism of action, and dexamethasone’s potential neurotoxicity.

We hypothesize that dexamethasone inhibits peripheral electrical activity, and study this effect and its neurotoxicity in a human induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-derived nociceptive dorsal root ganglion (DRG) neuron model.

Materials and Methods: Nociceptive DRG neurons were obtained from Human iPSC-Derived Sensory Neuron Progenitors (Axol Bioscience) by lineage-based differentiation. Differentiation was confirmed 21 days post-seeding using brightfield microscopy and immunostaining for markers of the peripheral nociceptive nervous system (e.g. BRN3A, TRPV1 and Na, 1.7). Microelectrode array was used to study the effect of dexamethasone on electrical network activity or spikes.

Neurotoxicity of dexamethasone was assessed using luminescent ATP, LDH, and caspase enzyme activation assays. (Un)paired T-tests were used to compare the effect of dexamethasone on spikes to untreated control, and baseline and recovery measurements. Toxicity data is presented descriptively.

Results and Discussion: Cells showed typical DRG neuron morphology and expressed the expected (nociceptive) markers. Dexamethasone 1 mM (a concentration found using a dose-response trial) produced a reversible inhibition of electrical activity (Fig. 1A), compared to untreated controls (P<0.001), baseline (p=0.02) and recovery (p=0.026) measurements.

![Fig. 1A. Dexamethasone 1 mM reversibly inhibits electrical network activity (or spikes)](image)

Protective effects of dexamethasone 1 mM were found for LDH release and caspase 3-7 activation after 24 h incubation, while intracellular ATP was decreased (Fig. 1B).
Conclusion: Perineural dexamethasone was shown to inhibit electrical network activity of nociceptive DRG neurons, while exerting a predominantly neuroprotective effect. Future research should study the mechanism underlying the demonstrated effect on electrical activity.

03AP07-13
Total knee arthroplasty and total hip arthroplasty: perioperative analgesia strategies and pain control

P. Martins Lima1, R. Leite Aguiar1, M. Barros1, F. Oliveira1, C. Pinho1, S. Fonseca1
1São João University Hospital Centre, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: Total knee arthroplasty (TKA) and total hip arthroplasty (THA) are major orthopedic procedures associated with intense early postoperative pain. Pain management is crucial and determines the outcome of the recovery process after surgery. The main aim of this study was to characterize perioperative anesthesia and analgesia strategies applied to patients submitted to TKA and THA and identify perioperative factors affecting pain control (NRS <3) in the recovery room, 24 hours (h) and 48h postoperatively.

Materials and Methods: A prospective study was conducted in a tertiary hospital, evaluating patients who underwent elective TKA and THA, between January 2020 and May 2021. The exclusion criteria were inability to provide informed consent; age <18 years, ASA >3; history of allergy to local anesthetics or >2 analgesics; contraindication for locoregional anesthesia (LRA) and chronic pain unrelated to the surgical site. Mann-Whitney U, Chi-square and Fisher’s exact tests and logistic regression were used for statistical analysis. Approval by the local ethics committee and informed consent from all patients were obtained.

Results and Discussion: A total of 110 patients (58 TKA/52 THA) were included, 62.7% females, with a median age of 68. Intraoperative anesthesia technique comprised 81.8% LRA, 10.0% general anesthesia (GA) and 8.2% combined (GA + LRA).

At the recovery room, 14.5% patients presented uncontrolled pain at admission and 3.6% at discharge. At 24h and 48h postoperatively, 16.2% and 5.4% presented uncontrolled pain at rest, 61.3% and 48.6% at movement, respectively.

Both TKA (vs THA) - OR 4.96 (1.01-24.39, p=0.049) and LRA (vs GA) - OR 0.02 (0.0-0.17, p<0.001), were independently associated with uncontrolled pain in the recovery room. Combined postoperative analgesia OR 0.36 (0.14-0.93, p=0.035) and uncontrolled pain at movement at 24h OR 2.9 (1.2-6.9; p=0.016) were associated with uncontrolled pain at movement at 48h postoperatively.

Conclusion(s): Anesthesia and analgesia strategy are key determinants of perioperative pain control. Both the choice of LRA and a combined postoperative analgesic protocol are the best choice to reduce immediate and 48h postoperative pain control, respectively. Also, TKA and uncontrolled pain at movement at 24h were found to be risk factors to uncontrolled pain in the recovery room and uncontrolled pain at movement at 48h postoperatively, respectively. Since ineffective pain control results in postoperative complications and hinders successful recovery, establishing a common understanding of what constitutes the practice when it comes to pain management after TKA and THA, is crucial.
04AP01-01
The role of noradrenaline in maintenance of haemodynamic stability during spinal anaesthesia for caesarean section - randomized single-blinded controlled study
I. Pažur¹, L. Lijović¹, O. Ožegić¹, B. Bodulica¹
¹University Hospital Centre Sestre Milosrdnice, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Medicine and Pain Management, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Maternal hypotension during spinal anaesthesia for caesarean section can provoke deleterious effects on mother and child’s well-being. The effect of noradrenaline boluses on maternal mean arterial pressure (MAP) was examined in comparison with equivalent doses of ephedrine and phenylephrine. The incidence of nausea and/or dizziness and bradycardia as secondary outcome was recorded.

Materials and Methods: 27 healthy parturients were randomly assigned in noradrenaline (N) or control group (C). Co-loading with 500 ml of intravenous saline was received in both groups. Upon neuraxial procedure, bolus of 8 mcg of noradrenaline was given. In control group, equivalent doses of phenylephrine or ephedrine were administered. In case of HR less than 100/min ephedrine was given, otherwise phenylephrine was the vasopressor of choice. MAP and HR were recorded before spinal (MAP₁ - time zero) and then every 3 minutes from intrathecal drug administration until delivery (MAP₂-MAP₆). Hypotension was defined as a drop of MAP below 65 mmHg or as decrease of systolic blood pressure by more than 20% of baseline value and was treated accordingly. In case of bradycardia, atropin 0.5 mg was given.

Results and Discussion: Demographic characteristics were comparable. There was no significant difference between groups regarding MAP (Table 1, Figure 1). Similar findings exist regarding the incidence of nausea/dizziness (p=0.999).

Figure 1. Mean arterial pressure - percent (%) change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>N group (n=14)</th>
<th>C group (n=13)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAP₁</td>
<td>96.3 (7.3)</td>
<td>89.3 (14.5)</td>
<td>0.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP₂</td>
<td>88.0 (13.5)</td>
<td>84.6 (17.3)</td>
<td>0.574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP₃</td>
<td>73.8 (14.4)</td>
<td>70.4 (18.4)</td>
<td>0.591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP₄</td>
<td>76.2 (15.2)</td>
<td>73.8 (16.3)</td>
<td>0.693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP₅</td>
<td>76.9 (10.5)</td>
<td>74.3 (11.2)</td>
<td>0.532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP₆</td>
<td>73.3 (11.6)</td>
<td>73.2 (14.5)</td>
<td>0.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypotension</td>
<td>10 (71.4)</td>
<td>8 (61.5)</td>
<td>0.900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradycardia (HR&lt;60/min)</td>
<td>3 (21.4)</td>
<td>1 (7.7)</td>
<td>0.908</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are expressed as mean (SD) or n(%). MAP is expressed in mmHg.

Table 1. Maternal haemodynamic data

Conclusion: Noradrenaline is not superior to combination of phenylephrine and ephedrine boluses. However, it can be a valuable tool in management of spinal hypotension in obstetrics.

04AP01-02
The relationship between peripartum pain and maternal bonding
R. Shebelsky¹, W. Sadi²,³,⁴, P. Hesen⁵, S. Orbach-Zinger²
¹Rabin Medical Center Beilinson, Anesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel, ²Rabin Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Petach Tikva, Israel, ³Beilinson hospital campus, Anesthesiology, Petah tiqva, Israel, ⁴Beilinson, Anesthesiology, Petah tiqva, Israel, ⁵Beilinson, Statistics, Haifa, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Mother-infant bonding is a woman’s early maternal emotions and connectedness to her offspring. Impaired bonding can lead to devastating consequences. There are peripartum risk factors for impaired mother-infant bonding but the influence of peripartum pain on bonding has not been studied. Therefore, we designed this study to investigate whether peripartum pain influenced postpartum bonding.

Materials and Methods: After institutional review board approval and signed informed consent, women were recruited on first postpartum labor. All women with live healthy offspring not admitted to the NICU were included. Women were asked about BMI, gravity, parity, type of delivery, type of analgesia or, type of rooming in (partial or full rooming in), breastfeeding (yes, no) as well as postpartum depression (PPD, Edinburgh Postpartum depression scale). Then they were asked to quantify average and maximal pain during labor and in the first 24 hours postpartum (Verbal Numeric Score (0-10), Maternalinfant bonding was assessed using the Post-Partum Bonding Questionnaire, a validated questionnaire consisting of 25-item scale assessing the mother’s feelings and attitudes towards her baby.

We conducted a univariable regression analysis with average and maximum intrapartum and postpartum pain as the independent variables and PBQ as the dependent variable. The multivariable regression model included age, BMI, gravidity, parity, type of delivery, type of analgesia or, type of rooming in (partial or full rooming in), breastfeeding (yes, no), postpartum depression (PPD), higher education (yes/no), salary status (above or below average) as well as intrapartum and postpartum pain (0-10) as independent variables and the PBQ as the dependent variable.

Results and Discussion: A total of 750 women were recruited. 559 (74.5%) underwent normal vaginal, 21 (2.8%) underwent instrumental vaginal, 112 (14.9%) underwent elective CS, and 58 (7.7%) underwent emergency CS. In the univariable and multivariable regression analysis, we found no influence of either average or maximal pain either intrapartum or postpartum on postpartum bonding. However, in the multivariable regression, PPD was independently associated with a higher PBQ score, beta-coefficient 2.63 (95% Confidence Interval, 1.1 – 4.6, p = 0.002).

Conclusion(s): We were unable to show any relationship between peripartum pain and maternal bonding. However, there was a strong relationship between bonding and mood.
Background and Goal of Study: Depressed mood immediately postpartum is a predictor for development of postpartum depression (PPD). There is controversy whether peripartum pain influences postpartum depression. One of the reasons for this controversy is that PPD is multifactorial and previous studies investigating this relationship did not control for other factors. Therefore we decided to investigate the relationship between peripartum pain and depressed mood after controlling for other factors.

Materials and Methods: After IRB approval and signed informed consent, Women with live healthy offspring not admitted to the NICU were recruited on first postpartum day. Women were asked about BMI, gravity, parity, type of delivery, personal or family history of depression, marital and economic status. Women were asked to rank average and maximal pain both intrapartum and in the 24 hours postpartum. They were then asked to fill out the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS), a 10-item validated questionnaire; higher scores indicating worse mood.

We performed univariable linear regression by including average/maximum intrapartum or postpartum pain as independent variables and EPDS score 24 hours after delivery as the dependent variable. We then did a multivariable linear regression analysis including age, BMI, gravity, parity, type of delivery, breastfeeding (yes/no), rooming-in (yes/no), education level (college/no), marital status (married/not) as well as salary (above/below average) as well as average/maximum intrapartum/postpartum pain as independent variables and EPDS score 24 hours after delivery as the dependent variable. We report beta-coefficients of the linear regression model as well as 95% Confidence Intervals(CIs).

Results and Discussion: In the univariable regression analysis, we found that neither average nor maximum intrapartum pain were associated with higher EPDS scores. However, we found that higher maximum pain after labor (beta-coefficient 0.20 [95%CI; 0.08 – 0.31], p = 0.001) as well as higher average pain after labor (beta-coefficient 0.23 [95%CI; 0.11 – 0.35], p < 0.001) predict higher EPDS scores.

In the multivariable regression model, we found that maximum pain postpartum (beta-coefficient 0.17 [95%CI; 0.04 – 0.29], p = 0.009) as well as average pain postpartum beta-coefficient 0.21 [95%CI; 0.09 – 0.34], p < 0.001 were still predictive of higher EPDS.

Conclusion(s): Treatment of postpartum pain is crucial as it may influence mood disorders.
**04AP01-06 Melatonin reduces blood loss during scheduled cesarean section under spinal anesthesia**

H. Khouadja¹, H. Liouane¹, F. Mighri¹, K. Khiareddine¹, A. Brahim¹, K. Ben Jazia¹
¹Farhat Hached Teaching Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Sousse, Tunisia

**Background:** Cesarean section rate is increasing worldwide despite WHO recommendations of 10-15%. Bleeding during c-section is one of the major concerns and uterine atony is the main cause of post-partum hemorrhage. Several therapies are used to prevent bleeding during surgery. Melatonin has been implicated in the induction of labor by initiating uterine contractions and increasing their intensity. The aim of the study was to evaluate the efficacy of melatonin as a premedication to reduce blood loss during a scheduled c-section under spinal anesthesia.

**Materials and Methods:** A prospective randomized double-blind study was conducted over a period of 2 months in a tertiary maternity center. After oral and written informed consent, ASA I and II parturients, with singleton pregnancies, proposed for a scheduled c-section under spinal anesthesia were included. Twenty minutes before c-section, parturients received either melatonin 6 mg (group M) or placebo (group P) sublingually. Spinal anesthesia was performed with hyperbaric bupivacaine 10 mg + sufentanil 2.5 μg + morphine 100 μg for a T4 sensitive block. After fetal extraction, 05 UI of oxytocin were administered as an IV bolus followed by 10 UI over a period of 30 minutes. Additional boluses of 05UI of oxytocin were added at the surgeon’s request to achieve good uterine tone. We noted parturients hemodynamic status (HR and MAP) and anxiety level (simple verbal scale 0-10), intraoperative bleeding (weight of gauzes used during surgery) and total oxytocin dose received. Our primary endpoint was the measured blood loss. The secondary endpoint was the total dose of oxytocin consumed. A p value<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

**Results:** Our study population included 60 parturients in each group. No significant differences in demographic or obstetric characteristics were noted between the two groups. The mean blood loss was 187.21±27.01 ml in group M and 245.3±33.28 ml in group P (p<0.001). The median oxytocin dose was 15 [15-20] UI and 20 [20-25] UI in group M and group P respectively (p< 0.001). In the operating room, parturients in group M had significantly lower MAP, HR and anxiety score.

**Conclusion(s):** Melatonin has an anxiolytic effect and potentiates the action of oxytocin in the myometrium. In our study, premedication with melatonin allowed us to note a reduction in intraoperative blood loss and oxytocin consumption. Our findings need to be confirmed by other studies.

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**04AP01-08 Post cesarean pain management with Transversus Abdominis Plane Block (TAP Block)**

M.I. Benitez Collante¹, T.T. Meier¹, S. La Torre¹, S. Cilli¹, C. Alvarez¹
¹Hospital Materno Infantil "Ramón Sarda", Anesthesiology, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Background and Objectives:** The post-cesarean administration of effective analgesia decreases maternal convalescence, promotes early ambulation, optimizing the affective relationship with the newborn, being the Transverse Abdominal Plane Block (TAP-Block) a technique to achieve this. The general objective was to verify whether post-cesarean analgesia with TAP-Block is associated with a decrease in values obtained in the Visual Analogue pain Scale (VAS) and in opioid requirements, during the first 36 post-surgical hours. The secondary objectives were to determine if TAP-Block favors early ambulation, and if it decreases the need for rescue analgesia and the presence of adverse effects.

**Methods:** An observational, longitudinal, prospective, randomized case-control study was carried out at the Ramón Sardá Maternal and Child Hospital in Buenos Aires, between May and August 2019. The population consisted of 44 pregnant volunteers, ASA I and II, hemodynamically stable, who had cesarean delivery, with Pfannestiel incision, randomly distributed into two groups: study group, which underwent US guided TAP-Block with 1.5 mg/kg of ropivacaine after cesarian section, and a control group that did not. In both groups, IV Ketorolac 1 mg/kg/day was administered, and IV Paracetamol 1 gram in a continuous infusion, switching to oral administration upon recovery, and Tramadol 1 mg/kg as a rescue. Patients were visited every 2 hours during the postoperative period, recording the presence of pain and its VAS score, the need for rescue with opioids and its side effects.

**Results and Discussion:** The highest level of pain in the control group was recorded at 6 hours, while in the study group it was recorded between 8 and 12 hours. In the control group, 86% received rescue between 6 and 12 hours presenting adverse effects, achieving mobility and ambulation in more than six hours or the day after the procedure.
In the study group, 82% did not need rescue, nor presented side effects, registering ambulation in less than six hours, presenting a significant difference with the control group.

**Conclusion:** The TAP block is an effective analgesic technique for post-caesarean pain management.

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**04AP01-09**

**Retrospective observational study on individual factors influencing postcesarean delivery pain**

A. Manzano Valls1, O. Comino Trinidad1, M. Magaldi1, M. Santana Dominguez2, E. Meler1, A. Plaza1

1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Anesthesiology, Ressucitation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Maternofetal Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Pain after caesarean delivery (CD) has been associated with adverse events such as chronic pain, prolonged hospital stay, impaired maternal-fetal bond and postpartum depression. Multimodal analgesia is the most recommended strategy. However, little is known about individual risk factors predicting severe postoperative pain or low response to mainstay therapy. Aims of this study were to assess pain control after CD in our center and to explore the role of different factors to identify patients at higher risk of poorly controlled pain.

**Patients and Methods:** A retrospective observational study was conducted in a single Spanish hospital. Patients undergoing CD of all Lucas classification deliveries under spinal anaesthesia were recruited.

Data collected: demographic, medical and obstetric, body mass index (BMI), previous surgeries, chronic pain treatment (CPT), type and dose of opioid. Numeric Pain Rating Scale (NPRS) at 6h and 12h and adverse events in the first 24h were also recorded. Data were analysed using Stata vs15.

**Results and Discussion:** 113 patients were recruited between June 2021 and July 2022. Mean age was 35.2 (SD 5.4) years old and mean gestational age was 38.3 (SD 5.5) weeks. 45.1% of patients had a previous CD and 54.9% had a previous abdominal surgery. 7.1% of patients were under CPT.

All patients received spinal fentanyl (mean dose 11.7 μg); 78.8% also received spinal morphine (mean doses 48.6 μg). Patients with spinal morphine had lower NPRS at 6h, both at rest (2.5 [IC95% 2.2-2.9] vs 3.7 [IC 3.1-4.4]) and at movement (3.7 [IC95% 3.3-4.0] vs 4.9 [IC 3.9-5.8]), but there was not a statistically significant difference at 12h.

There was an increased number of urine retention in patients who received morphine (p = 0.05), but a longer hospital stay was not required. This difference was not observed regarding pruritus (p = 0.60) nor nausea and vomiting (p = 0.49). NPRS was not modified by BMI, previous CD, previous abdominal surgery or CPT when adjusting by the use of morphine, neither at 6h or at 12h, nor at rest nor at movement. Time to discharge was not modified by these factors.

**Conclusions:** Concurring to literature, low doses of spinal morphine reduced postoperative pain without severe adverse events. Individual factors such as BMI, previous surgeries or CPT seem to not play a role into postoperative pain management in these patients.

**Reference:**


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**04AP01-10**

**Mothercare: listening to cries for help**

S. Meredith1, K. Slade1, K. Lake1, R. McKinnon1

1Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Department of Anaesthesia, Glasgow, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** The Scottish Intensive Care Society Audit Group (SICSAG) published a document entitled ‘Minimum Care and Quality Indicators for Critical Care in Scotland’. This outlines that all critical care units should conduct regular patient experience surveys on an annual or more frequent basis. We undertook a patient survey in the obstetric high dependency unit (OHDU) at Princess Royal Maternity (PRM) to ascertain the patients’ experience of their admission, and understand the follow up needs of this patient group.

**Materials and Methods:** A short telephone questionnaire was designed and conducted at least 6 weeks post discharge from OHDU. Patient data and consent for follow up survey was obtained during the patients hospital admission and recorded on Ward Watcher. Patients completed a telephone interview about their care in OHDU.

**Results and Discussion:** 15 patients completed the follow up survey. The mean length of OHDU stay was 2.52 (1-4) days. 100% of patients surveyed were aware that they had received a higher level of care than usual, and knew why this was. 53% (n=8) patients said their OHDU stay had affected them emotionally or psychologically, and 6% (n=1) physically. 20% (n=3) had unanswered questions about their OHDU stay, and 40% (n=6) of patients said routine follow up after their OHDU admission would have been helpful. 53% (n=8) of patients said their OHDU stay made them feel anxious about having future children. A poster and patient leaflet were subsequently designed and distributed to OHDU patients. This allows access to patient initiated follow up.

**Conclusion(s):** More than half of the patients in our survey were experiencing emotional or psychological effects of their OHDU stay and many patients expressed a wish for follow up. Our patient information leaflet and poster will improve access to patient initiated follow up, and we plan to monitor the impact of this on our patients and services in the coming months.

**Reference:**


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**04AP02-01**

**Expect the best, prepare for the worst: amniotic fluid embolism (AFE) + atypical haemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS) in a cascade mode. Anything else to treat?**

T. Gonzalez García1, M. Lema Tomé1, J. Laso Perez1, M.S. Perea Fernandez1, E. Cabezuelo Markaide1

1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiologia y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** AFE and aHUS are two entities related to pregnancy with high fetal-maternal morbimortality unless early diagnosis and treatment is set. AFE is caused by abnormal activation of immunologic mechanisms following entry of fetal antigens into maternal circulation. aHUS is a disorder defined by microangiopathic hemolytic...
anemia and thrombocytopenia which affects the kidneys with anuria and renal failure (RF). We present a case of a patient with these two entities in the immediate puerperium and the ICU management. **Case report:** A 39-year-old woman, no previous clinical records. G3A2.After forceps delivery, the patient presented poor general condition, headache, hypothermia and intense piloerection. She was tachycardic, tachypneic and hypotensive and there was evidence of obstetric hemorrhage with DIC (Hb 8.1gr/l, 60,000 platelets, INR 2, APTT 65.9, fibrinogen 163) requiring transfusion and placement of a Bakri balloon. Since leaving the OR, anuria was evident not responding to diuretics with impaired renal function (Creatinine 1.34, GF 51, K+ 5.7 and Na 135). The nephrology department was notified that postpartum aHUS with secondary anuric FR was suspected, requiring extrarenal purification.

A complement genetic study was requested, which showed that she was a carrier of heterozygous aHUS risk polymorphisms and treatment with eculizumab was started. A progressive improvement of renal function was observed but did not return to normal levels at discharge.

**Discussion:** Although infrequent we must not stop thinking about AFE since the clinical picture can vary from cardiopulmonary collapse to non-specific symptoms. 70% of cases present as atonic hemorrhage. Early diagnosis and treatment are essential: cardiovascular support, coagulopathy and hemorrhage management. C1-esterase inhibitors may be potential therapeutic options.

Fetal and amniotic fluid antigens from the AFE can stimulate complement activation, which is what most likely occurred in our case and was the cause of the aHUS, damaging the microvascular endothelium.

This entity can mimic other pathologies (preeclampsia or HELLP). Genetic analysis together with anti-CFH antibodies confirm the diagnosis, but the absence of mutations does not exclude it. The treatment of choice is cardiovascular support with plasmapheresis and eculizumab.

**Learning Points:** Although infrequent, these entities require close management, early diagnosis and treatment by a multidisciplinary team to avoid fetal-maternal morbimortality.

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**04AP02-02**

**Spinal bupivacaine in a pregnant Brugada patient with SARS-COV2 infection: an unnecessary or a calculated risk?**

J. van der Kellen1, M. Pimentel1

1Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, Anesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

**Background:** Brugada Syndrome (BrS) is a rare channelopathy caused by several mutations, the most common is on the SCN5A gene which encodes the cardiac sodium channel. Patients with BrS are at risk of developing ventricular arrhythmias and sudden cardiac death.1 Arrhythmic events during the peri-operatory period are rare, so most recommendations are theoretical and based on pharmacodynamics and physiopathology.

**Case report:** We report the case of a 35-year-old full-term pregnant female patient that presented to the Emergency Room in labor. The patient had an incidental diagnosis of Type I BrS and had an ICD (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator). The pregnancy was complicated with gestational diabetes, hypothyroidism, and gestational hypertension.

On admission, the patient was diagnosed with asymptomatic SARS-COV2 infection. The cardiotocography showed signs of fetal distress and an urgent C-section was required. The choice of anesthetic technique was complex. Spinal anesthesia with bupivacaine had risks because this drug is not recommended in BrS Patients.2 On the other hand, general anesthesia was also ill-advised. Due to the urgency of the procedure, all options were quickly reviewed with the patient, and spinal anesthesia was performed with 2ml of hyperbaric bupivacaine 0.5% and 2.5 μg of sufentanil with lower limb motor block and T4 sensory level block.

Because no eletrosurgery device was used, the ICD was not disabled for surgery, though a magnet was readily available if needed. Later, an epidural catheter was placed for postoperative analgesia with epidural opioids. The surgery and recovery were uneventful. The patient was discharged 3 days later.

**Discussion:** Bupivacaine is a local anesthetic with a distinct affinity for cardiac sodium channels that is thought to potentiate arrhythmias in BrS patients, although there are no studies that undoubtedly demonstrate the risk, particularly in spinal anesthesia.2 Because of conflicting evidence on the matter, this case aims to report the uneventful use of spinal bupivacaine in a patient with BrS.

**References:**


**Learning points:** Although Bupivacaine is not recommended in patients with BrS, its safety, particularly in spinal anesthesia, should be studied.

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**04AP02-03**

**Postpartum congestive heart failure following cesarean delivery for a pregnant woman with Fontan circulation: a case report**

O. Hisatomi1, Y. Takahashi1, T. Doi1, M. Matsumoto1, M. Watanabe2, J. Yoshino1

1JCHO Kyushu Hospital, Anesthesiology, Kitakyushu-shi, Japan, 2JCHO Kyushu Hospital, Pediatrics, Kitakyushu-shi, Japan

**Background:** Perinatal hemodynamics and management for parturients with Fontan circulation (FC) have yet to be established. The most commonly reported cardiovascular complications for pregnant women with FC are arrhythmias and heart failure 1). However, few cases with pathophysiological or clinical backgrounds in such complications are reported or discussed.

**Case report:** A 28-year-old woman, who had undergone total cavopulmonary connection for congenitally corrected transposition of the great arteries (ccTGA) without anatomic repair, was planned for cesarean section due to worsened congestive heart failure at 33 weeks gestation. Her NYHA was III, and anatomical right ventricle (aRV) ejection fraction, which was 58% before pregnancy, decreased to 38%.

She was induced and maintained with combined spinal and epidural anesthesia for the surgery. Her ABP, CVP, and ScvO2 were 147/76 mmHg, 16 mmHg, and 51%, respectively, before the surgery, and those scores did not change intraoperatively. In-out was -1440 ml during the surgery. CVP increased gradually up to 20 mmHg with worsened edema in her limbs and face after 5 hours since the
admission to the ICU. Her chest X-ray showed cardiomegaly and pulmonary edema. Furosemide was infused, and CVP decreased to 12 mmHg according to the increase of urinary volume. X-ray showed improved pulmonary vascular shadows on postoperative day (POD)2. So, she was discharged from the ICU on POD3.

**Discussion:** Prepartum hemodynamic changes could worsen heart failure for patients with FC due to sinus hypofunction and insufficient cardiac output increase. In the postpartum period, fluid shifts occur as the uterus contracts, which could result in fluid overload. In addition, FC with right ventricular morphology, including FC with aRV in cTGA, had less endurance for preload increase 2). Preoperative dilution of heart function and postoperative volume overload with her cardiac morphological character resulted in postoperative congestive heart failure in this case. Perioperative fluid restriction or inotropic agents might have been preventive for heart failure exacerbation in this case.

**References:**
2. Eriksen G et al. Open Heart 2018;5:e000902

**Learning Points:** Perinatal management for a patient with FC should be adjusted considering not only FC but also prepartum condition and cardiac morphology such as which ventricle is responsible to systemic circulation.

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**04AP02-04**

**Anesthesia management of severe thrombocytopenia secondary to HELLP syndrome diagnosed during labor**

B. Escontrela1, E. Saiz Ruiz1, E. Martínez Hurtado1, I. Acevedo Bambaren2, A. Abad Gurumeta1

1Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** HELLP syndrome is a severe form of pre-eclampsia presenting haemolysis (H), elevated liver enzymes (EL) and low platelets (LP) in a pregnant or puergular patient. It diagnose could be a challenge because patient could present hypertension, proteinuria, epigastric pain, nausea, vomiting, headache and malaise or only unexplained thrombocytopenia.

**Case report:** A 42 year old female 40 + 2 weeks pregnant was admitted for labor induction. Pregnancy was uneventful without laboratory disturbances or pre-eclampsia. After 12 hours of admission she presented epistaxis but blood pressure was normal. Patient was transfer to delivery room and she requested epidural analgesia. Anesthesia team requested a new laboratory test to rule out abnormalities and probably avoided serious complications of epidural analgesia. This case is very interesting because clinical course, severe thrombocytopenia of our patient requiring a cesarean section and the lack of hemorrhagic complications were not described previously for evidence as far as we know.

**Learning Points:** This case underscore the importance of clinical and laboratory evaluation of pregnant woman with unexplained hemorrhagic symptoms to rule out serious complications like HELLP syndrome related to higher morbidity and mortality.

**Discussion:** This case describes HELLP syndrome presenting with severe thrombocytopenia during induction labor in a patient with prior uneventful pregnancy and normal laboratory tests without hypertension making diagnosis more difficult than usual. Unexplained epistaxis makes that anesthesia team decided to request a new laboratory test to rule out abnormalities and probably avoided serious complications of epidural analgesia. This case is very interesting because clinical course, severe thrombocytopenia of our patient requiring a cesarean section and the lack of hemorrhagic complications were not described previously for evidence as far as we know.

**References:**
2. Eriksen G et al. Open Heart 2018;5:e000902

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**04AP02-05**

**Vasovagal syncope with asystolic pauses during labor in a previously healthy obstetric patient**

M.D. Calle Ortiz1,2, B.X. Vega Ortiz1,2, L. González Pérez-Villacastín2, J.M. Pérez De La Serna2

1Hospital Sanitas La Zarzuela, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario Rey Juan Carlos, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Arrhythmias during labor are not infrequent but rarely cause major clinical effects in both mother and child. Although tachycardia is expected to be the most common hemodynamic response to labor, the incidence of bradycardia is surprisingly high (1).

**Case report:** A 36-year-old, primiparous, healthy woman was admitted to ER for presyncope/syncope concerning labor contractions at full term. The ECG showed progressive bradycardia that evolved to complete AV block with asystolic pauses of up to 8 seconds with each contraction. Fetal monitoring showed bradycardias as a result of the maternal condition. The patient received a transitory pacemaker and had an emergency C-section. After intradural anesthesia, episodes of bradycardia/asytostola ceased. The patient gave birth to a healthy baby and 4 hours later the pacemaker was removed without further complications.

**Discussion:** Although during pregnancy, deep cardiovascular changes occur and labor is a state with a lot of pain and anxiety, there are few studies about arrhythmias during this period, especially in healthy patients (1,2). These studies found benign changes in rhythm in more than half of their subjects. The patients frequently presented supraventricular extrasystoles without clinical significance. In this case report, the patient had a neuromediated syncope with a predominance of cardioinhibitory reflex. The correlation between pain and bradycardia was clear since the beginning. The pacemaker ensured the patient’s hemodynamical stability, counteracting the possible side effects of intradural anesthesia and c-section. The patient was asymptomatic after birth and no more episodes were recorded during hospitalization.

**References:**
1. Incidence and characteristics of maternal cardiac arrhythmias during labor Ayal Romem, MD, MHA, Yitzhak Romem, MD, Miriam Katz, MD, and Alexander Battler, MD Am J Cardiol. 2004 Apr 1;93(7):931-3.
Learning points: This case illustrates the importance of early diagnosis of arrhythmias in obstetric patients along with a multidisciplinary management. In rare cases invasive procedures, like a temporary pacemaker, can be needed prior to any intervention or anesthetic technique to avoid maternal-fetal complications.

04AP02-06
Anaesthetic management of patient with low stature and cardiopathy for caesarean delivery: how much spinal dose should I use? Case report

M.d.C. Montañas Guimerá1, N. Brogły2, E. Guasch2, I. Valbuena2, C. Melero Pérez2, C. García García2
1Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, Anesthesiology, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario La Paz, Anesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background: Parturients with low stature and high BMI scheduled for cesarean delivery (CD) are challenging from an anaesthetic point of view due to the absence of recommended spinal doses for a height < 140 cm. This optimum dose allows to avoid the risk of insufficient extension and difficult airway if it were insufficient, or to a high or total spinal block in case it would be excessive. We report the case of a patient with very low stature, high BMI + structural cardiopathy who was scheduled for CD under neuraxial block, using a low dose of local anaesthetic.

Presentation of the Case: This 30-year-old pregnant women was scheduled for CD at 38 + 4 weeks of gestation. Her medical records showed an extremely low stature, with a BMI of 49 kg/m² (high 131 cm and weight 85 kg). She suffered from a double rheumatic mitral injury associated with a mild cardiac failure from the 30th week of gestation which had required medical treatment with diuretics and Beta blockers. At her arrival at the operating room her cardiac condition was stable. A CSE was perform using 5 mg of 0.5% heavy bupivacaine plus 20mcg fentanyl. Prophylaxis of hypotension was ensured using a continuous infusion of 5mcg/mL norepinephrine, with no further complications.

Five minutes after the intrathecal injection, a sensitive T4 level was achieved, and allowed the obstetricians to deliver a healthy newborn. The intervention lasted 70 minutes unventfully. The patient didn’t require any additional bolus through the epidural catheter and accomplished a complete motor recovery at 110 minutes after delivery. The patient was discharged home on day 5 after surgery without any complication.

Discussion and Learning Points: Our main objective in this report was to achieve an appropriate anesthetic level, with minimum risk of cardiac failure secondary to maternal hypotension, and taking into account the risk of intrapartum failed block. The determination of the optimum dose in a low stature patient was especially challenging, given that all recommendations conceiveem patients taller than 140 cm. Hypotension associated with spinal anaesthesia was efficiently treated with a continuous infusión of noradrenaline. A lower incidence of reflex bradycardia and a slight beta agonist action might not be necessarily beneficial in case of mitral insufficiency.

Reference:

04AP02-07
Epidural blood patch for post dural puncture headache in a parturient with active coronavirus disease 2019 in early postpartum

V. Mijovic1, D. Chiu2, J. Cambria3, K. Davis3
1Integrated Anesthesia Associates, UCONN School of Medicine, Anesthesiology, Hartford, United States, 2University of Connecticut, Anesthesiology, Hartford, United States, 3Integrated Anesthesia Associates, Hartford Hospital, Anesthesiology, Hartford, United States

Background: The safety of epidural blood patch (EBP) in patients with Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is unknown. A primary concern of using EBP in these patients is the possibility of seeding the virus into the central nervous system.

Case report: We are presenting a case of a 26-year-old G2P0 parturient who underwent vaginal delivery under epidural analgesia, complicated by accidental dural puncture. Her medical history was remarkable for anemia, and she was found to be COVID-19 positive on admission. The patient was experiencing mild upper-respiratory symptoms, and had never received immunization against COVID-19. Her laboratory results were remarkable for mild leukocytosis and hypocalemia. Approximately 24 hours after an uncomplicated vaginal delivery, the patient began to experience typical signs and symptoms of post-dural puncture headache (PDPH).

The headache was initially treated with conservative methods, including bedrest, oral hydration and Butalbital/ Acetaminophen/ caffeine, without significant improvement. The risks of performing EBP were discussed with the patient during informed consent, including limited data on performing EBP during active COVID-19 infection, and the possibility of viral spread into cerebrospinal fluid. Since the patient accepted the risk, was afebrile, and had no major laboratory abnormalities, we decided to proceed with EBP after the procedure the patient reported significant improvement of symptoms several hours afterward. She did not experienced any complications, and was discharged home the next day.

The patient had frequent follow-ups for 10 weeks and did not report any complications.

Discussion: To our knowledge, there are two reported cases of performing EBP in COVID-19 positive patients. (1, 2)

References:

Learning Points: In summary, we presented a single case report of an EBP in patient with mild COVID-19 disease. We cannot comment on the safety of performing EBP in patient with severe symptoms. Based on limited data, clinicians should weigh risk versus benefits of performing EBP, as PDPH may significantly interfere with postpartum recovery.
04AP02-08
Vaginal vs caesarean delivery for GUCH; when one’s logistical capabilities dictate the anaesthesia and mode of delivery

J. Sheffield1, A. Kollmann-Camaiora1
1Akademiska Sjukhuset, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Uppsala, Sweden

Background: Women GUCH (Grown-Up Congenital Heart Disease) require careful planning and management during pregnancy and delivery. The risk of complications depend on the underlying cardiac diagnosis, ventricular and valvular function, presence of cyanosis, pulmonary artery pressure and comorbidities.

Case report: 25-y.o primigravida, with a Fontan repair at 3-y.o due to a congenital single ventricle with a large non-restrictive VSD, transposition of the great arteries, valvular and subvalvular pulmonary stenosis and a small anterior outflow tract to the aorta. Basal SatO₂ 91 % with no increasing hypoxia on exertion, she could play football regularly. The patient wished to deliver vaginally. The multidisciplinary team focused on mode of delivery and anaesthesia. As she was considered WHO class III with good function, vaginal delivery was a viable option, but logistically not possible as the delivery ward lack invasive monitoring and was far away from thorax.

The alternative plan was for the first stage of labour to proceed in the thoracic-ICU and for the second stage in the thoracic operating theatre. A midwife would be present, as well as an obstetric anaesthetist, who would provide epidural analgesia and identify and treat complications.

Despite being a tertiary university hospital, with all resources, it was decided that it would not be feasible to try this plan for the first time in such a high-risk patient. She was scheduled for a caesarean section in the thoracic operating theatre. She received arterial and central lines. An epidural was placed at level L3-L4 and topped-up with ropivacaine 7.5mg/ml (titrated to Th4 level, with a total dose of 21ml given over 45 min).

After fetal extraction two 0.5U doses of iv oxytocin were administered. Fluids given were 1200 ml of plasmalyte and 200 ml of 20% albumin, bleeding was 300 ml. She was stable throughout and was transferred to the thoracic PACU. Discharged home at day 3.

Discussion: For hospitals treating high risk cardiac patients, protocols need to be in place in order to handle vaginal and caesarean deliveries according to patient wishes. We have since implemented a protocol to be able to provide vaginal delivery for this group of patients.

Reference:
Circulation 2017;8:50-87, EHJ 2018;39,3165–3241

Learning Points: Multidisciplinary teams are vital in the deliveries of high-risk patients. Protocols should be in place to offer patients a choice of delivery method based on patient preference.

04AP02-09
Rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM®)-guided management of a parturient with amniotic fluid embolism after caesarean section: a case report

C.M. Mouratidou1, E. Tsakyridou1, S. Zemou1, M. Fragkidou1, N. Panayi1, I. Markopoulos1
1Hippokrateion General Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background: Amniotic fluid embolism (AFE) is a rare (1:20000 deliveries), but often lethal complication that can occur during the peripartum period. Mortality may exceed 50% in the first hour.

Case Report: A 36-year-old parturient (G2P1), at 40 weeks’ gestation, was admitted for scheduled inducing labor. Past medical history included hypothyroidism and gestational diabetes. Nine hours after induction, she became unresponsive, developed hypoxemia and the cardiotocography showed fetal bradycardia.

Emergency c-section, under general anaesthesia, was decided and carried out immediately. The patient had cardiorespiratory instability intraoperatively. Oxytocin infusion was commenced right after the delivery, tranexamic acid (TXA) 1g was administered after the initial estimated blood loss of 1000ml and while pending the first ROTEM® results, which were indicative of severe coagulopathy with absence of thrombus formation.

Fibrinogen concentrate (FC) 2g, TXA 1g, 2 units FFP and 1 unit pRBC were given instantly. Subsequent ROTEM® results revealed significant hypofibrinogenemia and deficit in the extrinsic pathway coagulation factors; viz A5EXTEM 5mm, A5FIBTEM 0mm, CTEXTEM 503sec, so further FC 4g, prothrombin complex concentrate 1000 units and 1 unit pRBC were administered.

At the end of the c-section the patient was haemodynamically unstable, requiring a norepinephrine infusion 0.02mcg/kg/min. A CT scan displayed findings presuming AFE and brain lesions suggesting posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome.

Finally, the patient was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), where other FC 5g, 5 units PLTs and 1 unit pRBC were transfused, under the ROTEM® guidance. The patient was discharged from the ICU the following day, with no complications.

Discussion: AFE is characterised by cardiopulmonary collapse, coagulopathy and severe bleeding. Treatment is mainly supportive, with aggressive resuscitation and point-of-care ROTEM®-guided management being the cornerstones of an optimal outcome. In our case, ROTEM® was performed whenever it was deemed necessary and coagulation factors were transfused according to published PPH A5 ROTEM algorithm (Görlinger K, et al., 2019).

Learning Points: This rare case of AFE highlights the advantages of viscoelastic point-of-care coagulation testing, both in terms of rapid and targeted blood component therapy, in such challenging conditions.
**04AP02-10**
Anesthetic management for cesarean section in a pregnant woman with severe thrombocytopenia: a case report

G. Ribeiro¹, J. Laranjeira¹, M. Coelho¹, F. Lança¹
¹CHLN, Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

**Background:** Thrombocytopenia is a common finding in pregnancy and constitutes a diagnostic and management challenge.¹ The multidisciplinary approach during the peripartum period aims to minimize maternal and neonatal bleeding.¹,²

**Case Report:** A 29-year-old female gravida 1, para 0 was referred to our hospital for thrombocytopenia management during pregnancy. She had a history of thrombocytopenia detected 5 years earlier. Genetic testing hadn’t been able to confirm or exclude the monoallelic form of Bernard-Soulier syndrome.

During the third trimester, for suspicion of immune thrombocytopenia and platelet counts inferior to 50×10⁹/L, the patient was started on prednisolone. Due to poor response, it was decided to start the patient on intravenous immunoglobulin and dexamethasone.

At 37 weeks and 1 day of gestation, following premature rupture of membranes and considering breech presentation of the fetus, it was decided to proceed to Cesarean Section. The platelet count was 19×10⁹/L so we opted for general anesthesia.

During the procedure, after consultation with Hematology, she received dexamethasone 40mg, hydrocortisone 100mg, 2 units of platelets and tranexamic acid 1g. According to the institutional protocol, a bolus of 10 units oxytocin was administered and 10 units in a slow infusion, as well as additional misoprostol 800mcg rectally. A good surgical hemostasis was guaranteed by the surgical team and so the estimated blood loss was of 600mL.

There were no complications for mother or newborn.

**Discussion:** Management of thrombocytopenia in pregnancy remains a challenge and a multidisciplinary approach is key. Prior to delivery, the platelet count should be raised to at least 50×10⁹/L, to decrease the bleeding risk.¹,²

If Cesarean Section is planned, complications associated with the anesthetic technique must be considered, as regional anesthesia entails a risk of neuraxial hematoma and general anesthesia an increased risk of difficult airway access and mortality.²

**References:**

**Learning Points:** Management of thrombocytopenia in pregnancy aims to minimize maternal and neonatal bleeding. When considering Cesarean Section, the risks of regional anesthesia must be balanced against the risks of general anesthesia.

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**04AP03-01**
Does managing inadvertent dural puncture affect the incidence of post-dural puncture headache and the need for an epidural blood patch?

K. Azem¹,², O. Gonen¹,², M. Heesen³, Y. Binyamin⁴,⁵, I. Gruzman⁴,⁵, S. Orbach-Zinger¹,²
¹Rabin Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel, ²Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel, ³Kantonsspital Baden, Department of Anesthesia, Baden, Switzerland, ⁴Soroka University Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Beer-Sheva, Israel, ⁵Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Faculty of Health Sciences, Beer-Sheva, Israel

**Background and Goal of Study:** Inadvertent dural puncture (IDP) leads to post-dural puncture headache (PDPH), associated with severe neurological sequelae. Threading the catheter intrathecally (ITC) after IDP may mitigate PDPH, but data was inconclusive as there was variation in the duration of ITC and whether intrathecal saline (ITS) was injected.

Therefore, we investigated the effect of leaving an ITC, its duration, and ITS use on the incidence of PDPH and the need for an epidural blood patch (EPB).

**Materials and Methods:** This was a retrospective study from 2 tertiary referral hospitals using data from manual and electronic logs. IDP was managed either via repeating epidural or inserting ITC according to discretion. In the case of ITCs, anesthesiologists choose to remove it immediately after delivery or to keep it for 24 hours, and whether to inject 10 mL of ITS. The outcomes were the incidence of PDPH and the need for EPB.

Multivariable logistic regression was conducted, including BMI, gravidity, mode of delivery, multiple attempts, and epidural technique as independent variables. Adjusted odds ratios (aORs) along with 95% Confidence Intervals were computed. After assessing for normal distribution, a t-test or Mann-Whitney test was used for continuous variables. Fisher’s exact test was used for categorical variables. A p-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

**Results and Discussion:** We included 550 women who had an IDP 322 (58.5%) women developed a PDHP, of which 215 (66.8%) required an EB, and 15(4.7%) required a second EB? Using ITC versus repeating epidural did not decrease the odds of PDHP, aORs 0.91 (0.81, 1.01), p = 0.08.

However, in patients that received an ITC, ITS injection decreased the odds of PDHP by 15%, aORs 0.85 (0.73, 0.99), p = 0.04. Furthermore, we found a positive interaction between ITC and ITS injection, aORs 0.85 (0.73, 0.99), p = 0.045. We found no difference in the incidence of PDPH whether the ITC was left in for 24 hours or less, aORs 1.28 (1.06, 1.54), p = 0.009.

The use of ITC rather than repeating epidural decreased the odds of the need for EB by 18%, aORs 0.82 (0.73, 0.91), p < 0.001. ITS injection led to lower odds of needing EB, aORs 0.75 (0.64, 0.87), p < 0.001.

We found no difference between ITCs left for 24 hours or a shorter period, aORs 1.04 (0.87, 1.23), p = 0.69.

**Conclusions:** There does seem to be a beneficial effect of leaving an ITC catheter in preventing an EB, especially if ITS is injected.
04AP03-03
Assessment of peripartum haemorrhagic risk in pregnant women: retrospective evaluation of the diagnostic performance of the HEMSTOP standardised questionnaire

T. Zec1, P. Temmerman1, D. Schmartz2, P. Van der Linden1
1Université libre de Bruxelles, CHU Brugmann, Department of Anaesthesiology, Bruxelles, Belgium, 2Université libre de Bruxelles, H.U.B - Department of Anaesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Current recommendations regarding the assessment of bleeding risk advise to carry out a personal and family history of haemorrhagic diathesis1. We used the standardized HEMSTOP questionnaire2 in pregnant women to assess its ability to detect any haemostasis disorder and to predict the haemorrhagic risk associated with delivery.

Materials and Methods: The HEMSTOP standardized questionnaire of all pregnant women who gave birth at the Brugmann University Hospital in 2020 and 2021 was retrospectively analysed. The HEMSTOP questionnaire of each parturient was correlated with primary haemostasis tests performed during the prepartum anaesthetic consultation, and with postpartum blood loss. Abnormal haemostasis assessment was defined as any abnormal coagulation test (PT, aPTT) or low platelet count (< 75.000 G/L). Abnormal postpartum bleeding was defined as a blood loss greater than 1000mL. Abnormal postpartum bleeding risk were calculated using Chi square.

Results and Discussion: A total of 3588 patients were included in the study. There was a significant relationship between the HEMSTOP questionnaire and the presence of an abnormal haemostasis or an abnormal bleeding (Table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEMSTOP (-)</th>
<th>HEMSTOP (+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal haemostasis (N, %)</td>
<td>3418 (99.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal haemostasis (N, %)</td>
<td>14 (0.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal bleeding (N, %)</td>
<td>2926 (89)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal bleeding (N, %)</td>
<td>355 (11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The specificity and sensitivity of the HEMSTOP questionnaire to predict abnormal haemostasis in pregnant women were respectively 96% (95%CI:0.95 to 0.97) and 39% (95%CI:0.20 to 0.61). The specificity and sensitivity of the HEMSTOP questionnaire to predict postpartum bleeding risk were respectively 96% (95%CI:0.95 to 0.97) and 8% (95%CI:0.06 to 0.11).

Conclusion: The HEMSTOP questionnaire has a very high negative predictive value, indicating that pregnant women patients with a negative questionnaire (score < 2), have a very low risk of having abnormal coagulation tests and or abnormal postpartum bleeding. These results confirm the recommendation against the systematic prescription of laboratory tests in patients with no history of bleeding diathesis.

References:

04AP03-04
Perioperative management of placenta accreta spectrum: case series

O. Manterola Lasa1, C. Barreiros1, M. Vendrell Jorda1, J. Domenech De La Lastra1, A. Plaza Moral1, M. Magaldi Mendaria1
1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Anaesthesiology, Resuscitation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Placenta accreta incidence is around 1/1000 deliveries1. It has increased due to the rising number of cesarean sections (CS) and is associated with postpartum hemorrhage (PPH), being the leading cause of emergency hysterectomy. Prior diagnosis is imperative for a multidisciplinary approach. Our review aims to assess the management and outcomes of these patients.

Materials and Methods: After obtaining approval of the Ethics Committee, the following data was collected: demographic and obstetric data, anaesthetic and surgical plan, the use of intraarterial balloons (IA), rate of transfusion, and perioperative complications.

Result: Between 2012 and 2022, 7 patients with accretism were seen at our center. Table 1 shows demographic data and accretism characteristics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Previous CS or curettage</th>
<th>Type of accretism</th>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case 1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>3 CS</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 2</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2 curettages</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 3</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1 CS</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 4</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Bicornuate uterus, 2 CS</td>
<td>focal accreta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 5</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 6</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1 curettage</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case 7</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2 CS</td>
<td>extensive accreta + total occlusive placenta previa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.

In all cases of extended accretism general anesthesia with invasive monitoring, large-caliber IV lines and blood reserve was performed. In case 4 (focal accretism) and case 5 (unexpected accretism) CS was performed initially under regional anaesthesia. Table 2 shows perioperative management and complications.
Table 2.

Conclusions:
- Surgical and anaesthetic resources should be assessed and prepared.
- Insertion and expansion of IA balloons, and specific checklist verification; allow for better hemorrhagic control, with better surgical performance and patient stability.
- Prophylactic expansion of IA balloons, rather than therapeutic, seems to relate to a more controlled surgical site.
- The involvement of various specialties is crucial for reducing the risk of bleeding, rate of transfusion, and perioperative complications.

Reference:

04AP03-05 Establishment of an in vitro human blood-placental barrier model and verification of remimazolam permeability

S. Sato1, T. Chaki1, T. Hirahata1, T. Aoyama2, T. Toda2, M. Yamakage3
1Sapporo Medical University School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesia, Sapporo, Japan, 2Hokkaido University of Science, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Sapporo, Japan

Background: Because of the anatomical structure of the placenta differs among animal species, there are limitations to application of experimental results for drug transfer in the placenta in animals to humans. Recently, in vitro studies for examining drug permeability at the blood-organ barrier have been carried out by culturing different cells on both sides of a porous cell culture membrane. We conducted a dextran impermeability test and used the model to verify remimazolam permeability across the blood-placental barrier.

Materials and Methods: Human trophoblast cells (BeWo cells) were used as maternal placental syncytial trophoblast cells, human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) as fetal vascular endothelial cells, a porous polymeric membrane as a basement to partition the wells. The model consisted of a three-layered structure in the same well.

We tested for permeability under confluent conditions, near concentration of dextran with 400 Dalton and remimazolam with 438 Dalton were administered to the medium of BeWo cell side.

Results and Discussion: The rate of dextran permeability across the blood-placental barrier was $3.28 \pm 0.62\%$ in the BeWo group, $16.87 \pm 0.51\%$ in the HUVEC group, and $0.31 \pm 0.43\%$ in the coculture group, showing a significant difference among the three groups ($p<0.001$, Figure).

Figure. Differences in dextran permeability. (*) $p<0.001$
The rate of remimazolam permeability in the co-culture group was 26.68±1.82%. The rates of permeability of dextran and remimazolam differed significantly despite of having similar molecular weights, indicating the possibility of a mechanism transporting to the fetal side.

Conclusion: The permeability of dextran were depended on cell type and conditions. We verified the permeability of remimazolam.

04AP03-06
Prophylactic vasopressor and non-invasive cardiac output monitoring to prevent hypotension following spinal anesthesia for cesarean section: a randomized clinical trial
T. Andoh1, T. Akasaka1, M. Sumie2, K. Shirozu1, M. Higashi2, K. Yamaura2
1Kyushu University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Fukuoka, Japan, 2Kyushu University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Fukuoka, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Hypotension following spinal anesthesia during cesarean section is common and could negatively affect the mother and child. This study aimed to assess whether spinal anesthesia-induced hypotension could be prevented using non-invasive cardiac output monitoring and as needed prophylactic vasopressor therapy.

Materials and Methods: This prospective randomized study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan (IRB No. 20192028), and registered in the UMIN-CTR Clinical Trial Database (ID: UMIN000040066; https://upload.umin.ac.jp/cgi-open-bin/ctr_e/ctr_view.cgi?recptno=R000045678) on April 15, 2020.

Two hundred patients undergoing elective cesarean delivery under spinal anesthesia between May 2020 and May 2022 were enrolled. Blood pressure (BP) was measured at 2.5-minute intervals following an intrathecal injection of 10 mg hyperbaric bupivacaine. When the systolic blood pressure (SBP) was under 100 mmHg and the mean BP was under 65 mmHg, or when the patient complained of nausea, a bolus of 100 μg phenylephrine was administered. Patients in the intervention group received 100 μg phenylephrine when the estimated continuous cardiac output (esCCO) decreased by over 10% since the last measurement.

The primary outcome was the proportion of patients with hypotension (SBP under 100 mmHg and mean BP under 65 mmHg) between spinal anesthesia induction and delivery.

The secondary outcomes were nausea and vomiting, reactive hypertension, and umbilical arterial blood pH.

Results and Discussion: Four of the 200 patients assessed for eligibility declined participation in this study, so 196 randomized to the esCCO group and 91 to the control group. Hemodynamic data for the primary outcome analysis were available from 102 subjects in the esCCO group and 89 in the control group. The incidence of hypotension was 44/89 (49%) in the control group and 20/102 (19%) in the intervention group (P < 0.01). The incidences of nausea and vomiting, reactive hypertension, and umbilical arterial blood pH did not differ between the groups.

Conclusion(s): Estimated continuous cardiac output-guided prophylactic vasopressor therapy effectively prevented hypotension following spinal anesthesia for cesarean section.

04AP03-07
Role of overactive bladder diagnosis in predicting the risk of post-spinal hypotension during elective cesarean section operations
K. Kaşali1,2, A. Dostbili3,2, G.N. Cimilli4, I. Ince5,2, F. Özkaya6, M.S. Özkal8
1Atatürk University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Biostatistics, Erzurum, Turkey, 2Atatürk University, Anaesthesiology Clinical Research Office, Erzurum, Turkey, 3Atatürk University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Reanimation, Erzurum, Turkey, 4Atatürk University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Erzurum, Turkey, 5Altınbaş University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Reanimation, İstanbul, Turkey, 6Altınbaş University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Urology, İstanbul, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Post-spinal hypotension occurs in 55%-90% of cesarean section cases with maternal and fetal complications and its prediction facilitates decision-making and early intervention. Overactive bladder (OAB) is caused by impaired coordination and imbalance between sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous systems which play a central role in maintaining hemodynamics as well. Up to date, OAB has not been used to predict risk of post-spinal hypotension in cesarean section operations. The goal of this study is to determine if OAB could predict post-spinal hypotension in women undergoing elective cesarean section.

We hypothesized that, OAB would not be a predictive factor for post-spinal hypotension.

Materials and Methods: This randomised prospective, triple-blind study was carried out on primigravida women planned for elective cesarean section under spinal-epidural anaesthesia in Atatürk University Research Hospital. Although urodynamic tests provide certain diagnosis of OAB, they are invasive and not cost-effective, therefore OAB was diagnosed using the OAB-V8 scoring form in Turkish. Noninvasive uroflowmeters was used to exclude patients with urinary obstructions. Patients with overactive bladder were included in Group 1, and the others in Group 2.

Following Power Analysis by PAS software, 143 patients were included. Statistical analysis was completed by IBM SPSS 20 software. Continuous variables of normal distribution were analysed with Shapiro Wilk-W and Kolmogorov Simirnov tests. Independent Samples t-test was used comparing two independent groups with normal distribution, and Mann Whitney u test was used in case of skewed distribution. Comparing categorical parameters, Pearson Chi-square test, Chi-Square Yates test and Fisher’s Exact test were used. p<0.05 was considered as statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: There was no statistically significant difference between groups in terms of demographic values (p>0.05). Hypotension was observed in 39.9% of patients in the study group. In Group I, hypotension occured statistically higher than Group II (p=0.041).

OAB diagnosis with scoring test was found to have 68% of sensitivity and 49% of specificity for predicting risk of hypotension.

Conclusion(s): Risk of post-spinal hypotension is higher in patients diagnosed with OAB, and scoring for diagnosis can be a practical predictor for post-spinal hypotension.

Reference:
04AP03-08
The influence of epidural analgesia on systolic blood pressure, obstetrical and neonatal outcomes of pregnant women with cardiovascular disease

E. Gulbinaite¹, D. Krutulyte¹, V. Baliuliene²
¹Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Medical Academy, Faculty of Medicine, Kaunas, Lithuania, ²Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno Klinikos, Anesthesiology Department, Kaunas, Lithuania

Background and Goal of Study: The frequency of cardiac disease in pregnancy varies from 1% to 4%, and the number is increasing in the western world. More women delay childbearing age to later reproductive years when ischemic cardiac disease and cardiovascular risk factors are more prevalent. Therefore, the administration of epidural analgesia in hemodynamically compromised parturient is frequent in the daily practice of an anesthesiologist.

Our objective was to evaluate the effect of epidural analgesia on systolic blood pressure, obstetrical and neonatal outcomes during delivery of women with cardiovascular disease (CVD).

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study of 112 women with CVD that gave birth at the Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Clinics from 2017 to 2020 was performed. The following data were analyzed: age, gestational age, CVD, first recorded systolic blood pressure (sBP), the maximal recorded sBP, obstetrical outcomes (spontaneous vaginal delivery rate, blood loss), neonatal outcomes (Apgar score and pH of umbilical cord). Patients were divided into two groups: epidural group (E) and no-epidural group (NE).

Quantitative variables were described as mean±standard deviation or median (interquartile range). Differences between the groups were analyzed using χ² test of independence, Student’s t and Mann Whitney’s U tests and considered statistically significant when p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: The mean age was 28.6±5.5 years old and gestational age 39 (2) weeks. The most common CVD was valvular heart disease n=54 (48.2%). There were 50 (44.6%) cases in the E group and 62 (55.4%) in the NE group.

There was no significant difference in the first recorded sBP between E and NE group (123.5 ±15.25 mmHg and 123.5 ±13 mmHg respectively; p=0.35).

The maximal sBP was significantly lower in the E group compared with NE group (124.56 ±12.58 mmHg and 129.87 ±12.22 mmHg respectively; p=0.026). Maternal blood loss and spontaneous vaginal birth rate did not differ between groups, χ²=2.573, p=0.276 and χ²=1.033, p=0.309, respectively.

Apgar’s score at 1 min did not differ between the E and NE group (9 (1) and 9 (1) score respectively, p=0.619). The pH was not significantly different in the E (n=19) and NE (n=15) group (7.29 (0.139) and 7.24 (0.197) respectively; p=0.52).

Conclusion(s): The maximal sBP during labour was lower in the E group. There were no other significant differences between obstetrical or neonatal outcomes.

04AP03-09
Impressions of the NRFit spinal and epidural needles after introduction at a medium sized district general hospital

D. Kathwadia¹, D. Green¹
¹East Suffolk North Essex Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics, Colchester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: In April 2021, the NRFit epidural and spinal needles were introduced at a 750 bedded DGH, for use primarily in the delivery suite. Following introduction of the new equipment, a qualitative survey regarding the needles and kits they were presented in was carried out to gather the initial impression of the new equipment among the anaesthetic department.

After the first survey, a second survey was taken a year following to gauge sentiment regarding the quality of the NRFit needles.

Materials and Methods: An online survey was created consisting of 16 questions asking about the grade of clinician, the use of the needles, and the quality of the needles and kits they were presented in. The questions consisted of closed questions or statements requiring clinicians to tick a box agreeing or disagreeing with the statement/question; additionally, dialogue boxes provided an opportunity for clinicians to use free text to describe any issues or praise of the needles and kits.

Results and Discussion: Notably, between the first and second survey, the overall satisfaction and ease of use appeared to improve. With initial comments mentioning that there was difficulty in discerning tissue layers when penetrating with the spinal needle, and similar comments made regarding the epidural needle. However, in the second survey, there were no mentions of this at all. Comments that run through both surveys, appear to be problems with the rest of the spinal/epidural kits, such as catheter mounts not being included and difficulty threading the catheter into the filter.

Conclusion(s): It appears that through experience of use of new equipment and the training of junior staff, that overall impressions of the NRFit needles improved. With familiarity of the equipment and the ingenuity to work with the kits, the overall satisfaction of the quality of the components improved over time.

04AP04-01
Perioperative management of caesarean delivery in a parturient with mitochondrial myopathy

J. Kumar¹,², R. Sardana³,², P. Uperti¹,²
¹Emirates Hospital, Anaesthesia, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, ²Lady Hardinge Medical College, Anaesthesia, Delhi, India, ³Royal Devon University Healthcare, Anaesthesia, Devon, United Kingdom, ⁴Cloud Nine Hospital, Anaesthesia, Delhi, India

Background: Mitochondrial myopathies comprise of a group of neuromuscular disorders induced by dysfunctional mitochondrial respiratory chain that disrupts energy production. Incidence of known pathogenic mitochondrial DNA mutations is 1 in 500. We report a case with mitochondrial myopathy presenting for emergency caesarean delivery and discuss anaesthetic implications. Our case was atypical because she was 5th gravida with previous normal pregnancies.

Case report: A 27-year-old, multigravida, 37-week gestation presented to casualty in labour with complaints of fatigue and weakness in lower limbs. Patient gave history of similar complaints in the
past and investigated to reveal raised CKP-NAC levels and muscle biopsy suggestive of mitochondrial myopathy. She took multivitamins, coenzyme Q10. Had 2 uneventful normal vaginal deliveries and 2 stillbirths. Patient was unable to maintain lithotomy position and was planned for caesarean. Patient had muscle power of 3/5 in lower limbs with haemoglobin of 8.9 gm% and serum lactate 3.6 mmol/L. Spinal anaesthesia was administered with ropivacaine. Warm intravenous fluids and electrical heating blanket was used to prevent hypothermia. Patient was shifted to postoperative ward and carefully monitored for signs of respiratory distress/ muscle weakness progression and was discharged after 3 days.

Discussion: A parturient with mitochondrial disease presents a challenge for anaesthesiologists because little is known about the relationship between them. There are case reports of women who developed worsening of symptoms during pregnancy; and concluded that pregnancy can aggravate mitochondrial disease. The diagnosis can be considered even if the patient had previous uneventful pregnancies, as seen in our patient. The optimal anaesthetic technique for these patients is unknown. We decided to administer spinal anaesthesia as it ameliorates metabolic stress and pain. General anaesthetics were avoided as can cause postoperative residual muscle blockade and respiratory compromise.

Reference:

Learning points: Mitochondrial disease are likely to experience a variable clinical course before, during and after pregnancy and multidisciplinary care is indicated. Anaesthesiologists should be aware of the disease, varied presentation and anaesthetic implications.

04AP04-02
Case report of Arnold Chiari malformation with syringomyelia and the anesthetic management for delivery

P.C. Camões Correia¹, P. Franco Santos¹, I. Brock¹, M.L. Coutinho¹, R. Portela e Silva¹, G. Carreira¹
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Anaesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: The Chiari malformation (CM) is described as the pathological ectopy of the cerebellar tonsils below the foramen magnum. Syringomyelia is a cyst in which cerebrospinal fluid is retained in spinal cord. The anesthetic management of these patients has to be planned, especially in pregnant women.

Case report: A 31-year-old primiparous woman, ASA II, IMC 23kg/ m² without difficult airway stigmas was proposed for elective cesar- ean section. She had a CM type 1 with syringomyelia diagnosed during pregnancy due to occipital headache, paresthesia and thermoaligic sensitivity alterations of the 2nd to 4th fingers on both hands. She was taking folic acid. In the operating room, she was hemodynamically stable and eupneic on room air. General anesthesia was proposed and accepted. For the induction, we used propofol, lidocaine and rocuronium, ensuring orotracheal intubation under direct laryngoscopy. Sevoflurane and remifentanil infusion were used for anesthetic maintenance. After birth, paracetamol, parecoxib and tramadol were administered intravenously and a bilateral ultrasound-guided transversus abdominis plane block was performed. Neuromuscular blockade was reversed with sugammadex.

The postoperative course was uneventful, with no neurological deterioration. The patient was discharged on the second postoperative day.

Discussion: The decision between general and regional anesthesia in patients with CM is still not consensual. Neuraxial anesthesia has the theoretical risk of herniation. The low rate of dura perforation in these patients does not guarantee the safety of the technique. General anesthesia requires airway management and careful choice of drugs. In vaginal delivery, the Valsalva maneuver can increase intracranial pressure. If symptoms got worse during pregnancy or surgical correction was not done, scheduled cesarean section is the safest option. In a retrospective review, no difference was identified in clinical severity with vaginal delivery or cesarean section, as well as no difference was identified between general and regional anesthesia in terms of evolution of symptoms or functional deterioration.

In this clinical case, we present a safe and effective anesthetic possibility, associated with a successful postoperative pain control with multimodal analgesia.

Points of Interest: More studies are needed to understand whether neuraxial techniques in patients with CM are safe. Thus far, general anesthesia remains the safer option.

04AP04-03
General anesthesia in pregnant woman with Arnold Chiari malformation type I. A case report

B. Arroyo García¹, Á. Vasco Blázquez¹, C. Rubio Písabarros¹, C. García Sánchez¹, L. María Boal¹, A. Balzategui Urrutia²
¹Hospital Universitario de Burgos, Anesthesiology, Burgos, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario Donostia, Anaesthesiology, San Sebastián, Spain

Background: The cesarean section can be carried out under general or neuraxial anesthesia. General anesthesia has been relegated but, there are situations in which its use is highly recommended. Arnold-Chiari malformation is characterized by prolapse of the cerebellum below the foramen magnum, it causes increased pressure in the head and decreased pressure in the medullary canal. Type I is frequently diagnosed in adults. The decision between general and regional anesthesia can be very difficult. The Chiari malformation (CM) is described as the pathological ectopy of the cerebellar tonsils below the foramen magnum. Syringomyelia is a cyst in which cerebrospinal fluid is retained in spinal cord. The anesthetic management of these patients has to be planned, especially in pregnant women.

Case report: A 31-year-old primiparous woman, ASA II, IMC 23kg/ m² without difficult airway stigmas was proposed for elective cesar- ean section. The woman suffered from a type I Arnold Chiari malforma- tion. After being evaluated by a multidisciplinary team formed with neurosurgeons, anaesthesiologists, obstetricians and pediatricians, it was decided to finish her pregnancy at week 39 and carried out in cesarean section under general anesthesia.

The patient arrived in the operating room, she was monitored and pre-oxygenated. Cefazolin and metoclopramide were administered. A rapid sequence induction was executed with propofol (3 mg/kg) and rocuronium (0.6 mg/kg). After cord clamping, carbopentoc (100 mcg) and fentanyl (2 mcg/kg), dexketoprofen, acetaminophen and morphine were administered.

At the end of the intervention, an abdominal wall block was performed and neuromuscular block was reversed with sugammadex. The child had an APGAR score of 7 at first minute and an APGAR score of 8 at fifth minute.

Discussion: There are no firm recommendations about the Arnold Chiari malformation best anesthetic technique in pregnant women. A complete neurologic evaluation, including MRI, should be performed. The goal of anesthesia and peripartum care is to prevent increased intracranial pressure.
When David meets Goliath: obstetric anaesthesia in the presence of a SOL

R. Freitas1, M.I. Neri1,1, N. Pinto1, S. Mer1
1Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Ocidental, Anaesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: The anesthetic approach of the pregnant woman with SOL requires a modification of the neuroanesthesia and obstetric anesthesia practices, whose clinical principles are sometimes conflicting. Furthermore, there is no evidence-based consensus, which means that the decision-making process of such challenging patients relies on a limited compendium of case reports.

Case report: A 35-year-old, 35-week gestational age woman, ASA II, presented with a SOL with a midline left shift of 8 mm, suspicious of meningioma. A multidisciplinary team planned a preterm caesarean delivery. We opted for TIVA under standard ASA and invasive blood pressure monitoring. RSI was adapted to include Lidocaine, Esmolol and Rocuronium and the airway was secured after videolaryngoscopy. Levetiracetam was administered as seizure prophylaxis and Dexamethasone was used to prevent cerebral edema. At the end of the surgery, an ultrasound-guided TAP block was performed. Haemodynamic stability was maintained during the caesarean and extubation was uneventful. Two days after, the patient underwent embolization and exeresis of the intracranial mass.

Discussion: Given the rarity of cerebral neoplasms in pregnancy, case reports represent a valuable source of knowledge and experience. Meningioma is the most common intracranial primary malignancy and its growth is faster in pregnancy due to the presence of estrogen and progesterone receptors. Acute neurologic deterioration mandates resection; it is preferred to postpone to the postpartum period in order to enable tumoral retraction. Even though there are well-established strategies for maintenance of a normal-range intracranial pressure in the general population, that is not true in pregnancy. Meticulous haemodynamic control and avoidance of drug-induced disrupted cerebral compliance are to be prioritized. No deleterious manifestations were observed from the direct effect of uterotonic drugs.

References:

Learning points: Although neuraxial anesthesia seems more widespread to carry out urgent caesarean sections, the indication of general anesthesia is necessary in some cases. Arnold Chiari malformation is a rare disease with potential morbidity. Decision-making must be multidisciplinary and include a specialist in maternal-fetal medicine, a neurosurgeon, and an anesthetist.

Cesarean section of a chiari malformation parturient

J. Li1, K. Samalyuk1, P. Santos1, A. Postiga1, G. Couceiro1
1Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: The safest mode of delivery and anesthetic management for parturients with Arnold Chiari malformation (ACM) remains controversial. ACM are anomalies associated with herniation of cerebellum. Contractions during labor are associated with increases in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) pressure, which in turn can be exacerbated by pain. Neuraxial anesthesia (NA) was concerned to be a possible cause of neurologic deterioration from tonsillar herniation.

Case report: A 39-year-old primiparous woman, ASA III (obesity BMI 37kg/m² and ACM type II), 39 weeks of gestation, was admitted for an elective cesarean section due to maternal disease. In anesthetic evaluation there was no increased ICP or signs of difficult airway. Consent to general anesthesia (GA) was obtained. Following adequate ASA monitoring with TOF, BIS™ and urine output, and a period of pre-oxygenation, a rapid sequence induction was performed for GA. It was administered 2mg/kg propofol and 1,2mg/kg rocuronium. Airway was carefully secured through direct laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation occurred with no difficulties. Maintenance of anesthesia was followed by sevoflurane. Cesarean section proceeded uneventfully. Intravenous multimodal analgesia was initiated intraoperatively and follow-up was continued by Acute Pain Service. Emergence of anesthesia occurred smoothly with prudent care during extubation.

Discussion: An unintentional dural puncture or perhaps even an uncomplicated spinal anesthetic might produce a CSF pressure gradient between brain and spinal cord with resultant cerebral herniation. In the other hand, general anesthesia with laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation may also increase ICP or the CSF pressure gradient. Studies suggest that anesthetic complications occur infrequently in patients with ACM regardless of the anesthetic management. Therefore, NA is a viable anesthetic option except parturients with hydrocephalus and papilledema who have high risk for both vaginal delivery and NA.

Although institutional preference in anesthetic and obstetric care appears to drive patient management, the findings advocate that an individualized approach has favorable outcomes in this population.


Learning points: GA involves a specific management for parturients with ACM, yet no absolute contraindication is attributed to NA.
04AP04-06
Spinal anesthesia for fetal tracheal occlusion by fetoscopic approach. Case Report

J. Anido Guzman1, B.N. Oubiña Macari2, C.H. Meller2, L. Otaño2, G. Domenech2, A. Figar Gutiérrez2
1Puerta de Hierro Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Critical Care and Pain Management Department, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Anaesthesiology Department & Obstetric Department, City of Buenos Aires, Argentinian

Background: Congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) occurs in 1–5/10,000 live births. Fetal tracheal occlusion (FETO), positioning a latex balloon endoscopically, increases airway pressure, stimulates pulmonary proliferation, alveolar airspace and promotes pulmonary vascular development, increasing postnatal survival. Best anesthesia techniques for FETO procedures are not yet defined for the mother and fetus.

Case report: 31 y/o woman, ASA II, 70 kg, BMI 27.33, gravid seventh with four first-trimester spontaneous abortions, a healthy 3 y/o son, another neonatal death with prenatal diagnosis of CDH, and a current 28 weeks pregnancy complicated with left CDH. Fetal ultrasound showed a severe left CDH, O/E LHR 25%, with stomach, bowel and liver in the thorax. MRI reported a total fetal lung volume of 21%. Indomethacin was administered 12 hs before FETO.

After premedication with intravenous clonidine (75 mcg), spinal anesthesia was performed with hyperbaric bupivacaine (7.5mg) and fentanyl (15mcg) using 26G pencil point needle. Continuous intravenous infusion of phenylephrine was started (0.5mcg/kg/min). Fetal anesthesia and immobilization were performed by administration of fentanyl, atropine and vecuronium to the fetus. FETO was performed without maternal or fetal complications. Procedures performed under maternal anesthesia were more effective than maternal-fetal anesthesia, showing a higher rate of fetal death and premature rupture of membranes.2 Fetal immobilization could be achieved when remifentanil is administered for mild maternal sedation, due to placental crossing. This should be further explored.

References:
1. Van De Velde, M. et al. Fetal Anaesthesia: is this necessary for fetoscopic therapy?

Learning points: Spinal anesthesia combined with fetus immobilization for FETO procedures showed to be an effective choice. Epidural or combined spinal-epidural techniques should also be considered.

04AP04-07
High spinal block in cesarean section after incomplete spinal block with epidural

A. Escrivan1, C. Sala1, M. Luque1, P. Montero1, L. Goñi1, C. Cara1
1Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Pamplona, Spain

Background: Neuraxial block is the pain relief technique of choice in vaginal delivery and cesarean section. Epidural block is highly accepted, but has an error rate that varies between 1.5-20% depending on the physician experience.

Case Report: We present a 25-year-old pregnant woman with factor V Leiden disease who attended the hospital for labor. Epidural catheter was placed at L2-L3. Failure in analgesia after 6 hours because of catheter coming out led to a second epidural puncture. The patient reported pain relief, but after 4 hours pain started on the right side without improving after withdrawing the catheter 1 cm. A third epidural puncture was performed at L3-L4. Two hours later, bilateral pain appeared. A total of 5 bolus of 50 mg of 1% lidocaine and 2 bolus of 12.5 mg of 0.25% levobupivacaine were administered. After 24 hours of dilation and incomplete epidural block, a cesarean section was performed due to non-progressive labor. Intradural puncture with hyperbaric bupivacaine 0.5% (8 mg) + sufentanil (0.5 mcg) was performed. After a few minutes, she reported drowsiness, tingling in the hands and difficulty speaking and breathing. Despite not presenting desaturation or hypotension, rapid sequence intubation was done. During the surgical procedure, she maintained heart rates of 100-120 bpm, sinus rhythm and normal blood pressure. The patient recovered spontaneous breathing in the operating room after reversing neuromuscular blockade and was extubated without incidents. She mobilized all extremities and answered questions coherently. She was transferred to the intensive care unit for close monitoring and discharged the next day.

Discussion: Spinal block is a rare but serious complication of neuraxial anesthesia. The reason could be the reduction in the subarachnoid space due to high anesthetic volume in the epidural space. Thus, epidural bolus 30 min before dural puncture is not recommended.

Lower dose of intrathecal anesthetics should be used when a high dose of epidural anesthetic has been administered and place the patient in the anti-Trendelenburg position(1).

Figure.
Anesthesia for emergent cesarean in pregnant woman with acute liver failure

S. Cunha¹, S. Fernandes¹, I.R. Vilhena¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Anesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Liver failure during pregnancy can affect both the mother and the fetus negatively. It ranges from minimal symptoms in the mother to death. The morbidity usually presents with coagulopathy, hypoglycemia, renal insufficiency and encephalopathy in patients without pre-existing liver disease.

Case Report: A 33 years-old 32 weeks pregnant was admitted in the obstetric emergency room with episodes of nausea and vomiting for one week and jaundiced sclera since the previous day. She denied cholestasis and acholia. The patient had been taking amoxicillin with clavulanic acid for acute otitis for a week. The blood analysis showed a pattern of cytochrome C and coagulopathy. The patient was admitted with hepatitis with unknown etiology and fluidotherapy and dexamethasone for fetal pulmonary maturation was initiated. Serologies came positive for IgM Hepatitis A antibody. Complete coagulation study showed hypofibrinogenemia and deficit of factors VII, IX, X and XII. Six days after she started to become prostrated with worsening of the coagulopathy and liver function, so cesarean section was decided.

Thirty minutes before surgery were administered 10 milligrams (mg) of phytomenadione, 2 grams (g) of fibrinogen and 500 units of prothrombin complex. A general balanced anesthesia was made with 140mg of propofol and 80mg of succinylcholine during induction. Maintenance was made with sevoflurane 1%, 0.2mg of fentanyl and 25mg of atracurium. Reversion of neuromuscular blockade was made with neostigmine 1mg and 0.5mg of atropine. Post-operative analgesia was performed with fentanyl patient-controlled analgesia. No complications were registered, and the patient was admitted in a PACU for 2 hours before admission in an intermediate care unit.

Discussion and Learning Points: Concerns with coagulopathy, hemodynamic instability and hepatic failure should be taken into consideration. Regional anesthesia is contraindicated due to the inherent coagulopathy associated with liver failure. The hepatic metabolism of drugs may be altered whereby choice of drugs for anesthesia and post-operative analgesia should be cautious. A multidisciplinary approach between anesthesia, obstetrics and immunotherapy services is fundamental.

References:

04AP04-09
Preeclampsia & HELLP syndrome in a Jehovah’s witness twin pregnancy: a true combination of anaesthesiologic risk factors

P. Camões¹, P. Marques¹, T. Monteiro¹, J. Li¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Preeclampsia is a progressive multisystemic disorder characterized by a vascular endothelial malfunction with hypertension and proteinuria or hypertension and organ failure. HELLP syndrome (haemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, low platelet levels) represents a life-threatening condition in which haemolysis, high liver enzymes and thrombocytopenia are predominant main features. Jehovah’s witness religion is well-known for their refusal to receive blood transfusions.¹ ²

Case report: The patient is a 32-year-old primigravida with twin pregnancy at 36 weeks of gestation. Pathological antecedents of moderate aortic stenosis and hypertension ASA IV. Important personal background information is the fact the patient is a Jehovah’s witness.

Admitted with a severe case of preeclampsia / HELLP syndrome for an emergency caesarean delivery under general anaesthesia. A standard ASA monitorization was applied with invasive arterial blood pressure control prior to anaesthesia induction, maintained with a remifentanil and labetalol perfusion. The surgical procedure underwent without immediate complications.

Patient was shifted to post-anaesthesia care unit (PACU). In this unit the patient starts with postpartum haemorrhage due to uterine atony. A sulprostone perfusion is initiated, 2gr of tranexamic acid IV and intravaginal misoprostol are given and an intra-uterine balloon tamponade performed. The haemorrhage is successfully controlled and patient discharged.

Discussion: Severe preeclampsia and HELLP syndrome present high levels of morbidity and mortality. This case report cause anesthesiologists to leave their comfort zone in terms of the best approach for obstetrical emergencies. In relation to preeclampsia a hemodynamical optimized control of the patient is necessary. In this case a uterine atony in a Jehovah’s witness with blood transfusion refusal a quick and effective approach is necessary to decrease blood loss.

Remifentanil is an effective available drug for intra-operative blood pressure control with minimal adverse effects for the foetus and good hemodynamical control in pregnancies with preeclampsia/HELLP syndrome under general surgery.

References:

Learning points: Preeclampsia, Jehovah’s witness
04AP04-10

Thoughts on past medical history of spontaneous spinal epidural hematoma and C-section: general anesthesia for life?

V. Eckardt¹, S. Batina¹, S. Mer¹
¹Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Ocidental, Anaesthesiology, Belém, Portugal

Background: Spontaneous spinal epidural hematoma (SSEH) is a rare pathologic entity, with only scattered case reports and associated reviews. A predisposition to bleeding and minor trauma are two of the poorly understood risk factors. Its clinical features can go from MRI findings to signs of spinal cord compression (1). In this work we report the anesthetic management of a pregnant woman with past medical history (PMH) of SSEH submitted to a c-section.

Case Report: A 31 year old woman 37 weeks pregnant woman was proposed for an urgent c-section due to fetal stress and PMH of SSEH. Five years before, during her first pregnancy, she developed SSEH, manifested as sudden paraplegia. She underwent prompt surgical decompression with almost complete functional recovery, developing neurogenic bladder afterwards. To her first child labour, not only was vaginal delivery contraindicated due to risk of rupture of a potential arteriovenous malformation with Valsalva maneuvers, but also neuraxial anaesthesia (NA) due to risk of accidental injury to blood vessels. An uneventful elective c-section was performed under general anaesthesia (GA). Afterwards, she was studied for possible hemorrhagic disorders, vascular malformation or previous history of trauma, with no causal factor identified.

For the present delivery, although there were no clinical findings, we performed a GA with rapid sequence induction and maintenance with sevoflurane. Analgesia was ensured with ropivacaine wound infiltration, iv fentanyl, paracetamol and ketorolac. The procedure was uneventful.

Discussion: NA is the technique of choice for cesarean delivery. However, one should balance risks and benefits of NA versus GA. There is a potentially small risk of developing spinal hematoma after NA, but will it outweigh the disadvantages of performing GA in the obstetric population?

More research is needed in order to understand if NA increases the risk of SSEH relapse. Under the absence of evidence based practices, we agreed upon GA for this case anesthetic management.

Reference:

Learning Points: We add to the literature a report of woman with a rare PMH of SSEH submitted to a c-section. We draw attention to the need of research in order to take evidence based decisions.

04AP05-02

‘Walking epidural’: comparison of the analgesic efficacy of levobupivacaine 0.0625% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL versus ropivacaine 0.075% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL in laboring patients, a prospective observational study

Á. Mingote Lladó1,2, A. García Díaz2,
E. Zamora Moreno3, G. Chiara Graciani2,
C. Elbal Sánchez2, C. Guadalu Sánchez2
1Autonomous University of Madrid, Faculty of Medicine, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario Puerta de Hierro Majadahonda, Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Department, Majadahonda, Spain

Background: Epidural infusion with low local anesthetic concentrations with opiates decrease the severity of the motor blockade associated [1]. The present study aims to compare the analgesic efficacy and the motor blockade between two local anesthetic epidural infusions: levobupivacaine 0.0625% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL versus ropivacaine 0.075% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL.

Materials and Methods: In a simple blind cohort study, 60 laboring patients were included: 30 received epidural levobupivacaine 0.0625% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL and 30 of them received ropivacaine 0.075% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL (Table 1). Analgesic, motor blockade and satisfaction records were collected as well as maternal and neonate adverse events.

Results and Discussion: After 2 hours, patients who received levobupivacaine showed a mean VAS of 3.2 [1.8 to 4.6] versus 1.8 [1.2 to 2.5] (P = 0.05) in patients who received ropivacaine. Patients who received levobupivacaine showed a punctuation in Bromage scale of 1.0 [0.0 to 1.0] versus 0.0 [0.0 to 0.0] (P = 0.01) in patients who received ropivacaine. Levobupivacaine group required a mean ratio of rescue bolus of 0.6 bolus per hour [0.3 - 1] versus 0.3 bolus per hour [0.2 to 0.4] (P = 0.05) in the ropivacaine group. Levobupivacaine group scored a mean satisfaction index of 8.1 [7.3 to 8.9] versus 9.3 [8.7 to 9.8] (P = 0.02) in those who received ropivacaine. We did not register maternal nor neonate adverse events.

Conclusion(s): Both infusions (levobupivacaine 0.0625% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL and ropivacaine 0.075% + fentanyl 2mcg/mL) are safe and effective for labor analgesia. However, ropivacaine would present a better pharmacodynamic profile with less motor blockade and decreased need for analgesic rescue hence improving patient’s satisfaction.
Reference:

Conclusion: These results give confidence to use of intrathecal morphine plus fentanyl. Importantly, the majority of women surveyed had significant postoperative pain and merits vigilance in giving multimodal analgesia.

04AP05-03
Comparing patients’ experience of post-operative pain following Caesarean section, according to the choice of intrathecal opioid: change in local anaesthetic practice due to diamorphine supply shortage

S. Rabas1, M. Afifi1, D. Abell1
1King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics, London, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Caesarean section (C-section) is associated with moderate-severe postoperative pain. It is often under-treated and impacts recovery and maternal bonding. The PROSPECT guideline recommends intrathecal morphine or diamorphine and to start regular simple analgesia from delivery. Diamorphine is advised in the UK but there have been national supply shortages. This forced a change in practice at our hospital to preserve supply for emergency cases.

The goal of the study was to assess if the choice of intrathecal opioid - diamorphine vs morphine plus fentanyl - affected severity and onset of postoperative pain following any category C-section. Secondary aims were to observe planned and breakthrough analgesia given in these two groups, postoperative prescribing of analgesia and its successful delivery to women in the first 24 hours.

Materials and Methods: A survey was completed for 53 consecutive patients at two time points:
1. In theatre and;
2. During their routine 24-hour follow-up, to assess pain.

Pain scores were adapted from the Brief Pain Inventory (Short Form) on a scale of 1-10. Prescriptions and anaesthetic charts were reviewed. A two-sample t-test was used to analyse pain scores and other results compared.

Results and Discussion: There was no significant difference in the mean worst, least and average pain scores between the diamorphine (n=28) and fentanyl+morphine (n=25) groups, nor time to onset of postoperative pain. Pain scores were significant in both.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Diamorphine (95% CI)</th>
<th>Fentanyl + Morphine (95% CI)</th>
<th>Difference in mean (95% CI)</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worst pain</td>
<td>6.53 (5.89 – 7.38)</td>
<td>6.56 (5.77 – 7.34)</td>
<td>0.024 (-1.10 – 1.15)</td>
<td>0.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average pain</td>
<td>4.86 (4.01 – 5.70)</td>
<td>5.32 (4.51 – 6.13)</td>
<td>0.463 (-0.687 – 1.61)</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least pain</td>
<td>3.43 (2.61 – 4.25)</td>
<td>3.64 (2.80 – 4.48)</td>
<td>0.211 (-0.938 – 1.36)</td>
<td>0.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time to onset of pain after surgical closure (hours)</td>
<td>6.91 (4.90 – 8.93)</td>
<td>8.72 (6.30 – 11.13)</td>
<td>1.81 (-1.23 – 4.84)</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intraoperative breakthrough analgesia (11% vs 8%) and planned analgesia decisions were similar. Postoperative regular (≥1 dose) paracetamol and dihydrocodeine was prescribed and given to >90% patients, but less for NSAIDs (79% prescribed, of those 60% given).

Conclusion: These results give confidence to use of intrathecal morphine plus fentanyl. Importantly, the majority of women surveyed had significant postoperative pain and merits vigilance in giving multimodal analgesia.

04AP05-04
Controlled infusion of profilactic oxytocin dose during cesarean section

A. Navickaite1, V. Baliuliene2
1Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Medical Academy, Kaunas, Lithuania, 2Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Department of Anaesthesiology, Kaunas, Lithuania

Background and Goal of Study: Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) is the top cause of maternal mortality, accounting for nearly a quarter of parturient deaths worldwide. The main reason for PPH is uterine atony, therefore increasing the routine use of uterotonic agents for all women during delivery should help to reduce the PPH determining morbidity and mortality. The administration of exogenous oxytocin is the most typical method because it is thought that additional oxytocin further stimulates uterine contractility.

This study investigates if there is a difference between oxytocin injection routes during caesarean section. Our hypothesis is that oxytocin delivered via an automatic injection pump (AIS) is the more accurate way and even smaller doses can be more effective.

Materials and Methods: The local ethics committee approved this prospective controlled trial. AKL infused with 500 ml of crystalloids (n=10) and others received 5 units of oxytocin through an automatic injection pump (AIS) per 10 minutes (n=10). Data were analyzed with SPSS. P level< 0.05 was considered significant.

Results and Discussion: The total dose of oxytocin was 2.5 times lower in the AIS group (15 ± 5.7 IU and 6 ± 2.1 IU respectively, p<0.001). The need for additional oxytocin dose was higher in the infusion group (n = 8 respectively n = 2, p = 0.023). The more significant amount of blood loss (1280 ± 181.353 and 460 ± 54.64 respectively, p<0.001) and need for intravenous fluid (2300 ± 258.19 and 2000 ± 0 respectively, p<0.001) were observed in the infusion group.

There were no differences in heart rate or peripheral oxygen saturation between the groups, but changes in systolic and diastolic blood pressure are more affected by oxytocin infusion. It is easier to know the injected dose when AIS is used, and the even infusion of the uterotonic drug may be a key to more accurate uterine tonus control.

Conclusion(s): The initial prophylactic dose of oxytocin is lower when it is delivered by an automatic syringe pump.
04AP05-05
Influential factors of ropivacaine consumption in patient-controlled epidural analgesia for labor

C.Y. Tai
1TMU-Shuang-Ho Hospital, Anesthesiology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: The analgesic requirement of patient-controlled epidural analgesia (PCEA) for labor pain varies substantially between individuals. This study sought to evaluate potential influential factors for ropivacaine consumption of PCEA in labor.

Materials and Methods: Women receiving PCEA for their first delivery at a tertiary center from January 2020 to November 2022 were included. The exclusion criteria were age <18 years, missing data, ineffective PCEA, and no continuous epidural infusion. The primary outcome was total ropivacaine dosage of PCEA during labor. Logarithmic transformation was used to decrease the skewness of total ropivacaine dosage. Stepwise multivariable linear regression models were used to calculate the regression coefficient (beta) and 95% confidence interval (CI) for independent factors of the study outcome.

Results and Discussion: A total of 819 patients were evaluated. Stepwise regression analyses identified seven independent factors for PCEA ropivacaine consumption, including body mass index (beta: 0.012; 95% CI: 0.005, 0.018), hypertension (beta: 0.228; 95% CI: 0.055, 0.400), parity (beta: -0.123; 95% CI: -0.167, -0.079), cervix dilatation (beta: -0.086; 95% CI: -0.103, -0.068), fetal station (beta: -0.046; 95% CI: -0.083, -0.010), ropivacaine concentration (beta: 4.100; 95% CI: 2.555, 5.644), and basal dose (beta: 0.045; 95% CI: 0.024, 0.065).

Conclusion(s): Patient factors, analgesic regimen, and PCEA infusion settings jointly affected the consumption of ropivacaine. These findings provide an implication for individualized and precision pain control for labor.

04AP05-07
Effectiveness of intravenous crystalloid coload plus ephedrine to prevent post-spinal hypotension in parturient undergoing elective cesarean section

M. Somjit1, P. Sutthicharoen1, K. Kongwattanakul2, C. Kasemsiri1, M. Sirisom1, N. Bootsri1
1Khon Kaen University, Anesthesiology, Khon Kaen, Thailand, 2Khon Khaen University, Obstetric and Gynecology Department, Khonkhaen, Thailand

Background and Goal of Study: Hypotension is the most common complication after spinal anesthesia (SA) in parturients undergoing elective cesarean section (CS). We aimed to assess the effectiveness of intravenous crystalloid plus ephedrine to reduce the incidence of post-spinal hypotension in parturient undergoing CS.

Materials and Methods: The study was a prospective, triple-blind, randomized, controlled trial. Hundred parturients undergoing elective CS under SA were randomized into two groups. Group E received the coload of 1,000 ml of Ringer’s lactate solution (RLS) plus ephedrine 10 mg (2ml) and group C received the coload of 1,000 ml of RLS plus normal saline solution (2ml) at the time of administration of SA within 20 minutes. Blood pressure was recorded before performing SA, immediately after SA, and then every 2.5 minutes until delivery. The primary outcome was the incidence of hypotension after SA to delivery. Secondary outcomes were rescued vasopressor drug and the complications included tachycardia, hypertension, nausea and vomiting, and neonatal Apgar score. Pearson chi-square test or Fisher’s exact test was used to finding the significance of study parameters between two groups. P value less than 0.05 is considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: The incidence of hypotension was 26% in group E which was lower than 58% in group C (OR 0.25, 95%CI 0.10 to 0.64, p = 0.001). Requiring bolus epinephrine was 12 mg in group C and 6 mg in group E (median difference 6 mg, 95%CI 0 to 12, p = 0.078). There were no statistically significant differences in hypertension, tachycardia, nausea, vomiting, and neonatal Apgar score between the two groups.

Conclusion(s): A combination of intravenous crystalloid and ephedrine coload was an effective method to prevent post-spinal hypotension in parturient undergoing elective CS and without significantly serious complications.

04AP05-08
Incidence and risk factors for intraoperative supplementation of analgesics/sedatives during cesarean section under epidural anesthesia

M.Y. Stav1, Y. Matatov1, D. Hoffmann1, P. Heesen2, S. Fein3, S. Orbach-Zinger1
1Rabin Medical Center - Beilinson Hospital, Dept of Anesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel, 2University of Zurich, Faculty of Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: There has been an ongoing interest regarding intraoperative pain in cesarean section (CS). Two recent studies showed an 11.9% incidence of intraoperative pain during CS under spinal anesthesia (SA) and a 4.7% need for intravenous supplementation. Intraoperative pain during epidural anesthesia (EA) is known to be higher than under SA. We checked the prevalence of IV analgesic/sedative supplementation under EA for CS, which drugs were used and risk factors.

Materials and Methods: After Institutional Review Board approval, retrospective data was collected using electronic medical software. All women who underwent CS under EA were eligible. A standard EA protocol for CS was used (20 ml Lidocaine 2%, 100 mcg Adrenaline, 2 ml Bicarbonate, 100 mcg Fentanyl). Women who received IV fentanyl / ketamine / propofol or a combination of these drugs were grouped into the supplementation group, all others were grouped into “no supplementation group”. Primary outcome was need for supplementation of IV analgesics/sedatives. A multivariable binary logistic regression model was performed using age, weight, gravidy, gestational age, surgery time, postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) (yes/no), adhesions (yes/no), and emergent/nonemergent surgery (yes/no) as independent variables and need for supplementation as the dependent variable. SPSS (version 26) was used.

Results: Between 1.1.17-30.6.22, there were 1,095 CS performed entirely under EA (with no conversion to GA). Of these, 141 (12.9%) required IV analgesics/sedatives. Most of women (87.9%) received the supplementation after delivery. Sixty-three (44.7%) required IV analgesics/sedatives. Of these women, 50 (35.4%) only fentanyl, 9 (6.4%) only propofol, and 19 (13.5%) received a combination of these drugs. Risk factors were younger age [OR 0.936 (0.901-0.972), p=0.001] and longer surgery time [OR 1.015 (CI 1.004-1.025), p=0.007]. No connection between emergency status of the CS and IV analgesics/sedatives was found.
Discusion & Conclusions: 12.9% of women undergoing CS under EA received IV analgesic/sedative, most often after baby was born. IV fentanyl was the most common analgesic used, followed by ketamine. Emergency nature of the CS was unrelated to analgesic/sedative supplementation, yet a younger age and a longer surgery time did. Further studies must be performed to discover techniques to ensure pain free CS.

04AP05-09
The analgesic efficacy of dexmedetomidine for labour epidural analgesia

J. Barrera Ramirez¹, B. Lin¹, K. Komsa¹, P. Singh¹, K. Kumar¹
¹University of Western Ontario, Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine, London, Canada

Background and Goal of Study: Epidural analgesia is the most effective and preferred choice to manage pain during labour and delivery. The use of adjuvant drugs, such as opioids and alpha-2 adrenergic agonists, in combination with reduced doses of local anesthetics (LAs) has helped decrease the incidence of side effects while maximizing pain relief. This systematic review evaluates the efficacy of using dexmedetomidine as an adjunct to LAs for epidural labour analgesia.

Methods: PUBMED, EMBASE (Ovid), and Cochrane Controlled Trials Register, were searched to identify all English language high quality randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in humans. Selected RCTs compared either LAs only or LAs with an opioid (fentanyl or sufentanil) against dexmedetomidine as an adjunct in labour epidurals. Primary outcomes included efficacy of pain control and safety of dexmedetomidine as a labour epidural analgesic adjunct. The quality of the included RCTs were evaluated using Jadad scores and the Cochrane risk of bias tool.

Results and Discussion: Eight studies involving 1292 patients met the eligibility criteria. 664 received dexmedetomidine as an adjunct to LAs for epidural labour analgesia. Quality scores were high (median Jadad score = 4.25, range 3-5). Three studies compared dexmedetomidine to sufentanil, while 4 studies compared dexmedetomidine to plain LAs. One study compared dexmedetomidine to clonidine. Pain scores were tracked throughout labour using the Visual Analog Scale (VAS). VAS scores were lower in all the groups that received dexmedetomidine, compared to those that received plain LAs, sufentanil or clonidine.

Conclusion: This is the first systematic review to highlight that the combined use of low dose dexmedetomidine and LAs provided better pain relief based on lower VAS scores throughout labour. Furthermore, the use of dexmedetomidine resulted in fewer patients experiencing side effects, such as, nausea/vomiting, pruritus, shivering or fetal heart rate abnormalities, compared to the opioid adjunct groups. Despite the clear benefits of dexmedetomidine, it is not currently licensed for epidural use and its overall safety requires further investigation with larger-sample randomized trials.

04AP05-10
Risk factors for anxiolysis administration during cesarean section

M.Y. Stav¹, J. Elliston¹, Y. Matataov¹, D. Hoffmann¹, S. Fein¹, S. Orbach-Zinger¹
¹Rabin Medical Center- Beilinson Hospital, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Labor is a stressful life event for a mother, with Cesarean section (CS) shown to be even more stressful. Peripartum stress and anxiety have been shown to have negative consequences, including spinal hypotension, increased postpartum pain, and postpartum depression. However, anxiety is difficult to measure and therefore we decided to use midazolam supplementation as a surrogate measure for anxiety.

Materials and Methods: Institutional review board approved this retrospective study. All women who underwent CS under neuraxial anesthesia (NA) were included. Women who converted to GA and those who received a supplementary analgesic/sedative (Fentanyl, Ketamine, Propofol) were excluded. The primary outcome was the administration of midazolam.

A univariable binary logistic regression model was performed using age, weight, gravidity, first/repeat CS, gestational age, multiple gestation, emergency CS, adhesions, postpartum hemorrhage (PPH), placenta previa, surgery time, type of anesthesia (spinal, epidural, combined spinal anesthesia) as independent variables and use of midazolam as the dependent variable. SPSS (version 26) was used for statistical analysis.

Results: Between 1.1.17- 30.6.22 there were 6,953 CSs included. Anxiolysis was administered in 839 women (13.7%), where 93.8% of women received it after delivery. Risk factors were younger age [OR 0.98 (0.967-0.992], p=0.001, lower gravidity [OR 0.958 (0.92-0.996)], p=0.041, first CS [OR 1.272 (CI 1.098-1.473)], p=0.001, emergency CS [OR 1.452 (CI= 1.181-1.785)], p< 0.001, PPH [OR 2.275 (CI1.073-4.823)], p= 0.032, , p<0.001, surgery time [OR 1.014 (CI 1.01-1.019)], p <0.001, and epidural anesthesia [OR 2.79 (CI2.353-3.309)], p<0.001. Spinal anesthesia was a protective variable [OR 0.405 (CI0.345-0.475)], p<0.001. No association was found between CSE anesthesia and anxiolytic administration.

Discussion and Conclusions: There is a non negligible rate of anxiolytic administration during CS, which occurs mostly after delivery. Younger age, lower gravidity, first CS, emergency CS, PPH, longer surgery time and use of non spinal anesthesia were associated with a higher risk for anxiolytic use. We believe this is a first step in identifying and modeling risk factors for anxiety during.
04AP06-01
Anesthetic management of vaginal delivery in a parturient with hereditary angioedema with normal C1-inhibitor

D. Guimarães¹, C. Roma², R. Frada²
¹Hospital do Espírito Santo de Évora, Dept of Anesthesiology, Évora, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Universitário Porto, Dept of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care, Porto, Portugal

Background: Hereditary angioedema (HAE) with normal functioning C1 inhibitor (C1-INH) is extremely rare and characterized by recurrent, self-limited episodes of cutaneous or submucosal edema, most commonly affecting the skin, and the upper respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts. The crisis does not respond to antihistamines, corticosteroids, or adrenaline and usually disappears spontaneously within 12-72 hours.

It is distinguished from other forms of HAE by the presence of normal complement studies. Estrogens play a significant role in the onset of symptoms which are usually exacerbated by hormone replacement therapy or pregnancy.

Case report: A 24-year-old female, G2P1, diagnosed with HAE with normal C1-INH had recurrent self-limited episodes of facial and periorbital edema after the introduction of oral contraceptives at 15 years old. In her current pregnancy, she was admitted into the hospital at 18 weeks of gestation with facial swelling which was reverted by intravenous administration of 2000 UI of plasma-derived C1-INH concentrate (pdC1-INH). Long-term prophylaxis was initiated with 1000 UI every 3 to 4 days, without further recurrence.

Labor was induced at 37 weeks due to intrauterine growth restriction. The case was evaluated by a multidisciplinary team and a pre-procedural dose of pdC1-INH wasn't administered since the last one had been given two days before. Additional doses were kept ready for acute treatment. A lumbar epidural catheter was earlier placed and after a bolus of 20 mg of 0.2% ropivacaine and 10 mcg of sufentanil, patient-controlled epidural analgesia was started with 0.1% ropivacaine and 0.25 mcg/mL sufentanil. The pain was successfully controlled throughout 8 hours of labor. Delivery and hospital stay were uneventful.

Discussion: Anaesthesiologists should be aware of the prophylaxis and treatment of HAE with normal C1-INH acute crises especially in pregnant women, as even normal labor can precipitate airway difficulties. Regional anesthesia is preferred whenever possible considering the better stress response suppression and adequate pain relief.

Reference:

Learning Points: Careful management of HAE is crucial for the establishment of an adequate level of care and support, prophylaxis, and rescue therapy.

04AP06-03
Unresponsiveness due to the inadvertent subdural catheter placement during Caesarian Section - a rare complication of epidural anaesthesia

G. Varghese Mathew¹, V. Saraswati¹, G. Massolini¹
¹Hamad Medical Corporation, Obstetric Anaesthesia, Doha, Qatar

Background: Inadvertent subdural block (SDB) is a complication of epidural anaesthesia but seldom recognised due to the varied presentation, like high sensory block with limited motor block and substantial haemodynamic and respiratory involvement. The awareness of SDB is essential in early diagnosis and adequate management to avoid serious complications.

Case report: A 17-year-old (40 weeks, no co-morbidities, height 158 cm, BMI 24) received labour analgesia. Combined Spinal Epidural was given (2 ml 0.125% heavy bupivacaine intrathecal) followed by Patient Controlled Epidural Analgesia infusion (6ml/hr, Bolus 10ml and lockout 20 min). Apart from transient hypotension, she was stable.

One hour later, she underwent category 1 LSCS for foetal bradycardia. When in the OR, she moved both lower limbs but sensory level was not assessed. After confirming a negative aspiration, epidural was topped up with 10 ml of 2% lidocaine with 100 mcg Fentanyl. Fifteen minutes into the procedure, she desaturated followed by hypotension. Bag mask ventilation and Phenylephrine infusion started. She gradually became unresponsive with dilated pupils. She was intubated after Rapid Sequence Induction and hyperventilated with head up position. CT Brain ruled out any intracranial event. She was ventilated in the ICU for a day and was extubated without any neurological deficit.

Discussion: SDB presents with extensive sensory blockade and cranial nerve involvement as the potential subdural space extends to the cranium. The block depends on the volume of local anaesthetics and spares motor and sympathetic distribution due to the subdural space anatomy. Patchy/failed block and extensive sympatholysis are reported. The onset of action is delayed up to 30 minutes, lasting up to three hours with full recovery.

The management is conservative with close monitoring and haemodynamic support till resolution and removal of the catheter.

References:

Learning points: Even after negative aspiration, SDB is a possibility. Hence block level should be assessed and titrate the top-up volume. High suspicion is warranted in late onset of extensive block. The catheter must be removed due to its unpredictability.
**04AP06-04**

Total thyroidectomy during pregnancy: what is the ideal analgesic strategy?

M. J. Bento Soares¹, A. Guerreiro¹, I. Gordillo¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, Serviço de Anestesiología, Lisboa, Portugal

**Background:** Regional anaesthesia should be the preferred technique whenever possible for non-obstetric procedures. The combination of both general and regional anaesthesia can minimize fetal drug exposure in comparison to general anaesthesia alone. We present a case of a pregnant woman submitted to total thyroidectomy with a combination of bilateral superficial cervical plexus block (BSPB) and general anaesthesia.

**Case report:** 22-year-old woman, ASA II, 25 weeks pregnant, diagnosed with papillary thyroid carcinoma. Scheduled for total thyroidectomy performed under combined anaesthesia. During the procedure, displacement of the uterus through left tilt was made and the patient was monitored with ASA standard monitorization plus neuromuscular block monitoring and BIS®. Fetal heart rate was also monitored by an obstetrician before surgery. The induction of anaesthesia was uneventful and accomplished with rapid sequence induction with perfusion of remifentanil, bolus of lidocaine, propofol and rocuronium. Intubation was successful at first try with direct laryngoscopy. After intubation an ultrasound guided superficial cervical plexus block was performed bilateraly. A total of 2 mL of ropivacaine 0.15% were administered on which side. Maintenance of anaesthesia was made with Sevofluran with a MAC of 0.5-0.6, guided by a BIS® of 40-60. Fetal heart rate was also monitored by an obstetrician before surgery. Emergence from anaesthesia was uneventful. The patient was taken to the post anaesthesia care unit awake and well. After surgery fetal heart rate was monitored once again by the obstetrician to establish fetal viability.

**Discussion:** A combined anaesthesia may offer additional benefits for the pregnant woman and the fetus as it allows to reduce the dose of hypnotic agents used for maintenance of anaesthesia as well as the dose of systemic analgesics used during and after the surgery. A BSPB as proven to be an efficient regional technique for thyroid surgery as it can reduce the requirements of sevoflurane for an ideal BIS and the need for additional analgesia.

**Reference:**

**Learning points:** A BSPB provided adequate analgesia and allowed the reduction of systemic analgesic doses.

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**04AP06-05**

Tirotoxic crisis in an urgent cesarean section. How come is it missed?

A. Gallo¹, C. Corbella¹, E. Monge¹, T. Sagredo¹, J. Barros¹, M. Zaballos¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Hyperthyroidism usually affects 3 out of every 1,000 women of reproductive age, so it is common for this pathology to coexist with pregnancy. Appropriate control of the thyroid hormone profile is essential for the course of pregnancy and for the correct neurological development of the embryo. Moreover, the consequences of a thyroid storm could be fatal for both.

**Case report:** 35 years old pregnant woman who underwent emergency cesarean section due to prolapsed cord under general anaesthesia with endotracheal intubation. During the procedure, which was carried out without incident, the patient was haemodynamically stable although slightly tachycardic. During the immediate postoperative period she presented hypertensive and an episode of supraventricular tachycardia that was managed with beta-blockers. After excluding pre-eclampsia and reinterviewing the patient, she reported a medical history of hyperthyroidism due to Graves’ Base- dow disease, without chronic treatment by her own decision. The thyroid study showed TSH<0.0001 with elevated T3 and T4, for which she started treatment with antithyroid drugs.

**Discussion:** Patients with Graves’ disease carry thyroid-stimulating immunoglobulins that act on thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) receptors. During the first trimester of pregnancy, this process is exacerbated by the affinity of human chorionic gonadotropin for TSH receptors. In addition, a thyrotoxic storm leads to tachycardia, hypertension, neurological disorders and even seizures that can endanger the mother and the foetus. Hence, in pregnant patients with hypertensive symptoms, it is important to be aware of this entity and to exclude it when making the differential diagnosis among the hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

**Reference:**

**Learning points:** Appropriate control of the thyroid hormone profile is crucial during pregnancy due to thyroid disorders can have serious consequences. The clinical manifestations of hyperthyroidism may resemble hypertensive disorders such as pre-eclampsia and therefore a differential diagnosis should be made between both entities. The diagnostic suspicion is crucial and must be early in order to manage it in a specific way.
**04AP06-06**

**Spinal tumor and pregnant women: neurosurgery and caesarian delivery dilemma**

A. Abdylî, G. Huti1, R. Domîi, D. Hoxha2, E. Agaci1, O. Deminî1
1 American Hospital Tirana, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Tirana, Albania

**Background:** Pregnant women have different pathophysiological changes, and often current diseases. We present a rare case of a pregnant woman suffering from spinal tumor diagnosed during her second pregnancy. The progressive neurological deficit makes inevitable the tumor removal in the 29-th week of pregnancy.

**Case Report:** A 21 years old pregnant woman was diagnosed in the 29-th week of pregnancy of spinal tumor based on her clinical signs (backache, and progressive neurological deficit of her legs) and on MRI examination.

These examinations revealed a spinal tumor on TH10-L1 level. The progressive motor deficit of her legs makes the surgery inevitable. A multidimensional team (obstetrician, neonatologists, anesthetists, and neurosurgeons) consulted the patient, concluding of neurosurgical approach and strict fetal monitoring in periperoic period. This conclusion was appreciated by the women which did not permit to deliver the baby prior of term. Betamethasone, nifedipine, and magnesium sulfate were started. Careful positioning of pregnant women in prone position was realized. Fetus monitoring was perioperatively realized taking care of maintaining fetal heart rate over 120.

The procedure was uneventful, and the women discharged from hospital without deficits and normal pregnancy course.

**Discussion:** This rare case presents an unusual situation of a pregnant woman undergoing non-obstetrical surgery (1,2). Being in 29th-week of pregnancy minimize the risk of anesthetic effects on organogenesis, and the anesthesiologist must take care about fetal monitoring, maternal hemodynamic, and tocolysis (1,2).

**References:**
2. Yimeng X, Xin M, Griffits B, Yan L. Medicine 2018; 97(37): pe12360

**Learning Points:**
1. Pregnant women for non pregnancy surgery presents a challenge for the anesthesiologist.
2. Every anesthesiologist must be familiar with pregnancy physiological features.

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**04AP06-07**

**Delivery in patients with congenital heart disease: does one strategy fit all? About five cases**

C. Hernández Huertas1, N. Brogly1, I. Valbuena, C. Garcia García1, E. Guasch1
1 Hospital Universitario La Paz, Servicio de Anestesia y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Pregnancies in patients with Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) has been increasing drastically1. Recommendations for management of delivery is based on case reports or case2. We collected data on consecutive parturients with CHD attended at a tertiary university hospital over a one-year period.

**Case Report:** Between 01/11/2021 and 01/11/2022, we attended five parturients with CHD (table 1). Multidisciplinary team adjusted treatments to the complexity of underlying disease during pregnancy and childbirth.

In cases vaginal delivery (VD) was considered. VD was chosen in 4 cases, and caesarean delivery (CD) in 1 case at maternal request. Intrapartum CD was required for non-progression of labour in 1 patient. For the 4 patients admitted to delivery room, an early epidural analgesia (EA) was proposed at 1-2 cm of cervical dilation to avoid cardiovascular effects associated with pain. EA was induced with a bolus of 6-8 mL Bupivacaine 0.125% + fentanyl 1.5mcg/mL, and maintained with PIEB 8mL - 45 min interval. Scheduled CD was performed under Combined Spinal Epidural (CSE) anesthesia using 8mg heavy 0.5% bupivacaine + 20mcg fentanyl. For intrapartum CD, block extension was obtained with an epidural top up dose of 14mL Ropivacaine 0.75% + 50mcg fentanyl with no haemodynamic changes. In all CDs, phenylephrine or noradrenaline infusion prevented hypotension. Uterus contraction was obtained using carbetocin 25-50mcg or oxytocin 3-10iu in 4 patients.

Immediate postpartum care was provided in the maternal ICU for postpartum invigilance in all cases. The epidural catheter was removed prior to discharge to the conventional hospitalization floor between postoperative day 1 and day 4, after an uneventful recovery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Clinical presentation</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Epidural / Intrapartum CD</td>
<td>Bicuspid aortic valve + Coarctation of aorta. Effort &gt;4METS LVEF 63% None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>CSE / Scheduled CD</td>
<td>Ebstein’s disease intervened + Pacemaker. Effort &gt; 4METS LVEF 61% AAS100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Epidural / VD</td>
<td>Ebstein’s disease + ASD intervened. Effort &gt;4METS LVEF 63% AAS100 replaced in 3rd trimester by LMWH 40mg until induction of labour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Epidural / VD</td>
<td>Transposition of the great vessels intervened with functional single ventricle. Effort &lt;4METS Reversed Flutter LVEF 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Epidural / VD</td>
<td>Suffered a STROKE LVEF60% AAS100 replaced in 3rd trimester by LMWH 40mg until induction of labour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1: Patients characteristics:**

**Conclusion:** Adequate delivery care is a decisive factor in reducing adverse maternal and neonatal outcomes in patients with CHD, especially in the most complex cases. Follow-up by multidisciplinary teams is primordial. More studies are required for a greater consensus on the proper management of these patients.

**References:**
2. Roué M, Br J Anaesth. 2021
Arachnoiditis following neuroaxial anesthesia in an obstetric patient

L. Goñi Galindo, P. Montero López, M. Lurque Peláez, C. Sala Trull, A. Escribano Arranz, E. Belinchón de Diego
Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Unit, Pamplona, Spain

Background: Arachnoiditis is a rare disease in which an extensive inflammatory response occurs in relation to a noxious stimulus, resulting in fibrosis and collagen bands, adhering nerve roots to each other and/or to the dural sac. This may affect CSF circulation. It is most often seen as a complication of TBC, spinal surgery or as a response to contrast myelography, but has also been reported as an idiosyncratic reaction to neuroaxial anesthesia. Most common radiological finding is clumping of nerve roots below L2.

Treatment is difficult as pain palliation and symptom relief are impossible in most cases. It includes pain management (NSAIDs, narcotics), steroids, neuromodulators, antidepressants, spinal cord neurostimulation and surgical release of scar tissue.

Case Report: A 41-year-old woman is admitted for induction of labor. No personal history of interest to note. Epidural puncture was performed at L4-L5 (previous attempt at L3-L4). After 6 hours of dilation, cesarean section was performed under spinal anesthesia (single atraumatic puncture) with Bupivacaine+Fentanyl without dilation, cesarean section was performed under spinal anesthesia (single atraumatic puncture) with Bupivacaine+Fentanyl without induction. 9 days later she came to the emergency room for intense pain in the low back that may radiate down the legs and persists at rest, urinary urgency, frequency and incontinence, loss of sensation below the area afflicted and paralysis.

Diagnosis is based on clinical history and can be confirmed by imaging tests. The most efficient test is T1-weighted MRI. The most common radiological finding is clumping of nerve roots below L2.

Treatment is difficult as pain palliation and symptom relief are impossible in most cases. It includes pain management (NSAIDs, narcotics), steroids, neuromodulators, antidepressants, spinal cord neurostimulation and surgical release of scar tissue.

Discussion: Complications of neuroaxial anesthesia are rare when performed by experts but with generally serious consequences. Symptoms are similar to other neurological pathologies. Early diagnosis and treatment in order to avoid irreversible damage are important.

Reference:

Learning Points: Arachnoiditis is a very infrequent pathology but with devastating consequences (patients are at risk for depression, suicide and drug abuse). Taking into account the rise of regional techniques is a pathology that we must know to be able to suspect it.

A novel parturient centered continuous labor pain monitoring system: a case report

C.A. Compagnone, A. Calabrese, M. Taddei, V. Bellini, M. Badino, E.G. Bignami
Università di Parma, Department of Surgical Sciences, 2nd Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Parma University Hospital, Parma, Italy

Background: Effectiveness of labor analgesia is usually monitored by means of unidimensional pain scales administered to the patient at predefined time intervals. These methods don’t provide information on neuraxial block onset and duration, nor on pain reemergence pattern. Continuous evaluation of contraction pain, a method we are currently lacking, is expected to be more sensitive and accurate in describing such parameters.

We are developing a patient operated system that enables parturients to input onset and termination of contraction pain and its severity in real time by a simple and intuitive interface, which will be synced to a Uterine Activity Monitor.

We are then able to derive a relationship between Pain duration (Pd) as input by the parturient, and Contraction duration (Cd) as monitored through tocography. This Contraction Index (Pd/Cd) is a dimensionless parameter for monitoring individual response to administration of analgesia during labor.

Case report: We provided one parturient with a tablet supporting an application through which she has been able to easily report beginning, end and intensity of pain associated with each uterine contraction she perceived in the study time interval - between the first and second top-up after peridural catheter placement. We then compared contraction time duration as measured by the parturient with those recorded by tocography (Fig 1a).

Discussion: The contraction index (Fig. 1b) showed better sensitivity than NRS (Fig. 1c) in describing onset and offset of neuraxial blockade. Focusing on variations in pain’s duration, instead of on its intensity, may provide a more objective parameter of analgesia effectiveness - especially with a continuous input from the parturient.

Real time labor pain monitoring could represent a ‘telemetry like’ tool, assisting practitioners in customizing analgesia based on moment-to-moment parturients’ feedback. Such a multimodal monitoring could also allow for a more objective comparison between different labor analgesia strategies and techniques.

Learning point: The system we are proofing is a mean to empower parturients receiving labor analgesia to be provided tailored treatment.
A case of placental abruption after combined spinal-epidural technique for an elective cesarean

F Matos Sousa¹, M Louro², J. Moniz¹, G. Ribeiro², H. Cavaco³, F Lança²
¹Francisco Gentil Portuguese Oncology Institute of Lisbon, Anaesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal, ²North Lisbon University Hospital Centre, Anaesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Administration of intrathecal (IT) opioids during labor has been associated with higher incidence of non-reassuring fetal heart rate (HR) tracing due to uterine hypertonicity.¹

We present a case of a placental abruption immediately after combined spinal-epidural (CSE) anesthesia for an elective cesarean.

Case report: A 29-year-old G2P1 healthy woman at 39 weeks of gestation was proposed to elective cesarean (CST), with uncomplicated pregnancy and no relevant medical history. The patient was admitted in the operating theatre and monitored according to ASA standards.

A CSE technique was performed in the first attempt at the L4–L5 interspace with the patient in a sitting position and ropivacaine 12mg plus sufentanil 2.5 mcg was injected in the IT space. A rapid co-load of crystalloid 500 mL was administered. The patient was positioned in dorsal decubitus with tilt to the left side. After 2 minutes, the patient started to feel lipotymia, nausea and blurry vision. HR raised from 76 bpm to 155 bpm and blood pressure was not measurable. A total of 25mg of ephedrine was administered and volmetric resuscitation was started. CST was immediately started. At the time of uterine incision a significant volume of bloody amniotic fluid was found. Visual inspection of the placenta suggested the diagnosis of placental abruption. The neonate was successfully delivered and Apgar scores were 6/10/10.

Discussion: CSE analgesia or anesthesia is associated with transient imbalance in maternal catecholamine level, leading to uterine hypertonicity and fetal heart rate abnormalities, particularly when IT opioids are used. When conducting CSE technique, the clinical pattern observed is more likely to be caused by the sympathetic blockade, however one should have in mind the possibility of placental abruption, as already reported in another paper.²

References:
¹ Abrao KC, Elevation of uterine basal tone and FHR abnormalities after labor analgesia: a RCT. Obst Gyn 2009

Learning Points: CSE analgesia and anesthesia in partum can cause uterine hypertonicity, therefore it is of most value to monitor mother and fetus wellbeing during and after the technique. Collaboration between anesthesiologists, obstetricians and obstetric nurses is mandatory.

Specific features sedation for regional anesthesia during cesarean section with severe coronavirus pneumonia

E Oreshnikov¹, S. Oreshnikova¹, E. Vasiljeva², T. Denisova², A. Oreshnikov³
¹Chuvash State University named I.N. Ulyanova, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Cheboksary, Russian Federation, ²Chuvash State University named I.N. Ulyanova, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cheboksary, Russian Federation, ³Chuvash State University named I. N. Ulyanova, Internal Medicine, Cheboksary, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: Regional (Spinal and Epidural) anesthesia (SA and EA) is the main type of anesthesia for caesarean section (SC). COVID-19 pneumonia which complicates the course of pregnancy, requires a rational choice of sedation and respiratory support to ensure SA and EA.

Materials and Methods: The safe conduct of SA or EA was ensured by the temporary discontinuation of the use of heparinoids in the perioperative period. SA or EA was performed exclusively in the sitting position, then the patient was transferred to the horizontal position with the head end elevated by 30-45 degrees (depending on the needs). Respiratory support was used at all stages of preparation, performance, and administration of anesthesia: high-flow oxygenation (HFO) through nasal cannula or face mask, and non-invasive mechanical lung ventilation through the face mask. Maintenance of normotension was provided by intravenous boluses phentylephrine. Sedation was provided by intravenous bolus small doses of propofol or ketamine.

Results and Discussion: The above-described features of SA/EA were used by us during CS in 60 women in labor with severe coronavirus pneumonia. Compliance with the characteristics of SA/EA for CS by coronavirus pneumonia was expressed in the following:
1. Sitting position - half sitting at all stages of the perioperative period;
2. Constant respiratory support, mainly HFO;
3. Early transfer to the pron-position in the postoperative period;
4. Predominant use 25-50-75 mg ketamine (not propofol!) for sedation during CS.

This approach ensured that there was no need to use general anesthesia with tracheal intubation for CS.

Conclusion(s): Supplemented with HFO, ketamine sedation, half-sitting SA or EA is the method of choice for providing CS in labor with severe coronavirus pneumonia.
04AP07-02
Low dose spinal anaesthesia for CD and high rate of labour epidural anaesthesia. Any impact on safety and quality indexes in a university hospital during last year?

N. Brogly¹, E. Guasch¹, I. Valbuena¹, C. García García¹, F. López², F. Gilsanz Rodríguez³
¹Hospital Universitario La Paz, Servicio de Anestesia y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario La Paz, Servicio de Ginecología y Obstetricia, Madrid, Spain, ³Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Departamento de Cirugía, Madrid, Spain

Background: Minimum standards in obstetric anaesthesia (OA)¹ recommend using indicators to improve quality and safety of maternal care. Little evidence exists for the use of different local protocols in OA²,³. In the last years, in our hospital, we promoted routine protocolized Combined Spinal Epidural (CSE) (low spinal dose 8 mg 0.5% of Heavy Bupivacaine + Fentanyl 20 mcg) for caesarean delivery (CD), and a high rate of labour epidural analgesia (EA) by proposing it at patient’s request until full cervical dilation. We describe the impact of our practice on the most common indicators of quality in OA in our tertiary maternal university hospital.

Material and Methods: An 11-months internal audit was conducted to assess monthly indicators of obstetric and anaesthetic care: mode of delivery (vaginal birth (VB), instrumental delivery (ID) and CD), anaesthetic care in the delivery suite (EA or CSE), and anaesthetic care for CD (level of emergency (Scheduled (Category 4) vs Urgent (Categories 1 to 3)) and final anaesthesia technique employed. Anaesthesia techniques were analysed depending on the level of urgency of CD. The indicators were analysed using a X² test. For CD, the requirement for GA was opposed to the level of urgency, p<0.05 was considered significant.

Results: 4451 parturient delivered in our centre during the audit, 2824(63,5%) by VB, 501(11,3%) by ID, and 1126 (25,3%) by CD, without significant variation during the period (p=0.40). Among parturients admitted to delivery room, 3497/3905 (89,6%) received a neuraxial block for labour analgesia, 2604(74,4%) an EA, with no difference between months (p=0,23). Urgent CD were performed in 787 /1126 (69,9%), most of which under EA (66,3%) or CSE (24,7%). For scheduled CD, a neuraxial technique with epidural catheter (CSE or EA) in 293/324 (90,4%) patients allowed to administer low neuraxial doses. General anaesthesia was required in 48 (6,1%) of urgent vs 8(2,4%) of scheduled CD (OR: 2.56 95%CI [1.22; 5.36]; p=0,006), with no significant change during the period (p=0.083).

Discussion and Conclusions: In our tertiary centre, neither the use of low-dose CSE for scheduled CD, nor a high rate of labour neuraxial analgesia seem to have a significant impact on GA incidence, when compared to international standards of quality, despite a rotation of residents every 3 months.

Reference:

04AP07-03
State of the art in labour neuraxial analgesia in Spain: national survey on current practice

N. Brogly¹, L. Hernández¹, S. Manrique¹, C. Suárez¹, G. Yerga¹, E. Guasch¹
¹Sociedad Española de Anestesia Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Sección de Obstetricia, Madrid, Spain

Background: Rapid evolution of evidence in obstetric anaesthesia (OA) obliges to constant actualization and assessment of practice¹. This national survey was conducted to assess obstetric practice in Spanish maternal hospitals.

Material and Methods: Our National Spanish experts taskforce designed a survey, following a Delphi process, on most frequent techniques of labour neuraxial analgesia (LNA). Selected variables included centres characteristics, anaesthesia techniques, local anaesthetic doses and concentrations, use of adjuvants, and regimes of administration. The questions were transferred to Googleform. The survey was proposed to 195 Spanish maternities between April and September 2022. Results were presented as N (%) for qualitative variables or mean (SD) for quantitative variables.

Results: 105/195(53.9%) centres answered, covering all the territory. 88(83.8%) were public hospitals, 49(46.7%) offered a specialized perinatal care (ACOG Level 3-4), and 51(48.6%) attended >1.200 deliveries, vs 12(11.4%) < 600 deliveries per year. In 46(43,8%), an anaesthesiologist had exclusive dedication to OA. 69(65.7%) centres declared a rate of LNA > 80%. LNA was used daily in 97(92,4%) centres, versus 9(8,6%) for CSE, 5(4.8%) for spinal analgesia and 3(2.9%) for DPE. Saline loss of resistance was used in 74(70,5%) centres. Ultrasound guidance was only occasionally used in 21(20.0%). In 77(73,3%), a test dose was administered, using bupivacaine with epinephrine in 61(58,1%). Bupivacaine and Levobupivacaine 0.10%-0,25% were the most common local anaesthetics (LA) used for induction of LNA in 25(23,8%) and 57(54,3%) centres. Fentanyl or sufentanyl were added to LA in 96(91,4%) centres. For maintenance, 70(66,7%) and 33(30,5%) centres used continuous infusion and PIEB respectively. Rescue analgesia bolus were proposed in 62(59,0%) centres using PCA, or manual top ups administered by the midwife or attending anaesthesiologist in 36(34,3%) centres.

Bupivacaine and Levobupivacaine 0.0625-0.125%, bupivacaine 0.0625-0.125%, or ropivacaine 0.10-0.20% were employed in 63(34,3%), 13(12,4%) and 43(41,0%) centres respectively. Fentanyl was added at a concentration of 1-2mcg/mL in 102(97,1%) centres. 15(14,3%) centres declared no alternative technique to LNA. Despite the publication of national protocols, 25(23,8%) centres do not follow protocols for obstetric patient.

Conclusion: The survey highlights the diversity of our national Spanish obstetric anaesthesia practice, within a range of acceptable practice, according to current knowledge and recommendations².

Reference:
1. Callahan, CJA, 2022;
2. Guasch, EJA, 2020
04AP07-04
Programmed intermittent epidural anesthetic bolus vs continuous epidural infusion in labor

J. Rodriguez Peñas1, J.J. Sánchez Palomo1, N. Pizarro1, R. Navarro Pérez1, S. Fossati Puertas1, L. Santé Serna1
1Hospital Clínico San Carlos, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Many studies have been carried out comparing different methods for labor epidural analgesia and assessing their efficacy and patient satisfaction. In this study, we observed the presence of motor block during epidural analgesia in these two different analgesic techniques for labor epidural analgesia: Programmed intermittent epidural anesthetic bolus (PIEB) versus continuous epidural infusion (CEI).

Materials and Methods: We developed a prospective observational study in which 54 parturient were included and evaluated. Both groups (PIEB and CEI) consisted of 27 patients. No statistically significant clinical or demographic differences were found between groups. Inclusions criteria were cervical dilation less than 6 cm, spontaneous delivery and desire for epidural analgesia. Analgesia for labor was performed with levobupivacaine 0.125% + fentanyl 1 microgram/ml. The initial analgesia was 10 ml of the above solution in both groups. Analgesia was continued with an 8 ml/h of solution (administered as a bolus in the PIEB group and continuously in the CEI group). Rescue analgesia was performed with bolus of 4 ml of the dilution by the responsible anesthesiologist.

The modified Bromage scale was used to assess the degree of motor block, while the VAS scale was used to assess pain. The evaluation was performed every hour during labor. Other variables studied were: total need for analgesic dilution, incidence of instrumental delivery, duration of delivery, and overall satisfaction of parturient. The statistical analysis was carried out with the program SPSS 20.0 and GraphPad 5.0.

Results and Discussion: We observed less motor block at delivery in the PIEB group compared to the CEI group (18.5% versus 50%; p < 0.05). No statistically significant differences were found in pain control at any time of delivery.

No statistically significant differences were found at the incidence of instrumental delivery, the total amount of anesthetic dilution, the duration of delivery and overall patient satisfaction.

Conclusion(s): Results of the study show that epidural analgesia for labor with PIEB compared with CEI causes a lower incidence of motor block in parturient. However, no statistically significant differences were found regarding pain control, the amount of anesthetic required, the rate of delivery instrumentation, or better patient satisfaction. We believe that PIEB could help a faster recovery and therefore an early mobilization of the parturient.

04AP07-05
The influence of physician/patient characteristics and interaction on intravenous sedative administration during elective Cesarean section

R. Shani1, S. Orbach-Zinger2, Y. Binyamin3, J. Ronel4, E. Olliges5, P. Heesen6
1Shamir Medical Center, Anesthesia, Beer Yaakov, Israel, 2Rabin Medical Hospital, Obstetric Anesthesia, Petach Tikva, Israel, 3Soroka Medical Center, Obstetric Anesthesia, Beer Sheva, Israel, 4Klinik Barmerweid AG, Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy, Barmerweid, Switzerland, 5Klinikum rechts der Isar Technical University, Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy, Munich, Germany, 6University of Zurich, Statistics, Zurich, Switzerland

Introduction: Spinal anesthesia (SA) is the gold standard for Cesarean section (CS) as it allows mother to be awake and pain free. However, rate of IV supplementation is not negligible and may be deleterious. Because the woman is interacting with the anesthesiologist, there may be psychosocial factors that influence the anesthesiologist’s decision to administer sedatives. Therefore, we decided to investigate factors that led to sedative administration during CS from an anesthesiologist’s perspective.

Methods: After IRB approval and signed informed consent, women undergoing elective CS under SA were enrolled. Postpartum, anesthesiologists and women were asked to fill out transference / countertransference forms; validated questionnaires measuring the patient’s reactions to their provider and provider’s reaction to their patients. In addition, the woman provided demographic details, socioeconomic status, native language and intraoperative anxiety and pain.

The anesthesiologist was also asked about gender, experience level, native language, assessed the woman’s anxiety and pain level, and was also asked if the woman was cooperative, talkative, or annoying. The administration of anxiolytics or sedatives was retrieved from the electronic medical record.

Women who received anxiolytics versus those who did not were compared. We performed univariable and multivariable logistic regression with sedative administration (binary: yes vs no) as the dependent variable. In the multivariable regression model, we included the following variables: age, CS number, BMI, anesthesiologist’s assessment of anxiety level, woman and anesthesiologist speaking the same language, and if the woman was talkative, cooperative, or annoying.

Results: There were 298 women/ anesthesiologist couples. Women receiving supplementation had higher BMI (median 30.8 [1st quartile, 3rd quartile; 27.7, 34.8] vs median 30.6 [1st quartile, 3rd quartile; 26.4, 33.7]), p = 0.03. Female and senior anesthesiologists were more likely to give supplementation, OR 1.71 (95% CI; 1.04, 2.84), p = 0.035 and OR 1.70 (95% CI; 1.02, 2.86), p = 0.043, respectively. In multivariable regression analysis, only anesthesiologist’s assessment of the woman’s anxiety and BMI influenced administration, OR 1.74 (95% CI; 1.52, 2.02), p < 0.001 and OR 1.04 (95% CI; 1.01, 1.09), p = 0.034, respectively.

Discussion: We found that only woman’s BMI and anesthesiologist’s assessment of the anxiety were predictive of supplementation.
04AP07-06
Dural puncture epidural: our experience in a tertiary hospital with a high rate of neuraxial analgesia in labour

P. Molinero1, E. Guasch1, N. Brogly1, I. Valbuena1, C. Garcia1, F. Gilsanz2
1La Paz University Hospital, Anaesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain, 2Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Facultad de Medicina, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Standard epidural (E), combined spinal epidural (CSE), and may be dural puncture epidural (DPE) are effective described techniques for labor pain relief (LPR). It seems that DPE may have advantages over E (faster onset and better sacral spread) and over CSE (no intrathecal drug injected and less fetal side effects).

Our primary goal was to describe the overall quality of labor analgesia with DPE technique in parturients who asked for neuraxial analgesia for LPR. Our secondary goal was to assess the associated side effects of DPE.

Materials and Methods: After local ethics committee approval, we performed a retrospective study involving all parturients who received DPE for LPR in our hospital between October 1st and November 30th 2022. Our standard DPE technique was: epidural identification (Perifix 401 Filter set, Braun, Melsungen, Germany) and needle through needle spinal puncture with a 25 G 120 mm (Pennanneedle, Braun, Melsungen, Germany). As we saw liquor in the spinal needle, the 25 G needle was removed and we inserted the epidural catheter. Analgesia was started with a conventional PIEB regime (8-12 ml of L-bupivacaine 0.125% + 1.5 mcg/ml fentanyl as initial bolus + PIEB boluses every 45 min).

Analgesia was considered effective when VAS<3 at 30 min. We recorded onset time (time to VAS<3), the incidence of unilateral block (UB), catheter resting (CR), sacral pain (SP), postdural puncture headache (PDPH) at the 24 h follow up visit and parturients’ satisfaction (0-10). For statistical descriptive analysis, Microsoft Excel data was used. Continuous data were expressed as mean, categorical data as median, and incidences as N(Percentage).

Results and Discussion: 70 patients were included. Demographic maternal and fetal characteristics are shown in table 1. The average onset time was 15 minutes. 7(10%) parturients lasted >30 min until VAS <3 and 3(4.3%) patients presented UB and 2(2.9%) SP(1.4%) patient had PDPH (VAS 2-3 at 24 and 48h). The average satisfaction was 9.7.

Table 1. General characteristics of patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic data:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (yr)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMC</td>
<td>29.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gestational age (wk)</td>
<td>39+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor induction (%)</td>
<td>41 (58.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gestations:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>33 (47.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>17 (24.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>13 (18.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 (7.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2 (2.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery mode:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal delivery</td>
<td>46 (65.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operative vaginal delivery</td>
<td>13 (18.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cesarean section NICE I</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cesarean section NICE II</td>
<td>4 (5.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cesarean section NICE III</td>
<td>7 (10%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): DPE looks one more technique in our chart as its efficacy and safety profile are good.

04AP07-07
Retrospective study to compare two epidural maintenance regimes in laboring women: patient controlled epidural analgesia versus programmed intermittent epidural bolus on outcomes of labor

D. Karol1, S. Zarour1, V. Rabkin1, I. Matot1, A. Lavie2, C. Weiniger2
1Division of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Anesthesia, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2Lis Hospital Tel Aviv Medical Center, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: In the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center we introduced a new pump system programmed intermittent epidural bolus (PIEB) in March 2021 for administering labor epidural analgesia (LEA). We transferred, in a staged process, from patient controlled epidural analgesia (PCEA) to PIEB. In July 2021 PIEB was fully introduced in all 18 labor wards. This gives a unique window to examine a practice change and the effect on perinatal outcomes.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study to investigate the perinatal outcomes for LEA using PCEA (July – December 2020) vs. PIEB (July-December 2021).

Primary Aim: To compare the rate of instrumental delivery (vacuum) for women who received LEA using PCEA vs PIEB. Data were retrieved using MDCLONE and Chameleon. Analysis was performed using descriptive statistics comparing PCEA vs PIEB. P<0.05 was considered significant.

Results and Discussion: We present the analysis for our primary study outcome. During the two study periods, there were 5126 and 5519 labors; 2770 (54.0%) and 2976 (53.9%) women respectively received LEA. Among women who received LEA, the rate of instrumental delivery was 406 (14.7%) using PCEA vs 460 (15.5%) using PIEB, p = 0.574, 95% CI of the difference -0.01 to 0.03. Repeat epidural rate was similar for women receiving PCEA 82 (2.9%) vs 69 (2.3%) for PIEB, p = 0.02, 95% CI of the difference -0.002 to 0.015. Physician administered top-ups were administered to 554 (20%) women receiving PCEA vs 302 (10%) receiving PIEB, p < 0.00001, 95% CI of the difference 0.08 to 0.12.

Conclusion(s): The rate of instrumental delivery was not significantly different for women who received PCEA or PIEB in our cohort. The rate of women receiving physician administered top-ups was significantly lower when PIEB was used.
Use of intramuscular dexmedetomidine as an adjunct for post operative analgesia following lower segment caesarean section under spinal anaesthesia

D. D’Cunha¹, S. S²
¹Yenepoya Medical College, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Derlakatte, India, ²Father Muller Medical College, Anaesthesiology, Mangalore, India

Background and Goal of Study: Dexmedetomidine, an α2-adrenergic receptor agonist with proven analgesic, anxiolytic and sedative properties, when administered by the intramuscular route avoids the transient hypertension and bradycardia seen after an IV bolus and has prolonged duration of action. In this study we tested the efficacy of intramuscular dexmedetomidine in enhancing postoperative analgesia in patients undergoing lower segment Caesarean section (LSCS) under spinal anaesthesia.

Materials and Methods: This was a prospective, analytical study conducted in a tertiary care hospital on 90 patients who underwent elective LSCS. Forty-five patients were observed under each group, Group D - receiving IM Dexmedetomidine (1mcg/kg to the thigh) and 45 patients under Group ND who did not receive the drug. Basal analgesia in the form of intravenous paracetamol was administered in both the groups and intravenous tramadol 50 mg was used as rescue analgesia whenever necessary. The requirement of additional analgesia was noted and compared between the groups.

Results and Discussion: Both the study groups were comparable in terms of weight, age and ASA physical status. The group receiving Dexmedetomidine was shown to have stable vital parameters (Mean arterial pressure (MAP) and heart rate (HR)), better analgesia and sedation scores as assessed by Visual Analog Score (VAS) and Ramsay Sedation Score (RSS). The patients receiving Dexmedetomidine did not report pain for a longer period (mean time duration 370 min) and in contrast, the time until first analgesic request for the patients in Group ND comparably shorter (218 min). Requirement of rescue analgesic over a 24-hour period was found to be greater in the group which did not receive Dexmedetomidine. Neonatal haemodynamics were also monitored for 24 hours in the post-operative period. There was no incidence of bradycardia, hypotension or respiratory depression in any of the patients of Group D or Group ND or amongst the neonates.

Conclusion(s): Our study findings indicate that Dexmedetomidine is a potent and highly selective α2-adrenoceptor agonist with sympatholytic, sedative and analgesic properties, which can be used as a useful and safe adjunct in managing postoperative pain in women who undergo lower segment caesarean section.

Reference:

Anesthetic management of external cephalic version. Which is the best way? 6 months experience

V López¹
¹Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Anestesia, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Breech presentation occurs in 3-4% of pregnancies at term. Breach position deliveries can lead to complications due to difficulties in the fetal head extraction, this is why the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommend to offer an external cephalic version (ECV) to all women with breech presentation in the third term.(1) Different anesthetic and sedation techniques have been employed, but which one can offer a better success rate? In this article we make a revision of the experience in our hospital.

Materials and Methods: We describe the anesthetic management of 18 ECV that took place from January to June of 2022. All ECV attempts were carried out in surgery room, under US control. All patients had a perfusion of ritodrine as tocolytic.

Results and Discussion: 18 ECV were performed. 11 were successful (60%) and 7 failed (38%). Of the 60% successful, 3 ended up by c-section. 11 procedures took place with iv sedation (propofol o remifentalin perfusion), and 7 with neuroaxial anesthesia. This rates are really similar to the results in other studies(1).

Factors that favour success are multiparous women, complete breach, posterior placenta or smaller fetus. ECV can be sometimes performed without anesthesia, but in order to decrease maternal discomfort, relaxing the abdominal muscle tone and abolishing abdominal guarding, neuroaxial anesthesia or iv sedation are used (1) Pain relief increase success rate, but no differences were found associated to type of anaesthesia, and results are similar with neuroaxial anesthesia or intravenous remifentanil. Sedation with propofol is less used, but also offers similar rates of success. Clinical hypotension occurs frequently with neuroaxial techniques and propofol. No differences in APGAR scores were found comparing sedation with neuroaxial anesthesia. Other techniques, as Nitrous oxide, hypnosis or acupuncture have not been useful. In order to avoid placental abruption o fetal injury for excessive abdominal pressure, no more than two attemps are recommended.

Conclusion(s): ECV is a safe alternative in breech presentation pregnancies, Pain relief increase success rates. Adverse events are rare, but even in successful VCE, the decrease in the cesarean section rate is relatively low.

Reference:
04AP08-02
Incidence and risk factors for need for conversion to general anesthesia during cesarean section under epidural anesthesia

M.Y. Stav1, Y. Matatov1, D. Hoffmann1, P. Heesen2, S. Fein1, S. Orbach-Zinger1
1Rabin Medical Center- Beilinson Hospital, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel, 2University of Zurich, Faculty of Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Neuraxial anesthesia (NA) for Cesarean section (CS) is the gold standard technique and is associated with less adverse events compared with general anesthesia (GA). Furthermore, the rate of adverse events raises significantly when NA is converted to GA during CS. The rate of conversion from epidural anesthesia (EA) to GA is not negligible. We were interested in the incidence of conversion from GA to EA in our facility and what are its risk factors.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective study, approved by the Institutional Review Board, included all women who underwent a CS under epidural anesthesia. Data was collected using the electronic medical recording system. All women received a standardized EA protocol for CS (20 ml Lidocaine 2%, 100 mcg Adrenaline, 2 ml Bicarbonate, 100 mcg Fentanyl).

Primary outcome was conversion to GA. A multivariable binary logistic regression model was performed using age, weight, gravidity, gestational age, postpartum hemorrhage (PPH), surgery time, presence of adhesions, and whether the surgery was emergent/nonemergent as independent variables and conversion to GA as the dependent variable. Statistical analyses were conducted using SPSS (version 26).

Results and Discussion: Between 1.1.17-30.6.22 there were 1192 CSs under EA. Conversion to GA occurred in 97 women (8.1%). Conversion occurred before delivery in 68 women (70.1%) and in 29 (29.9%) afterwards. Risk factors were younger age [OR 0.939 (0.897-0.981)] p<0.01, lower weight [OR 0.977 (0.961-0.993)], p<0.01, higher gravidity [OR 1.198 (CI 1.048-1.37)], p<0.01, lower gestational age [OR 0.875 (CI 0.787-0.973)], p=0.01 and longer surgery time [OR 1.026 (CI 1.016-1.037)], p<0.001. No association was found between emergent/nonemergent classification of the CS and conversion to GA.

Conclusions: There was a relatively high rate of conversion to GA from EA. Younger age, lower weight, younger gestational age, multigravidity and a longer surgery time were associated with a higher rate of conversion. Emergency CS was not a risk factor.

The finding of emergency CS not related to conversion is of interest since maybe those conversions could have been avoided.

04AP08-03
Implementation of the walking epidural protocol. What do we think about it?

C. Espinós Ramírez1, A. Peig Font1, P. Gil Esteller1, N. García Medina1, M. Ezpeleta Valls1, M. Martinez Garcia1
1Consorci Sanitari de Terrassa, Anaesthesiology, Terrassa, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Labor is a natural process that often requires medical attention but has an emotional and social component that cannot be ignored. Therefore, both obstetric and anesthetic care has been adapted over the last few years. The walking epidural is a technique that attempts to respond to this need. Its aim is to generate an analgesic control, avoiding the sensory and motor blockade. In this way, pregnant women are allowed to ambulate during labor. During 2022 a protocol on walking epidural was implemented in our center. We decided to evaluate the acceptance and analgesic quality of the technique by the pregnant women and the entire professional team in the delivery room.

Materials and Methods: The opinion of pregnant women and delivery room staff regarding epidural walking was assessed by means of a short 10-question questionnaire after delivery. The health care team included obstetricians, midwives, nurses and auxiliary nursing care technicians.

Results and Discussion: A total of 20 pregnant women and 42 health professionals responded to the survey. If we analyze the first group, 15 midwives, 14 obstetricians, 7 nurses and 6 auxiliary nursing care technicians responded. All pregnant women rated the analgesic quality of the walking epidural as excellent. Moreover, all of them felt that deciding on the analgesic option at each stage of labor improved the experience of labor. That is the reason why more than 90% thought that it should always be an anesthetic option during labor and that it was a good alternative for those women who initially wanted a natural delivery. Also, the majority felt that the ability to walk was an excellent way to improve the experience of childbirth.

We found similar results when we asked health professionals about the influence of walking epidurals on the experience of labor. However, most of them (52.4%) stated that the information provided to patients was insufficient and more than 90% said that they would like to receive more information as professionals about the technique. This contrasts with the results obtained from the patients, since all of them considered that the information received was sufficient.

Conclusion(s): The walking epidural is an analgesic technique for labor with great acceptance among pregnant women and health care workers in the delivery room. Likewise, all of them consider that it is an option that improves the experience of childbirth and that therefore it should be proposed more.
The MaCriCare survey - the use of modified early obstetric warning scores in maternity units: an international cross-sectional survey

P. Krawczyk1, Ł. Balcerzak2, D. Dabrowska3, E. Guasch4, H. Jörnvall5, S. Cantellow6, MaCriCare Study Group
1Jagiellonian University Medical College, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Cracow, Poland, 2Jagiellonian University Medical College, Centre for Innovative Medical Education, Cracow, Poland, 3West Middlesex University Hospital, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Department of Anaesthetics and Intensive Care, London, United Kingdom, 4Hospital Universitario La Paz, Servicio de Anestesia y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, 5Karolinska Institutet, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Section for Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden, 6Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Critical Care Department, Nottingham City Hospital, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: For a critical illness to be effectively managed, early recognition is essential to allow rapid escalation of care. Early warning systems have been widely adopted in many countries as a standard of care for the general adult population. However, it is unclear whether their use in the obstetric setting is as widespread.

The purpose of this study was to report the use of modified early obstetric warning scores (MEOWS) in maternity units.

Materials and Methods: Between September 2021 and January 2022, we conducted an international cross-sectional survey of European hospitals to establish a baseline of current practices and service availability for maternity patients.

Results and Discussion: 1133 responses from 26 countries were included and analysed. The use of MEOWS by country ranged from 11 to 100% (Figure 1) and averaged 34.5% among the units surveyed. The use of MEOWS varied by unit characteristics (Figure 2). Introducing MEOWS is challenging; few countries have succeeded in implementing it nationally. There are different reasons for this, including uncertainty about the precision and validity of MEOWS, lack of standardization, resource constraints (education programs, sufficient staffing, and capacity for patient management), and lack of MEOWS awareness in some regions.

Conclusion(s): Our survey found that MEOWS use is generally low throughout Europe and, worryingly, especially in smaller units that might be considered less resourced to cope with the sequelae of obstetric deterioration. Adopting standardised, well-designed, and validated systems cannot come soon enough.

Acknowledgements: The authors acknowledge National Coordinators and the survey respondents for their contribution to the MaCriCare study.
04AP08-06
The MaCriCare survey - availability of maternal critical care services and facilities in maternity units: an international cross-sectional survey

S. Cantellow1, N. Lucas2, F.J. Mercier3, A. Schyns-van den Berg4, C.F. Weiniger5, P. Krawczyk6, MaCriCare Study Group
1Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Critical Care Department, Nottingham City Hospital, Nottingham, United Kingdom, 2London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust, Consultant Anaesthetist, London, United Kingdom, 3Hôpital Antoine Béclère, AP-HP, Université Paris-Saclay, Département d’Anesthésie, Paris, France, 4Albert Schweitzer Ziekenhuis, Dordrecht and Leiden University Medical Centre, Department of Anesthesiology, Leiden, Netherlands, 5Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Division of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain, Tel Aviv, Israel, 6Jagiellonian University Medical College, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Cracow, Poland

Background and Goal of Study: The availability of services and facilities to diagnose, resuscitate and treat deteriorating maternity patients has not yet been examined. Our study set out to describe the availability of key services and facilities in European maternity units.

Materials and Methods: Between September 2021 and January 2022, we conducted an international cross-sectional survey of European hospitals to establish a baseline of current practices and service availability for maternity patients.

Results and Discussion: 1133 responses from 26 countries were included and analysed. We found significant variation in the availability of services and facilities, with some either not being immediately available or not available at all. 13% of centres lacked point-of-care haemoglobin. 15% lacked point-of-care lactate measurement. 11% lacked transfusion services.

Access to invasive ventilation was unavailable to 3.3% of centres. 12% were unable to offer same-building access to non-invasive ventilation. Extracorporeal membranous oxygenation was unavailable to 38% of units.

Economic and logistical factors may underpin local provision by region, however the causes of the wide variation are uncertain. It can be argued that some basic services and facilities should be universally and immediately available in every maternity unit, such as those essential to prevent and respond to common causes of maternal morbidity and mortality, including haemorrhage, preeclampsia, and sepsis.

The services required to support the delivery of maternal critical care have received little attention to date. The unnecessary variation in their availability may arise from a lack of appropriate guidelines.

Conclusion(s): Pregnant women who develop critical illness during or after pregnancy will have markedly different prospects depending on their chosen maternity unit. Consensus on which facilities and services should be universally available is urgently needed.

04AP08-07
Comparison of the safety and complication of preeclampsia parturients versus healthy parturients who underwent cesarean section under general anesthesia: A retrospective study

E. Choi1, G.H. Park1, Y.-S. Lee1
1Korea University Ansan Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: It is known that the caesarean section rate is as high as 70% in cases of parturients with severe pre-eclampsia. However, previous studies on caesarean section performed under general anesthesia have often been conducted in low- or middle-income countries, with small number of participants, or before 2015. Therefore, we retrospectively compared the recent safety and complications of preeclamptic mothers and healthy mothers who underwent cesarean section under general anesthesia.

Materials and Methods: Data were collected from electronic medical records in Korea University Ansan Hospital. The inclusion criteria were a consecutive parturients with American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) physical status classes Ⅰ-Ⅲ, over 18 years old with diagnosed preeclampsia, who underwent cesarean section under general anesthesia from January 2017 to December 2022. The informed consents of parturients were waived because this was a retrospective clinical study.

The parturients with ASA physical status classes Ⅰ, with sepsis and hemodynamic instability, or with an underlying condition resulting in hemodynamic instability were excluded from the analysis.

Results and Discussion: This study enrolled and analyzed 752 parturients. Except for platelet level and amount of fluid administered, the demographic data, operation time, and anesthetic time did not differ significantly between preeclampsia parturients group (PP group, n= 135) and healthy parturients group (HP group, n= 617). Platelet count was significantly lower in the PP group (P= 0.009) and the amount of fluid administered was significantly higher in the HP group (P= 0.019).

The overall hospitalization period was significantly longer in the PP group (P= 0.001). The rate of emergency surgery was significantly higher in the PP group (P= 0.003), and there was no difference between the two groups in re-admission, incidence of complications, and admission to the intensive care unit. Logistic regression analysis showed that the DM was an independent predictor of complications (odds ratio 4.528, p = 0.010).
Acknowledgements: No conflicts of interest

Conclusion: In conclusion, general anesthesia in preeclampsia parturients is as safe as general anesthesia in healthy mothers. Parturients with DM who undergo cesarean section under general anesthesia may require more careful patient management to prevent postoperative complications.

Background and Goal of Study: Introduction: Obstetric anesthesia (OA) practice implies specific knowledge which anesthesia trainees (AT) must acquire during their training in the Obstetric unit, according to European Training Requirements (ETR).

The aim of this audit was to check the efficacy of a training program in acquiring theoretical concepts, using a pre/post-training test, in the obstetric anesthesia department of a tertiary hospital in Spain for a year.

Materials and Methods: During their OA training, AT were enrolled in a teaching program which consisted of 12 weekly lectures related to OA, based on a flipped-class model. Each one-hour session included theoretical content and problem solving.

The evaluation of knowledge was carried out through a questionnaire with 21 multiple true-false MCQs with 5 answers each proposed to each trainee both at the beginning and the end of the training. The questions were created by two OA experts and transferred to a googleform survey. The topics of the questions included basic science (pregnancy physiology and local anesthetics), neuraxial anesthesia (for labour and caesarean), anesthesia complications, obstetric complications, general anesthesia during pregnancy and critically ill obstetric patient, based on ETR.

The year of training (R2 or R3) and the test scores were analyzed before and after the training. Results were transferred to an excel datasheet and SPSS Statistics 21 was used for data analysis. Parametric and non-parametric test were used. P<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results: A total of 48 test were collected, 25 pre-training tests and 23 final tests. Mean score for final test was significantly higher (89.9 ± 5.13/105 points) than for initial test (83.0 ± 6.4/105 points) (p=0.001). No differences were found in mean score depending on the stage of training (2nd-year trainee: 82.38/105 points; vs 3rd-year trainee: 86.58/105 points, p=0.10).

Nevertheless, none reached a test score >97/105 points in any period. The questions with significant improvement in scores after the training affected: uterotonic (p=0.02), preeclampsia (p=0.01), post-dural puncture headache (p=0.04), blood patch (p=0.00) and anesthesia for non-obstetric surgery (p=0.01).

Conclusion(s): This original assessment of knowledge during training revealed an adequate progression of OA trainees, with high and improving marks along the OA training.

Further, these results validate our teaching model. The use of computer-based assessment was easy to develop and to use, both for teachers and AT.

Background and Goal of Study: Globally, parturients are becoming increasingly overweight (Body Mass Index ≥25 kg/m²) and obese (BMI ≥30) with associated obstetric, anaesthetic and neonatal risk [1].

A 2005 retrospective analysis at the Princess Royal Maternity (PRM) hospital reported that 18.9% of parturients in 2002/2004 were obese at booking. Mean BMI was 25.5, increased from 24.6 in 1990 [2]. We aimed to record parturient weights at PRM and describe any changing trends over the intervening 20 years.

Materials and Methods: Caldicott Guardian approval was obtained. BadgerNet™ (Clevermed, UK) was used to obtain a list of all parturients who had given birth at PRM in May and October, 2021 and 2022. Data collected included maternal age; booking height, weight and BMI; postcode; ethnicity; and mode of delivery.

Descriptive statistical analysis was carried out using Microsoft Excel.

Results and Discussion: 1553 parturients were analysed. The median (IQR) age of the cohort was 31 (27-35) years. Parturients were predominantly White (N=1238, 79.7%). Vaginal delivery (N=1102, 70.9%) was more common than Caesarean section (N=449, 28.9%). The median (IQR) weight of parturients was 71.2 (61.0-84.2) kg. Mixed race parturients had the highest median (IQR) weight at 76.9 (54.0-83.9) kg; Asian parturients had the lowest at 62.0 (56.9-73.8) kg. Median (IQR) weight was higher in parturients who delivered via caesarean section: 74.2 (62.1-88.9) kg; compared to vaginal delivery at 69.8 (60.6-82.5) kg.

The median (IQR) BMI of all parturients was 26.3 (22.9-31.2), 59.2% of parturients were overweight or obese. 30.4% were obese, an 11.5% increase from the 2005 study. Mean BMI was 29.0 - a 3.5 unit increase from the 2005 study.

Conclusion(s): Mean parturient BMI has increased at PRM over the last 17 years. The average parturient is overweight. This has implications for women, babies, resource planning and service delivery.

References:
Setting up a multidisciplinary maternal cardiology team service

D. Greenman¹, A. Ioscovich¹, S. Grisaru-Granovsky², T. Aviv³, A. Touitou³, A. Nir⁴
¹Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Affiliated with the Hebrew University School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative Medicine and Pain Treatment, Jerusalem, Israel, ²Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Affiliated with the Hebrew University School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Jerusalem, Israel, ³Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Affiliated with the Hebrew University School of Medicine, Hematology, Internal Medicine Division, Jerusalem, Israel, ⁴Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Affiliated with the Hebrew University School of Medicine, Pediatric Cardiology and Adult Congenital Heart Disease Unit, Jerusalem, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Maternal heart disease is increasingly prevalent and has been associated with a significantly increased risk of maternal, obstetric, and neonatal complications and is the leading cause of nonobstetric maternal mortality. Many advocate for a multidisciplinary team model in management of cardiovascular disease during pregnancy. We describe our experience in setting up such a service in a major maternity center and its results.

Materials and Methods: A multidisciplinary service was launched in our hospital, which is a large tertiary center in Israel. It is led by members from obstetric, cardiology and anesthesia departments, providing preconception counselling, assessment of cardiac risk, personalized cardiac follow-up, delivery plan, anesthesia plan (mode and monitoring), perinatal care and postpartum follow-up for high-risk cardiac obstetric patients. A retrospective study was performed to assess outcomes for different pathologies between 2018 and 2022.

Results and Discussion: During this time period, 125 women were treated. 24 applied for preconception counseling, with 4 recommendations to avoid pregnancy. 63 deliveries, of which 32 regular vaginal deliveries (28 with epidural analgesia and 4 without), 9 as Cesarean Sections (18 cases with regional, epidural/combine spinal epidural anesthesia), 22 Cesarean deliveries (28 with epidural analgesia and 4 without), 14 cases with invasive BP monitoring. In all cases there was a primary recommendation for regional analgesia. We saw zero mortality, 4 admissions to CCU (3 for observation and 1 after emergent cardiac surgery, 12 neonates were small for gestational age. The multidisciplinary approach enabled for an organized treatment plan and resulted in only a few minor complications in this group.

| Types of Cardiovascular pathology in research group by number, N=125 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Repaired Complex Fontan | Valve Lesions Simple | Marfan | Amythys | Cardiomyopathy | Primary Pulmonary | Pericarditis | Other Conditions |
| 26 | 14 | 29 | 22 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 13 |

Conclusion(s): Preconception counselling and case management by a multidisciplinary maternal cardiology team is essential to prevent maternal morbidity and mortality in complicated cardiac patients. Based on successful management in our group of patients we would suggest setting such a team in any large center with an active maternity unit.

Reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome induced by ephedrine: a case report during a caesarean section

U. García-Aldao¹, A. Romera Rabasa², M. Lema Tomé², A. Jimenez³, J. Alvarez-Linera⁴, J. De Benito Martinez⁵
¹Hospital Ruber Internacional, Anestesiología, Reanimacion y Terapéutica del Dolor, Madrid, Spain, ²Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, ³Clínica Universitaria Navarra, Neurología, Madrid, Spain, ⁴Hospital Ruber Internacional, Radiología, Madrid, Spain

Background: Reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome (RCVS) is a clinical and radiological syndrome attributed to transient disturbance in the control of cerebral arterial tone resulting in vasospasms. It is often triggered by known factors, such as vasoactive drugs which are frequently used during spinal anaesthesia, pregnancy and postpartum state.

We describe the case of an ephedrine-induced RCVS during a caesarean section. The aim of this report is to highlight the diagnosis dilemma and to raise the awareness of this rare and serious syndrome.

Case report: A 37-year-old parturient was scheduled for caesarean section. She presented sudden and severe headache minutes after the administration of intravenous ephedrine to correct arterial hypotension following spinal anaesthesia. An urgent computed tomography and magnetic resonance (RM) were performed that day, with no findings, and yet the headache, although bearable, was still present. An angio-RM conducted 48 hours later revealed images compatible with RCVS of both middle cerebral arteries and distal Sylvian branches; verapamil was started.

On day 8 the headache disappeared. Two months after discharge, an angio-RM was interpreted as normal, which allowed verapamil discontinuation.

Discussion: In our case, the headache occurred in a very common scenario. Hence, it shows why RCVS assessment is a unique anaesthetic challenge due to several reasons. First of all, it is an emergency that is being underrecognized. Secondly, no imaging exam gives an irrefutable diagnosis of RCVS. Thirdly, its pathogenesis remains poorly understood, which makes finding the effective treatment complicated; nimodipino, nicardipine, verapamil and magnesium sulphate have been used with limited evidence. Intra-arterial vasodilators, with and without angioplasty, are also administrated.

Finally, various common conditions are associated with RCVS. In conclusion, since the most serious complications are permanent neurological deficits, an early differential diagnosis should be carried out in all cases of acute headache in the peripartum period.

Learning points:
- A high index of suspicion is essential in all cases of sudden headache during the peripartum state.
- RCVS is often triggered by commonly used drugs, and its management can be challenging.
- The anaesthesiologist should rule out conditions with similar symptoms, such as cerebrospinal fluid leak, subarachnoid haemorrhage or ischaemic stroke.
04AP09-03  
Anesthetic management of pregnancy in a patient with limb-gridle muscular dystrophy: a case report  
J. Gomes¹, J. Silva¹, M. Pereira¹  
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Emergency Department, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Limb-gridle muscular dystrophy (LGMD) type R1 is a calpainopathy caused by variants in the calpain-3-gene (CAPN 3). The phenotype ranges from asymptomatic disease to pelvic and shoulder girdle muscles weakness, with severe forms presenting extreme hip girdle weakness, impairing gait.(1) Cardiovascular and respiratory adaptations to pregnancy can cause an important deterioration in mothers’ condition, especially during the third trimester. Hence, early preterm caesarian section may be necessary. Labor or operative anesthetic management can become a challenge with difficult placement of epidural anesthesia due to increased lombar lordosis and with general anesthesia being an equally difficult option to manage.

**Case Report:** A 25-year-old parturient with autosomal recessive LGMD was admitted electively to the hospital to perform caesarian section delivery at 40 weeks of gestation. She was diagnosed at the age of 14 years old due to investigation of limb weakness and waddling gait. The patient underwent routine cardiac screening that revealed a decreased left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) of 45% with normal cardiac chambers and an angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor was prescribed. She never developed low debit symptoms and, whilst growing up, LVEF improved to normal function. Routine respiratory function tests never revealed pulmonary disease. During pregnancy she developed exertional muscle weakness with no cardiac nor respiratory symptoms, therefore with no need for cardiorespiratory interventions. A combined spinal- epidural anesthesia was performed with 2.5 μg of sufentanil and 7.5 mg of bupivacaine without complications and the caesarean section delivery was uneventful. A healthy baby was delivered with APGAR scores of 10/10.

**Discussion:** Women with LGMD are at risk of worsening symptoms and disease progression during pregnancy, with half of women showing deterioration with gestation. (2) A multidisciplinary approach is required to guaranty that the best care is provided throughout gestation and delivery.

**References:**  

**Learning Points:** Obstetric and anesthetic management of women with LGMD.

04AP09-04  
Late eclampsia complicated with posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome  
P. Santos¹, M.L. Coutinho¹, C. Correia¹, L. Torres¹, C. Costa¹  
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal

**Background:** Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome (PRES) is a rare entity characterized by headache, visual impairment, seizures and altered mental status. Neuroimaging findings include cerebral edema affecting the parietal and occipital lobes. Pre-eclampsia and eclampsia are the most common causes of PRES. Prompt diagnosis and adequate treatment is crucial to prevent adverse maternal and perinatal outcomes.

**Case report:** A 39-year-old woman, 39 + 4 weeks pregnant, presented at the emergency department with complaints of headache and high blood pressure (BP). On examination, BP was 145/70mmHg. Urinalysis revealed 3+ proteinuria. She had no history of hypertension or neurological illness.

The patient was admitted to induction of labour and taken to the delivery room where epidural analgesia was performed. At one point the patient started complaining with visual impairment. As she was being evaluated, she had a tonic-clonic seizure that stopped with the immediate rescue measures: oxygen, intravenous midazolam and perfusion of magnesium sulfate.

After converting the epidural analgesia to anaesthesia, the patient was taken to the operating room and emergency cesarean section was performed. A perfusion of labetalol was started to maintain normal BP and the perfusion of magnesium sulfate was continued.

As the patient maintained the visual impairment complaints, urgent neurology examination was requested. Brain magnetic resonance imaging revealed bilateral hyperintensities predominantly in the parieto-occipital region, establishing the diagnosis of PRES secondary to eclampsia.

She was admitted to the neurological intensive care unit for further treatment to relieve cerebral edema and was discharged home 7 days after delivery with normal blood pressure and without any visual symptoms.
Discussion: PRES is a rare clinical-neuroradiological entity associated with significant maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. Early recognition, prompt correction of increased blood pressure and treatment of seizures are essential to prevent permanent neurological sequelae. Clinical and neuroimaging manifestations are reversible in the majority of patients within 2-3 weeks.

04AP09-05
Ecographic measurement of the optic nerve sheath in severe preeclampsia. Is it useful?

T. Sagredo Sánchez¹, C. Corbella Giménez¹, E. Monge Cid¹, A. Gallo Carrasco¹, S. González Santillana¹, M. Zaballos García¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

Background: Preeclampsia is a multisystem progressive disorder, whose incidence is between 5-8% pregnancies. It refers to the new onset of hypertension and proteinuria or the onset of hypertension and organ dysfunction with or without proteinuria after 20 week of gestation or postpartum¹. Clinical signs of intracranial hypertension are difficult to interpret, and its incidence in preeclampsia is unknown. Early detection and treatment are critical to avoid fatal consequences. Ocular ultrasound has become a great point of reference, as a relation between the diameter of the optic nerve sheath and intracranial pressure has been observed. Compared with gold standard measures of intracranial pressure, diameter values greater than 5.8 mm have been shown to be associated with increased intracranial pressure².

Case report: We present the data of two pregnant women with preeclampsia, after obtaining informed consent, who were admitted to the delivery room of the Hospital Gregorio Marañón in Madrid. In both cases, ultrasound measurement of the optic nerve sheath was performed in the supine position, with a high frequency linear probe and using a transverse approach. The first patient, a 33-year-old primiparous woman, diagnosed with mild preeclampsia, a diameter value of the optic nerve sheath of 5.3 mm was obtained, compatible with normal values. The second one, a 37-year-old primiparous woman, with a diagnosis of severe preeclampsia due to arterial hypertension, analytical abnormality and headache, presented a pathological value, greater than 5.8 mm, for which she began treatment with magnesium sulphate.

Discussion: Ocular ultrasound has been postulated as an alternative non-invasive technique with high sensitivity for the diagnosis of intracranial hypertension in preeclampsia, as there is evidence of a correlation between the diameter of the optic nerve sheath and intracranial pressure values.

References:
1. Phyllis August, MD et al. Preeclampsia: Clinical features and diagnosis May 2022

Learning Points: Due to the importance of early detection and treatment of cases of severe pre-eclampsia, ultrasound measurement of the optic nerve sheath could be considered as a complementary method in women with preeclampsia, becoming a predictor of severity in cases where it is found to be increased.

04AP09-06
Pregnant woman with seizures in the emergency room: posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome

S. Gholamian Ovejero¹, A. Camarón Menéndez¹, A.C. Orozco Vinasco¹, R. Saz Castro¹, D. Álvarez Martínez¹, P. Sánchez Zamora¹
¹Hospital Universitario Severo Ochoa, Anestesia, Leganés, Spain

Background: Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome (PRES) is an acute neuro-clinical disorder characterized by vasogenic edema mainly in the parieto-occipital region. It is closely linked with complications of preeclampsia and eclampsia.

Case report: A 32-year-old pregnant woman was brought to the emergency room with altered consciousness, aphasia and tonic-clonic seizures. At admission she was hypertensive 188/100 mmHg. Laboratory testing oriented diagnosis to eclampsia. The abdominal ultrasound confirmed fetal heartbeat. The patient was treated with diazepam, magnesium sulphate and labetalol. Urgent cranial CT-scan detected vasogenic edema at multiple levels (image), including bilateral occipital region, being diagnosed of PRES. Caesarean section was performed and the postoperative period progressed without incident.

Discussion: PRES was first described in 1996. Clinical features include headache, seizures, encephalopathy, visual disturbances and focal neurological deficits¹. It is associated with renal failure, autoimmune conditions, immunosuppression and sepsis, but especially with preeclampsia and eclampsia¹. PRES is believed to be the result of altered autoregulation and endothelial dysfunction causing hyperperfusion mainly of the posterior circulation⁵, enhanced by abrupt elevations in blood pressure. Diagnosis is radiologic with CT-scan or MRI, where reversible vasogenic edema predominantly in white-matter of the parieto-occipital region is seen.

Figure. Vasogenic edema A: Bilateral occipital region. B: Left upper frontal region. C: Deep white-matter and occipital region. D: Right cerebellar region.

Discussion: PRES was first described in 1996. Clinical features include headache, seizures, encephalopathy, visual disturbances and focal neurological deficits¹. It is associated with renal failure, autoimmune conditions, immunosuppression and sepsis, but especially with preeclampsia and eclampsia¹. PRES is believed to be the result of altered autoregulation and endothelial dysfunction causing hyperperfusion mainly of the posterior circulation⁵, enhanced by abrupt elevations in blood pressure. Diagnosis is radiologic with CT-scan or MRI, where reversible vasogenic edema predominantly in white-matter of the parieto-occipital region is seen.
In one study, 97.9% of patients with eclampsia had confirmed PRES on imaging, suggesting that these entities are essentially one. Differential diagnosis includes cerebral ischemia. Complete recovery occurs in 75-90% of cases and its mortality is 3-6%. Treatment consists in management of the offending trigger and should be given promptly. Aggressive blood pressure management including magnesium sulphate and expeditious delivery in case of preecampia are recommended1.

Reference:

Learning Points: PRES should be suspected in pregnant women with seizures. Early recognition is vital to prompt treatment.

04AP09-08
CHRN1- congenital myasthenia syndrome: safe management of cesarean section

V. Katerenchuk1, J. Guímaro1, R. Regufe1, L. Cordeiro1
1Centro Hospitalar de Setúbal, Anesthesiology, Setubal, Portugal

Background: Inherited defects in the neuromuscular junction (NMJ) can cause congenital myasthenia syndrome (CMS), a heterogeneous group of neuromuscular transmission disorders. CMS-subtypes vary from mild symptoms (abnormal fatigability) to respiratory insufficiency and early death with variable onset1,2. One of the 32 genes is the CHRN1, which encodes the β subunit of the post-synaptic acetylcholine receptor at the NMJ1.

We report the anesthesia management of a patient with CMS who underwent an elective cesarean.

Case report: A 24 y/o female G1P0 was admitted for an elective cesarean delivery at 36 weeks. Targeted gene panel testing showed a heterozygous sequence variation c.309C>G in the gene CHRN1, which was absent from public databases. She has motor abnormalities since 8 months of age and corrected scoliosis in 2011. Neurologic examination showed fluctuant ptosis, incapacity for orthostasis, limb weakness, and moderate restrictive lung disease. Airway evaluation revealed no signs of difficult airway management and she was classified as ASA PS IV. Under standard ASA monitoring with BIS and TOF, induction started with propofol and rocuronium. Anesthesia was maintained with a TCI of propofol and fentanyl was administered after delivery. Neonatal Apgar score was 9/10. Sugammadex was administered and quick emergence was observed with adequate tidal volumes. The surgery was uneventful and after confirming neuromuscular block recovery, the patient was extubated. She was admitted to the ICU for 1 day until fully recovered.

Discussion: Considering the presence of posterior spinal implants from D1 to L5 neuroaxial blockade was not an option. The safety of propofol and fentanyl is not clear2, and some CMS patients might have an exaggerated response to nondepolarizing neuromuscular blockers. We used a small opioid dose to avoid reduced airway reﬂex at tracheal extubation. Rocuronium and sugammadex had no adverse reaction and we chose to extubate in the OR. There was no need for NPPV even though there was a lung-thoracic abnormality. We report a unique successful anesthetic management case of a pregnant woman with a previously unidentified mutation.

References:
1. Orphanet J Rare Dis (2019), 14(1),57
3. JA Clinical Reports (2022), 8(1),8–10
04AP09-10
Anesthesia management of a pregnant woman with Von Hippel-Lindau disease (VHLD): still a challenge

H. Ornelas Gouveia¹, F. Nogueira Machado¹, S. Freitas¹, B. Gonçalves¹, S. Pereira¹
¹Hospital Central do Funchal, Anesthesiology, Funchal, Portugal

Background: Von Hippel-Lindau disease (VHLD) is a rare autosomal-dominant genetic disorder, characterized by haemangioblastomas in the brain, spinal cord and retina. It is known to be associated with renal cell carcinoma, pancreatic tumors and phaeochromocytoma. Recommendations for obstetric anesthesia in these patients remain limited.

Case report: A 31-year-old woman, with a bicorionic/biamniotic twin pregnancy and a history of VHLD, presented to our center at 35 weeks of gestation, for an elective c-section. Her medical history was significant for haemangioblastomas of the retina and spinal cord (C3/C4 level); she had been submitted to a bilateral adrenalectomy, due to phaeochromocytoma. Her lab results were normal, and an MRI of the brain and spine, from 2019, showed a cervical hemangioblastoma.

A general anesthesia was performed, with ASA monitoring and invasive arterial pressure instituted prior to the induction. Blood pressure was maintained stable, through labetelol boluses and a perfusion of remifentanil. The procedure was uneventful and the patient was transferred to the post-anesthetic care unit.

Discussion: The management of childbirth in patients with VHLD, including neuroaxial anesthesia, should be determined on a case-by-case basis. The possible presence of central nervous system tumours needs to be taken into account. According to the literature, most haemangioblastomas are located in the cervical and thoracic regions, so the possibility of disrupting a tumor at the level of the lumbar region is minor. However, if neuraxial anesthesia is planned, an MRI should be performed before.

As our patient’s MRI was not recent, a lumbar hemangioblastoma could not be excluded. Therefore, we proceeded with general anesthesia. We attempted to reduce the risk of bleeding by maintaining a stable blood pressure throughout the procedure and blunting any pressure response that might occur, such as during laryngoscopy.

Reference:

Learning points: Anesthesia management of pregnant women with VHLD is not straightforward. Due to limited evidence, the anesthetic technique needs to be individualized. Even with a careful approach to these patients, doubts remain about the safest anesthetic technique. As more cases are reported, a more complete picture of this issue will emerge.

04AP09-11
Miller-Fisher syndrome in pregnancy - anesthetic approach

M.L. Coutinho¹, S. Sa¹, F. Matias¹, C. Rodrigues¹
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Miller-Fisher syndrome (MFS), a variant of Guillain-Barré syndrome is a rare disorder that is characterized by the acute onset of ophthalmoplegia, ataxia, and areflexia/hyporeflexia. The differential diagnosis includes Wernicke encephalopathy, myasthenia gravis and brainstem stroke. We aim to present a clinical case of a pregnant woman who developed MFS and alert to the anesthesia considerations of this syndrome.

Case Report: A 39 weeks pregnant woman presented to the emergency department with retro-orbital headaches, photophobia, dizziness, and blurred and double vision. On examination, she had bilateral ptosis, ophthalmoplegia, and hyporeflexia. She had a diminished force at the right inferior extremity. Brain magnetic resonance imaging revealed no areas of restricted diffusion. The electromyogram of the extremities was normal. MFS was suspected and intravenous immunoglobulin was prescribed. The obstetric team decided to induce labor. She was proposed for an elective cesarean section due to unpredictable labor duration and dubious pregnant collaboration.

General anesthesia (GA) was performed. Anesthetic monitoring included ASA standards and neuromuscular monitoring. An ultrasound-guided bilateral quadratus lumborum block was performed at the end of the surgery. The postoperative period was uneventful and she was discharged 5 days after surgery with a scheduled Neurology appointment.

Discussion: Our aim was to describe the anesthetic approach of a patient with MFS since there are no international guidelines on this matter. A complete clinical history with the careful characterization of the neurological examination is mandatory. We should be aware that these patients may show increased sensitivity to the neuromuscular blocking agents. Therefore, neuromuscular monitoring is essential. In this case, we performed GA because the patient already had motor weakness in the lower extremities. There is no evidence of the use of regional versus GA techniques in pregnant women with MFS.

References:

Learning Points: A complete clinical history and a neurological examination should be performed as well as postoperative surveillance.
Paediatric Anaesthesiology

05AP01-01
Premedication use in children undergoing general anaesthetic at the Austin Hospital – a retrospective audit

H. Slifirski¹, F. Desmond¹, P. Peyton¹
¹Austin Hospital, Department of Anaesthetics, Melbourne, Australia

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative anxiety in children is associated with adverse outcomes. Therefore, premedication should be considered when non-pharmacological strategies fail to alleviate preoperative anxiety. Premedication is often required in children with special behavioural needs, previous traumatic anaesthetic experiences or parental anxiety. The benefit of premedication use should be considered against potential for clinical complications and requirements for intensive postoperative monitoring.

This study investigated incidence, indications and complications of premedication use at a tertiary Australian hospital.

Materials and Methods: In this retrospective audit, children (<17) who received a general anaesthetic at Austin Health, Melbourne, Australia between 01/01/2022 and 18/08/2022 were included. Electronic medical records were reviewed for patient demographics, surgical specialty and, in cases with premedication: drug name, dose, indication and any complications.

Statistical analysis included calculation of percentage of GAs with premedication.

Results and Discussion: Of 423 cases (176 elective and 247 non-elective) identified (265 male, 158 female, median age 10.47 years), premedication was used in 31 (7.3%) instances. Oral midazolam was used in 27 cases (range 0.20–0.51 mg/kg, median = 0.48 mg/kg) and oral clonidine was used in 4 cases (range 1.8 mcg/kg–3.93 mcg/kg, median = 3.24 mcg/kg).

Indication for premedication was 5 maternal request, 5 Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), 3 both ASD and ADHD, 1 developmental delay in and 17 anaesthetist preference. Prolonged awakening occurred in 20 of 31 (64.5%) premedicated GAs, with no other complications.

Incidence of premedication use in paediatric general anaesthetics varies according to multiple confounders such as complexity of cases and institutional practice.

Conclusion: Premedication use was relatively low and usage should be considered with respect to complications.

References:

05AP01-03
Double-blind randomised control study of intranasal Dexmedetomidine versus intranasal Midazolam as anxiolysis prior to elective infraumbilical surgeries under general anaesthesia in children of age 2 – 12 years

S. Singha¹, S. G¹, R. Dubey¹, N. Bhajanadas Borkar¹
¹All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Anaesthesiology & Critical Care, Raipur, India

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative anxiety increases anaesthetic requirement, aggravates hemodynamic instability, and can lead to adverse postoperative outcomes, increased postoperative pain leading to delayed recovery time, and increased length of hospital stay in children. Midazolam & Dexmedotomidine reduces anxiety, and causes sedation.

The goal is to compare intranasally administered the above drugs intranasally and to evaluate the efficacy of sedation caused by intranasal dexmedetomidine and intranasal midazolam

Materials and Methods: The study design is a prospective, randomised control, double-blind, clinical trial with a duration of one year, in the preoperative room, AIIMS Raipur Hospital.

Group(G) 1 received 0.3mg/kg of intranasal midazolam. Group(G) 3 received 1mcg/kg of intranasal dexmedetomidine Group(G) 2 received 2.5ml of 0.9% saline intranasally.

After administration of an intranasal drug, HR, RR, mean blood pressure, SpO2 were recorded every 5 min until the child is transferred to the operation theatre. Sedation status and anxiety score were assessed every 5 min by the University of Michigan Sedation Scale and Modified Yale Preoperative Anxiety Scale respectively.

Results and Discussion: Premedication in children is essential to alleviate anxiety, allow smooth separation from parents. It can also reduce the anaesthetic drug requirement intraoperatively by enhancing the hypnotic effects of anaesthetic drugs. Among both the drugs, dexmedetomidine has better tolerance. Dexmedetomidine did not cause any nasal irritation, respiratory depression, hiccups, paradoxical reactions. As it acts on locus coeruleus, it produced quiet calm cooperative form of conscious sedation.

Figure.

Conclusion(s): We observed, both intranasal dexmedetomidine at 1 mcg/kg and intranasal midazolam at 0.3 mg/kg, when given as premedication before 30 min of induction, produced less anxiety and sedation than with intranasal saline. While intranasal midazolam had early onset sedation, higher sedation scores with onset at 10-15
min and prolonged sedation postoperatively were seen with intranasal dexmedetomidine. Nasal irritation with intranasal midazolam is however a major concern.

**05AP01-04**  
**Parental care in pediatric ICU might reduce requirement in sedative drugs in the postoperative period**

V. Sazonov1,2, A. Saparov2, Z. Tobylbayeva2, O. Mironova2, D. Viderman1, A. Issanov1  
1School of Medicine, Nazarbayev University, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Astana, Kazakhstan, 2University of Nis, Clinic for Anesthesia and Intensive Therapy, Clinical Centre Nis, Department of Surgery and Anesthesiology, Nis, Serbia  

**Background and Goal of Study:** There are some benefits to using sedation in critically ill pediatric patients; however, it can lead to side effects and even iatrogenic complications. The pediatric patient cannot properly express the intensity or location of the pain, discriminating the cause of their irritability and agitation can be more complicated than in adults. Thus, sedation therapy for children requires more careful attention.  

An objective of this study was to assess the effect of the implementation of internal parental care protocol on sedative dose reduction in postoperative pediatric ICU patients.  

**Materials and Methods:** This retrospective observational study was performed in PICU of the tertiary medical center that has a bed capacity of 280 Astana, Kazakhstan. The internal parental care protocol was developed and implemented by critical care physicians of the University Medical Center.  

The level of agitation was evaluated with the Richmond Agitation-Sedation Scale. If the level of agitation reached 1 or 2, sedation therapy was performed. Before the sedation, other reasons for agitation, such as pain, hunger, or uncomfortable temperature were excluded.  

All statistical analyses were performed using Stata version 16.1. The independent t-test or Mann-Whitney U-test was used to compare continuous data between two groups. Univariate and multivariable logistic regression analyses were performed to examine associations of parental care with sedation therapy.  

**Results and Discussion:** A total number of 289 patients were included in the study. Of them 167 patients were hospitalized before and 122 after the implementation of parental care. In multivariable analysis, parental care was associated with lower odds of prescribing diazepam (OR=0.11, 95% CI 0.05-0.25), controlling for age, sex, cerebral palsy, and type of surgery. The limitations of this study are being single-centered, relatively small sample size, and a non-experimental design.  

This study can be valuable for ICU quality improvement, reduction in unnecessary sedative drug prescriptions and associated with these negative effects such as drug-related complications, and prolonged ICU and hospital length of stay. Implementation of parental care in the ICU can also lead to more natural pediatric patient management.  

**Conclusion(s):** The results of this study show that parental care was associated with only decreased odds of prescribing sedative drugs. While no differences were observed for analgesics.

**05AP01-05**  
**Analgesosedation with peripheral nerve blocks for orthopedic procedures in children**

M. Stevic1, I. Budic2, S. Bojic3, V. Marjanovic3, Z. Stankovic4, D. Simic1  
1Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, University Children’s Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia, 2Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Clinic for Anesthesia and Intensive Therapy, Clinical Centre Nis, Department of Surgery and Anesthesiology, Nis, Serbia, 3Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, KBC “Dr Dragisa Misovic-Dedinje”, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia  

**Background and Goal of Study:** The use of ultrasound-guided peripheral nerve blocks in daily clinical practice for pediatric patients is increasing. This prospective study aimed to evaluate the duration of anesthesia, surgical intervention, and time of awakening from analgesia for orthopedic surgery. The study was done on analgesosedation patients who had peripheral nerve blocks.  

**Materials and Methods:** Since the trial began in Jun 2022, 90 children aged 1 to 18 with ASA-PS scores of I to III have been randomly assigned to the dexmedetomidine or propofol groups. All subjects underwent ultrasound-guided peripheral nerve blocks and breathed spontaneously during the surgical intervention.  

**Results and Discussion:** The operation time is significantly longer in the dexmedetomidine group (62.2±16.9) than in the propofol group (51.8±16.2); this difference is highly statistically significant (t=-2.301, DF=88, p<0.05). The time of awakening from anesthesia is longer in the propofol group; the difference is statistically significant (t=10.884, DF=88, p<0.01).  

**Conclusion(s):** For young patients undergoing orthopedic surgery under peripheral nerve blocks and spontaneous breathing, dexmedetomidine and propofol are safe and efficient anesthetics. Although the operation and anesthesia lasted longer in the dexmedetomidine group compared to the propofol group, patients in the dexmedetomidine group woke from anesthesia more quickly.

**05AP01-06**  
**Preoperative fasting in children undergoing elective surgery**

S. Rapa1, M.A. Zerafa Simler1, T.Z. Lim1, S. Sciberras1, M.A. Mifsud1  
1Mater Dei Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care and Pain, Msida, Malta  

**Background and Goal of Study:** The guidelines for paediatric surgical procedures currently in place recommend preoperative fasting interval of 6 hours for milk and light meals, 4 hours for breastmilk and 2 hours for clear fluids. A recent publication by the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care recommends shorter fasting periods (1).
The extent to which preoperative fasting times in the paediatric population undergoing elective surgery within Mater Dei Hospital (MDH) complies with such guidelines was assessed. The results of this assessment help provide recommendations for the optimisation of national pre-operative fasting for paediatric surgery.

Materials and Methods: A random sample of patients below the age of 16 years who underwent elective surgery within MDH in October 2022 was chosen. Data was collected retrospectively from medical records, and included the time the child last ate and drank, the time surgery started and duration of surgery.

Results and Discussion: Data for 113 patients were analysed, with a median age of 6.0 year (IQR: 3.0 – 9.0 yrs). Most surgeries were planned for the morning (81%). The median fasting time was 11.8 hours (IQR: 9.5 – 13.5 hrs). Most children started fasting around 21:00 hrs (18%), with very few children actually having breakfast in the morning, even if surgeries were planned for late in the day. 60% of children planned for surgery in the afternoon still skipped breakfast. Infants tended to be fasted later on. These excessively prolonged fasting times were noted across all surgical specialties covered by the study. Fasting times were not dependant on age, type of surgery or planned time of surgery.

Conclusion(s): In view of the role of an optimal fasting practice to lower the incidences of dehydration, ketoacidosis, hypoglycaemia, and cardiovascular complications during anaesthesia, it becomes critical that systematic analysis is directed to align observed fasting practices in paediatric surgery with international guidelines. This can be achieved by emphasis on education of healthcare professionals and family members. Re-auditing after implementation of such measures will be useful to monitor this important factor within the paediatric surgery population.

Reference:

05AP01-07

Postoperative emergent agitation in children anaesthetized with Sevoflurane

V Demjanski1, M. Soljakova2, L. Mijunovikj Derebanova1, B. Kuzmanovska1, A. Kisman1, D. Angiusev1
1TOARILUC, Clinical Center “Mother Teresa”, Department of Anesthesiology, Skopje, North Macedonia, The Republic of
2Ss Cyril and Methodius University, Medical Faculty, Skopje, North Macedonia, The Republic of

Background and Goal of Study: Sevoflurane is the most popular and the most used anesthetic in pediatric anesthesia. The last reports about Sevoflurane exposure and its influence to increase the serum levels of enolase and later development of the postoperative cognitive disorders (POCD) in children, were very disappointing. The occurrence of emergent agitation (EA) in the awaking period (30 minutes) after sevoflurane anesthesia may be related to this event.

Aim: To detect the incidence of development of EA after solo sevoflurane anesthesia compared to sevoflurane with adjuvants.

Materials and Methods: Observational longitudinal study. 1 month period 30 children undergoing different types of surgery. Divided by the type of anesthesia, Group I: solo sevoflurane given by face mask, Group II: iv induction (propofol, opioids, muscular relaxant); maintenance: sevoflurane. In the first postoperative day 30 minutes after extubation the level of pain was measured using visual analogue scale (VAS) or Wong-Baker faces scores. The level of agitation/ sedation using the Richmond agitation and sedation scale (RASS), was recorded.

On the second postoperative day, 24 hours after anesthesia the level of serum neuron-specific enolase (NSE) and S100 protein were obtained in all patients. The results were analyzed and compared between the groups.

Results and Discussion: The level of pain for group I was higher than in group II (6.4 ±2,1 Vs 3,2±2,2) (p<0.05). EA was registered only in one case in group I (RASS 4). The levels of NSE and S100 compared with preoperative values were increased in two cases in group I.

Conclusion(s): It was concluded that the postoperative pain is less when sevoflurane is combined with an adjuvant (opioid). The EA is very rare and is more often occurred in solo sevoflurane anesthesia. The increase of the level of NSE and S100 related to the duration of the sevoflurane exposure.

05AP01-08

Cryoanalgesia for children undergoing Pectus Excavatum repair. Ad interim results from the COPPER randomized controlled trial

M. Bastianello1, A.C. Lusardi1, R. Bonfiglio1, A.M. Wolfler1, N. Disma1
1IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Research in Anesthesia, Genova, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Patients undergoing Pectus Excavatum repair with the minimally invasive approach frequently report severe postoperative. Analgesia includes a thoracic epidural catheter and/or intravenous opioids. Recently cryoanalgesia has been proposed as alternative technique, aimed at providing short and long term pain.

The goal of the study is to determine if cryoanalgesia is superior than standard of care for postoperative pain relief and return to normal quality life.

Materials and Methods: A randomized active controlled, parallel group, trial (category IIb medical device) was designed for patients older than 12 years undergoing Pectus Excavatum repair. Participants are randomly assigned to one of the two study arms: cryoanalgesia vs standard of care. Cryoanalgesia is administered bilaterally on 5 to 6 costal levels.

Primary outcome is: Paediatric Quality of Life (PedsQL) 14 days after surgery. Secondary outcomes include: days of hospitalization, morphine consumption, severity of pain, any complication.

Non-parametric analysis (Mann–Whitney U-test) for continuous variables and Chi square or Fisher’s exact test for categorical variables were used to measure differences between the groups. All values were based on two-tailed tests.

Results and Discussion: Protocol has been approved by Ethic committee (278/2021 – DB id 11421) and registered at clinicaltrial.gov (NCT0520182041) and recruitment is still active. Ad interim analysis was performed on 42 patients out the 88 patients (as for sample size calculation).

Twenty-two were assigned to epidural arm and twenty to cryoanalgesia. The PedsQL mean (95%CI) at 14th day was 85.00 (56.5-73.5) in the study group vs 53.56 (45.7-61.4) in the control group. The mean (SD) hospitalization length was 4.45 (1.0) days in the epidural...
The mean (SD) quantity of morphine consumption in the first operative day was 14.95 (12.41) mg versus 10.88 (5.61) mg in the standard vs cryoanalgesia group respectively. Postoperative complications occurred in 5 patients: 1 in the epidural and 4 in the cryoanalgesia arm.

Conclusion(s): Based on the preliminary results, quality of life at day fourteen is not statistically improved by the use of cryoanalgesia. Cryoanalgesia significantly reduce hospitalization length and morphine consumption in the early postoperative period.

05AP01-10
Determine dexmedetomidine dose and pharmacokinetics in children under 2 years of age.
Secondary analysis from the TREX study

A.C. Lusardi1, M. Bastianello1, R. Bonfiglio1, A.M. Woffler1, N.M. Disma1
1IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Unit of Research in Anaesthesia, Genoa, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Dexmedetomidine is the sedative agent administered in combination with remifentanil and low dose of sevoflurane in the interventional arm of the ongoing TREX trial (Trial Remifentanil DExmedetomidine). The TREX pilot study (published in Paediatr Anaesth 2019;29:59-67) established infusion rates higher than those initially proposed. This could be attributed to an inappropriate target concentration for sedation or incorrect initial pharmacokinetic parameter estimates. The goal of the current analysis is determine PK of dexmedetomidine in the TREX population.

Materials and Methods: The TREX study is a Phase III, randomized, active controlled, parallel group, blinded evaluator, multicentre, superiority trial comparing neurological outcome after standard sevoflurane anaesthesia with dexmedetomidine/remifentanil and low dose sevoflurane anaesthesia in children aged less than 2 years undergoing anaesthesia of 2 hours or longer. In this report, dexmedetomidine pharmacokinetics were analysed in the interventional arm of the Italian population.

Results: There were 162 blood samples from 32 infants (22 male and 10 female). The median (IQR) age was 12 (5.2-15.5) months, weight 9.9 (7.3-10.8) kg. Duration of anaesthesia ranged from 2-6 hours. None of the children were born premature (median postnatal age 39 weeks, IQR 38-40 weeks). A 3-compartment PK model that incorporated allometric scaling and a maturation function demonstrated plasma concentration observations from the current Italian arm of the TREX study were consistent with those predicted by a “universal” model using pooled data obtained from neonates to adults.

Conclusion(s): This current PK analysis from the Italian arm of the TREX study confirms that plasma concentration of dexmedetomidine is predictable using known covariates such as age and size. The initial target concentration (0.6 μg.L-1) used to sedate children cared for in the intensive care after cardiac surgery was inadequate for infants in the current TREX study. A target concentration 1 mcg.L-1, corresponding to a loading dose of 1 mcg.kg-1 followed by an infusion of 1 mcg.kg-1.hour-1, provided adequate sedation.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: TREX steering committee and consortium

05AP01-11
Baby CHiX: caudal, high flow oxygen and Dexmedetomidine sedation for inguinal hernia surgery in neonates and infants, a feasibility study

F. Taverner1,2, L. Burgoyne2, B. van der Giend3, S. Humphreys4, A. Davidson5, B. Regli-von Ungern Sternberg6
1Flinders Medical Centre, Anaesthesia, Bedford Park, Australia, 2Women’s and Children’s Hospital, Anaesthesia, North Adelaide, Australia, 3Christchurch Hospital, Anaesthesia, Christchurch, New Zealand, 4Queensland Children’s Hospital, Anaesthesia, Brisbane, Australia, 5The Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne, Anaesthesia, Melbourne, Australia, 6Perth Children’s Hospital, Anaesthesia, Nedlands, Australia

Background and Goal of Study: To investigate if the Baby CHiX anaesthetic technique is feasible for infants undergoing inguinal hernia surgery.

Outcomes: Primary- successful completion of the surgery without converting to general anaesthesia (GA). Secondary- duration of anaesthesia and surgery, post operative intubation or increased post operative respiratory support, cardiovascular events, apnoeas and unexpected ICU admission.

Study Design: Prospective multi-centre feasibility study.

Study Sites: Flinders Medical Centre and Women’s and Children’s Hospital, Adelaide, Australia.

Eligibility Criteria: Infants < 64 weeks post menstrual age (PMA) undergoing inguinal hernia surgery. Exclusion: contraindication to caudal, high flow nasal oxygen (HFNO) dexmedetomidine, or mechanical ventilation.

Materials and Methods: Baby CHiX anaesthetic technique – IV dexmedetomidine loading dose 1-2 mcg/kg over 10 mins and maintenance 0.2–3 mcg/kg/hour, titrated to level of sedation, HFNO 2l/min with blender to titrate FiO2 to baseline SaO2, and caudal 1ml/kg of 0.2% ropivacaine.

Results: 16/17 (94%) infants had successful completion of surgery with the Baby CHiX technique. Cases were performed by 10 anaesthetists and 6 surgeons. 1/7 (6%) required conversion to GA due to failed caudal. Mean birth weight 1.91kg (range 490g – 3.69kg), mean weight on day of surgery 3.86kg (range 2.11 – 6.37kg). Mean gestational age at birth 33+4 weeks (range 23-40), 16/17 (94%) infants had successful completion of surgery with Baby Chix method, 1/16 (6%) had postoperative oxygen desaturation events. 2/16 (12%) had postoperative apnoea. 3/16 (18%) required increased postoperative respiratory support (2/16 (12%) short period nasal spec 02, 1/16 (6%) HFNO for 9 hours). None required re-intubation. No intraoperative or postoperative cardiovascular events.

Discussion: This study provides support for a multi-centre randomised controlled trial comparing Baby CHiX technique to GA for inguinal hernia surgery in infants.
05AP01-12
Peculiarities of providing medical care and anesthesia in the time of war at the National Children's Specialized Hospital Okhmatdyt

S. Yaroslavska1, V. Zhovnir2, A. Levytskyi3, O. Anoprienko4
1Bogomolets National Medical University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kyiv, Ukraine, 2National Children’s Specialized Hospital Okhmatdyt, Anaesthesiology, Kyiv, Ukraine, 3Bogomolets National Medical University, Surgery, Kyiv, Ukraine, 4National Children's Specialized Hospital Okhmatdyt, Medical Psychology, Kyiv, Ukraine

During the war the quality of assistance depends greatly on the administrative organisation of work, the availability of qualified personnel, the provision of medical equipment, medicines, communication between team members, the work of psychologists and volunteer assistance, the availability of a powerful 24-hour laboratory and diagnostic base for CT, MRI, ultrasound, and a bank blood products and the possibility of using extracorporeal detoxification methods.

At the beginning of the war in Ukraine help was provided to 104 wounded at the National Children’s Specialized Hospital Okhmatdyt. Adults aged 22 to 84 years, including 24 children aged 10 days (newborn) to 18 years and members of their families (5 families). 10 children were admitted at the stages of treatment from territories with the active military operations.

Upon admission, the victims were examined by a multidisciplinary team, where the FAST-BLUE protocol, CT, MRI, ultrasonography, laboratory diagnostics of blood count were performed immediately after the patients admission. All patients had multiple anesthesia during their staying. 3 of the wounded children had 15 narcosis each. Extracorporeal detoxification methods were needed by only one child, autotransfusion with the help of Cell saver was performed in one adult and 1 child. Regional anesthesia methods as a component of multimodal analgesia during anesthesia and in the postoperative period were performed in 78% of adults and in 50% of children, in 37% of children regional anesthesia was performed more than 2 times during all the stages of treatment. Patients were given endotracheal anesthesia. For regional anesthesia, the anesthetics of choice were naropin 0.2% 1-2 mg/kg, bupivacaine hydrochloride 0.25%. The choice of initial antibacterial therapy depended on the nature of the traumatization, and then on sensitivity. The children and their family members had specific induced psychological reactions as a result of military operations, which required psychological treatment at all stages. Providing help required not only professionalism but also psychological endurance of the medical staff of Okhmatdyt.

05AP02-01
Accidental esophageal intubation via a large type C congenital tracheoesophageal fistula

S.-M. Hwang1, S. Kim1, S. Kim1
1Kyungpook National University, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Republic of Korea

Background: Anesthetic management during Tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) repair is challenging because of the difficulty of perioperative airway management. It is important to determine the appropriate position of the endotracheal tube (ETT) for proper ventilation and to prevent excessive gastric dilatation.
Discussion: Preanesthetic anatomical evaluation with imaging studies in TEF is necessary to minimize complications related to airway management.

References:

Learning Points: In our case, esophageal intubation was unintentionally performed because of the large fistula. We predicted the possibility of this event based on the preceding tracheal CT, which helped us to obtain a better clinical outcome. Evaluating the anatomy of each patient with TEF using imaging studies before induction is essential to minimize complications and facilitate prompt management as necessary.

05AP02-04
Paediatric epiglottitis-case study

A. Voskanyan
1Muratsan Hospital Complex, Anaesthesiology, Yerevan, Armenia

Background: Epiglottitis, is an inflammation of structures above the insertion of the glottis and is most often caused by bacterial infection. Due to vaccinations in Armenia cases of epiglottitis are unique.

Case report: A 1.5 year-old well boy was admitted to our hospital by his mother with a 4-day history of rightside cervical lymphadenopathy, weakness and fever. His immunisations were complete for age. His heart rate was over 140, respiratory rate 30 and oxygen saturation in air 96%.

In paediatric department was administered Amoxiclav and infusion therapy with NS. After 2 days the paediatrician noted inspiratory stridor, hypoxia, marked hypersalivation, anuria. The working diagnosis was croup. The child was admitted to PICU.

Following three doses of nebulised adrenaline, IV dexamethasone and supplemental oxygen his oxygen saturations rose to 90% in room air but there was no improvement in his respiratory effort, he also preferred a sitting posture. Chest X-ray showed narrowing of the airway below the vocal cords.

Considering the further worsening of the condition decision was made to do direct laryngoscopy under general anaesthesia. After induction with sevoflurane the saturation was critically drop to 33% and respiratory arrest was occured. It was impossible to ventilate and rapid intubation was done.

Direct laryngoscopy demonstrated marked swelling and erythema of his epiglottis and false cords consistent with epiglottitis and he was intubated by paediatric anaesthesiologist with a size 4.5 uncuffed endotracheal tube. The CT scan demonstrated also retropharyngeal abscess and the next day surgical intervention was done.

Our patient was extubated after 2 days. He received IV dexamethasone and 5 days of IV cefuroxime. Both blood culture and epiglottis swab were negative and his recovery was uneventful.

Discussion: The cause of the epiglottitis is uncertain but could have been viral, which we did not test for, or one of several bacteria but with negative cultures. This infrequency makes diagnosis more challenging.

Had the diagnosis been suspected, initial management and referral would have been markedly different. We urge others, particularly those in peripheral settings, to keep this rare diagnosis in mind.


Learning points: epiglottitis

05AP02-05
Abdominal compartment syndrome caused by rapidly progressing intestinal pseudo-obstruction in a patient with Multiple mitochondrial dysfunctions syndrome type 3

M. Dinkova1; E. Ivanova1, V. Kisimova1, N. Tolekova1, T. Teneva2, L. Dimitrova2
1University Multi-Profile Hospital for Active Treatment and Emergency Medicine ,N. I. Pirogov', Pediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Sofia, Bulgaria,
2University Children’s Hospital, 'Prof. Dr. Ivan Mitev', Intensive Care, Sofia, Bulgaria

Background: Multiple mitochondrial dysfunctions syndrome type 3 (MMDS3) is a disorder characterized by a varied phenotype with only 59 recorded cases.1 Intestinal pseudo-obstruction progressing to abdominal compartment syndrome (ACS) has never been associated with this disease. The affected gene is IBA 57, responsible for the integrity of mitochondrial respiratory chain.

Case report: A 1-year and 8-months-old boy with MMDS3 on invasive ventilation, mycotic sepsis, anemia, lactic acidosis and hypothermia was admitted having extreme abdominal distension and hemodynamic instability. The diagnosis of ACS was evocated from the clinical presentation. Non-invasive strategy consisted of evacuating intraluminal contents and corrective measures. After a dramatic deterioration, abdominal percutaneous puncture enabled transfer in the operating theater. Decompressive laparotomy (DL) was performed. Ventilation improved, but hemodynamic instability persisted without restoration of renal function.

The surgical founding concluded a megacolon without mechanical obstruction, bleeding or intestinal ischemia. Biopsies were obtained from locations with elevated intestinal tonus. During closure, QRS-morphology changes diverted into ventricular tachycardia. Restoration of sinus rhythm by Lidocaine was followed by asystole and death was reported 30 minutes post-operatively.

Discussion: ACS leads to multi-organ failure and its mortality with DL is estimated as 57%-2. Intestinal pseudo-obstruction is one of the gastrointestinal manifestations of mitochondrial disorders and can lead to ACS.2

This is the first case of MMDS3 and ACS, exemplifying the rate of deterioration and impossibility of restoring the homeostasis once it was disrupted.

References:
1. Elise Lebigot, Manuel Schiff, Marie-Pierre Golinhelli-Cohen; A Review of Multiple Mitochondrial Dysfunction Syndromes, Syndromes Associated with Defective Fe-S Protein Maturation; Biomedicines 2021,9,989
3. Josef Finsterer, Marlies Frank; Gastrointestinal manifestations of mitochondrial disorders: a systematic review; Ther Adv Gastroenterol 2017, Vol.10(1)142–154
Learning points: MMDS3 is potentially life-threatening. Early recognition of ACS, multidisciplinary approach and urgent supportive treatment are essential for the patient’s outcome.

05AP02-06
Tracheal rupture after endoscopic balloon dilation in an infant with congenital subglottic stenosis

L. Carmona Serrano1, V. Cegarra Sanmartín1, C. López León1, M. Martín-Ortega1, A. Hostalot-Sánchez1, S. Sabaté Tenas1
1Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology Department, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Subglottic stenosis represents a common cause of airway obstruction in children. Their management remains challenging for both the otolaryngologist and the anesthesiologist who have to carry out an adequate evaluation and prevention of possible airway complications.

Case report: The patient is a 1 month and 25 days old infant affected by congenital subglottic stenosis proposed for endoscopic balloon dilation procedure. At the end of the dilation, the patient presents problems in ventilation, so the procedure is suspended and it is decided to intubate again. Despite this, the ventilation problems persist, evolving into cervical subcutaneous emphysema that extends to the thorax, entering cardiac arrest for which advanced cardiopulmonary resuscitation maneuvers are initiated. Emergent tracheostomy is performed and the patient is finally ventilated. Likewise, during CPR, bilateral pulmonary, abdominal and pericardial drainage are performed. After 48min of resuscitation, the patient finally recovered cardiac activity.

Discussion: Intraoperative tracheobronchial injury is a rare complication after endoscopic balloon dilation. It can have very serious consequences with high morbidity and mortality if it is not detected in time or is handled inappropriately and requires close collaboration between surgical teams.

It can manifest clinically as pneumothorax, pneumomediastinum, subcutaneous emphysema, cyanosis, and respiratory failure, leading to cardiac arrest either due to hypoxemia and/or obstructive shock due to tension pneumothorax or cardiac tamponade due to pneumopericardium, as in our case.

The fundamental of anesthetic management is to ensure adequate ventilation. This becomes a challenge since positive pressure ventilation through the ET will cause a loss of tidal volume including anesthetic gases through the tracheal defect in addition to promoting the extension of the tracheal lesion. The airway must be ensured bypassing the lesion, so depending on its level, urgent tracheostomy or selective intubation of the healthy bronchus may be required.

Reference:

Learning Points: Iatrogenic tracheal rupture in the surgical setting is extremely rare but can have fatal consequences. The priority is to maintain the airway and treat complications arising from the injury.

05AP02-07
Ketodex – a weapon to sedate children with spinal muscular atrophy type I (SMA I)

N. de Almeida Cordeiro1, S. Batina1, C. Correia2, T. Cenicante2
1Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Ocidental, Anaesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Central - Hospital Dona Estefânia, Anaesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: SMA I is a rare autosomal recessive disorder characterized by loss of motor neurons in the spinal cord. Main features are progressive muscle weakness, respiratory failure, scoliosis and bulbar dysfunction. The onset is usually before 6 months of age and the prognosis is poor, with most patients dying in the first 2 years.

Case report: A 2-year-old female weighing 8,5 Kg was scheduled for a flexible bronchoscopy due to persistent right upper lobe atelectasis and an upper GI endoscopy (EGD) for planning a Nissen fundoplication.

She had progressive SMA I diagnosed at 3 months of age and was medicated with Zolgensma® since she was 6-months-old. She had marked hypotony, short stature, severe scoliosis, and pectus carinatum. She suffered from nocturnal hypoventilation requiring NIV for the last 18 months. Bulbar dysfunction was present with severe dysphagia and impaired airway protection.

Considering the risks of respiratory complications, sedation with ketamine and dexmedetomidine was chosen. Standard ASA monitoring was applied. The patient was preoxygenated and a sedation with sevoflurane was started for peripheral intravenous cannulation. Afterwards, a slow bolus of 5mL mixture of ketamine 1mg/kg and dexmedetomidine 1mcg/kg was administered. A nasal cannula provided supplemental oxygen.

Flexible bronchoscopy started after 5 minutes and lasted for 15 minutes. A second bolus of the same dose was administered before the EGD which lasted 10 minutes. Procedures conditions were excellent and the patient maintained adequate spontaneous breathing. Hemodynamic stability was also preserved.

She was admitted to PACU afterwards. No complications were registered and the patient was discharged home after 2 hours.

Discussion: SMA I is a severe condition and respiratory complications are a main concern for the Anaesthesiologist. Despite being of label, the use of ketamine and dexmedetomidine has shown excellent results for sedation in the paediatric population.

In this case, the use of these drugs made it possible to provide adequate conditions for the procedure, without any respiratory or hemodynamic complications.

Reference:

Learning Points:
Sedation with ketodex is increasingly used in paediatrics.
Sedation with ketodex allows maintenance of spontaneous breathing.
Correct titration of ketodex allows adequate hemodynamic stability.
05AP02-08
Acute airway obstruction in an infant with herpetic necrotizing tonsillitis: an airway emergency

F.H. Abdullah¹, Y.X. Low¹, S.M. Wong¹, M.N. Mokhtar¹, R. Teo¹, R. Abdul Rahman¹
¹The National University of Malaysia, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Background: Although herpetic necrotizing tonsillitis is rare in children, it may cause airway obstruction which warrants an emergency airway management.

Case report: An 8-month-old boy presented with fever, respiratory distress and leukopenia was diagnosed with acute tonsillopharyngitis. He was prescribed intravenous (IV) C-penicillin and commenced on non-invasive ventilation. At day 3 of treatment, he became more stridorous requiring intubation.

A difficult pediatric airway drill was initiated. Intubation was assisted using Miller blade size 0, CMAC® video laryngoscope following preoxygenation with FIO₂ 1.0, IV fentanyl 2mcg/kg and IV succinylcholine 1.5 mg/kg. Endotracheal tube size 3.5 was successfully placed at 2nd attempt as intubation was initially complicated with large amounts of thick copious secretion and oedematous floppy epiglottis.

There was a brief desaturation but immediately improved while the hemodynamics remained stable. The CT scan reported a large multiloculated collection with mild rim enhancement centered at the mucosal pharyngeal space of the peritonsillar and tonsillar region bilaterally, measuring 2.4x3.9x3.8cm. There was a collection that extended to the base of tongue, body of the hyoid bone and the valleculae with evidence of aspiration pneumonia.

Multiple surgical debridement of the naso-oro-pharyngeal showed necrotic areas while serum IgG was positive for herpes simplex (HSV). Clinical and infective parameters gradually improved after 21 days.

Discussion: An upper airway HSV infection may cause adenoid and tonsillar inflammation and hypertrophy[1]. The infection may worsen into necrotising tonsillitis with or without airway obstruction in an immunocompromised or immunosuppressed patient. Anticipation of airway compromise is crucial to ascertain a definitive airway management involving multidisciplinary teams[2]. The role of difficult airway drill is no doubt important.

References:

Learning Points: High suspicion and early diagnosis of herpetic tonsillitis followed by prompt targeted therapy is crucial especially in an immunocompromised/suppressed patient. Early recognition and thorough multidisciplinary team preparation is pivotal to ensure successful difficult airway management.

05AP02-09
Double anaesthetic challenge: foreign body aspiration in a paediatric difficult airway

I. Hidalgo García¹, A. Romera Rabasa¹, E. Sanjuan Lopez¹, A. Garrido Sanchez¹, I. Mantilla Martinez¹, M. Lema Tomé¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background: We present the case of a near-fatal aspiration in an infant with congenital temporomandibular joint ankylosis (CTJA), a maxillofacial disorder which limits the opening of the mouth. Our aim is to discuss the management of two potentially life-threatening situations – such as foreign body aspiration and known difficult airway – taking place simultaneously in a child.

Case report: A 2-year-old male was brought to the operating room after total insertion of a pacifier in his mouth. His medical history included mouth opening limitation due to CTJA. The child was conscious and his saturation was 89%. The emergency surgical airway pack and the otorhinolaryngologists were prepared, together with two size 4 endotracheal tubes, one supraglottic device, one Airtraq™ videolaryngoscope and a fibrobronchoscope.

After prolonged pre-oxygenation with 100% oxygen with the bed at a 45 degree head-up position, oxygen saturation rose up to 97%. Then, inhalation induction with sevoflurane was started and, while maintaining spontaneous ventilation, a venous catheter was inserted.

Normal laryngoscopy was impaired by restricted mouth opening, but a size 2 Macintosh blade could be introduced into the mouth, revealing the pacifier logged within the upper airway and the digestive tube. We kept the spontaneous ventilation by delivering sevoflurane through a nasal cannula, and then we introduced a Magill forceps into the mouth, in order to fold the pacifier on itself and remove it.

Discussion: Our case of near asphyxiation required full assessment of the Paediatric Difficult Airway Management Guidelines. The “5-P-Rule” (Anesthesia Plan, Trained staff, Position, Preoxygenation and Adequate depth of anaesthesia) was set in motion. We could not overcome congenital trismus by using analgesics or neuromuscular-blocking drugs, so, our main plan was maintaining the spontaneous ventilation. Our backup-choices were intubating through the nose or performing a tracheostomy.

Children with airway obstruction present a high number of complications resulting from inadequate management, poor knowledge of the paediatric airway physiology and shortage of material for this age group and scenario.

Learning Points:
- Emergencies related to paediatric airway management not only can be technically demanding but require great experience to judge correctly.
- Non-acquired trismus do not improve with paralyzed agents or narcotics.
- Team work is crucial to obtain the best results in a crisis.
05AP02-10

Post-extubation negative pressure pulmonary oedema: role of lung ultrasonography: a paediatric case

D. Pereira¹, C. Pereira¹, C. Neves¹, E. Seguro¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anestesiologia, Viseu, Portugal

Background: Post-extubation negative pressure pulmonary oedema (NPPE) is a rare potentially life-threatening complication. This non-cardiogenic pulmonary oedema can occur after acute upper airway obstruction.

Case report: A 16yo male, ASA II, was scheduled for right tympanoplasty. A balanced general anaesthesia was conducted. The surgery was uneventful. A few minutes after extubation, patient developed laryngospasm, which was promptly resolved. Upon arrival at the post-anaesthesia care unit, the patient started to cough and a pink frothy sputum was observed. Physical exam revealed fine crepitations in all lung fields.

A lung point-of-care ultrasonography was carried out and more than 3 B-lines per intercostal window were found in all lung fields, suggesting an alveolar-interstitial syndrome (Figure 1). The chest x-ray also showed bilateral pulmonary infiltrates.

Discussion: High negative intrathoracic pressure can lead to non-cardiogenic pulmonary oedema, due to increased pulmonary blood flow and alveolar-capillary membrane disruption.

Diagnosis of NPPE is based on the medical context supported by imaging studies. Ultrasound can mark the difference in this field providing fast, bedside and dynamic diagnosis without constant exposure to radiation, an issue in the paediatric population.

The number of B-lines offer a semiquantitative measure of extravascular lung water.

References:

Learning points: Bedside ultrasound has become a potential diagnostic tool, useful in several clinical emergency settings.

05AP02-11

Ketamine-Dexmedetomidine combination for the pediatric difficult airway: the perfect combo?

R. Marques Ferreira¹, J. Figueiredo¹
¹Hospital da Luz Lisboa, Anesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: The pediatric difficult airway is a challenge for the anesthesiologist. Compared to the adult population, mild sedation with topical anesthesia is difficult to complete since pediatric patients will not be able to cooperate during an awake intubation. Ketamine and dexmedetomidine are two drugs with complementary effects that can be used to maintain ventilation without compromise of airway reflexes and suitable for the management of pediatric difficult airway.

Case report: A pediatric patient five-month-old with the diagnosis of a primary palatal teratoma was proposed for surgical excision of the tumor, preferably with nasal intubation to accomplish better surgical access.

There were two major challenges to solve: the airway approach and the sedation for the airway approach. Face mask ventilation was impossible due to the size of the teratoma and there was the risk of airway patency loss if a standard induction was used.

We chose to do a sedation with a mixture of ketamine and dexmedetomidine intravenously and topical airway anesthesia with lidocaine. Oxygenation and monitoring of the end-tidal CO₂ was accomplished by introducing an uncuffed tube through the left nostril, as a nasopharyngeal airway, connected to the ventilator.

The plan A was nasal fiberoptic intubation, plan B videolaryngoscopy and plan C tracheostomy. The sedation was adequate, and we had no apnea, no desaturation, and no airway reactivity during the airway manipulation, accomplishing a nasal intubation. Surgery was completed and the patient was extubated at the end of the procedure.

Discussion: Airway planning is essential for successful management of the pediatric difficult airway. Ketamine and dexmedetomidine provide excellent conditions for airway manipulation without...
compromise of ventilation and airway reflexes. The pharmacological effects of these drugs balance each other, with minimal side effects, suitable for the pediatric population.

Learning points: Ketamine and dexmedetomidine combination for sedation may be the perfect combination for the management of difficult airway in the pediatric and uncooperative patient.

05AP03-01
Erector spinae plane block for open nephrectomy in an infant - case report

R.L. Silva¹, A. Ferreira²
¹Centro Hospitalar Tâmega e Sousa, Anesthesiology, Penafiel, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de São João, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Open nephrectomy is associated with severe acute pain after surgery.¹ A combination of general anesthesia and a loco-regional technique, such as thoracic epidural or paravertebral block, has been widely described for the pain management of open nephrectomy in pediatric patients. The erector spinae plane (ESP) block is a relatively new regional anesthetic technique.²

Apart from case reports and small series, the literature regarding pediatric use is limited.² We report a successful case of a single shot ESP block combined with general anesthesia for open nephrectomy in a pediatric patient.

Case report: A 9-month-old male infant, 9.5 kg, ASA III, diagnosed with a left Wilms tumor with no intravascular invasion, was proposed for total open nephrectomy. Apart from an increased abdominal volume, the infant was asymptomatic. After parental consent, inhalation induction and tracheal intubation were performed. The ESP block was part of a multimodal perioperative analgesia that also included intravenous lidocaine, ketamine and paracetamol.

The patient was placed on the right lateral position and after adequate asepsis, a high-frequency ultrasound probe was placed in the sagittal plane over the spinous process of the T7 vertebra and was moved laterally until visualization of its transverse process. After identification of the erector spinae muscle (ESM), a total of 5 ml of 0.2% ropivacaine was injected unilaterally, between the transverse process and the ESM, using an in-plane needle technique. The intraoperative period was uneventful. Intravenous paracetamol was prescribed every 6 hours along with morphine for rescue. Postoperative pain FLACC score remained low (0-1) and no rescue analgesia was needed.

Discussion: Fascial plane blocks like the ESP block are technically easier to perform compared with neuraxial and targeted nerve blocks and relate with fewer serious side-effects.¹ In our case, the ESP block was an effective and safe alternative for pain management regarding open nephrectomy in an infant.

References:

Learning points: The ESP block may be considered a safe and effective alternative in the management of postoperative pain associated with thoraco-abdominal procedures in pediatric patients.

05AP03-02
Neonatal brachial plexus palsy. Is there any surgical solution? The paper of target controlled infusion system and the specific anesthetic management in these situations

P.E. Gomez de Castro¹, P. Rodriguez Nieto¹, C. Estrada Costas¹, G. Pino Sanz¹, P. Rubio Pascual¹, J.P. Nocete Navarro¹
¹Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Department of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine, Madrid, Spain

Background: Brachial plexus is a structure formed by cervical and thoracic nerve roots that innervate upper limb skin and muscles. Multiple conditions could damage it in the neonatal stage. Due to the scientific lack of evidence, there are controversies about its etiology and management. It would be necessary a multidisciplinary approach between anesthesiologists, surgeons, and neurophysiologists.

Total intravenous anesthesia (TIVA) and target controlled infusion (TCI) as well as new perioperative neuromonitoring resources have been developed in pediatric patients and have become an alternative in these cases based on recent studies.

Case Report: The patient was a 3-month-old female who presented left brachial plexus palsy after an abnormal delivery. Surgical treatment was decided to repair the left upper limb nerve injury. Specific anesthetic considerations were taken, avoiding neuromuscular blockers and volatile anesthetic agents for an adequate neuromonitoring; using TIVA based on TCI system (ELEVLED Propofol model) and multimodal analgesia with dexmedetomidine, lidocaine, fentanyl, and ketamine; monitoring basic hemodynamic and respiratory parameters as well as Bispectral Index (BIS) and Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS). Surgery was uneventful with the patient being transferred to the ICU and discharged on post operative day two.

Discussion: Even though TIVA and TCI have been useful tools in adults, new pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic models for pediatric patients have been developed last years. There are still many issues to improve the accuracy of these systems and it will be necessary to continue in this direction.

Also, neuromonitoring in pediatric patients has become a defy. Even if the brain has not reached its maturity, they have shown benefits and we have to continue investigating these technological devices.

References:

Learning Points: Pediatric anesthesia presents challenging pathologies with a complex management. Thus, we must continue researching along these lines, developing new anesthetic alternatives, or adapting those validated in adults.
Management of an infant for thrombectomy under cardiopulmonary bypass

A. Sharma1, R. Patel1, M. Walline1
1Weill Cornell Medicine, Anesthesiology, New York, United States

**Background:** Extensive venous thromboembolism is a rare complication of central venous line usage in the neonate. This case report describes the perioperative management of a neonate with life-threatening thrombus occluding bilateral subclavian and internal jugular veins needing urgent thrombectomy under cardiopulmonary bypass.

**Case report:** A 5-month-old former 29-week male infant presented with a large left innominate vein thrombus and resultant SVC syndrome. This non-cerebral thrombotic event was a result of an indwelling central line catheter. Patient was medically managed with oral Aspirin and intramuscular enoxaparin followed by Alteplase (tPA) for 72 hrs.

However, there was no response to this treatment and the follow up CT scan was notable for left brachiocephalic/SVC calcified thrombus with persistent occlusion of the bilateral subclavian and internal jugular veins and extensive venous collateralization. Factor Xa assay to monitor anticoagulant effects indicated anti-Xa level in the range of 0.7-0.88 IU/ml.

Decision was taken to surgically manage the thromboembolic pathology.

We obtained a pre CPB ROTEM values. Surprisingly the ROTEM parameters were within the normal range.

Total CPB time was 104 minutes. Post CPB ROTEM obtained 10 minutes post-CPB.

Clinically there was evidence of clot formation at the incision site and chest tube (CT) drainage was not concerning in the operating room. The decision was taken to closely monitor the patient and transfuse the blood products as needed in the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) to avoid circulatory fluid overload.

Postoperative labs: hematocrit of 33.6%, fibrinogen of 60 mg/dl, platelet count of 76,000/μL. Prothrombin time, partial thromboplastin time and INR were 21.3 sec, 76.2 sec and 1.8 respectively.

Approximately 7 hours post-operatively the hematocrit trended downward to a value of 25.3%. Considering low hemoglobin and high INR, patient received 10 cc/kg FFP.

Over the next 7 hours hematocrit further trended down to 18.9%, INR 1.3, platelets 95,000/μL, and fibrinogen 116 mg/dl. Patient was given 10cc/kg platelets and packed red cells. The laboratory values normalized, and CT drainage was 0-2 cc/hr. Patient was hemodynamically stable during the PICU stay.

**Discussion:** Immediate post-CPB ROTEM values did not correlate with the CT output, however the ROTEM information did tend to imply a possibility of a weak clot and need for vigilance and blood loss monitoring.

Bilateral continuous infusion erector spinae block for Nuss procedure: a safe and effective approach

P. Gonçalves1, A. Ferreira1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário de São João, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** The erector spinae plane (ESP) block is a newer regional anesthetic technique that can be used to provide analgesia for a variety of surgical procedures. The Nuss technique for pectus excavatus repair, although minimally invasive results in severe postoperative pain.

**Case report:** A 15 year old boy with pectus excavatus with no other relevant medical history underwent a Nuss procedure. A bilateral continuous erector spinae plane (ESP) was performed under GA to provide analgesia during the intraoperative and postoperative period.

The patient was placed on the left lateral position and, following asepsia, T6 to T7 right paravertebral ultrasound was performed using a high-frequency linear probe. A bolus of 20ml of Ropivacaine 0.2% was injected before surgical incision, between the transverse process and the erector spinae muscle (ESM), using an in-plane needle technique.

After the bolus, an echogenic catheter-over-needle system was inserted deep into the ESM under ultrasound control. The catheter was secured with FixoCath. Similar steps were performed on the contralateral side.

The intraoperative period was uneventful. Postoperative analgesia included acetaminophen 6/6h, ketorolac 8/8h, tramadol 8/8h plus a continuous ESP bilateral infusion of Ropivacaine 0.2% at 12ml/h and morphine for rescue.

The patient’s Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) score at rest in the first 24 hours was 2. Postoperative VAS score remained low (1-3) and bilateral ESP catheters were removed on the fourth day after surgery. No opioid rescue analgesia was needed and none postoperative complications were recorded.

**Discussion:** The Nuss procedure has been associated with significant and prolonged postoperative pain. In this case report we demonstrate that bilateral continuous ESP block provides safe and effective pain management as part of multimodal analgesia in Nuss procedure for pectus excavatus repair.

**Reference:**

**Learning Points:** Ultrasound-guided erector spinae plane block has been used in a few centers as a feasible, safe, and effective alternative to epidural regimens.
05AP03-06
Challenges in the anesthetic management of pediatric patient undergoing surgery for removal of 14 hydatid cysts located on liver

E. Jankulovska Vlahovikj1, L. Donev1, L. Mikuànovikj Derebanova1, H. Lazarevska1, J. Ziberi1
1Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Medicine, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia, 2Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Medicine, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

Background: E. granulosus is a cosmopolitan parasite, and endemic regions exist in each continent. Individuals of all ages are affected. In some endemic countries, children have higher infection rates because they are most likely to play with dogs. Multiple liver cysts in the pediatric age group is relatively uncommon. We report a rare case of a 6-year-old female with approximately 14 hydatid cysts on the liver and a single cyst on the left upper lobe of the lung.

Case report: She was admitted to the hospital with abdominal pain and difficulty breathing with a history of a rash the day prior. The CT scan showed multiple cysts on the liver and a single major cyst on the lung. A surgical removal of the cysts in the lung was performed. The real challenge was the multiple cysts on her liver. The patient went through second surgery in which cystectomy was performed and all of the fourteen cysts of the liver were successfully removed.

This is a report of our experience with anesthetic management considering the possible complications such as anaphylaxis and hemorrhage. The blood loss was successfully substituted with SAG-M, FFP, cryoprecipitate and Tranexamic acid. During the removal of the cysts only one of them had ruptured and spilled in the surrounding tissue but was immediately aspirated and managed with antihistaminic and corticosteroid drugs IV. No signs of anaphylactic shock have developed after. She was transferred to surgical ward from intensive care unit on her 17th postoperative day.

Discussion: In conclusion, hydatid cysts are seen in children of all ages and localization in the lungs is more common than the liver. This case had an unusual presentation of multiple liver cysts in a 6-year-old girl.

References:

Learning points: Consequently, a close monitoring for anaphylactic reaction and providing hemodynamic stability considering the location of the cysts, are essential to produce the best outcome.

05AP03-07
Central venous line placement that could have been fatal: CVC malpositioning and consequent haemothorax in two newborn babies with congenital heart disease

M. Krmzova Gjorgjijska1, L. Malinovska1, V. Chadikovski1, D. Altun2
1Acibadem Sistina Hospital, Pediatric Cardiosurgery, Skopje, North Macedonia, The Republic of, 2Acibadem Bakirkoy Hospital, Intensive Care, Istanbul, Turkey

Background: Central venous catheter (CVC) placement requires training and experience and is not without risk for patients, even when performed by skilled professional. In babies with congenital heart defects malpositioning of the CVC are usually attributed to variations in the venous anatomy. A common congenital variation with clinical significance is a persistent left-sided SVC, which is seen in 4.3% of patients with congenital heart disease(1).

Case Report: We present you two case reports of small babies, less than 5kg, with congenital heart disease, who underwent CVC placement in the left internal jugular vein with ultrasound guidance. During the procedure there were no complications, and the guidewire and catheter went into the vein without any obstructions in both cases. In both cases the catheter tip was misplaced in the hemiazygos vein and there was a subsequent leftsided hemotorax. In both cases, later we discovered venous anatomical variation with persistent left sided SVC. Fortunately, both babies had good outcomes after the CVC was pulled out and pleural drain was inserted.

Discussion: An understanding of the more common congenital anatomical variations is important for those regularly placing CVCs. Embryological variations such as a persistent left-sided superior vena cava are often diagnosed incidentally only after placement of a CVC, which is seen to take an abnormal course on X-ray. Minor vein wall tears are common and generally will go unrecognized during guidewire/dilator/catheter insertion, and are usually without consequence as the low-pressure system is tamponaded by the surrounding structures. Major bleeding can occur when a tear connects to a low-pressure body cavity (such as the pleural, peritoneal, or pericardial spaces). Massive haemothorax can occur due to uncontrolled bleeding and is exacerbated by infused fluids through a misplaced catheter within the pleural cavity(3).

References:

Learning Points: Anatomical venous variations, congenital heart defects, ultrasound guided CVC placement.
05AP03-08
Anesthetic management in a toddler with type 1 neurofibromatosis

F. Rosa1, M. Gutierres1, M. Oliveira1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Anesthesiology Department, Porto, Portugal

Background: Neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) is an autosomal dominant disorder caused by pathogenic variants in the NF1 gene that encodes the protein neurofibromin.1 NF1 manifestations include pigmentary changes (café-au-lait macules), neurofibromas, increased risk of central nervous system gliomas, higher risk for vasculopathy, which may manifest as renal artery stenosis with renovascular hypertension2, airway involvement with difficulties in laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation and also central hyperventilation syndromes due to cerebral involvement.3

Case Report: We report an anesthetic approach of a 3-year-old toddler with NF1 diagnosis with glioma of the optic pathways and renovascular hypertension, who was proposed for renal artery diagnostic angiography and percutaneous angioplasty. We performed a balanced general anesthesia using 30 mcg of fentanyl, 40 mcg of propofol, 20 mcg of rocuronium for induction and intubation was accomplished using direct laryngoscopy with no difficulties. After induction, a brachial arterial catheter was placed to monitor invasive arterial pressures. Sevoflurane was used for maintenance. Successful catheterization of left renal artery and dilation was accomplished, but right renal artery catheterization was not achieved. The surgical procedure was uneventful, with hemodynamic stability and no need for hypotensive or vasopressor drugs.

At the end of surgery, the patient was extubated uneventfully, and was then transferred to the pediatric intensive care unit.

Discussion: NF1 is a multisystemic disease which result in a wide variety of presentations and clinical implications for the anesthesiologist, such as difficulty on airway approach, central hyperventilation syndromes, altered sensitivity to some drugs and increased risk of renovascular hypertension. Preoperative evaluation is therefore crucial and the anesthetic plan must be well defined before surgery.

References:

Learning Points: The disease’s multisystem involvement and all the potential complications associated make the management of patients diagnosed with NF1 a challenge for any anesthesiologist, particularly in pediatrics.

05AP03-09
Emergency vascular access in critically ill baby - the role of intraosseous line

E. Ivanova1, K. Vatashki1, H. Parsederski1, B. Mladenov1
1UMHATEM "N. I. Pirogov, Pediatric Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Sofia, Bulgaria

Background: Vascular access in neonates and preterm infants could be extremely challenging, especially in critically ill or during CPR. Intraosseous lines are alternative1,2. There is no difference in pharmacokinetic and type of medication used via i.o. compared to i.v. Associated complications are: osteomyelitis, skin infection, fat embolism, fractures, compartment syndrome, bleeding3.

Case Report: Preterm infant, born 33g.w, 2200gr with esophageal atresia and tracheal-esophageal fistula. Surgical treatment-ligate fistulae, T-T anastomosis. Complicated postoperative period: prolonged mechanical ventilation, seizures, mediatinitis, fungal neuro sepsis. At 4m transferred to the department, suspected for persisting fistula and malfunction of anastomosis. At arrival: opisthotonus, stable hemodynamics, reactive pupils, spontaneous breathing.

Several surgeries were performed, including esophagostoma and gastrostoma. Difficulties in vascular access, including US-guided central venous lines and venesection.1.5 months after admission- leaking CVL (subclavian), massive neck and shoulders hematoma, PLT 4 (pancytopenia). HR 45/min., impossible noninvasive arterial pressure measurement. US scan of femoral veins: obstruction of left vein (previous CVL), narrowed right vein.

Several unsuccessful attempts for US-guided CVL in v.fem.dex. Proximal bleeding. Intraosseous needle was used in tub.tibiae dex. Atropine was administered-immediate response. I.o line was removed in 7 hours following difficult venesection of v.fem.dex. Patient discharged in 3 months: 3440gr, sterile microbiological samples enteral gastrointestinal feeding, no neurological symptoms.

Discussion: In deteriorating patients, especially preterm infant, vascular access could be technically impossible. No time should be wasted-use i.o line. ERC suggests i.o. access in the course of CPR if no peripheral venous line could be obtained in 5min after initiating CPR1. Aseptic and antiseptic rules, anatomical markes, accurate needle size and technique of insertion should be used.

References:

Learning Points: I.o. lines are successfully used in critically ill infants. They save lives. We emphasize on prompt i.o. needle use when there is no other vascular access, considering the balance risk:benefits.
Caudal anaesthesia for emergent testicular torsion surgery in a neonate with severe aortic valve stenosis

A male infant with prenatal diagnosis of severe AVS was born at 38 weeks, through C-section delivery without complications. An echocardiogram shows a dysplastic AV, a peak gradient of 76mmHg, mean gradient of 48mmHg, a wide foramen ovale with left-right shunt and a hypertrophic left ventricle. A postnatal right enlarged, not transilluminant testicle was observed at day 2 of birth, an emergent orchiopexy was proposed. Informed consent was obtained. A caudal block anaesthesia (CB) with 0.2% ropivaine (6 mg) was performed using a 25G EpicanaPaed needle, under sedation with N2O and O2 mixture via face mask. A sensory T10 level was achieved. Scrotal exploration revealed a non viable testicule, an orchidectomy was performed. Only acetaminophen was used for postoperative pain control. Within 2 days he was discharged without complications.

Discussion: Neonates with AVS are a major anaesthetic challenge, the presence of significant left ventricular outflow tract obstruction may impair cardiac output and coronary perfusion. Postnatal TT have favorable salvage rates and should undergo emergent surgical intervention, despite the potential anaesthetic risks.

Our anaesthetic plan was based on the report that heart rate and mean arterial blood pressure are not modified by CB, avoiding potential general anaesthesia haemodynamic instability and postoperative apnea.4 There are no reports of the use of CB for EIS in neonates with AVS.

References:

Learning points: A CB is a safe option to perform inguinal procedures in neonates with AVS.
Evaluation of cuff pressures of endotracheal tubes inflated by subjective techniques in pediatric patients

D. Sripadungkul
1Khon Kaen University, Department of Anesthesiology, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand

Background and Goal of Study: The cuffed endotracheal tube (ETT) is frequently used in pediatric patients. The cuff pressure is used as an indirect guide to ensure a safe seal and to limit the potential for damage. The gold standard to evaluate cuff pressure is using a pressure gauge manometer. However, having a manometer at every site may not be feasible or cost-effective. There are subjective methods to inflate ETT cuff such as minimum occluding volume technique (MOV) or stethoscope-guided technique (Steth), but these techniques themselves do not provide quantitative measurements of cuff pressure, so their results must be measured against a pressure gauge manometer. The present study aimed to evaluate the mean cuff pressures in pediatric patients whose ETT cuff was inflated using the MOV or Steth technique.

Materials and Methods: The present study was a prospective observational study in the operating room, at the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand. Our participants were pediatric patients aged 2-7 years with ASA I or II who underwent elective surgeries under general anesthesia with cuffed ETT from August 2021 to February 2022. A pediatric anesthesiologist inflated the cuff of ETT using either the MOV or Steth technique at their discretion, then an anesthetic nurse recorded the cuff pressures using a pressure gauge manometer. The primary outcome was the mean cuff pressure. The secondary outcomes were incidences of achieving targeted cuff pressures (20-30 cmH₂O), inappropriate cuff pressures, factors that associated with inappropriate pressure, and post-intubation complications within 24 hours after intubation.

Results and Discussion: Sixty-four pediatric patients were enrolled and included for analysis. The mean cuff pressure of all ETT sizes was 26.52 ± 8.68 cmH₂O. The targeted cuff pressure was achieved in 46.88% of the patients, while overpressure happened in 32.81% and underpressure in 20.31% of the patients. The MOV and Steth techniques achieved the correct pressure level in 53.33% and 46.67% of the patients, respectively. Other factors were not associated with inappropriate pressure. The median time from intubation to extubation was 88.5 (70-141.5) minutes. There were no post-intubation complications.

Conclusion(s): The MOV and Steth techniques result in a significant chance of overpressure and underpressure. In patients with expected long intubation time and/or risks of aspiration, pressure gauge manometer may be a safer choice.

Perioperative mechanical ventilation in children: a cross-sectional observational study

R. van Vliet1, E.L.E. Kloppenburg1, F. van Paulus1, J.A.W. Polderman1, M.F. Stevens1, D.M.P. van Meenen1
1University of Amsterdam, Anesthesiology/Intensive Care, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative pulmonary complications (PPCs) are common in children. In adults, PPCs are associated with ventilator settings. Guidelines and studies of perioperative ventilator settings in children are lacking. Consequently, variance in practice could be substantial. The aim of this study is to describe the current practice of perioperative mechanical ventilation in children under general anesthesia and to determine associations between practice and outcome. We hypothesize that ventilator settings are associated with PPCs.

Materials and Methods: This is a single center prospective observational cohort study of children undergoing mechanical ventilation during general anesthesia. During a 4-week period children were included. Exclusion criteria were objection for participation, age above 18 years, receiving extracorporeal circulation or one-lung ventilation. During general anesthesia ventilator settings were recorded. PPCs were defined as in the LAS VEGAS study. (1) PPCs were recorded daily until discharge or postoperative day 5. Associations between ventilator settings and PPCs were analyzed by a univariate logistic regression model as an exploratory analyses, as this study was not powered for this endpoint.

Results and Discussion: A total of 142 patients were eligible for analysis of which the majority was male (64%). The median age was 6.0 years [IQR: 1.0-13]. Most patients underwent general (20%), urologic (23%), orthopedic (15%), ENT (16%) or plastic (15%) surgery. The majority of patients were ventilated using an endotracheal tube (61%), a supraglottic device was used in 39%. Ventilator settings varied among patients and only respiratory rate was associated with PPCs. (table 1) 10 out of 142 patients (8.5%) developed PPCs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All patients N = 142</th>
<th>Univariate logistic regression OR (95% CI)</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V̇e (ml/kg)</td>
<td>6.4 [5.3-7.5]</td>
<td>0.96 [0.73-1.1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P max (cm H₂O)</td>
<td>13 [11-16]</td>
<td>1.05 [0.91-1.2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEEP (cm H₂O)</td>
<td>4.7 [3.1-5.0]</td>
<td>1.26 [0.90-1.7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory rate (1/min)</td>
<td>18 [14-24]</td>
<td>1.14 [1.04-1.2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FiO₂ (%)</td>
<td>49 [40-72]</td>
<td>1.01 [0.99-1.04]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving pressure (cm H₂O)</td>
<td>9 [7-13]</td>
<td>1.03 [0.86-1.1]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Practice of ventilation and associations with outcome. Ventilatory variables and parameters are presented as median and IQR. ORs are calculated for an increase of 1.

Abbreviations: Fraction of Inspired Oxygen (FiO₂), Maximum Airway Pressure (P max), Tidal Volume (V̇e)

Conclusion: In this cohort of children undergoing general anesthesia ventilator settings and parameters varied between patients. A higher respiratory rate was associated with an increased risk of developing PPCs.

Reference:
1. Eur J Anaesthesiol 2017; 34:492
05AP04-06
Direct versus video laryngoscopy with standard blades for neonatal and infant tracheal intubation with supplemental oxygen: a multi-centre, non-inferiority, randomized controlled trial
T. Riva1, R. Greif2, N. Disma3, R. Bonfiglio3, M. Kämpfer1, A. Fuchs1
1Bern University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Therapy, Bern, Switzerland, 2Sigmund Freud University Vienna, School of Medicine, Vienna, Austria, 3IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Unit for Research & Innovation in Anaesthesia, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesia, Genova, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Tracheal intubation in neonates and infants is a potentially life-saving procedure. Videolaryngoscopy (VL) has been found to improve first attempt tracheal intubation success and reduce complications compared to direct laryngoscopy (DL) in children less than 12 months. Supplemental, perioperative, oxygen may increase the likelihood of successful first attempt intubation due to an increase in safe apnea time. This multicenter, prospective randomized controlled trial tested the hypothesis that direct laryngoscopy is not inferior to videolaryngoscopy when using standard blades and supplemental oxygen is provided.

Materials and Methods: From 26.10.2020 to 11.3.2022, we randomly assigned 250 neonates and infants aged less than 52 weeks post-menstrual age scheduled for elective tracheal intubation to either DL or VL (1:1 ratio) at seven tertiary level pediatric hospitals in Australia, Canada, Italy, Switzerland and USA. All infants received supplemental oxygen (1 L/Kg/min) during laryngoscopy until the correct tracheal tube position was confirmed. The primary outcome was the proportion of first-attempt tracheal intubation success between the two groups. A 10% non-inferiority margin between DL or VL was applied.

Results and Discussion: 244 patients were included in the final analysis. There is insufficient evidence that DL is non-inferior to videolaryngoscopy (p>0.99). First-attempt tracheal intubation success rate with no desaturation was higher with VL (89.3%; n=108/121) compared to DL (78.9%; n=97/123), with an adjusted absolute risk difference 9.5% [95%-CI: 0.8-18.1%]; p = 0.033). The incidence of oxygen desaturation between the two groups was comparable (-2.5% [95%-CI: -9.6% to 4.6%]; p = 0.490). This international trial was the comparison of the performance times between two techniques. Nonetheless there was no significant difference between the performance times of the two techniques (p = 0.07). The overall success rate was 93.3% (CI: 83.8% – 98.2%). Participants expressed a significantly higher preference for the SBT-technique (p < 0.001). The median time difference exceeded our equivalence margin of ±10 seconds with respect to the duration of the procedure.

Conclusion(s): The combination of videolaryngoscopy and supplemental oxygen should be considered a standardized practice when neonates and infants are intubated for general anesthesia. The exact amount of oxygen to be delivered needs to be determined.

05AP04-07
Pediatric neck rescue: randomized comparison of two emergency approaches to the trachea in an advanced simulated rabbit model
T. Riva1, A. Fuchs1, R. Greif2, N. Disma3, T. Riedel4, F Ulmer4
1Bern University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Therapy, Bern, Switzerland, 2Sigmund Freud University Vienna, School of Medicine, Vienna, Austria, 3IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Unit for Research & Innovation in Anaesthesia, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesia, Genova, Italy, 4Bern University Hospital, Department of Pediatric Intensive Care, Bern, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: The rapid-sequence-tracheotomy (RST) and the scalpel-bougie-tracheotomy (SBT) are two recently introduced approaches that have explored establishing emergency front of neck access (eFONA) in an unanticipated difficult paediatric airway situation using a rabbit cadaver as a simulator. The objective of this study was to assess the two techniques in a simulated environment with enhanced realism including operative haemorrhage.

Materials and Methods: 30 doctors were allocated to two groups for this randomized controlled cross-over equivalence trial. After watching an illustrated training video and practicing one of the eFONA techniques four times, participants performed one final tracheotomy which was video recorded and rated. This sequence was then repeated for the other eFONA technique. Randomization determined whether the RST or SBT-technique was done first. Primary outcome was the comparison of the performance times between two surgical rescue techniques. Secondary outcomes included success rate, structural injuries, and subjective participant self-evaluation of their performance.

Rabbit cadavers were acquired commercially and had been slaughtered exclusively for food purposes in accordance with the Swiss law in the presence of the cantonal veterinarian of the canton of Aargau. Based on previous data, we chose an equivalence margin of ±10 seconds with respect to the duration of the procedure.

Results and Discussion: The two techniques were not equivalent with respect to the predefined margin of ±10 seconds. The median-time difference of 11.0 (95% CI: -4.9 – 29.0) seconds serves as weak evidence suggesting shorter performance time for the SBT, yet there was no significant difference between the performance times of the two techniques (p = 0.07). The overall success rate was 93.3% (CI: 83.8% – 98.2%). Participants expressed a significantly higher preference for the SBT-technique (p < 0.001). The median performance time difference exceeded our equivalence margin of 10 seconds and therefore we did not find equivalency between the two techniques. Nonetheless there was no significant difference between the performance times of the two techniques.

Conclusion(s): Previously inexperienced clinicians can acquire the skillset needed to perform eFONA in small children in about a minute, by watching training videos. Fewer tracheal injuries and participants’ indicated preferences may favour the SBT.
Background and Goal of Study: Good sleep is essential for normal development and good health. Disturbances of the circadian timing system have negative effects on health in both adults and children. The perioperative phase is filled with disturbances of the circadian timing system and sleep. In adults, we found a phase advance on the night before and two nights after surgery and general anesthesia. However, there is no research on phase shifting of sleep-wake timing and post-operative sleep quality in children. We hypothesized that children would show a similar phase advance after general anesthesia (both for surgery and MRI) and would have lower sleep quality the week after surgery.

Materials and Methods: In this single centre prospective cohort study, we aimed to include 50 children scheduled for elective surgery with general anesthesia and 50 children scheduled for an MRI-scan with general anesthesia aged 1 to 11 years. Pre-operative chronotype, sleep-wake timing and sleep quality were determined with the Children’s Chronotype Questionnaire and Children’s Sleep Habits Questionnaire (CSHQ) respectively. Night-to-night changes in sleep-wake timing were assessed peri-operatively from 3 nights before until 7 nights after surgery. Post-operative sleep quality was assessed with a second CSHQ 7 nights after surgery.

Results and Discussion: Preliminary analysis was done on the first 44 patients (32 surgical patients, 12 MRI patients), with a median age of 5 (IQR 1 – 7 years). Midpoint of sleep three nights before surgery had a mean of 01:49 (SD 0:43), which shifted to 01:33 (SD 0:43) the night after surgery (p = 0.028). Midpoint of sleep the night before surgery showed a similar phase advance (to 01:34 (SD 0:48), p = 0.031). Sleep quality was the week after surgery was comparable to the week before surgery, with a mean preoperative score of 18.00 (SD 5.15) and mean post-operative score of 18.87 (SD 5.57) (p = 0.664). These results are in conjunction with the phase advance found in adults, although the phase shift in children is slower. However, adults also had a decrease in sleep quality, which wasn’t found in children, possibly due to the smaller sample size. Inclusions are still ongoing and expected to be complete in May 2023.

Conclusion(s): In this preliminary analysis, we found a significant phase advance in perioperative sleep-wake timing in children 1-11 years old. Furthermore, postoperative sleep quality was comparable to preoperatively.

Background and Goal of Study: The optimal depth of anesthesia in the case of measurement using the bispectral index (BIS) is between the values of 40 - 60. Shallow general anesthesia (BIS over 60) may be associated with an increased incidence of perioperative wakefulness episodes. Deep anesthesia (BIS below 40) can lead to a more frequent occurrence of adverse effects of anesthesia, including hemodynamic instability.1 The primary aim of the study is to evaluate the cumulative time spent outside the recommended depth of anesthesia as measured by the bispectral index, when measured from the beginning to the end of the surgery. The secondary aim of the study is to evaluate the incidence of episodes outside the established range of depth of anesthesia and the anesthetist’s ability to respond to fluctuations.

Materials and Methods: The trial was designed as a prospective observational trial. Patients from 1 year to 19 years who underwent general anesthesia from January 14, 2022 to November 28, 2022 with an expected surgery duration of more than 60 minutes were included in the study. BIS monitoring was blinded to the anesthesiology team. The start of BIS monitoring was recorded at the beginning of the surgery and ended at the end of the surgery.

Results and Discussion: 63 patients were included in the study. The average surgery time was 72.5 minutes. The average time spent outside the BIS 40 - 60 was 29.1 minutes. The average percentage time spent outside BIS 40-60 was 40.7 %. The average number of episodes outside BIS 40-60 was 4.7/anesthesia. The average number of responses to fluctuation outside BIS 40-60 was 0.3/anesthesia. The anesthetist responded to a fluctuation outside BIS 40-60 in 6.8 % of cases.

Conclusion: The average time spent outside BIS 40-60 was 29.1 minutes, i.e. 40.7% of the total time of anesthesia.


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05AP04-11
DNA methylation profile in children presenting emergence delirium: an observational and prospective study

V. Quintao¹, L. Kulikowski², R. Carlos¹, M. Carmona¹
¹Universidade de São Paulo, Anesthesiology, Sao Paulo, Brazil, ²Universidade de São Paulo, Pathology, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Emergence delirium is frequent in preschool children and can be observed in up to 30% of cases. Although not yet proven, the emergence of delirium may be related to postoperative cognitive and behavioral changes. The identification of epigenetic alterations could contribute to the understanding of this adverse event. It was hypothesized that postoperative behavioral changes might be related to epigenetic modifications, analyzed through the DNA methylation profile. We aimed to analyze the DNA methylation profile in children presenting emergence delirium.

Materials and Methods: An observational and prospective study was conducted to evaluate children aged between one and 12 years undergoing endoscopic procedures under general anesthesia. After Inhalation induction with sevoflurane and a peripheral line in place, 3 mL of whole venous blood were collected. Upon awakening, delirium was assessed using the Pediatric Anesthesia Emergence Delirium (PAED) scale. In children with a PAED score ≥ 10, the blood sample was sent to analyze the DNA methylation profile. Patients were paired and randomly selected as a control group among those who did not have emergence delirium.

Results and Discussion: Eighty-five patients were included. The median age was 4.6 years, and 48 children were male. The incidence of emergence delirium was 44.7%. Samples of 16 children with emergence delirium and 14 control children were randomly selected for building the DNA methylation profile through an array using the Illumina® platform. The copy number variation analysis observed no pathogenic deletion or duplication in children with emergence delirium. Differently methylated sites were observed in the regions of genes SLC22A23, GNA12, MATN4, RBRIL, in addition to sites cg01033205, cg17393140, cg11400068, cg15619333, cg03901462, cg02775842 and cg00400810. The SLC22A23 gene is a large family of transmembrane proteins functioning as uniporters, symporters, and antiporters of organic ions across cell membranes. The GNA12 gene is a modulator or transducer in several transmembrane signaling systems, in addition to the activation of binding to the dopamine D5 receptor.

Conclusion: Children presenting emergence delirium had hypomethylation of the SCL22A23 gene and hypermethylation of the GNA12 gene. These epigenetic alterations might be related to the physiopathology of emergence delirium, especially in children undergoing repeated anesthesia procedures.

05AP05-01
Anesthetic challenge: management of a patient with dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa undergoing syndactyly release surgery. A case report

Á. Barranco de Santiago¹, C. Solé Bertran², E. Banús Gasol³, A. Amoros³, M. Sangrà Puig¹, J. Vallverdú Martínez¹
¹Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, ²Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Anaesthesiology, Esplugues de Llobregat, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Epidermolysis bullosa is a group of rare inherited diseases. Its main clinical manifestation is the formation of mucocutaneous blisters both spontaneously or after minimal trauma to the skin¹. One of its major clinical subtypes is dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (DEB), caused by a mutation on the type VII collagen gene². Patients suffering from this condition can represent a challenge for the anesthesiologist, as many procedures performed involve trauma to the skin and mucosae. In order to avoid skin lesions or more severe events, it is essential to know the principles for its management. Based on the protocol from a reference tertiary hospital, we present a case report and the approaches that were taken.

Case report: 11-year-old female diagnosed with DEB was admitted for elective syndactyly release surgery. Clinical manifestations included extensive skin involvement with blisters and scars, keratitis and esophageal stenosis requiring previous dilations. Assessment of the airway revealed inter-incisor gap < 3cm and presence of severe oral mucosal lesions. Non-invasive monitization was performed, using non-adhesive patches and pulse oximeter. The team decided to measure blood pressure only when necessary to avoid damage. An intravenous catheter was inserted in the left hand, while another operator performed minimal pressure around her wrist instead of using the elastic band. The catheter was protected with gauze pads covered with vaseline. Then, a dexmedetomidine perfusion was initiated and oxygen was given through nasal cannula. When an adequate level of sedation was obtained, an ultrasound-guided axillary block was performed.

Discussion: During the anesthetic management of patients suffering from DEB it is highly recommendable, if possible, to perform locoregional techniques to protect skin from shear damage. Another essential reason is to avoid manipulation of the airway, because new injury can occur, leading to potential severe complications. Maintenance of spontaneous breathing seem to provide successful results. If puncture is needed, it is advisable to avoid previous harmed areas.

Learning Points: To avoid new harm and potential complications, it is essential to standardize perioperative care given to these patients, from the right monitoring selection to the proper anesthetic technique. As DEB is a really unusual disease, we consider relevant to report cases of successful anesthetic management in patients with this condition.
05AP05-02
Anaesthetic approach to an open paraganglioma resection in a pediatric patient – a case report

L.G.S. Sousa¹, B. Campos²
¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela-Viseu, Anaesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal; ²Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra - Hospital Pediátrico, Anaesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Paragangliomas (PGL) and pheochromocytomas are chromafin cell tumors. The overall annual incidence is 2-5 cases per million, with only 10% occurring in children.

Case report: We report a case of a 14-year-old girl presented to our hospital with a suspicion of a PGL from the Zuckerkandl organ. She had no previous relevant medical history and the initial symptoms were hypertension, headache, diaphoresis and palpitations. Diagnosis was confirmed by the raised catecholamine levels in urine and plasma. Imaging exams showed an isolated left lumbo-aortic, infra-renal mass (3.3x3.9cm). She was proposed for surgery and started phenoxybenzamine titration and high water and salt ingestion. Atenolol was also added, to control persistent tachycardia.

Discussion: Anaesthetic management of PGL is challenging. Our goal was to minimize and control the periods of hemodynamic instability, starting with good preanesthetic evaluation, preparation and premedication. Tracheal intubation (TI) is a critical step in these patients, so our initial approach was the placement of an arterial line for continuous blood pressure (BP) evaluation and a second venous access for nitroprusside perfusion. Those were made possible with light general anaesthesia and assisted ventilation. This was followed by TI, other invasive monitorization and a lumbar epidural catheter placement for postoperative analgesia. All those steps elapsed without any type of instability. The surgery began and the near tumor’s manipulation imposed us to start and titrate a nitroprusside perfusion, in order to obtain adequate BP. When the vascular drainage of the tumor was interrupted, hypotension occurred due to sudden drop in endogenous catecholamine levels and downregulation of alpha-adrenergic receptors. Thus, we stopped nitroprusside and started a noradrenaline perfusion. An analgesic multimodal strategy was adopted and we started epidural analgesia with an initial bolus followed by an infusion of 0.15% ropivacaine. The patient was extubated in the operation room and transferred to the intensive care unit being discharged after two days.

Reference:

Learning Points: Adequate preparation and anticipation of all steps, as well as teamwork and close communication, were essential for the success of the procedure.

05AP05-03
Hyperphenylalaninemia: a case of low protein anesthesia

M. Valentim¹, A. Cruz¹, J. Borges¹, C. Gomes¹
¹Hospital de Braga, Anaesthesiology, Braga, Portugal

Background: Metabolic diseases represent a challenge for anesthesiologists as little is known about the ideal anesthetic management. Hyperphenylalaninemia is an error of metabolism (prevalence 1:10 000) leading to bloodstream accumulation of phenylalanine, which can cause global development delay, seizures and eczema. The treatment consists of a diet without high-protein food. In the perioperative setting, the main goal is to avoid protein catabolism which can ultimately lead to increases in perioperative blood glucose, muscle weakness and respiratory failure.

Case report: We present a 2-year-old girl, 15 Kg, with a history of a well-controlled hyperphenylalaninemia, diagnosed at neonatal period, undergoing amygdalectomy and bilateral myringotomy. The patient was admitted the day prior to the surgery to monitor perioperative fasting and a balanced solution with 5% dextrose was initiated. For anesthesia induction, fentanyl, sevoflurane and rocuronium were used, after which we proceeded with endotracheal intubation. After induction, a pharyngeal packing was placed. Maintenance of anesthesia was made with a mixture of air/oxygen and sevoflurane. An infusion of plasmalyte + 5% dextrose was maintained during all surgery. Nausea and vomiting prophylaxis were made with dexamethasone and ondansetron. For analgesia we administered paracetamol, cefetolac and tramadol and performed a greater palatine nerve blockage. Before anesthetic emergence, the stomach was emptied. Intraoperative and postoperative periods elapsed without complications.

Discussion: Preventing fasting, pain and nausea as the main causes of protein catabolism was the goal in this case. Fasting time was kept the minimal necessary to proceed with the anesthesia, with the patient being allowed to drink a small quantity of clear liquids until 2 hours prior to the surgery. Swallowed blood could also be a source of proteins, so we tried to minimize the ingestion of blood with the pharyngeal packing and the suction of the stomach before anesthetic emergence. Propofol was avoided as both hyperphenylalaninemia and propofol inhibit the activity of mitochondrial complex, leading to hyperthermia and acidosis.

Reference:

Learning Points: Children with hyperphenylalaninemia can be successfully anesthetized if planned in order to avoid administration of protein-containing drugs and situations that induce protein catabolism.

05AP05-05
Anaesthetic management of congenital lobar emphysema in a four month female infant

K. Bartzi¹, E. Garini¹, L. Flouda¹, F. Aroni¹
¹Children’s Hospital of Athens H Agia Sofia, Anaesthesiology, Athens, Greece

Background: We present the anaesthetic challenges for dealing with a left lobectomy on a 4month female infant who presented with congenital lobar emphysema (CLE) a rare congenital malformation of lung.

Case report: The 5 kg infant, was diagnosed after signs of respiratory distress and persistent cough and a CT with emphysema in the left upper lobe. In the operating room, preoxygenation and basic monitoring was started. Premedication with iv Atropine 0,05mg and Fentanyl 0,05mg iv and Sedation with iv 10 mg Ketamine, 0,01mg dexametomidine and 0,05mg morphine was given, so left femoral artery and right internal jugular vein was cannulated. Trachea was intubated with size 3 mm ID cuffed ETT after Sevoflurane graded induction. The tube was advanced to right lobe. Pressure Support Ventilation was initiated. In right lateral position a US-Guided Ser-
The extubation of the patient should be performed by evaluating the patient for a difficult airway. In particular, the patient was comfortably mask-ventilated and intubated with a 5.5 mm cuffed tube on the first attempt. Remifentanil and propofol infusion was preferred for maintenance to reduce the risk of malignant hyperthermia. After operation, muscle relaxation was reversed with sugammadex before extubation. Patient was sent to the ward.

Discussion: Preoperative head and neck examination should be performed to evaluate the patient for a difficult airway. In particular, facial deformity accompanying TBRS will be a determining factor for a difficult airway (1). Although the relationship between TBRS and malignant hyperthermia has not been explained, we performed TIVA anesthesia because the patient had a history of strabismus. We believe that it is necessary to keep antiepileptic drugs ready in the operating room because the risk of intraoperative epileptic attacks (1). The extubation of the patient should be performed by evaluating the lung capacities depending on the degree of kyphoscoliosis and any intraoperative events.


05AP05-08 Anaesthesia management in the patient with Tatton Brown Syndrome: a case report

F Uzumcuğil, B. Ercan, S. Ozkan, D. Özdemir 
1Hacettepe University, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Ankara, Turkey

Background: Tatton-Brown-Rahman syndrome (TBRS) is an overgrowth/intellectual disability syndrome characterized by length/height and/or head circumference ≥2SD above the mean for age and sex, obesity/increased weight, joint hypermobility, hypotonia, psychiatric issues, kyphoscoliosis and seizures (1). To our knowledge, there is no case presentation regarding anesthetic management in the literature. Patient consent was obtained. We aim to share our anesthetic management in our patient with TBRS who was referred to our clinic for strabismus surgery.

Case Report: The patient is a 7.5-year-old girl with a diagnosis of TBRS, weighing 31kg (>97p), who was taken to the operating room for strabismus surgery. The patient with a syndromic facial appearance was diagnosed with tracheal malacia at the age of 2. After induction, the patient was comfortably mask-ventilated and intubated with a 5.5 mm cuffed tube on the first attempt. Remifentanil and propofol infusion was preferred for maintenance to reduce the risk of malignant hyperthermia. After operation, muscle relaxation was reversed with sugammadex before extubation. Patient was sent to the ward.

Discussion: Preoperative head and neck examination should be performed to evaluate the patient for a difficult airway. In particular, facial deformity accompanying TBRS will be a determining factor for a difficult airway (1). Although the relationship between TBRS and malignant hyperthermia has not been explained, we performed TIVA anesthesia because the patient had a history of strabismus. We believe that it is necessary to keep antiepileptic drugs ready in the operating room because the risk of intraoperative epileptic attacks (1). The extubation of the patient should be performed by evaluating the lung capacities depending on the degree of kyphoscoliosis and any intraoperative events.

Learning Points: Distinct incisors, macrocephaly, obesity, OSA history, and the degree of scoliosis will be determinant factors for difficult airway. These patients are more sensitive to respiratory depression from sedative, opioid, and inhalation anesthetics. It is advisable to avoid long-acting drugs and high doses.

05AP05-10
Eisenmenger’s syndrome: a rare illness diagnosed after idiopathic scoliosis surgery
D. Silva Meireles¹, F. Vaz Pereira¹, J. Alves Cabrita², D. Gaspar Andrade¹, H. Galante¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Lisboa Central, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Lisboa Central, Intensive Care and Emergency Department, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Eisenmenger’s syndrome is a complication of an uncorrected cyanotic congenital heart disease due to left-to-right cardiac shunts. Resulting pulmonary hypertension (PHT) leads to bidirectional shunting with increasing right-to-left blood flow and consequently perioperative hypoxemia (PeH) and heart failure. Although there is no proven causal link between this syndrome and idiopathic scoliosis (IS), these are known to be comorbid.1

Case report: An 18-year-old woman was submitted to an uneventful posterior instrumentation of the spine for IS correction from T6 to L3 under combined anesthesia (endovenous general anesthesia and intrathecal morphine). In the postoperative period, she developed an asymptomatic hypoxiaemia (PaO2 52.5 mmHg), requiring mechanical ventilation. Evaluation of the functional capacity of the patient was compromised by physical limitations due to IS. No signs of pulmonary or cardiac disease were found. Following the postoperative event, a CT angiography revealed a large interventricular shunt, later confirmed by transthoracic echocardiogram along with PHT. After admission to the ICU, she received directed treatment and was extubated after 24 hours. She was then transferred to a cardiology ICU.

Discussion: Surgical stress can unmask undiagnosed chronic congenital cardiac diseases. In this case, the patient had one symptom that pointed to a comorbid condition, however, the most likely diagnosis would be restrictive lung pathology.2 Although a shunt is part of the differential diagnosis of PeH, it is only considered when more common causes are excluded. Despite IS not being associated with other comorbid conditions, a careful preoperative assessment must be done to rule out coexisting pathologies.

References:

05AP05-11
Anesthetic management for pediatric patient with Williams syndrome
S. Vasiljevic¹, S. Bojic², A. Mandras¹, V. Stevanovic¹, M. Sujica¹, I. Krunic¹
¹Institute for Mother and Child Health Care of Serbia, Department for Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia, ²University Hospital Center Dr Dragisa Misovic, Department for Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia, ³University of Belgrade, Faculty of Medicine, Belgrade, Serbia

Background: Patients with Williams syndrome have neurocognitive, gastrointestinal, endocrine, cardiovascular abnormalities and characteristic facial features that may be associated with difficult intubation. Reduced elastin production is associated with noncompliant vessels and vascular stenosis throughout the body. Patients frequently present with pulmonary artery stenosis, supravalvular aortic stenosis, coronary arteriopathy, then hypertension and left ventricular hypertrophy (1). Cardiovascular abnormality is the main reason for morbidity and mortality and sudden cardiac deaths (2). Case report: Our patient was a 4.5-year-old boy, admitted for inguinal hernia surgery in tertiary pediatric hospital. The echocardiographic findings indicated mild peripheral pulmonary stenosis and trace of mitral and tricuspid regurgitation. The ECG findings were normal. The patient had a characteristic facial feature. He had no other health problems, which placed him in the moderate-risk group for anesthesia. He ingested clear liquids up to 2 hours before the intervention. He was premedicated with oral midazolam. The IV line was placed in a pleasant environment. Standard monitoring was placed in the operating room. Patient received fentanyl at a dose of 1.5 mcg/kg and was gently induced into anesthesia with propofol. Mask ventilation was successful. Caudal block was applied with 0.25% levobupivacaine and 2 mcg/ml fentanyl. Maintenance of anesthesia was with propofol at a dose of 2 mcg/kg/h. The patient breathed spontaneously during the intervention. The operation lasted 30 minutes. There were no adverse perioperative events.

Discussion: Detailed preoperative evaluation of the patient, maintenance of spontaneous breathing, sedation with propofol, adequate hydration, pain relief with caudal anesthesia were the main strategies to reduce the risk of complications in moderate-risk Williams syndrome patient.

References:

Learning points: Caudal block and propofol sedation with spontaneous breathing may be the adequate choices for the moderate-risk patient with Williams syndrome.
Intraoperative management of pediatric renal transplants results and reflections from a tertiary referral center

H. Baboolal1, J. Lane1, T. Keegan1
1University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Anesthesiology, Chapel Hill, United States

05AP06-04

Background and Goal of Study: Pediatric renal transplants are commonly performed in the US. Due to the large number of tertiary centers the number of transplants performed at each hospital is small. From 2011-2022 in North Carolina, an average of 9 children <10 years received kidney transplants. Pediatric anesthesiologists may not have frequent exposure to these operations. We hypothesized that without guidelines from anesthesia societies, there is wide variability in anesthetic practice.

Materials and Methods: The charts of pediatric renal transplant patients at the University of North Carolina were reviewed. Inclusion criteria were age 0-18 years and dates January 2016–November 2022. Outcomes included volume of fluid administered, hypotension incidence, vasopressor use, invasive monitoring and analgesic methods. Hypotension was defined as >30% drop in mean arterial pressure.

Results and Discussion: Results are summarized in Table 1. 68% required vasopressors. 89% experienced hypotensive events. Patients received a wide range of crystalloid (19.2-126.4 ml/kg) and 5% albumin (0-31.3 ml/kg). Central venous catheters were inserted in 34% and arterial catheters in 53%. 36% received regional anesthesia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>N = 47</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Venous Catheter</td>
<td>16 (34%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arterial Line</td>
<td>25 (53%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypotension (&gt;30% MAP reduction for 2 consecutive readings)</td>
<td>42 (89%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystalloid Volume (ml/kg)*</td>
<td>55.4 (43.3-71.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albumin Volume (ml/kg)*</td>
<td>7.5 (1.3-13.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasopressor Administration</td>
<td>32 (68%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Median followed by interquartile range

Our review confirmed the hypothesis that there was significant variation in management between anesthesiologists in terms of fluids, hemodynamics and analgesic choice. The incidence of significant hypotension was high. The data revealed the need for a more standardized approach. There are efforts in Europe to address this issue (Anaesthesia Network for Kidney Transplantation in Children)2.

Conclusion(s): We propose that anesthesia organizations in the US recognize the importance of this issue, and develop an evidence-based consensus-driven approach to intraoperative management of pediatric renal transplants.

References:
2. https://www.ankitc.eu/
05AP06-05
Does the exaggerated Magill curvature affect the first pass of ETT in paediatrics, a single-centre cross-sectional observational study?

M. Sharapi1, S. Power1, T. Kong1, C. Holmes1
1CHI at Temple Street Hospital, Anaesthesia Department, Dublin, Ireland

Background and Goal of Study: Airway management in children is a significant challenge for paediatric anaesthetists. Video laryngoscopy, including McGrath, is gaining popularity among anaesthetists because of better glottic views. However, there are some limitations to their use. Several techniques to increase endotracheal tube insertion success rate using McGrath include using Stylet, Bougie and exaggerating the already present Magill curvature.

Materials and Methods: This cross-sectional study enrolled 197 patients between August and November 2020. Anaesthetists were allowed to use their usual technique for airway management using McGrath. The primary outcome was a first-pass success (FPS) during endotracheal intubation using different techniques. FPS is defined as the placement of the ETT on the first attempt by the anaesthetist. The secondary outcome was reports of complications like desaturation or trauma. Statistical analysis was done using SPSS.

Results and Discussion: All included children were divided into four groups, first group intubation with plain ETT without any modification, second group intubation with Stylet, third group intubation with Bougie and fourth group intubation with exaggerated Magill curvature. One patient was intubated using Stylet ETT, and none with Bougie. The majority of cases were in the plain and exaggerated Magill curvature group. Regarding the primary outcome, there was no statistical difference between the plain and the exaggerated Magill curvature groups (p value = 0.336).

Conclusion(s): In our institute, using airway adjuvants (Stylet and Bougie) during airway intubation is not common. The airway can be secured by simple manoeuvring of the ETT by exaggerated Magill curvature, and there was no statistical difference between intubation with plain ETT or exaggerated Magill curvature (p value = 0.336).

References:

05AP06-06
Oxidative stress during total intravenous anaesthesia in children: effects of UGT1A9, CYP2B6, and CYP2C9 gene polymorphisms

I. Budic1, V. Marjanovic1, M. Stevic2, I. Gajevic3, J. Lilic3, D. Simic3
1University of Nis, Medical Faculty, Department of Surgery and Anaesthesiology, Nis, Serbia, 2University of Belgrade, Medical Faculty, Department of Surgery and Anaesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia, 3Clinical Centre Nis, Clinic for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy, Nis, Serbia

Background and Goal of Study: Propofol can inhibit lipid peroxidation in various experimental models in order to protect the cell against oxidative stress and increase the antioxidant capacity of plasma. The goal of this study was to determine the influence of gene polymorphisms CYP2B9 430C > T, CYP2B6 516G > T and UGT1A9 98T > C on oxidative stress in ninety children of different sexes and ages undergoing total intravenous anaesthesia.

Materials and Methods: The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine in Nis no. 12-8765/9 as well as by the Ethics Committee of the University Children’s Clinic in Belgrade no. 26/340 and Ethics Committee of the Clinical Canter in Nis no. 27771/11. Anaesthesia was induced by a bolus dose of propofol from 2.5 to 3.5 mg/kg body weight, after which it was maintained by continuous infusion of propofol via an infusion syringe pump (3-15 mg/kg/h). Five blood samples were taken from each patient included in the study: before propofol administration to determine the presence of gene mutations in propofol degrading enzymes, 10 minutes after induction of anaesthesia, immediately before the end of the propofol infusion, and 10 and 20 minutes after the end of the infusion. HPLC analytical technique was used to measure plasma propofol concentration. Genomic DNA was isolated from whole blood using the commercial QIAamp DNA Blood Mini kit. The presence of polymorphisms was analysed using polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP). The concentration of malondialdehyde (MDA) and advanced oxidation products (AOPP) in plasma (μmoL/L) was determined by the spectrophotometric method. The SPSS V21.0 for statistical data processing was used.

Results and Discussion: No statistically significant influence of CYP2B6, CYP2C9 and UGT1A9 polymorphisms on AOPP concentration was noticed. A trend of lower MDA values, especially 10 and 20 minutes after the end of the infusion, was observed in children with a polymorphic UGT1A9 allele. A negative correlation was found between the concentration of propofol and the concentration of MDA 10 minutes after the intravenous induction and immediately before the end of the continuous propofol infusion.

Conclusion(s): The potential influence of UGT1A9 gene variants on the oxidative stress during surgical interventions in children indicates that further studies on a larger number of patients and genes are necessary.
05AP06-07
Perioperative predictive factors of developing severe morbidity or death in pediatric cardiac surgery: a retrospective study

C. Domingo Toledo, D. Schmartz, J.F. Fils, A. Willems, R. Van der Linden
1Hôpital Universitaire de Bruxelles (H.U.B) - Hôpital Universitaire des Enfants Reine Fabiola, Anesthesia, Brussels, Belgium, 2Ars Statistica, Statistics, Nivelles, Belgium, 3Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, ZA Leiden, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Despite medical and surgical progress, pediatric cardiac surgery remains associated with significant postoperative morbidity and mortality. This study aimed at identifying perioperative factors predisposing a child to an unfavorable outcome when undergoing cardiac surgery under cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB). Our primary outcome (MODS2) was a composite measure including hospital death and/or the presence of at least 2 of the following events: pulmonary failure, prolonged inotropic support and acute kidney injury, as defined previously (1).

Materials and Methods: Retrospective, monocentric study including 1,364 consecutive children undergoing cardiac surgery with CPB between 2008 and 2018. We performed 5 multiple imputations via the mice R package, and then took the mean of the imputed datasets in order to start the data mining models on a single dataset (33 independent variables). Using the Boruta R package, we determined the most important features for prediction of MODS2 using a Random Forest model. Based on a training set (N=1024) and a test set (N=340), 9 data mining models were tested. For all of them, we used a 10-fold cross-validation method on the training set before to apply the retained model on the test set.

Results and Discussion: The Boruta R package indicated the variables that are the features most likely to be useful for a data mining algorithm (green on the Figure). We select these data as variables to be entered in a data mining model. Among the models tested, the random forest (RF) and the eXtreme Gradient boosting models had the best overall fitting values. The Youden index indicated that the optimum between sensitivity (0.793) and specificity (0.710) was best for the RF model.

Conclusion(s): Using a data mining approach, our study reported several risk factors that might be modified to improve outcome in this population. Reducing CPB priming volume, adoption of a more restrictive on bypass transfusion strategy and avoiding hypothermia whenever possible could be measures whose effectiveness should be evaluated in future studies.

Reference:

05AP06-08
Simultaneous assessment of regional cerebral oxygen saturation and mean arterial pressure during general anesthesia in neonates

S. Trinh, V. Balog, M. Barra, L. Bogner, A. Jermendy, B. Hauser
1Semmelweis University, I. Department of Paediatrics, Budapest, Hungary, 2Semmelweis University, Department of Nuclear Medicine, Budapest, Hungary, 3Semmelweis University, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Therapy, Budapest, Hungary

Background and Goal of Study: Perioperative hemodynamic instability is a common finding during neonatal general anaesthesia (GA). Widening monitored parameters, such as following cerebral tissue oxygenation (rSO2) changes may help preventing adverse events. NIRS (near-infrared spectroscopy) provides real time information about rSO2, non-invasively. rSO2 is influenced by mean arterial pressure (MAP), peripheral oxygen saturation (SpO2), heart rate (HR) and partial CO2 tension (pCO2). HR and SpO2 are continuous, high frequency and highly reliable parameters, MAP is an intermittent measurement. Regarding pCO2, end tidal CO2 is a proxy, often unreliable measurement. In this study we wanted to assess the incidence rate of episodes of low cerebral oxygenation during neonatal GA.

Materials and Methods: In a tertiary neonatal surgical centre, 62 infants (33 premature- and 29 term neonates) undergoing GA for surgery with continuous rSO2 registration were enrolled between June 2021 and October 2022. Decreased rSO2 levels were defined by mildly (60-69%), moderately (50-59%), or severely (<50%) low rSO2. For hypotension for <7 days old preterm infants MAP was defined less than their gestational age in weeks, in infants >7 days old MAP was adjusted to data by de Graaff et al1. Data are in median [IQR] or number (%).

Results and Discussion: Median bodyweight of premature patients was 2 [1.4;3.2] kg and term neonates were 3.3 [2.8;3.8] kg. A total of 6426 mins were recorded. Median length of GA was 97 [60;133] mins. The incidences of mild, moderate, and severe rSO2 decrease were 28%, 16% and 10% (total: 54%) in premature- and 17%, 9% and 6% (total: 32%) in term neonates. RSO2 decrease was a more common event during preterm GA (p<0.001). Synchronized MAP and rSO2 decrease were observed in 31%, while ‘isolated’ rSO2 decrease, without following MAP or SpO2 changes occurred in 20% of the premature cases. In term neonates these ratios were presented in 13% and 19% of the cases. Episodes of decreased rSO2 occurred median 2 [1;4] times and lasted for 42.5 [7.8;79] mins in preterm and 21 [0;55] mins in term neonates. Data shows that 20% of cases rSO2 decrease was not followed by MAP or SpO2 changes, which reinforces the necessity of using NIRS monitor during neonatal GA.

Conclusion(s): ‘Isolated’ NIRS decrease require further investigation. Presumably, the reactivity of PCO2 on cerebral vasculature would explain cerebral rSO2 changes.

Reference:
05AP06-09
Interest of a spine team for pediatric scoliosis surgery

F. Julien-Marsollier¹, P. Pardessus¹, K. Brouns¹, A. Happiètre², B. Ilharreborde², S. Dahmani³
¹Hopital Robert Debre, Anesthesiology, Paris, France,
²Hopital Robert Debre, Orthopedics, Paris, France,
³Hopital Robert Debre, Department of Pediatrics, Paris, France

Background and Goal of Study: Enhanced rehabilitation after surgery allows to optimize the management of patients by decreasing complications and length of stay. Blood sparing and multimodal analgesia for pain management have been developed for several years for AIS surgery(1). The identification of dedicated teams, associating surgeons, anesthetists and operating room nurses specialized in spine surgery has demonstrated its interest in improving the quality of care in adolescents(2). The objective of this study was to evaluate the efficiency of a “spine team” on the perioperative management of scoliosis in the pediatric population.

Materials and Methods: This is a prospective, descriptive, monocentric study for the year 2021. The “spine team” (ST) was defined as the presence of a senior anaesthetist specialized in spinal anaesthesia and a senior surgeon (more than 10 years of experience) which corresponds, in our center, to 3 anaesthetists among 25 and 1 surgeon of 2.

Results and Discussion: During the year 2021, 157 children underwent spinal arthrodesis, 166 adolescent idiopathic scoliosis (AIS) and 51 secondary scoliosis. ST was present in 49% of procedures, 45% of AIS and 67% % of secondary scoliosis. For AIS surgery and anesthetism times were statistically reduced in ST group (260 (243-292) versus 297.5 (260-344.5) minutes p<0.001 and 334.5 (308.8-361.5) versus 371 minutes (341-430) p<0.001)). Concerning the secondary scoliosis, surgery and anesthetism times were also reduced in ST group (338 (280-410) versus 416.3 minutes (300-627) p=0.002 and 443 (350-520) versus 530.4 (361-770) p=0.019). In the ST group, the hospital length of stay was reduced regardless of the type of scoliosis, 5 days (4-7) versus 7.1 days (5-10) p=0.03 for the ST group for AIS and 6.9 days (5-10) versus 9 (6-23) p=0.07 for secondary scoliosis.

Conclusion(s): A spine team with anethesiologist and surgeon dedicated to spine surgery allows to optimize the perioperative management of scoliosis (either idiopathic or secondary) in the pediatric population.

Reference:

05AP06-10
Peroperative transfusion incidence and related complication in craniostenosis surgery – a single center observational retrospective study

R. Moukhaiber¹, M. Georges², V. Gaspard², A. Henrotaux³, S. Aouchria⁴, P. Goffin²
¹MontLegia Hospital, Groupe Sante CHC, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Liège, Belgium,
²MontLegia Hospital, Groupe Sante CHC, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Liège, Belgium,
³MontLegia Hospital, Groupe Sante CHC, Department of Neurosurgery, Liège, Belgium,
⁴MontLegia Hospital, Groupe Sante CHC, Medicine Department and Biostatistics, Liège, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Craniosynostosis is a condition in which premature fusion of one or more cranial sutures lead to abnormal head and growth restriction of the brain. Craniosynostosis can involve one or multiple sutures and can be syndromic or not. Surgery is recommended to expand and reshape the skull, to prevent increased intracranial pressure and providing sufficient space for brain growth. The incidence of all types of craniosynostosis, ranges from 4 to 16 per 10,000 live births.

Craniosynostosis surgery is a complicated procedure and may be associated with high rate of transfusion. The aim of this study is to assess our rate of transfusion and evaluated associated complications.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective single-center study to analyze the incidence of transfusion. We review medical record of craniostenosis surgery from 2015 to 2022. Patient consent was not required according to national law and retrospective study protocol. Data were totally anonymized. We collected patient characteristics, perioperative data and transfusion information or complication.

Results and Discussion: 70 patients were included but 4 were excluded due to missing data. Our group is composed of 68.2% of male. Median age is 4.5 months [IC 95% : 4.14-6.66] and median weight of 7.6kg [IC 95% : 7.2-8.0]. We have 10% of premature infants. The mean hospital length of stay is 6.6 days. Our cohort represent 87.9% of idiopathic craniosynthesis; 12.1% of syndromic craniosynthesis. The main types of surgery were : scaphocephalia 57.6% and trigonocephalia 25.8%.

In 18.2% of cases we proceeded in ≥ 2 sutures reconstruction. Mean haemoglobin was 11.2g/dL (preoperative) and 9.1g/dL (postoperative) (p<0.05).

About intraoperative data : the mean time of surgery is 172.5 minutes, tranexamic acid was used in 98.5% of cases and albumin in 86.3% of cases.

No platelet was transfused. Fresh frozen plasma was used in 2 cases (3%).

Intraoperative transfusion rate is about 69.6% and vasopressor are used in 43.9% of surgery. Transfusion rate tend to be associated with low preoperative haemoglobin and surgery length (p > 0.05). We have no reported severe complication related to transfusion.

Conclusion(s): Our transfusion rate is high about 69.6%. It may be related to our young group and small weight of patients. We have no complication reported with transfusion. Limitation may be related with small sample size. Future development may be oriented with preoperative haemoglobin increase to limit transfusion help.
IPI monitorization during pediatric endoscopic procedures under sedation: a randomized controlled trial

R. Abdullayev1, Y. Kelleci2, A. Halis3, S. Girgin4, A. Saracoglu1, T. Umuroglu1

1Marmara University, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey, 2Marmara University Training and Research Hospital, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey, 3Koc University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey, 4Marmara University, Public Health, Istanbul, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: The Integrated Pulmonary Index (IPI) is a recently developed device that uses fuzzy logic model derived from measured oxygen saturation (SpO2), respiratory rate (RR), pulse rate (PR), and end-tidal carbon dioxide (ETCO2). It provides a single index value ranging from 1 to 10; where 8-10 points are considered within normal range, 5-7 require attention, and 1-4 require intervention. Its use has been validated in clinical studies [1-3]. In this study we aimed to compare periprocedural IPI values of the pediatric patients having sedation with propofol or ketamine.

Materials and Methods: A total of 60 pediatric patients undergoing elective gastrointestinal endoscopy under sedation and monitored anesthesia care in our hospital between March and November 2021 were randomly allocated into two groups (n=30):

(i) propofol used group (group P),
(ii) ketamine used group (group K).

A body weight-based standard dose of midazolam and remifentanil were also administered. IPI was measured by Capnostream 20 monitor (Oridion Medical, Needham, MA, USA). Primary outcome measure was IPI values. Secondary outcome measures were recovery time, need for jaw-thrust maneuver and mask ventilation. Investigational Review Board approval was obtained (07.05.2021/No: 09.2021.511). The study was registered in https://clinicaltrials.gov/ (No: NCT05137574). Written informed consent was obtained. SPSS was used for statistical analysis. P <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: Demographic and anthropometric variables, patient and surgical characteristics were comparable between the groups. The primary outcome measure, IPI values were comparable between the groups (P=0.082). Need for jaw-thrust maneuver was also significantly different between the groups (P=0.023). Recovery time was significantly shorter in the group P, compared to the group K (15.0 vs 28.5 minutes, respectively, P <0.001).

Conclusion(s): Propofol and ketamine-based sedations in pediatric patients undergoing endoscopic procedures result in comparable IPI scores. Ketamine based-sedation resulted in less need for periprocedural jaw-thrust maneuvers, but longer postprocedural recovery periods.

References:
**Neuroanaesthesiology**

**06AP01-01**

**Application of neuronavigation guided scalp nerve block for pain control of craniotomy in two patients**

E. Mendes1, O. Sarban1, Ö. Adiyeke1, F. Gümüş Özcan1

1Basakşehir Cam ve Sakura City Hospital, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey

**Background:** Scalp nerve block (SNB) is an anatomical landmark-based block, which is used for pain control both during and after craniotomy (1). We believe that, with the guidance of advances such as neuronavigation (2), the accuracy of blocks based on landmark techniques can be increased.

**Case report:** Two patients, ages of 46 and 52, who are scheduled for elective craniotomy due to frontal lobe tumor with no additional diseases were taken to operation room. After routine anesthesia induction, under general anesthesia, anatomical landmarks described by Pinosky et al (1) for SNB were marked with neuronavigation according to 3-dimensional (3D) MRI and CT images. After SNB was performed, pinned head holder was placed and surgical incision was allowed. Vital signs were recorded before and after the placement. After surgeries, patients were extubated and transferred to post anesthesia care unit. Visual analog scale (VAS) scores were recorded for 24 hours. After 24 hours follow up, patients were transferred to service. No complications were observed.

![Image of Supraorbital Foramen with Neuronavigation](image.png)

**Figure 1. Image of Supraorbital Foramen with Neuronavigation**

**Table 1: Vitals and VAS scores of patients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blood Pressure before pinned head holder (mmHg)</th>
<th>Blood Pressure after pinned head holder (mmHg)</th>
<th>Pulse before pinned head holder (bpm)</th>
<th>Pulse after pinned head holder (bpm)</th>
<th>VAS score 1st hour</th>
<th>VAS score 4th hour</th>
<th>VAS score 12th hour</th>
<th>VAS score 24th hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient 1</td>
<td>107/64</td>
<td>118/71</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient 2</td>
<td>114/73</td>
<td>121/78</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion:** SNB is performed according to anatomical landmarks (1). With thin section MRI, if requested priorly, the related nerves in addition to anatomical landmarks can be identified and neuronavigation guidance allows these to be marked within 0.2-millimeter margin of error. In this case report, we aimed to attract attention to possible benefits of combining technological advances with such nerve blocks.

**References:**


**Learning Points:** Although clinical trials are required; we think, neuronavigation guidance can be beneficial especially for patients, who are sensitive to hemodynamic changes and for whom awake craniotomy is vital.

**06AP01-04**

**Sitting position for the approach to posterior fossa tumors**

R.A. Martínez Albaladejo1, I. Hurtado Ortiz1, M. Ortí Camallonga1, E. Gracia Ferrandiz1, B. Monleón López1, R. Badenes Quiles1

1Hospital Clinico Universitario Valencia, Anestesiologia y Reanimación, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** The sitting position (SP) offers better access and surgical exposure in some neurosurgery cases. It is associated with greater comorbidities due to its physiological implications. We present two patients with brain tumors with this approach and the monitoring we used to prevent and diagnose severe complications. Monitoring of cardiac and brain function must be included as basic standard of care. No intra- or postoperative complications were present and both patients were discharged with no neurological deficits (1).

**Case report:** We report two clinical cases of brain tumors where the SP was necessary (tumor in talamus and posterior medial tumor in temporal lobe). In both cases we used transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) for detection of air embolism (bicaval view), cardiac output (CO) monitoring by pulse contour analysis, brain oxygenation (INVOS), anesthesia depth (BIS) and basic monitoring as a non-invasive option to monitor brain oxygenation which can be altered when its haemodynamics gets affected (2).

**Discussion:** The following physiological changes happen in the sitting position: decrease in preload, mean arterial pressure (MAP) and cerebral perfusion pressure (CPP), increase in functional residual capacity and lung compliance, narrowing of the oropharynx causing macroglossia, and even tetraplegia due to the flexion of the neck.

There is an increased risk of venous air embolism (VAE) and supratentorial pneumoencephalus compared to other positions for craniotomy. We need a very strict monitoring of physiological functions to maintain body homeostasis. The incidence of EAV in seated craniotomy varies depending on the method of detection. TEE is the most sensible method. CO must be enough to keep an optimum CPP, which we controlled with pulse contour analysis. INVOS monitoring is a non-invasive option to monitor brain oxygenation which can be altered when its haemodynamics gets affected (2).

**References:**

Learning points: SP presents greater comorbidities. We must include cardiac and brain monitoring to detect severe complications. TEE has greater sensitivity detecting EAV.

06AP01-05
Stoke with haemodynamic instability as a debut of infective endocarditis: a case report

T. Sagredo Sánchez1, E. Caamaño Alonso1, L. Velasco Rodrigo1, M.d.M. Rueda Navarro1, J. Barros García-Imhof1, I. López Catalán1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

Background: Stroke is the second most common cause of mortality and disability worldwide and its incidence is increasing. Acute Ischemic Stroke (AIS) is defined as sudden neurologic dysfunction caused by focal brain ischemia lasting more than 24 hours or with evidence of acute infarction on brain imaging. It has been estimated that 25-30% of all ischemic strokes are cardioembolic. The standard diagnostic approach in a stroke is a computed tomography (CT) brain scan, ECG and routine blood test with coagulation and metabolic profile.

Case report: A 51-year-old man, transferred to our hospital with activation of stroke code because of low level of consciousness and haemodynamic instability. Due to mucocutaneous pallor, marked hypotension despite noradrenaline and asymmetries in distal pulses, CT angiography is carried out ruling out aortic dissection. After detecting a pansystolic murmur, an urgent echocardiogram was performed, with diagnosis of acute mitral regurgitation secondary to infective endocarditis. It was decided to place an intra-aortic balloon pump for haemodynamic control and, subsequently, to perform a mechanical thrombectomy.

Discussion: Brain-heart interaction has become a key factor for AIS management. Cardiovascular disease is the main predisposing factor for AIS, specially the new onset of atrial fibrillation. Diagnosing infective endocarditis can be hugely challenging and an acute stroke could be the first symptom of a subacute endocarditis. Neurological complications occur in up to 55% of patients with infective endocarditis, often before the diagnosis is made, and include stroke, brain abscess and meningoencephalitis1. When confronting a patient with AIS and severe hypotension, a wide differential diagnosis and thorough examination must be performed.

Reference:

Learning Points: In the initial evaluation of a brain stroke, it is essential to perform a wide differential diagnosis due to the unspecific clinical onset. The optimal management of patients with AIS and valvopathies after infective endocarditis needs the participation of a multidisciplinary team, including cardiothoracic surgeons, neuroradiologists and anaesthesiologists.

06AP01-06
Anaesthetic management of sequential cesarean section and craniotomy, excision of tumour in a term pregnant patient with a symptomatic meningioma

G.M. Bonus1
1The Medical City, Department of Anesthesiology, Pasig, Philippines

Background: The management of intracranial tumours occurring in pregnancy poses a challenge due to the mode of delivery, optimal timing of treatment while considering the condition of both the mother and foetus, and the choice of anaesthetic technique. Moreover, the low incidence of these cases results in a lack of clinical practice guidelines.

Case report: This paper presents the anaesthetic management of a 36-year-old G2P1 (1001), newly diagnosed with meningioma during the course of her pregnancy. On her 35th week of gestation, she was admitted for loss of consciousness and a right frontal lobe mass was revealed upon workup. A multidisciplinary team meeting was called. It was deemed appropriate to wait for foetal maturity and delivery before surgical intervention for the tumour should her neurologic status remain stable, with no progression nor recurrence of her symptoms. Because tumour resection was inevitable, a sequential cesarean section and craniotomy, excision of tumour was contemplated. This would allow the patient to bond with her baby and reduce hospital stay and financial cost.

With no absolute contraindication for the sequential procedures, the patient was scheduled for surgery on her 37th week of gestation. Spinal anaesthesia was done for the cesarean section, and then the patient was put under general anaesthesia supplemented with a scalp block for the craniotomy, excision of tumour. There were no untoward intra-operative events and the post-operative stay of the patient was unremarkable.

Discussion: Generally, the clinical features of these patients are attributed to increased intracranial pressure, which brings about the risk of herniation after dural puncture1. Cerebral oedema was successfully managed upon her first admission as manifested by the resolution of her symptoms and the absence of new onset neurologic deficits. Neurologic status remained stable pre-operatively which allowed for the safe use of spinal anaesthesia followed by general anaesthesia for the sequential procedures, contrary to existing algorithm.

Reference:

Learning Points: With prudent assessment and a multidisciplinary approach, spinal and general anaesthesia were successfully used for the sequential cesarean section and craniotomy, excision of tumor, respectively.
06AP01-07
Anesthesia management of brain tumor excision with awake craniotomy in pregnant patient: a case report

M. Izgi¹, S. Yavuzel¹, M. Kiriköz¹, M. Kanbak¹,
N. Sadıkoglu¹
¹Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Reanimation Department, Ankara, Turkey

Background: Awake craniotomy stands out as a reliable method to minimize the risk of permanent sequelae during low-grade glioma operation [1]. Waking up the patient during the operation becomes a special issue for anesthesiologists. In addition to the lack of a guideline on this issue, the fact that the patient being pregnant created a challenge in terms of anesthesia management.

Case report: A 30-year-old, 50kg, right-handed primigravida 15-week pregnant patient who was investigated due to generalized tonic-clonic seizure was evaluated by the neurosurgery department. A 64x45 mm expansile tumor in right hemisphere, thought to be a low-grade gliial tumor, was detected. Because of the tumor was close to supplementary motor and premotor areas, tumor excision with awake craniotomy and cortical mapping was planned. Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC) technique was performed in a 17-weeks gestation. Propofol and dexmedetomidine were chosen as sedative agents at all stages in addition to scalp block. During the cortical mapping phase, the sedation of the patient was interrupted and she was awakened. After the excision margins were determined and the tumor was removed, sedation was started again. Spontaneous breathing of the patient was preserved during the operation, and no intervention on the airway was required. No complications occurred either in the intraoperative or postoperative period. Pregnancy is currently going well.

Discussion: Anesthesia management in awake craniotomy can be classified as two different methods: Asleep-Awake-Asleep (SAS) and Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC). Neither technique is superior to the other and both methods are considered safe [2]. Although the methods do not differ in the pregnant patient, it is important to avoid agents that cause fetal bradycardia such as opioids. In addition it should be kept in mind that maternal blood pressure should be kept at ±15% of the basal blood pressure level.

References:

Learning points: Awake craniotomy success is possible with a multidisciplinary study by anesthesiologists, neurosurgeons, perinatologists and speech therapists.

06AP01-08
Retroperitoneal hematoma in patient after stent assisted coil embolization of non-ruptured intracranial aneurysm

T. Nastasovic¹⁺², I. Lazic¹, S. Bojic³⁺², A. Gavrilovska Brzanov⁴, T. Ivosevic⁵⁺², M. Rakonjac¹
¹University Clinical Center of Serbia, Department of Anesthesiology on Neurosurgery Clinic, Belgrade, Serbia, ²School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Belgrade, Serbia, ³Clinical and Hospital Center “Dr Dragisa Misovic”, Department of Anesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia, ⁴Clinical Center University “Mother Teresa”, Department of Anesthesiology, Skopje, North Macedonia, The Republic of, ⁵University Clinical Center of Serbia, Department of Anesthesiology on ENT Clinic, Belgrade, Serbia

Background: Retroperitoneal hematoma as a consequence of puncture of femoral artery after intracranial aneurysms embolization is rare complication, but it can be life threatening. Its incidence is increasing because of increased number of interventional procedures.

Case report: A 73-years old female patient was admitted to our clinic for embolisation of non-ruptured intracranial aneurysm of the cavernous segment of the left carotid artery. Embolization was done in general endotracheal anesthesia. After intervention, the manual compression of the local site of the puncture was done. Because of previously administered antiaggregant therapy, the time of femoral artery compression was prolonged for achieving appropriate hemostasis. She was admitted in intensive care unit awake and hemodynamically stable. During next few hours the systolic blood pressure was started to fall. The patient became somnolent and bradypsychic, the vasoactive therapy with Noradrenalin was initiated. Abdominal computed tomography (CT) scan showed retroperitoneal hematoma of the left side. The patient was immediately transferred to the operating theater and introduced into general anesthesia. The vascular surgical intervention of suture of the superficialis femoral artery wall was done. Three doses of red packed cells was administered, as well as solutions of crystalloids. After surgery, the patient was mechanically ventilated, analgesedated and Noradrenalin infusion was continued. The next day, sedation was discontinued and the patient was weaned from mechanical ventilation and extubated fully awake.

Discussion: Retroperitoneal hematoma is a serious complication after femoral artery puncture, especially in patients underwent to embolization. This complication can lead to hemodynamic instability and hemorrhagic shock. Additional antiagregant therapy is contributing factor for its development.

References:

Learning points: Awareness of occurrence of retroperitoneal hematoma in patients undergoing cerebral aneurysm coil embolization is necessary for early recognition and treatment of this potentially fatal complication.
06AP02-01
Emergence EEG and Sleep Paralysis in the Post Anaesthesia Care Unit (PACU)

A. Banerji¹, J. Sleigh¹
¹Waikato Clinical Campus, University of Auckland, Anaesthesiology, Auckland, New Zealand

Background: An awake but unresponsive patient in the PACU poses a diagnostic dilemma for an anaesthetist. Case reports exploring incomplete neurological awakening due to aberrant patterns of EEG at emergence are very rare.

Case report: A 78 year old female enrolled in our Alphamax study underwent laminar decompression under general anaesthesia. Anaesthesia was performed as per the Alphamax protocol, which included maintenance with desflurane and fentanyl. The intraoperative course was uneventful, following which she was extubated and shifted to the PACU. Here she failed to respond to vocal commands, however her vital signs remained stable, her neuromuscular function and her neurological examination was normal (apart from unresponsiveness), and effect of residual anaesthesia medication was ruled out. Her level of arousal improved gradually and after 90 minutes she was considered fit to be shifted to the ward.

On following up the next day she recalled the entire episode in the PACU, claiming to have been awake and aware but unable to move or speak. Retrospective analysis of her intraoperative EEG revealed low alpha power, intermittent burst suppression followed by a very sudden arousal from a deep delta pattern just prior to extubation. We explored the possibility of her presentation having a mechanism akin to disorders of diminished motivation (Abulia, Akinetic Mutism) at the cerebral cortical level, or sleep paralysis secondary to increased sensitivity to anaesthesia drugs causing a dissociation at the brain stem level.

Figure 1. Spectrogram of the last 60 minutes before extubation.

Discussion: Case reports of delayed emergence following anaesthesia rarely consider the role of the emergence patterns in being responsible for an abnormal awakening. We believe the general anaesthetic drugs caused a disproportionate inhibition of volitional motor responses for at least an hour after the return of consciousness and memory during the emergence period – similar to that seen in sleep paralysis but chemically prolonged.

Learning Points: An sudden emergence pattern similar to that seen in our patient may be associated with subsequent aberrant motor responses similar to sleep paralysis.

06AP02-02
A case report of seizures during general anaesthesia for cervical spine surgery: undetected cerebrospinal fluid leak leading to intracranial haemorrhage and status epilepticus

S. Lam¹
¹National Health Group: Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, Anaesthesia, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak is a known complication of spine surgery, with an incidence of 0.3-1.3% in cervical spine surgery¹. Symptoms range from mild (headache, vertigo) to potentially life-threatening (meningitis, intracranial haemorrhage[ICH]). Most publications² report intracranial events after emergence of general anaesthesia(GA), hours-days post-procedure.We report a case of seizure during GA with status epilepticus secondary to ICH due to CSF leak, contributed by active drain suction.

Case report: 78-year-old underwent C1-T2 posterior decompression for cervical myelopathy. After resuming supine position, he developed tonic-clonic seizures. Blood gas sampling ruled out metabolic causes. Surgical drain was found to be on active suction, with 400ml haemoserous fluid drained. Urgent CT brain showed acute bilateral ICH with decreased ventricles size. He developed status epilepticus requiring urgent co-management by Intensive Care, Neurosurgery and Neurology.

Discussion: Most reports describe intracranial events due to CSF leak hours-days post-procedure; we report a case of seizures during GA. Inadvertent creation of active drain suction likely contributed to CSF leak & intracranial hypotension, resulting in significant ICH and status epilepticus. Seizure activity may have been suppressed by higher doses of anaesthetics prior to turning supine. Observation of patient was obscured by drapes and body straps which restricted movement. High index of suspicion is required for intracranial events during spine surgery which can cause life threatening complications.

References:

Learning Points: Initial signs of seizure were subtle and attributed to common causes: shivering, movement from decreased anaesthetic depth. Suspicions were only raised when seizures became more apparent. Careful monitoring of brain function waveforms may aid in more prompt diagnosis. Early diagnosis and management of intra-operative seizures is needed to prevent life-threatening neurological injury. Increased use of negative pressure drainage devices makes knowledge of potential harms crucial perioperatively[3]
06AP02-03
Assessment of quality of life after spine surgery under spinal or general anaesthesia using the Euroqol Health Questionnaire

I. Mladić Batinica1, N. Kovačić1, M. Vučemilo1, A. Makovšek2
1Sestre milosrdnice UHC, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Zagreb, Croatia, 2Zagreb UHC, Department of Anesthesiology, Reanimatology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Degenerative spine diseases are the most frequent cause of disability and work incapacity, representing large social and economic problem in developing countries. There are surgical and non-surgical treatments and concurrently growing demand for outcome measurement and quality assurance. The aim of this study is to determine whether the type of anaesthesia, spinal or general, affects the quality of life after spine surgery. We used EQ-5D-5L (Euroqol Health Questionnaire) in telephone survey interview.

Materials and Methods: A total of 79 patients participated in a telephone interview one month after lumbar spine surgery performed under spinal or general anaesthesia (GA). EQ-5D-5L is a standardized measure of health status developed by the EuroQol Group in order to provide a simple, generic measure of health for clinical and economic appraisal. The EQ-5D-5L descriptive system comprises the following 5 dimensions: mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort and anxiety/depression.

Results and Discussion: There were 39 patients in spinal and 40 in GA group, similar age and gender. We found a difference between the groups. Figure 1, 2, and 3. Patients underwent GA had moderate difficulties with mobility, pain/discomfort and anxiety/depression.

Conclusion(s): Despite a small sample size of patients the results show complex connections between health and functional and social status. The use of EQ-5D-5L could contribute to better assessment of spine and any pain related problems which require operative or conservative treatment.

06AP02-04
BIS alternative placement in patients in which classic method is impossible, a case report

M.G. Dámaso del Rio1, M. Islas Alvarez1, A.R. Martinez Uresti1
1National Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Neuroanaesthesiology, Mexico City, Mexico

Background: The Bispectral index (BIS) is a non-invasive method for the hypnosis depth monitoring, translating cortex waves into numbers from 0-100 expressing from isoelectric to fully awake, below 60 conscience is assumed to be diminished by the anaesthesia, using this measurement and monitoring reduces intraoperative awakening.

In the traditional neurosurgery there are several procedures that require to leave the forehead free, the BIS is a highly regarded tool to measure the anesthetic depth, but due to the classic position used on the forehead of the patients it is usually replaced by less precise instruments on those cases that impede the traditional positioning, in this case we show an alternative position of the BIS that maintains its benefits without risking precision.

Case Report: A 55 years old woman, arrived to the emergency room with progressive moderate to severe headache of 4 months of evolution as well as progressive loss of strength on both inferior limbs, loss of sphincter control and apathy. Brain CT scan showed a hyperdense, homogeneous lesion in the convexity of the frontal region.

It was scheduled for resection, during the anesthesia monitoring the BIS was placed in the mandibular region, the procedure was performed without any complication. The patient was observed for two days after the procedure without any further complication or worsening before being discharged home.

Discussion: BIS is used in neurosurgery and needs its installation to be modified due to the way in which some interventions are made. Traditionally the BIS is placed in the forehead, but in recent years other sites had been tested, several have been found to be reliable but not yet approved. In this case the mandibular position was tested, there are studies that compare the mandibular disposition with the traditional one showing bias during emersion but maintaining...
its utility during induction and maintenance: in this case we show that the adequate placement of the BIS on a mandibular fashion can eliminate most of the drawbacks previously reported.

**Reference:**

**Learning Points:**
- Monitoring the anesthetic depth is basic to perform a TIVA technic and avoid early awakening.
- An alternative placement of the BIS in neurosurgery is a viable option to keep the specificity of the anesthetic depth.

**06AP02-05**
**Point-of-care viscoelastic testing to guide haemostatic treatment in elective neurosurgery: a case report**

**G. Viškutė1, D. Bilskienė1, A. Macas1, M. Rimaitis1**
1Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Anaesthesiology Department, Kaunas, Lithuania

**Background:** Viscoelastic tests (VETs) are implemented to guide haemostatic management in different acute settings. Yet they are rarely used in elective neurosurgery. We present a case of patient with brain tumour and multifactorial coagulopathy treated in ROTEM-guided manner.

**Case report:** 62-year-old female with hemangiopericytoma (78x63x64mm) was admitted for neurosurgery due to progressive neurological deficits. Metastatic liver disease also persisted. Borderline platelet count and prolonged prothrombin time was observed initially. Factor VII (FVII) deficiency was found. Despite preoperative treatment with FVII concentrate, there was profuse intraoperative bleeding (blood loss of 1500 ml). ROTEM showed high CT, CFT, low A10, MCF as well as low-normal FIBTEM values. Transfusion of pooled platelets and fresh frozen plasma led to successful haemostasis. Postoperative period was uneventful and patient was discharged.

**Discussion:** It is one of a few cases reporting the use of VETs in brain tumour surgery. ROTEM in our patient demonstrated a complex coagulopathy. Prolongation of CT in EXTEM was probably multifactorial as FVII deficiency was already treated. FIBTEM values were at lower end of the normal range which in the presence of ongoing surgery could be suboptimal. None of the concentrates could address all the issues. In addition to platelets, we chose FFP as the agent of choice. Successful use of VETs in neurosurgery has been reported: TEG and ROTEM aided to identify hyperfibrinolysis in adult [1] and paediatric neurosurgery [2]. There is scientific evidence that patients with brain tumours can be in a hypercoagulable state due to procoagulant tumour-derived substances, such as tissue factor. VETs in neuro-oncology patients seems to have a big potential not only for guiding blood transfusions, but also for early detection of hypercoagulability [3]. We believe ROTEM aided us to identify the demand of blood products in the high risk of bleeding more accurately, avoid excessive transfusions and succeed in the best possible outcome for the patient.

**Learning Points:** VETs should be used in urgent neurosurgical situations and considered for elective neurosurgery patients with compromised preoperative standard coagulation tests and complicated anamnesis.

**06AP02-06**
**Unusual case of posterior circulation stroke- saved by anesthesiologist**

L. Vidić Penavić1, V. Kalousek2, I. Mladić Batinica1, A. Horvat1, H. Krolo Videka1, V. Hostiči1
1Sestre milosrdnice UHC, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Zagreb, Croatia, 2Sestre milosrdnice UHC, Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background:** Posterior circulation stroke (PCS) is a life-threatening condition, difficult to diagnose because of the large area supplied by posterior circulation. Symptoms are nonspecific, and when attributed to other causes can delay treatment with severe consequences. Effective approach to PCS remains controversial. Lack of guidelines requires a decision based on physician experience. Endovascular treatment (EVT) remains the standard treatment in selected patients.

**Case report:** A 44yo healthy male with symptoms of acute GI infection and no neurological signs. Due to severe vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhea, he was immediately hospitalized due to the urgent suspicion of his wife, a neuroanesthesiologist. Laboratory results were normal, except for elevated CRP and low K+. Next morning the patient was increasingly dyspastic. CT angiography showed thrombi in the posterior cerebral and superior cerebellar artery. Despite low NIHSS score, urgent EVT was performed. TEE and bubble test proved patent foramen ovale (PFO). After one month, the patient fully recovered, returned to his daily activities and active sports. A shunt occlusion is planned.

**Discussion:** The issues in this case were leading symptoms of concommitent GI infection, with hidden neurological signs. Proinflammatory conditions (acute GI infection and patient’s post-covid status) were the risk factors for thrombus formation. Vasalva maneuver and PFO opening due to vomiting were likely the mechanism in PCS. With no symptoms of PCS, just due to his wife’s suspicion of the severity of his condition, he was hospitalized on time. Despite low NIHSS score, a neuroradiologist decided to perform early EVT due to the patient’s age, previous excellent physical status and a high risk of the stroke symptoms becoming more severe. Recent studies determined that EVT can benefit selected patients with PCS, but usually with severe symptoms and a high NIHSS score.

**Reference:**
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**Learning points:** In younger patients with Covid-19 infection in their history, one should be extra careful with unclear symptoms or sometimes just have a good “hunch”. Although there are no clear protocols in treatment of PCS, experience and courage of the neuroradiologist can be life-saving.
06AP02-07
Anesthetic management in Moya-Moya disease: report of a case

J. Torres Zuñiga, J. Marchant Kemp
1Universidad de Concepcion, Anestesiologia, Concepcion, Chile, 2Universidad de Concepcion, Anestesiologia, Concepcion, Chile

Background: Moya-Moya disease (MMD), is a unique neurovascular entity characterized by the specific angiographic finding of unilateral or bilateral stenosis, progressive cerebral arterial narrowing leading to the development of heterogeneous collateral vessels, which appear smoky on angiographic images, giving the name to Moya-Moya which means smoke in Japanese. The prevalence varies both by age and by geography, being more common in East Asia, with an incidence of 0.35 to 0.54 per 100,000 inhabitants.

Case report: A 58-year-old male, eutrophic, with a medical history of arterial hypertension. Results of an axial tomography without contrast of the brain shows no associated hemorrhagic or ischemic event, as in the brain magnetic resonance. Lumbar puncture with no evident alterations. Initiate therapy with acetylsalicylic acid 100 mg, atorvastatin 80 mg both orally daily, enoxaparin 60 mg subcutaneously daily and paracetamol 1 g. While hospitalized laboratory tests Anti-ANA anti-ENA antibodies were taken and were both negative. The 3 day of hospitalization, cerebral angiography showed: distal stenosis of the carotid siphon and severe stenosis of median cerebral artery on the right side, with abundant development of lenticulo-striate collateral circulation consistent with MMD.

A Bypass from the temporal artery to the middle cerebral artery was performed under general anesthesia with sevoflurane

Discussion: MMS is a rare condition, so there are no randomized clinical trials regarding anesthetic management. In context, the discussion of the literature is focused on cross-sectional studies and bibliographic reviews. Monitoring should include invasive arterial monitoring was performed. Cerebral ischemia is monitored with electroencephalogram. Strict postoperative surveillance in the ICU to maintain the bases of cerebral neuroprotection that consider normothermia, normotension, normocapnia, adequate level of anesthetic depth, maintaining CMRO2 and cerebral FSC with anesthetic drugs suitable.

References:
Nijasri Charmnarong Suwanwela. Moyamoya disease: Etiology, clinical features, and diagnosis, UpToDate 2020.

06AP03-01
Cerebrospinal fluid and plasma concentrations of the inflammatory marker sCD27 in a large neurological healthy surgical population

C. Tigchelaar, J.L. Cunningham, A.R. Absalom
1University Medical Center Groningen/ University of Groningen, Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 2Uppsala University, Medical Sciences, Psychiatry, Uppsala, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: Soluble CD27 (sCD27) has the potential to serve as biomarker for diseases involving peripheral and central immune dysfunction. So far, analysis of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) sCD27 has mostly been performed in a small number of patients with neuroinflammatory disorders and general control data is missing.

This study aimed to determine factors correlating with sCD27 concentration such as age, comorbidity, the CSF/plasma albumin quotient (Qalb) as indicator of blood-CSF-barrier function and inflammatory markers as an important step toward establishing reference values for interpreting sCD27 levels. We therefore analysed sCD27 concentrations in CSF and plasma of a large relatively neurological healthy surgical population and determined preliminary reference intervals in a selected healthy subgroup.

Materials and Methods: CSF and blood were collected from 486 patients undergoing spinal anaesthesia for elective surgery. Patient demographics, clinical data and routine laboratory analysis were analysed for associations with sCD27 levels in CSF and plasma using a univariable and multivariable model.

Lastly, the total study group was divided into healthy controls and general controls in order to determine healthy control reference intervals (central 95% of data).

Results and Discussion: In the total study group (age range 18 – 92 years, 57% male, 87% ASA I or II), sCD27 ranged from <50 to 7474 pg/ml and 1830 to >400,000 pg/ml in CSF and plasma, respectively. In a multivariable model, plasma sCD27 concentration, age and Qalb were identified as most important for explaining the variability of CSF sCD27 levels. These findings were surprising, as these results are contrary to what has been reported in literature. This may be due to the fact that the influence of various factors has mostly been studied in a small group of diseased patients (neuroinflammatory) and not a large group reflecting a broad selection from the general population. Preliminary reference intervals in the healthy controls were < 50 pg/mL – 647 pg/mL (n=153) for CSF sCD27 and 2,341 – 104,230 pg/mL (n=191) for plasma sCD27.

Conclusions: These findings provide a solid foundation for interpreting sCD27 as clinical biomarker against a background of multiple socio-demographic and physiological aspects that may influence levels. Further studies to establish clinical CSF sCD27 cut-offs for central nervous system diseases should also account for the influence of age and blood-CSF-barrier function.
Remimazolam, a benzodiazepine intravenous anesthetic, promotes water transfer in astrocytes

K. Hamada1, Y. Tokinaga1, T. Sato1, Y. Horiguchi1, M. Kimiduka1, M. Yamakage1
1Sapporo Medical University School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology, Sapporo, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Prevention of cerebral edema is essential in the perioperative period, since cerebral edema can lead to increased intracranial pressure and, in extreme cases, death. Aquaporin 4 (AQP4), an astrocyte water channel, is vital in maintaining brain water function. This study aimed to determine the relationship between remimazolam, a new intravenous anesthetic, and cerebral edema.

Materials and Methods: This study utilized astrocyte-derived cultured cells from rats. The level of cell swelling induced by dilution was measured. Remimazolam or propofol at various concentrations were administered to the cell culture 2 hours prior to exposure to half osmolality. The short-axis length of the cells was measured with a phase contrast microscope before and 10 minutes after dilution with distilled water. The ratio of changes in the short-axis length was compared among five groups (control, remimazolam at concentrations of $1 \times 10^{-7}$, $3 \times 10^{-7}$, $1 \times 10^{-6}$, and $3 \times 10^{-6}$ mol/dm$^3$). Similarly, the ratio of changes in the short-axis length was compared for propofol. Remimazolam or propofol at a concentration of $1 \times 10^6$ mol/dm$^3$ was administered to the cultured astrocytes for 2 hours, and AQP4 protein expression was examined using Western blot analysis and compared to that in the non-administered group. P values <0.05 were considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: A significant difference in the ratios of the short axis-length of the cells between control cells vs. those exposed to remimazolam at a concentration of $3 \times 10^{-6}$ mol/dm$^3$ ($P = 0.0284$, n = 7 or 8; Figure 1A) was observed. Additionally, exposure to propofol did not alter the short-axis length of the cells (Figure 1B). The amount of protein in AQP4 was not different from that in the non-administered group for both drugs.

Conclusions: This study highlights that the administration of remimazolam promotes the swelling of rat astrocyte cells. Unlike propofol, a benzodiazepine intravenous anesthetic, remimazolam promotes water migration of astrocyte cells and causes cerebral edema. The use of remimazolam in neurosurgery necessitates caution.

A comparison of remifentanil/propropofol and fentanyl/propropofol anaesthesia in patients undergoing neurosurgery for intracranial mass lesions and postoperative analgesic requirements

P. Martinovic1, N. Kovac2, D. Kukin3, J. Peršec1, T. Murselovic4
1Clinical Hospital Dubrava, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Reanimathology and Intensive Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, 2UHC Sestre Milosrdnice, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Therapy, Zagreb, Croatia, 3UHC Zagreb, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Reanimathology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia, 4Clinical Hospital Sv Duh, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Reanimathology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: After major intracranial surgery 80% of patients experience moderate to severe acute postoperative pain in first 48h. The quality of postoperative analgesia significantly depends on the opioid used during the surgery. Fentanyl and remifentanil have two different pharmacokinetic profiles. The aim of our study is to compare remifentanil (TIVA/TCI) and fentanyl (TIVA/constant flow) respect to post-operative analgesics consumption and the extubating time.

Materials and Methods: In this survey of dataset from all adult patients who were admitted to neurosurgical ICU neurosurgical procedures. Patients were scheduled for elective intracranial surgery. In “fentanyl TIVA/constant flow” group anaesthesia was induced with fentanyl, propofol and rocuronium, and maintained with constant flow infusion of propofol/fentanyl. In “remifentanil TIVA/TCI” group propofol and remifentanil were administrated by the pump automatically, for induction and maintenance of anaesthesia. Analgesic requirements were recorded first 24 hours in ICU.

Results and Discussion: There were 140 patients, in remifentanil group (56%, n=79) and the fentanyl group (44%, n=61). Between the groups there was no difference in demographic values. Mean extubating time in remifentanil group was $228\pm213$ min, and in fentanyl group $252\pm197$. Comparing both groups of patients, no significant difference in time to extubating ($p=0.6$) was found. Analgesics were administrated according VAS, or hemodynamic values in unconscious patients. Figure 1. shows analgesic consumption. In remifentanil group 42% (n=33) received two or more analgesics, while in fentanyl group only 21% (n=13).
Figure 1. Bispectral index, norepinephrine infusion rate and measured propofol plasma concentrations, per patient, per mean arterial pressure category.

Conclusions: MAP augmentation using NE infusion increases BIS. This increase might be due to direct or indirect effects of increased MAP. The underlying physiology remains to be elucidated.

06AP03-09
Repetitive nebulization of lipopolysaccharide provokes severe pulmonary inflammation but does not affect secondary brain damage in a murine model of experimental traumatic brain injury

K. Ritter1, N. Tillmann1, M. Schaefer1
1University Center Mainz, Department of Anaesthesiology, Mainz, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Patients suffering from traumatic brain injury (TBI) often develop pulmonary infections during their recovery. This study examines the brain-lung crosstalk in a murine model of TBI and lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced pulmonary inflammation.

Materials and Methods: After approval by the responsible animal welfare committee (Landesuntersuchungsamt Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, TVA 23177-07/G20-1-120) 46 female C57/Bi6 mice were randomized in four groups and subjected to controlled cortical impact (CCI) versus sham procedure (sham/vehicle n=10, sham/LPS n=10; CCI/veh n=13, CCI/LPS n=13). Afterwards half of the population was exposed to inhalation of nebulized LPS 1, 3 and 5 days post injury (dpi) while the other half was vehicle-treated (NaCl 0.9%).

Figure 1. Bispectral index, norepinephrine induced arterial blood pressure elevation on the Bispectral index
Neuromotor impairment was repetitively assessed by neurological severity score (NSS), rotarod test and open field test. 7dpi mice were euthanized and, after cryosectioning and Nissl-staining of the in toto removed brains, cerebral lesion was quantified by volumetry. Lung tissue was processed in paraffin sections and histologically analysed. qPCR analysis was performed for inflammatory marker genes in brain and lung tissues, complemented by plasma ELISA for LPS-binding protein (LBP). Statistics: Rout Outlier, Shapiro-Wilk, t-/ Mann-Whitney-test, One-way-/Two-way-ANOVA, p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: Gas exchange area in lungs of LPS-treated animals was significantly reduced compared to vehicle groups, mainly caused by thickening of interalveolar tissue (p<0.001). Lung mRNA-expression of IL-6, TNFα and TLR4 was increased in LPS groups (p<0.05) regardless of concomitant TBI. Mice of the CCI/ LPS group lacked remission of neuromotor impairment compared to CCI/veh but the cerebral lesion volume remained unaffected. mRNA expression of IL-1β, GFAP, TNFα and TLR4 in the perilesional brain tissue was increased in CCI mice compared to sham but not aggravated by LPS exposition.

Conclusion(s): Repeated nebulization of LPS leads to severe inflammatory response and histological damage in lung tissue. Although recovery from TBI was impaired in mice with LPS-exposition, histological brain damage and gene expression remained unaffected, suggesting potential auto-protective mechanisms in the brain which require further investigations.

Reference:

**06AP03-10**

Effects of antibiotic long-term treatment and intestinal dysbiosis on secondary brain damage after experimental traumatic brain injury

K. Ritter1, J. Denninger1, K. Petri1, R. Hummel1, M. Schaefer1

1University Center Mainz, Department of Anaesthesiology, Mainz, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Antibiotic therapies for various indications are common during the recovery process of patients suffering from traumatic brain injury (TBI). Disturbances of the intestinal microbiome can occur as a side effect and may affect the outcome of TBI (1). Here, we tested this hypothesis in a murine model of antibiotic-induced dysbiosis and TBI.

Materials and Methods: After approval of the responsible animal welfare committee (Landesuntersuchungsamt Rheinland-Pfalz, TVA G19-1-027) 80 male C57/BL6 mice were subjected to controlled cortical impact (CCI) or sham procedure, followed by combined treatment of amoxicillin/clavulanic acid, vancomycin and nystatin delivered via drinking water. Vehicle treatment served as a control (CCI/AB n=24, CCI/veh n=24; sham/AB n=16, sham/veh n=16). Neuromotor impairment was assessed repetitively by neurological severity score (NSS), rotarod test and open field test. Half of the population of each group was euthanized at either 5 days post injury (dpi) or 30dpi, with continuous antibiotic/vehicle treatment. Brains were processed by cryosectioning, Nissl-staining and cerebral lesion volumetry. Perilesional brain tissue was analysed by qPCR, Western Blot and immunohistochemistry. Faecal samples were analysed by MALDI-TOF pre-trauma and at 5dpi. Statistics: Grubb’s outlier, Shapiro-Wilk, t-/Mann-Whitney-test, One-way-/Two-way-ANOVA, p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: Faecal samples revealed severe disruption of microbial colonization 5dpi in mice with antibiotic treatment compared to pretraumatic findings. Animals of CCI/AB group showed decreased neuromotor impairment until 5dpi compared to CCI/vehicle, while lesion volume remained unaffected. mRNA expression of IL-1β, GFAP, SerpinA3n and MHCII was reduced in peri-lesional brain tissue of antibiotic-treated mice at 30dpi compared to vehicle (p<0.05).

Conclusion(s): Combined antibiotic treatment leads to early severe disruption of the intestinal microbiome. Transiently improved neuro-motor recovery after TBI was noted in antibiotic treated groups but histopathology was indistinguishable from vehicle treated TBI mice. However, gene expression analyses suggest mild anti-inflammatory effects of antibiotics after TBI, which requires further study to distinguish between microbial effects and possible cerebral off-target effects.

Reference:

**06AP03-11**

Incidence of BIS above 60 during propofol/ remifentanil anesthesia for cervical spine surgery and possible awareness comparing standard versus deep neuromuscular blockade with sugammadex reversal

R.A. Cardoso Sáuli, C. F. Nunes, P. Amorim, P.F.A. Salgado Amaral Seixas:
1Centro Hospitalar e Universitário do Porto, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal, 2Universidade Aberta, Ciências e Tecnologia, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: In a randomized controlled trial, where 62 cervical spine surgery patients were subjected to BIS guided general anesthesia with TCI of Remifentanil and Propofol and to either Standard (n=32) or Deep Neuro-Muscular blockade (NMB) PTC<2 and reversal with Sugammadex, we showed that Deep NMB with Rocuronium infusion and Sugammadex reversal reduced both anesthesic requirements and halved time required to extubation. The present study is a sub-analysis of BIS data from that study, conducted to compare the incidence of BIS above 60 in both groups and to investigate the incidence of BIS>60 in relation to awareness.

Materials and Methods: Patients received propofol/ remifentanil TCI anesthesia. Rocuronium either by bolus and neostigmine reversal if TOF>90 or infusion until wound closure and sugammadex reversal. No benzodiazepines were used. Paracetamol and parecoxib were given at the end of surgery. Recorded BIS data (Rugiloop®) was analyzed to extract every occurrence of BIS>60 lasting for at least 5 seconds. BIS readings were grouped according to BIS intervals (60 to 65; >65 to 70 and >70 to 75) and according to the duration (in seconds) of any continuous sequence of BIS>60 (0 to 30; 35 to 65; 90 to 145; 150 to 295 and >300 seconds). Patients were contacted by phone at home to assess for possible awareness using the Brice questionnaire. Statistics used Chi-square independence test.

Results and Discussion: Results are presented in figure1. BIS was never above 75 for 5 seconds. Average procedure time (min) was 146 in the Standard vs 131 in the Deep NMB group. BIS above 60 occurred 1158 times, but in 939 (81%), for less than 30 seconds. There were no differences in the occurrence of BIS>60 or duration time of BIS>60 between groups. There was not a single report of awareness.
Conclusions: BIS>60 for longer than 90 seconds occurred only 47 times, of which only 10 over 150 seconds. Periods of BIS above 60 shorter than 300 seconds and below 70 in patients receiving remifentanil/propofol did not result in awareness. These results suggest that Deep NMB blockade that reduced Propofol/Remifentanil requirements was not associated with higher incidence of BIS>60, nor awareness. Still, careful monitoring of anesthesia depth with alarms is mandatory when performing deep NMB.

Reference:
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06AP03-12
In vitro evaluation of the effects of intravenous anesthetics on glioblastoma cells with or without chemo- and radiotherapy

K. Monthe-Sagan1, O. Touzani1, J. Toutain1, J.-L. Hanouz2, M. Bernaudin1, E.A. Peres1
1Normandie Univ, UNICAEN, CNRS, ISTCT, GIP CYCERON, Bd H Becquerel, Caen, France, 2CHU De Caen, Anesthesie-Reanimation, Caen, France

Background and Goal of Study: Glioblastomas (GB) are the most aggressive and common primary brain tumors in adults. The evolution of this pathology is rapid and fatal (median survival less than 15 months). Therapeutic management combines surgery, radiotherapy (RT) and chemotherapy (CT). During tumor excision, patients are exposed to intravenous anesthetic agents. The objective of this work is to evaluate the influence of propofol and remifentanil on tumor cells treated or not with CT and RT.

Materials and Methods: GB cells lines (C6) were exposed to propofol (50 µg.mL⁻¹) and remifentanil (3.75 µg.mL⁻¹). Impact on cell survival was assessed by counting the number of Hoechst 33342 positive cells and by clonogenic assays. Effects of anesthetics on cell migration were studied by the wound healing test. Effect of propofol was also studied on GB cells lines GL261 and U251. Effects of anesthetics on the response to CT (temozolomide, 350 µM) or RT (4 Gy, 2Gy/min, X-RAD225 Cx irradiator) treatments were studied with clonogenic assays.

Results and Discussion: At 72 h post-exposure, propofol tends to reduce the number of C6 cells (p=0.34). Remifentanil does not modify cell survival. There is no effect of propofol or remifentanil on the migration of C6 cells. Cell survival measured 7 days after treatment by propofol is reduced in GL261 46±4% and in U251 58±18% (p<0.01) but not in C6. Propofol further decrease cell survival induced by CT alone. Remifentanil or propofol/remifentanil combination does not modify the response of C6 cells to CT. RT effects on C6 cell survival are potentiated by propofol (RT+propofol = 29±10% vs RT = 60±19% with 100% for Control, p<0.01) while no effect is observed with remifentanil. Propofol/remifentanil combined treatment reduced cell survival after RT (35±16% vs RT alone 61±14%, p<0.05). RT effects on survival of GL261 are potentiated by propofol (20±7% for RT+propofol vs 46±5% for RT, p<0.01). However, RT effects on survival of U251 are not modified by propofol (22±7% for RT+propofol vs 39±19% for RT, p=0.11).

Conclusion(s): This first work underlines that propofol reduces GB cell survival in vitro. Interestingly, this work demonstrates a radiosensitizing effect of propofol on C6 and GL261 cells. These results have to be confirmed in vivo.


06AP04-01
The influence of vasopressor-induced arterial blood pressure elevation on muscle-recorded motor evoked potentials

S.E. Dulfer1, R.J.M. Groen1, A.R. Absalom2, M.M. Sahinovic2, G. Drost1,3
1University Medical Centre Groningen, Neurosurgery, Groningen, Netherlands, 2University Medical Centre Groningen, Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 3University Medical Centre Groningen, Neurology, Groningen, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Muscle transcranial electrical stimulation motor evoked potentials (mTc-MEPs) are used to monitor the motor tracts during spinal surgery. The aim was to investigate the effects of noradrenaline (NE) induced mean arterial pressure (MAP) elevation on mTc-MEPs.

Materials and Methods: 25 patients undergoing spinal surgery were included in this prospective observational study. After induction, before incision, a NE infusion was used to increase the MAP from ±60mmHg to 100mmHg in 30 minutes. mTc-MEP amplitudes and area under the curves (AUC) were recorded from the tibialis anterior (TA) and abductor hallucis (AH) muscles every two minutes. Voltage thresholds were determined at MAPs of 60, 80 and 100mmHg. Mixed model analysis was used to adjust for the repeated mTc-MEP measurements.

Additional analyses were performed to adjust for propofol concentration, BIS, NE infusion rate and use of ephedrine. Moreover, the effects of increasing MAP on H-reflex and compound muscle action potential (CMAP) amplitudes were analysed.

Results and Discussion: A 10mmHg increase of the MAP was associated with a 14.4% increase (CI 11.4%, 17.9%; p<0.001) in amplitude and a 13.0% (CI 6.0%, 20.8%; p<0.001) increase in AUC. Increasing MAP from 60mmHg decreased the voltage thresholds by 2.27V (CI-7.29V, 2.74V; p=0.375) at a MAP of 80mmHg, and by 6.3V (CI-11.4V, -1.3V; p=0.016) at a MAP of 100mmHg. When adjusted for BIS and propofol concentration, we found a weaker association between MAP and mTc-MEP amplitude (p=0.001); and no association between MAP and AUC (p=0.070) and voltage threshold (p=0.621). Adjusting for NE and ephedrine increased the positive association between MAP and mTc-MEP amplitude. There was no association between MAP and H-reflex/CMAP amplitude (Figure 1).

Conclusions: MAP elevation is associated with higher mTc-MEP amplitudes, AUCs, and lower voltage thresholds. This might be due to increased cortical neuronal activity caused by either direct and/or
indirect effects of blood pressure elevation. Underlying physiological mechanisms remain to be elucidated.

Figure 1. Schematic overview of effects of increasing MAP on the mTc-MEP, H-reflex and CMAP

06AP04-02
Evaluation of the effect of CSF drainage on optic nerve sheath diameter in patients installed external ventricular drainage catheter due to intracranial pathology in the intensive care unit

G. Orak1, O. Korkmaz Dilmen1, E.F.Akcil1, Y. Tunali1
1Istanbul University - Cerrahpasa, Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty, Department of Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Determination of high ICP is necessary for the treatment of patients with raised ICP to improve long-term neurological outcomes. Ultrasonographic optic nerve sheath diameter (ONSD) measurement is a noninvasive, easily performed and cost effective technique for detecting high ICP. However, ICP measurements via ventricular catheters provide CSF drainage and ICP reduction. The normal ICP value is less than 15 mmHg in adults. In the literature the correlation of ONSD and invasive ICP measurements were determined. The aim of present study is to evaluate the correlation of ONSD and direct ICP measurements and to determine cut off ONSD value to detect ICP $\geq$ 15 mmHg.

Materials and Methods: In this prospective, single-center and single operator study, 44 patients older than 18 years of age, who were admitted to the ICU, had an external ventricular drainage catheter due to raised ICP, and had no eye pathology, were included. ICP and ONSD were measured before and after CSF drainage than changes and their correlations were investigated.

Results and Discussion: A statistically significant correlation was found between ICP and ONSD measurements before and after CSF drainage ($p<0.001$). A statistically significant decrease was found in ICP and ONSD with CSF drainage ($p<0.001$, table 1). Additionally, this reduction is associated with an increase in cerebral perfusion pressure ($p<0.001$). The area under the ROC curve was 0.701 (95% [CI] = 0.530 to 0.872) (Figure). The ONSD cut-off value was determined as 5.35 mm when ICP $\geq$ 15 mmHg (Sensitivity of 53%, specificity of 86%, Youden index of 0.395) (Table 2).

Conclusion(s): In the present study, the ONSD and ICP correlation was found similar to the literature. We also determined the cut-off ONSD value as 5.35 mm when ICP more than 15 mmHg.

06AP04-04
The influence of depth of anaesthesia on motor evoked potentials monitoring during scoliosis surgery in children and adolescents (SCOL study): pilot data from a prospective observational study

J. Hudec1,2, M. Kosinova3,2, K. Hudacek1, H. Zelinkova4, M. Repko5, R. Gal1
1University Hospital Brno, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic, 2Masaryk University Brno, Department of Simulation Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 3University Hospital Brno, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic, 4University Hospital Brno, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic, 5Masaryk University Brno, Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses, Faculty of Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring (IONM) represents a commonly used method in high-risk surgeries to detect potentially reversible neurological injury. The most frequent types of IONM used in scoliosis surgery are motor evoked potentials (MEPs) and somato-sensory evoked potentials.
Anaesthetic management can affect the IONM reproducibility during scoliosis surgery in paediatric patients. The goal of this study is to evaluate the influence of the depth of total intravenous anaesthesia (TIVA) on transcranial MEPs reproducibility. Our hypothesis is that depth of anaesthesia can affect MEP reproducibility.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients scheduled for elective scoliosis surgery in TIVA, with MEPs monitoring, were enrolled in a prospective, observational SCOL study. The anaesthesia was induced and maintained following local protocol. We titrated TIVA to the bispectral index (BIS) level 60±5 after the pronation and monitored MEPs. We deepened the anaesthesia before the skin incision to the BIS level 40±5 and repeated MEPs measurement. MEPs monitoring followed local protocol. Standard descriptive statistics were applied in the analysis: absolute frequencies for categorical variables and mean, median, minimum, and maximum for continuous variables. We used the software Statistica 13.5 (STATISTICA software TIBCO Software, Tulsa, OK, USA).

**Results and Discussion:** We enrolled 50 patients from September 2020 to July 2022. The inclusion was reduced by limited surgeries during the COVID-19 pandemic. MEPs were successfully monitored in all patients. The initial MEP latency and amplitudes on BIS level 60±5 were baselines, resp. 100%. The MEP parameters at BIS level 40±5 were proportionally compared with the baseline. The MEPs latency was 104% (97–110), and the MEPs amplitude was 84.5% (51–109) at BIS level 40±5. However, the declination in BIS level 40±5 is not clinically significant, and it does not interfere with MEPs monitoring.

**Conclusion(s):** MEPs latencies are prolonged, and amplitudes are decreased at BIS level 40±5 compared to BIS level 60±5. However, this is not clinically significant. Based on pilot data, we assume no clinically significant change in MEPs affected by anaesthesia depth in the recommended BIS range of 40–60.

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### 06AP04-05

**Risk of perioperative stroke after Pediatric Moyamoya indirect bypass surgery**

A. Lustig1, M. Hausman-Kedem2, B. Nishry2, E. Sadot4, J. Roth2, M. Ekstein1

1Tel-Aviv Medical Center (TASMC), Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain, Tel-Aviv Yafo, Israel; 2Tel-Aviv Medical Center (TASMC), Neurology, Tel-Aviv Yafo, Israel; 3Tel-Aviv Medical Center (TASMC), Neurosurgery, Tel-Aviv Yafo, Israel; 4Tel-Aviv Medical Center (TASMC), Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Tel-Aviv Yafo, Israel

**Background and Goal of Study:** Moyamoya is a progressive cerebral vasculopathy which presents with ischemic events in children and often as haemorrhage from abnormal collateral vessels in adults. Surgical intervention by direct or indirect bypass to augment perfusion is the mainstay of treatment. This population is at risk of peri-operative brain ischemia. Several risk factors have been described, including baseline characteristics and intra-operative hemodynamic parameters. Our study aims to characterize the experience and practice of a single referral centre in peri-operative treatment of paediatric moyamoya patients undergoing indirect bypass.

**Materials and Methods:** A single center, retrospective observational study, approved by the institutional Helsinki Committee who also waived the need for patient consent. Patients who underwent indirect bypass surgery between 1/2014 and 6/2021 were studied to determine incidence and risk factors associated with stroke within 30 days.

Standardized protocol included continued aspirin therapy, administration of 1.5 times maintenance intravenous fluid starting one day preoperatively; pre-operative anxiolyis, intra-operative maintenance of blood pressure within 20% of baseline; end tidal CO2 between 35 and 45mmHg, SpO2 >95%, anti-epileptics; postoperative pain management with multimodal analgesia, anti-emetics around the clock.

Unified surgical technique was used by a single surgeon. Descriptive statistics were used to present baseline characteristics, as well as clinical outcome of stroke within 30 days.

**Results and Discussion:** 21 patients underwent 32 operations. Mean age at surgery was 7 years (±4.66). Bilateral disease was present in 26 (81%) operations. Posterior circulation involvement was present in 7 (22%) cases; 11 (34%) had more than 1 surgery; 26 (81%) pre-op strokes were identified by imaging. 4 (12.5%) patients had a post-operative stroke at 1-30 days.

Blood pressure, fluid balance, ventilatory parameters and length of procedure were similar between those who did and did not have a postoperative stroke.

**Conclusion(s):** Our population of mostly young children with prior stroke, have a high risk for early post-operative brain ischemia.

**Reference:**

### 06AP04-06

**Impact of COVID-19 infection on the incidence of cerebral thromboembolic events undergoing endovascular thrombectomy at the UHC Zagreb: anesthesiologist point of view**

S. Kilijan1, D. Stambuk1, N. Kovac2, D. Tonkovic1

1UHC Zagreb, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Reanimathology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia; 2UHC Sestre Milosrdnice, Dep. of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Therapy, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** The aim of the study is to investigate whether COVID-19 has increased in the need for mechanical endovascular thrombectomy (MET) after ischemic stroke. MET is the standard of care for patients admitted within 24 hours from the onset of the symptoms. Preprocedural anesthetic considerations should be rapid and the objective of anesthetic care is maintaining hemodynamic stability to achieve blood pressure goals.

**Materials and Methods:** The survey of data included all the patients with an acute cerebral thromboembolic event who underwent mechanical endovascular thrombectomy during 2019 and 2021 in UHC Zagreb. In our institution, the anesthesiologic approach is based on conscious sedation (CS), and general anesthesia (GA) is recommended for all patients with agitation, reduced Glasgow Coma Score (GCS), nausea and vomiting, and posterior circulation stroke. Often, the type of anesthesia depends on the localization of the insult, that is anterior or posterior cerebral circulation.
Results and Discussion: Total of 282 patients were included in the study. The mean age was 74.5 years, and 124 (43.9%) were women and 158 (56.0%) were men. In 2019, was total 133 patients with ACS 99 (74%), and PCS 19 (14%). During pandemic 2021, was total 149 patients with ACS 112 (75%), and PCS (13%).

Figure 1. Analgosedation vs. general anesthesia

The Figures 1. and 2. shows show the type of anesthesia in 2019. and 2021. There was no significant rise in number of patients who needed MET. In patients with ACS, thrombectomy was mostly performed under CS while preferred anesthetic technique in patients with PCS was GA.

Conclusion(s): There is no anesthesia guidelines for stroke endovascular therapy. Most studies have focused on anterior circulation strokes; therefore, the future studies should also focus on the type of insult, not just a type of anesthesia.

06AP04-07
Routine management of perioperative bleeding in craniotomies: results of a national survey in Spain among neuroanaesthesiologists

P. Hurtado Restrepo1, M. García-Orellana1, A. Martínez2, E. Méndez3, J. Fernández-Candil4, M.J. Colomina3
1Hospital Clinic, Anaesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain, 2Clinica Universitaria de Navarra, Anaesthesiology, Navarra, Spain, 3Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge, Anaesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain, 4Hospital del Mar, Anaesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The objective of this survey was to explore transfusion practice and patient blood management in neurosurgery.

Materials and Methods: Haemostatic & Transfusion Subcommittee of Spanish Society of Anaesthesiology-endorsed online survey.

Results and Discussion: One hundred forty-seven responses were obtained from 65 hospitals. 82% of patients were evaluated only 3 weeks or less before surgery. Specific questions about the risk of bleeding are asked during the pre-anesthetic visit only in 55 (37%) respondents. In 134 (91%) responses, red blood cell concentrates are reserved for scheduled craniotomies. 75 (65%) reported that there is no preoperative anemia correction program prior to craniotomy. All respondents discontinued antplatelet medication according to the half life without checking platelet functionality with a specific test prior scheduled craniotomy. In patients taking anti-inflammatories, just 30 respondents discontinued them (20.4%). The lower platelet limit acceptable for a planned craniotomy was 100000/ mcl in 113 responses (76%). In case of a patient who takes antiplatelet drugs and requires an urgent craniotomy, 18 (12%) respondents would administer platelets; 48 (32%) would only administer them in case of count less than 100000/mcl; 15 (10%) according to platelet function tests; 11 (7%) administer platelets and desmopressin; 18 (12%) platelets and tranexamic acid; 5 (3%) would administer desmopressin and 8 (5%) tranexamic acid. The level of fibrinogen prior to surgery was not taken into account in 107 (72%) of respondents. During the intraoperative period, the availability of viscoelastic tests was: 84 (57%) in the surgical area, 39 (26%) outside the surgical area and 24 (16%) did not have them. The transfusion threshold of haemoglobin during surgical bleeding among respondents was: <10 g/dL in 27 (18%); <9 g/dL 56 (38%); <8 g/dL 57 (38%); <7 g/dL 7 (4%) Temperature is routinely monitored in 104 (70%). One hundred and nine (74%) use permissive hypotension in case of uncontrolled bleeding; 92 participants (67%) responded that they adapt the lower limit of pressure to each patient

Conclusion(s): Preoperative optimization of haemoglobin before craniotomy is not usually performed. Most continue to discontinue antplatelet drugs according to their half-life without checking platelet functionality. Thromboelastographic tests are becoming increasingly available.
06AP04-08
A single-centre retrospective observational study comparing patients under airborne isolation precautions (for suspected or confirmed COVID-19) to non-isolated patients undergoing Mechanical Thrombectomy (MT) for Acute Ischemic Stroke (AIS) in a Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH): a tertiary centre

R.A. Cuttilan1, B.C.L. Lim1, N.W.L. Quah1
1Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Singapore, Singapore

Background: TTSH receives patients with AIS for MT. Once Neurology review and a Computed Tomography of the Head (CT) Scan are done, suitable patients are sent to the Interventional Radiology (IR) Suite. At IR, the anaesthesia team reviews them before administering either General Anaesthesia (GA) or Conscious Sedation (CS). During the COVID-19 pandemic, patients suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19 required airborne isolation, with changes in workflow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Anaesthesia for MT</th>
<th>Location of Induction</th>
<th>CT Scan Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GA or CS, discretion of anaesthetist, all anaesthesia procedures done at IR including intubation if necessary</td>
<td>Interventional Radiology Suite (not equipped for aerosol generating procedures or patients requiring airborne isolation)</td>
<td>CT Scanner at TTSH (not equipped to handle patients requiring airborne isolation)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goyal et al1 showed that reducing time to recanalisation improves outcomes for patients who undergo MT. This study aims to show differences in door to groin puncture time (DTG) as well as post-stroke disability outcomes between patients under isolation and those receiving standard care during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Materials and Methods: We included all patients undergoing GA for MT between October 2019 and December 2020 at TTSH. Local Institutional Review Board approved the study, consent was waived. Primary outcome was DTG (mean DTG was compared using Mann-Whitney U-Test), secondary outcomes were modified Rankin Scale (mRS) on discharge and at 3 months, grouped into Good (mRS<2) or Poor (mRS≥3) and compared using Fisher’s exact test. Data was collected by review of patient charts, as well as a form filled by an-  

Conclusions: Patients requiring Airborne Isolation precautions had longer DTG timings. There was a trend towards poorer functional outcomes. When the IR suite was renovated, a ventilation system capable of airborne isolation was included, enabling reduction in patient movement and DTG time.

Reference:

06AP04-09
The influence of physiological and pharmacological anaesthetic parameters on motor evoked potentials. A multivariable longitudinal mixed model analysis

S.E. Dulfer1, H. Groen2, R.J.M. Groen1, A.R. Absalom3, M.M. Sahinovic4, G. Droste1
1University Medical Centre Groningen, Neurosurgery, Groningen, Netherlands, 2University Medical Centre Groningen, Epidemiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 3University Medical Centre Groningen, Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 4University Medical Centre Groningen, Neurology, Groningen, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: During spinal surgery, the motor tracts can be monitored using muscle transcranial electrical stimulation motor evoked potentials (mTe-MEPs). As anaesthesia-related factors may impair mTe-MEP signals and cause false positive alarms, we aimed to investigate the influence of pharmacological and physiological parameters on mTe-MEPs.

Materials and Methods: mTe-MEP amplitudes and area under the curves (AUC), and anaesthetic data were collected retrospectively from the records of all consecutive patients undergoing spinal (intradural and extradural) procedures with intraoperative neuromonitoring included between July 2019 and October. Pharmacological parameters of interest were effect site propofol and opioid concentrations and ketamine and noradrenaline infusion rates. Physiological parameters recorded included mean arterial pressure (MAP), bispectral index (BIS), heart rate, haemoglobin oxygen saturation, temperature, and end-tidal CO2. A forward selection procedure was performed using multivariable mixed model analyses with mTe-MEP amplitudes and AUCs as outcome variables.

Results and Discussion: Data from 75 (69.44%) out of 108 consecutive patients were included. After multivariable mixed model analysis, MAP and BIS were significantly associated with mTe-MEP amplitude (p<0.001). For every 10 mmHg increase in MAP, the amplitude increased by 6.6% (CI 2.7%, 10.4%) and for every unit increase in BIS, the amplitude increased by 2.79% (CI 2.26%, 3.32%). MAP (p<0.001), BIS (p<0.001), heart rate (p=0.01) and temperature (p=0.02) were significantly associated with mTe-MEP AUC. Per 10mmHg increase of MAP, the AUC increased by 7.5% (CI 3.3%, 11.7%) and for every unit increase in BIS by 2.98% (CI 2.41%, 3.54%). For every beat per minute increase in heart rate, the AUC increased by 0.68% (CI 0.13%, 1.23%). mTe-MEP AUC decreased by 21.4% (CI 38.11%, -3.98%) per degree increase in temperature.

Conclusions: MAP, BIS, heart rate, and temperature were significantly associated with mTe-MEP amplitude and/or AUC. Our findings also suggest that close interdisciplinary cooperation and attention
06AP04-10  
Conscious sedation or analgesedation with spontaneous breathing vs general anaesthesia in patients with acute ischemic stroke undergoing thrombectomy. Nine years of a single center experience

V.F. Tripodi1, D. Mignacca1, M. Velo2, V. Garufi2, V. Fodale2  
1University Hospital G. Martino, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Messina, Italy, 2University Hospital G. Martino, Neuroradiology, Messina, Italy

Background: Acute ischemic stroke (AIS) is a neurological emergency that prompts urgent evaluation and treatment to limit disability and mortality. Management of a patient with acute ischemic stroke requires a multidisciplinary approach. Endovascular treatment is a standard of care therapy for severe acute ischemic stroke caused by large vessel occlusion, recommended by international guidelines. There is no evidence for a superior anaesthetic choice for all different Interventional neuroradiology procedures.

Materials and Methods: We have conducted a single center observational retrospective study on patients undergoing endovascular treatment (EVT) in the extended window (>6 hours from AIS onset) at University Hospital of Messina.

We have included 1082 patients admitted to our center from 14/02/2014 to 30/06/2022 with diagnosis of AIS. We compared functional and safety outcomes, perioperative hemodynamic management and procedure time between conscious sedation (CS) with spontaneous breathing (ASB) local anesthesia (LA) and general anesthesia (GA).

Results: A total of 1082 patients were included: 808 (75%) received GA, 166 (15%) received CS and 108 (10%) received LA. The 3 groups did not significantly differ in age and gender as well as in the prevalence of AKI, Hypertension, Obesity, Copd and Diabetes.

The data show that there aren’t statistically significantly variation of the secondary endpoints: hospital mortality, length of stay in ICU and 30, 60, 90 days survival. The main goals to improve outcome are haemodynamic stability, maintenance of adequate Cerebral Perfusion Pressure (CPP), avoidance of secondary insults, patient immobility, rapid management of complications and smooth rapid recovery. Literature also shows that the choice of anesthesia should be tailored according to the patient’s clinical condition.

Conclusions: From one point of view our experience suggests that in emergency setting general anaesthesia results in significantly higher rates of safety than CS in patients with AIS undergoing endovascular therapy. From another point of view the results suggest that the choice will be “tailored” on patient’s clinical condition. Anaesthetic regimen is chosen in relation to the disease, patient condition and procedure.

Reference:

06AP04-12  
Concentration of purine metabolites, indicators of gas composition and blood acid-base state in short-term dosed cerebral ischemia-reperfusion

E. Oreshnikov1, S. Oreshnikova1, A. Oreshnikov2, N. Trofimov3  
1Chuvash State University named I.N. Ulyanova, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Cheboksary, Russian Federation, 2Chuvash State University named I.N. Ulyanova, Internal Medicine, Cheboksary, Russian Federation, 3Chuvash State University named I.N. Ulyanova, Surgical Diseases, Cheboksary, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: We study the features of purine metabolism during short-term dosed cerebral ischemia-reperfusion.

Materials and Methods: In 10 adult patients during angiosurgical operations on cerebral vessels (performed under regional anesthe sia) in blood samples from the carotid artery and the jugular vein of the same name, taken before the clamps were applied and the blood flow was stopped, immediately before the clamps were removed, at the 1st, 5th minute after restoration of blood flow, the content of adenine, guanine, hypoxanthine, xanthine, uric acid, malonic dialdehyde, xanthine oxidase activity, gas, electrolyte composition and parameters of acid-base balance were studied.

Results and Discussion: In case of short-term dosed cerebral ischemia-reperfusion, the content of purine metabolites depends on the time of sampling and reflects the severity of the reperfusion syndrome. The activity of xanthine oxidase in arterial and venous blood correlates with the indicators of blood gas composition and acid-base balance.

Conclusion(s): Changes in the gas, electrolyte composition and acid-base balance of arterial, mixed venous blood. The values of the studied parameters in arterial, venous blood and their ratio depend more on the severity than on the nature of the cerebral pathology.
Anesthesia was maintained by sevoflurane and fentanyl. Fentanyl 3 μg/kg was administered at induction of general anaesthesia and 2 μg/kg was added before the start of surgery. As protocol 1, fentanyl 1 μg/kg (minimum dose 50 μg) was administered when the peak EEG bio coherence fell by more than 10 over a 5-minute period. As protocol 2, fentanyl 1 μg/kg (minimum dose 50 μg) was administered when the peak EEG bio coherence fell below 20. EEG bio coherence and general monitoring parameters were recorded and evaluated before, during, and 5 min after fentanyl administration.

**Results and Discussion:** The total number of fentanyl doses was 150, of which 78 were administered in protocol 1 and 68 in protocol 2. Table 1 showed the changes of two parameters, before, at fentanyl administration, and 5 minutes after fentanyl administration with protocol 1 and 2. Two parameters were restored after fentanyl administration. Whereas, systolic blood pressure and heart rate did not show significant changes among these 3 points.

**Conclusion(s):** EEG bio coherence was altered without the circulatory fluctuations that would be considered inadequate analgesia in normal clinical practice, suggesting that it is a more perceptive and better indicator of analgesic control than these.

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**06AP05-02**

**Effect of different positive end expiratory pressure levels on optic nerve sheath diameter in patients with or without midline shift who are undergoing supratentorial craniotomy**

A. Fenerci¹, E.F. Akcil¹, Y. Tunali¹, O. Korkmaz Dilmen¹
¹Istanbul University · Cerrahpasa, Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Istanbul, Turkey

**Background and Goal of Study:** The optic nerve sheath is in direct continuity with the dura mater and CSF, because optic nerve sheath is a distensible rise in ICP that influences the volume of optic nerve sheath diameter (ONSD). The cut-off value for normal ICP assessed ONSD ranges from 4.8-6.0 mm. In general, high levels of PEEP application is avoided in patients are undergoing craniotomy to prevent rise in ICP.

We aimed to evaluate the effect of different PEEP levels on ONSD and compare the effect of different PEEP levels in patients with and without intracranial midline shift.

**Materials and Methods:** This prospective observational study was performed in aged 18-70 years, ASA class I-III, total 80 patients who are undergoing supratentorial craniotomy. After the induction of general anaesthesia the ONSD’s were measured by the linear transducer from 3 mm below the globe at PEEP values of 0-5 and 10 cmH₂O (Figure).

Subgroup analysis was performed in patients with midline shift (n=7) and ONSD were compared between patients with (n=7) and without midline shift (n=73) at different PEEP levels.

Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS for Windows26. Repeated measures of ANOVA with the post-hoc Bonferroni correction was used in group and independent t-test was used between the groups comparisons. p <0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.

**Results and Discussion:** A statistical significant increase was observed in the ONSD due to increase in PEEP levels in the study population (p<0.001, Table 1). No statistically significant difference was found in the comparison of ONSD between patients with and without midline shift in different PEEP values (p=0.329, 0.535, 0.410 respectively, Table 2). Up to 10 cm H₂O PEEP application, measured mean ONSD values less than 6 mm in all patients even in patients with midline shift.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEEP Level (cmH₂O)</th>
<th>Mean±SD</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>*p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 cm H₂O</td>
<td>4.77±0.49</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 cm H₂O</td>
<td>5.10±0.58</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 cm H₂O</td>
<td>5.44±0.71</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>7.70</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion(s):** Statistically significant increases in ONSD due to increase in PEEP level were not found clinically significant. PEEP levels up to 10 cmH₂O have been found to be safe even in patients with a midline shift.

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**06AP05-03**

**Body Mass Index (BMI) and postoperative delirium in older adult patients**

E.S. de Klerk¹-², M. Van Zuylen¹-², N. Schoenmaker³, M.F. van Stijn¹-²-⁴, D. van de Beek⁵, J. Hermanides²-¹
¹Amsterdam UMC location University of Amsterdam, Department of Anaesthesiology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, ²Amsterdam Public Health, Quality of Care, Nether, Netherlands, ³Isala Hospital, Department of Neurology, Zwolle, Netherlands, ⁴Amsterdam UMC Location University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Gastroenterology Endocrinology Metabolism, Amsterdam, Netherlands, ⁵Amsterdam UMC Location University of Amsterdam, Department of Neurology, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Background and Goal of the Study:** Postoperative delirium (POD) is part of postoperative neurocognitive disorders, and is associated with increased morbidity and mortality. Multiple non-modifiable risk factors of POD are known, e.g. increased age and male sex. It is of interest to investigate if Body Mass Index (BMI) could be a modifiable risk factor. Results regarding the association of obesity on POD are inconclusive, mostly due to small studies and heterogeneous groups. We hypothesized that obesity is a protective factor for POD and being underweighted might be a risk factor for POD.

**Materials and Methods:** This study is a sub-analysis of the RAPID study (n=160 patients), a prospective cohort study which investigated the possible relationship between preoperative intra-individual reaction time variability and incidence of POD in older adult patients (>70 years) undergoing major elective surgery. Presence of POD was screened for up to five days postoperative using the Confusion Assessment Method. For the first hypothesis, BMI was categorized as obese (BMI ≥30 kg/m²) and not obese (BMI <30 kg/m²). For the second hypothesis, we assessed the weight categories for older adults: underweight (BMI ≥22 kg/m²), normal weight (BMI 22-28 kg/m²), overweight (BMI 28-30 kg/m²), and obese (BMI ≥30 kg/m²).

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 24 (15%) out of 160 patients developed POD. We found a difference between the occurrence of POD in obese (0% of 20 patients developed POD) and non-
obese older adult patients (17% (n=24) of 140 developed POD) (p = <0.046). Assessing the weight categories for older adults, we did not find a difference: POD was present in 11% (3 out of 27) of the underweight, in 15% (14 out of 90) of the healthy weight, in 30% (7 out of 23) of the overweight, and in 0% (0 out of 20) of the obese older adult patients.

Conclusions: Obese older adult patients had lower POD occurrence than non-obese older adult patients, which is supportive of the stated hypothesis that obesity might be a protective factor of POD in older adult surgical patients ("the obesity paradox"). Being underweight was not a risk factor for POD in our population. Our study was however limited by a relative small sample size and our findings therefore await confirmation in larger prospective studies.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

Trail registration: ClinicalTrials.gov, number NCT03988179

06AP05-04
Local anaesthesia vs general anaesthesia for surgical drainage of chronic subdural haematoma

C. Mathew, R. Leong Wei-Li, T. Wong Gar Ling
Singapore General Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Singapore, Singapore

Background and Goal of Study: Surgery is advocated for symptomatic chronic subdural haematoma (CSDH) but the choice of local anaesthesia with/without sedation (LAS) vs general anaesthesia (GA) remains debatable. While LAS offers the benefits of avoiding airway manipulation and thereby a potentially more expedient procedure, GA may be preferable in uncooperative patients and affords a secure airway from the outset. The goal of our study was to systematically compare the use of LAS vs GA for surgical drainage of CSDH.

Materials and Methods: A literature search was conducted in PubMed, EMBASE, Scopus, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials and ClinicalTrials.gov for studies that directly compared the use of LAS vs GA for surgical drainage of CSDH. Primary outcomes included duration of surgery (including anaesthesia time), post-operative recurrence rates and length of hospital stay (LOS). Secondary outcomes included intra-operative adverse events, post-operative complications and mortality.

Results and Discussion: A total of 8 studies were eventually included in our analysis, comprising 926 patients in the LAS arm and 616 patients in the GA arm. We found that LAS resulted in a shorter duration of surgery (including anaesthesia time) (MD -27.73min, 95% CI -43.56, -11.89), shorter LOS (MD -2.14, 95% CI -3.34, -0.94) and a lower risk of post-operative complications (OR 0.31, 95% CI 0.19, 0.51). There was however no significant difference in terms of post-operative recurrence rates, intra-operative adverse outcomes or mortality. These results have to be interpreted in the context of a significant degree of heterogeneity and possible risk of bias amongst the included studies.

Conclusion: Our study provides evidence that performing surgical drainage of CSDH under LAS results in shorter surgical duration, length of hospital stay and post-operative complications. However, GA may still be necessary in certain clinical contexts. More research should be done to evaluate long-term outcomes as well as patient reported experience measures, which can help individualise the choice of anaesthesia.

06AP05-05
Influence of signal amplitude and frequency on EEG-based anaesthesia monitoring systems

C. Hentzen, S. Kratzer, G. Schneider, M. Kreuzer
Technical University of Munich, School of Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Electroencephalogram (EEG)-based monitors are used to assess a patient’s level of anaesthesia and to detect burst suppression (BSupp) periods. Detection and prevention of BSupp patterns seems important to improve post-operative neurocognitive outcomes. However, monitor algorithms may underestimate the occurrence of BSupp.[1] Fleischmann et al. identified high suppression amplitudes as a possible factor for unrecognized BSupp.[2] Muscle activity (EMG) can also influence the EEG. Monitors apply low-pass filtering before signal processing to reduce the EMG content of the signal. The filter settings are mainly unknown.

We assessed the amplitude thresholds for BSupp detection and the upper cut-off frequencies to reduce EMG for BIS, Entropy Module and Conox.

Materials and Methods: We used simulated brown noise signals created with MATLAB because they resemble an EEG during anaesthesia. For the suppression threshold, they were played back to the monitors in different amplitudes (1 μV-19 μV). For the cut-off frequency experiment, they were low-pass filtered in the frequency domain at different steps from 30-60 Hz and played back to the monitors to analyse the influence of high frequency noise.

Results and Discussion: Conox and Entropy Module detected signal suppressions with amplitudes up to 15 μV and BIS with up to 9 μV(Fig.A) For Conox BSupp Ratio (BSR) was significantly higher at higher amplitudes (BSR ±80 at 15 μV) than for Entropy Module and BIS, where BSR decreased rapidly after 5 μV for Entropy Module (BSR ± 45 at 7 μV) and after 3 μV for BIS (BSR ±35 at 5 μV). For Conox and Entropy Module higher frequencies did not influence indices. However, BIS-values increased with higher noise frequencies. (Fig.B)
Decompressive hemicraniectomy (DHC) is a surgery used as last resort after severe brain damages with raised, refractory intracranial pressure (ICP). Mortality rates and long-term outcomes after DHC remain unclear for middle- and advanced-aged patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI), intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH), tumour or infection. The aim of this study was to investigate mortality and outcome of DHC, to identify predictors of poor outcome, and to find out whether DHC patients could fulfill the criteria for irreversible loss of brain function (brain death).

Materials and Methods: With ethics approval we retrospectively analysed the medical records from patients who underwent DHC because of TBI, ICH, tumour or infection during the last three years. In addition, we evaluated outcomes by interviewing patients and relatives over the phone using standard questionnaires for modified Rankin Scale (mRS) and extended Glasgow Outcome scale (GOSE). The health-related quality of life was evaluated on the EuroQol (EQ-5D-5L) scale.

Results and Discussion: One hundred fifty patients with a median age of 58 years (range: 10 to 85 years) were evaluated. Seventy-two patients suffered a brain death after DHC because of TBI, ICH, tumour or infection during the last three years. A mortality rate of 65% was obtained, and patients died a median of 5.7 days (IQR [1.7 - 37.4]) after DHC. Favourable outcomes were seen in 11.3% and 7.3% of patients as assessed by mRS and GOSE evaluation, respectively. Eight (11%) of the deceased patients suffered a brain death after DHC. Cox regression revealed an increase in mortality risk of 2.3% for every year of age increase (HR = 1.023; 95% CI [1.01 - 1.04]; p < 0.001). Uni- and bilateral fixed pupils raised the mortality risk by a factor of 1.75 (95% CI [1.05 – 2.92]; p = 0.03) and 4.22 (95% CI [2.6 – 6.9]; p < 0.001), respectively. ROC-analysis yielded that age and pupillary reactivity predicted mortality at 6 months with an AUC = 0.78 (95% CI [0.70 – 0.85]). The only parameter associated with statistically significant favourable outcomes and better quality of life was younger age.

Conclusions: Mortality remains considerable after DHC (65%), and favourable outcome is limited to 7-11% of patients. Especially in elderly patients and in the presence of clinical signs of herniation, mortality is high, so that the indication for DHC should be made critically. DHC does not prevent patients from developing a brain death.
06AP05-08
Use of the Hypotension Prediction Index (HPI) algorithm for the prevention of intraoperative hypotension (IOH) in adult patients undergoing spinal surgery: preliminary data from a single blinded randomized clinical trial

M. Pilakouta Depaskouale1, D. Katsaros1, A. Moniakis2, N. Paidakakos3, A. Dimakopoulou4, P. Matsota5
1'Gennimatas' General Hospital of Athens, Anesthesiology Department, Athens, Greece, 2'Gennimatas' General Hospital of Athens, Neurosurgery Department, Athens, Greece, 3Attikon University Hospital of Athens, Anesthesiology Department, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: IOH (MAP < 65 mmHg) during non-cardiac surgery has been proven to correlate with postoperative complications and increased mortality. Aim of this study is to investigate the hypothesis that the use of the HPI algorithm can reduce IOH in patients undergoing spinal surgery in the prone position under general anesthesia, as well as to explore its effect on in-hospital postoperative morbidity and mortality.

Materials and Methods: We present our first 20 patients included. Total intravenous anesthesia via target controlled infusion (TIVA-TCI) and the use of Patient State Index (PSI-target 25-50) for depth-of-anesthesia monitoring was provided to all the participating patients. A radial arterial catheter was inserted and connected to both the standard monitor and the platform which includes the HPI software.

Intervention group A: The HPI algorithm was used in order to prevent hypotensive episodes.

Control group B: Standard anesthetic care was provided. The HPI algorithm recordings were blinded to the anesthesiologist.

Results and Discussion:

Table 1: Baseline characteristics of the patients were similar as shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Group A (10 patients)</th>
<th>Group B (10 patients)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>30% (male), 70% (female)</td>
<td>40% (male), 60% (female)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>64.6 ± 10.25</td>
<td>61.4 ± 14.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA score</td>
<td>80% (II), 20% (III)</td>
<td>80% (II), 20% (III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring time per patient</td>
<td>401.73 ± 83.14</td>
<td>351.37 ± 126.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of the HPI algorithm reduced TWA of MAP < 65mmHg in group A as shown in Table 2. There were no renal or major cardiovascular complications in Group A. 2 cases of AKI stage 1 (AKIN classification) and one in hospital cardiac arrest were recorded in Group B.

Table 2: Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Group A (10 patients)</th>
<th>Group B (10 patients)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TWA of AUT (MAP &lt; 65mmHg) per patient</td>
<td>0.16 ± 0.18</td>
<td>0.34 ± 0.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of patients with hypotension</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of hypotensive events per patient</td>
<td>2.7 ± 2.67</td>
<td>5.9 ± 7.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Time in Hypotension per Procedure</td>
<td>9.1 (2.26%)</td>
<td>19.9 (5.65%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute kidney Events</td>
<td>3/10 mild elevation of hs-Tni</td>
<td>2/10 mild elevation of hs-Tni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/10 significant rise and fall of hs-Tni - in hospital cardiac arrest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no patients</td>
<td>2/10 classified as stage 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): Use of HPI algorithm reduced IOH but we are not able to draw safe conclusions about the clinical significance of this finding postoperatively due to the small sample size.

06AP05-09
EEG changes after cortico-subcortical decoupling during propofol-induced loss of consciousness. The importance of signal filtering

J. Fernández-Candil1, R. Nuttall2, G. Martínez-Vilavella3, L. Gallart1, G. Schneider2, J. Pujol1,4
1Parc de Salut Mar, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain, 2Technical University of Munich, School of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Munich, Germany, 3MRI Research Unit. Hospital del Mar, Radiology, Barcelona, Spain, 4Instituto de Salud Carlos III, CIBER de Salud Mental G21, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Cortico-subcortical decoupling has been observed during propofol-induced loss of consciousness (LOC).

We aimed to correlate this decoupling LOC with changes in electroencephalogram (EEG), a difficult process due to functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) induced artifacts.

Materials and Methods: Bilateral frontal EEG (Conox™ monitor) was acquired simultaneously with fMRI in healthy volunteers receiving propofol gradually increased. qCON index, burst suppression and SOI were stored. EEG gradient and cardioballistic artifacts were detected using the Artifind toolbox and removed from the EEG signals using canonical approaches. Decoupling LOC[i] were identified, and 20 ± 5 SEG segments pre and post decoupling LOC were analysed. For qCON replay, the value of qCON was calculated from the EEG data. Wilcoxon paired test was used to evaluate differences between pre and post decoupling LOC.

Results and Discussion: EEG was successfully filtered in 17 subjects. Pre and post LOC qCON were significantly different (mean±SD) (84±12 vs 63±10, p=0.001) (Figure 1) Also, alpha band frequency power increased from pre- to post LOC EEG (Figure 2).

Conclusion(s): EEG changes after cortico-subcortical decoupling during propofol-induced loss of consciousness have been observed.
Our results show how qCON index changed from a preLOC value, close to unconsciousness, to a post LOC value where unconsciousness is achieved. Unconsciousness was assessed by clinical signs and confirmed by cortico-subcortical decoupling, reinforcing the validity of qCON index measurements.

Conclusions: Cortico-subcortical decoupling induced by propofol is associated with a decrease in qCON index and an increase in alpha band frequency power. Specific artefact reduction algorithms were useful to evaluate these changes. These results are encouraging for future monitoring of sedation.

References:

06AP05-10
ESP block and ANI monitoring in spine surgery for a multimodal analgesic strategy

E. Barbonti1, R. Antolini2, E. Vitali2, E. Casarotta2, A. Damia Paciarini2, A. Donati2
1Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria delle Marche, Neuroanaesthesia, Ancona, Italy, 2Università Politecnica delle Marche, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Public Health, Ancona, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Spine surgery requires a multimodal analgesia approach including different drugs and locoregional anesthesia in order to minimized opioid use and obtain an early recovery. The Analgesia Nociception-Index (ANI) provides noninvasive monitoring of intraoperative nociception by assessing the parasympathetic tone through the ECG signal. The study aims to assess the effect of the Erector Spinae Plane Block (ESPB) and the ANI monitoring in perioperative opioid consumption and pain control.

Materials and Methods: In this observational prospective single-centre cohort study we planned to include 33 patients who underwent laminectomy under general anesthesia divided into 3 groups: ESPB/ANI-monitoring, no-ESPB/ANI-monitoring, and no-ESPB/ANI-blinded. Remifentanil was administered using target controlled infusion pump with Minto model. We collected demographic data, comorbidities, type of surgery, ANI values during surgery, hypotensive events, duration of anesthesia, the total amount of remifentanil and morphine, numeric rating scale (NRS) at the end of surgery, and NRS and Quality of Recovery Score (QoR-15) after 24 hours.

Results and Discussion: Preliminary data (Table 1) from 9 patients reveal no statistically significant differences in remifentanil consumption between the groups (0.13 mcg/kg/min [0.01-0.14] vs 0.12 mcg/kg/min [0.1-0.15] vs 0.1 mcg/kg/min [0.05-0.13], p=0.12). We observed a reduction in the amount of postoperative morphine and improved haemodynamic stability and pain control with ANI-guidance and ESPB, albeit the difference is not statistically significant.

Conclusion(s): In our experience, these techniques could be promising for a multimodal analgesia in spine surgery, although this partial data are not statistically significant due to the small sample size.

|                      | ESPB/ANI monitoring (n=3) | no-ESPB/ANI monitoring (n=3) | no-ESPB/ANI blinded (n=3) | p-value*
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------
| Age (years)          | 66 [46 – 76]             | 52 [31 - 58]                | 74 [68 - 80]             | 0.11 |
| No hypertensive events | 0 [0 - 0]               | 0 [0 - 1]                  | 1 [1 - 1]                | 0.12 |
| NRS awakening        | 1 [0 - 3]                | 3 [0 - 8]                  | 2 [2 - 8]                | 0.56 |
| NRS 24h              | 2 [0 - 5]                | 6 [5 - 7]                  | 6 [3 - 6]                | 0.12 |
| QoR15 24h            | 135 [120 - 141]          | 115 [83 - 134]             | 118 [102 - 121]          | 0.19 |
| Remifentanil (mcg/kg/min) | 0.13 [0.01 - 0.14]      | 0.12 [0.10 - 0.15]         | 0.1 [0.05 - 0.13]        | 0.67 |
| Morphine (mg)        | 0 [0 - 0]                | 0 [0 - 0]                  | 2 [0 - 5]                | 0.10 |

Table 1 Demographic and clinical characteristics of the three groups of patients. Data are presented as median [interquartile range]. * Kruskall-Wallis’s test.

06AP05-11
Influence of body position on noninvasive intracranial pressure real-time waveform analysis monitor during radical prostatectomies under general anesthesia

G. Tognini Saba1, S. Pereira Zeferino1, V. Caldeira Quintao1, T.S. Moraes Santos1, G.H. Frigieri Vilela2, M.J. Carvalho Carmona1
1Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de Sao Paulo, Disciplina de Anestesiologia, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2Brain4Care, CEO, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Video laparoscopic and robotic surgeries represent progress because they are less invasive and allow faster recovery of patients. However, the Trendelenburg position, and pneumoperitoneum are associated with hemodynamic changes and, presumably, increased intracranial pressure. The objective was to evaluate the accuracy of using a non-invasive intracranial pressure intraoperative monitoring system (PICNI - Brain4Care® 1) in detecting changes in intracranial compliance and compare with the measurement of the optic nerve sheath diameter, cerebral oximetry and processed electroencephalogram, which may correlate with intracranial pressure and postoperative cognitive status.

Materials and Methods: After approval by the Institutional Ethics Committee, a prospective and observational study was carried out with the preliminary inclusion of 33 patients who underwent video-laparoscopic or robotic prostatectomies in the head-down position. A preoperative cognitive assessment was performed (MiniMental and MOCA) and, intraoperatively, the patients were monitored with continuous cardioscopy, pulse oximetry, arterial pressure, meas-
measurements of the optic nerve sheath by ultrasound and the new PICNI equipment Brain4Care for noninvasive assessment of the P2/P1 ratio of the cranial compliance curves. Neurocognitive tests were repeated postoperatively.

**Results and Discussion:** In the preoperative and first-day postoperative cognitive assessment, there was no variation in the Mini-mental test (median 28 points), although the minimum score decreased from 17 to 15 points, while the Median in the MOCA ranged from 27 points to 26. There was an increase in the mean optic nerve diameters obtained by USG throughout the surgery from 47mm to 60mm, and this increase was even maintained after returning to horizontal dorsal decubitus. Head-down positioning increased the P2/P1 ratio. There was no significant difference between the P2/P1 ratios in video laparoscopic or robotic procedures. There was a difference in the P2/P1 ratios between patients over 70 years of age compared to patients under 70 years of age.

**Conclusion(s):** Surgeries in the head-down position cause changes in cranial compliance and non-invasive monitoring allows the detection of these changes, which were more important in older patients. It was not possible to assess whether such changes are correlated with postoperative cognitive changes.

**Reference:**
1. https://doi.org/10.3390/jpm11121302

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**06AP05-12**

**Surgery time in spine surgery: Is it a risk factor for intraoperative and postoperative complications? A preliminary approach**

A. Vilches García1, U. Rodríguez Rivas1, E.X. López Arguello1, D.P. Oviedo Torres1, A.C. Carpintero1, E. Vilá Barriuso1
1Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Spine surgery (SS) is often a complex surgery with non-negligible incidence of intraoperative and postoperative complications. There are factors that may contribute to this, such as patient’s comorbidity, surgical indication, location of the surgery, surgical approach, past surgical history in the operated area as well as the surgery time (ST). Our hypothesis is that ST is a risk factor for the development of intraoperative and postoperative complications.

**Materials and Methods:** Retrospective preliminary observational single institution study was performed between January 2019 and December 2020. All patients who underwent SS were included. 490 patients were enrolled. A descriptive study of demographic and clinical variables was done including relevant intraoperative and postoperative complications. Primary endpoint (PE) was ST. Secondary endpoints (SE) were postoperative complications such as bleeding, readmission to postoperative anesthesia care unit (PACU), pain, renal failure, PONV, delirium, respiratory failure, surgical wound infection or incidental durotomy (ID). We classified patients into 2 groups according to the ST: GROUP1 (< or = 180 min) and GROUP2 (>180 min).

**Results and Discussion:** Bivariate analysis was done to determine the relationship between PE and SE. Student’s t-test was performed for continuous variables and Chi-square for categorical variables. P values < 0.05 were considered statistically significant. GROUP1 = 74.3% (N=364), GROUP2 = 25.7% (N=126). Statistical significance between ST and PACU length of stay, transfusion rate, days of hospital admission (HA), urinary infection, anemia (Hb < 12 g/dL) during HA, poor pain control in PACU and during HA, inability to walk after 48h of the SS, critical intraoperative or postoperative bleeding and ID was found. The mean PACU length of stay in GROUP1 was 8h and GROUP2 18.7h. GROUP1 had 5.1 days of HA and GROUP2 11.6. 8 patients had critical bleeding; 2 were GROUP1 and 6 GROUP2. GROUP1 had more cases of ID than GROUP2 (5% and 13.5% respectively).

**Conclusions:** This preliminary study aims to describe ST in our center, intraoperative and postoperative complications during SS and risk factors. Some variables suggest that both groups are similar. From our data, we aim to perform a multivariate statistical analysis to obtain more accurate results.

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**06AP05-13**

**Effect of hypertonic saline versus mannitol on brain relaxation and brain oxygenation during supratenorial craniotomy**

V. Durnev1, F. Naumovski1, V. Rendevski2, M. Temelkovska-Stevanovska3, M. Sholjakova1
1Medical Faculty, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University Skopje, University Clinic for Traumatology, Orthopaedic Diseases, Anaesthesia, Reanimation, Intensive Care and Emergency Centre, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia,
2Medical Faculty, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University Skopje, University Clinic of Neurosurgery, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia, 3Medical Faculty, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University Skopje, University State Clinic for Cardiac Surgery, Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Hyperosmolar solutions have been used in neurosurgery to modify brain edema and prevent neurological deterioration. Mannitol has been the osmotic agent of choice in clinical practice in many countries for nearly five decades but there are increasing number of authors claiming that hypertonic saline might be more efficient agent delivering better brain condition overall. The goal of the study was to compare the short-term effects of equiolemic and equiosmolar solutions of mannitol and hypertonic saline (HTS) on brain relaxation and brain oxygenation in patients undergoing supratentorial craniotomy.

**Materials and Methods:** A prospective randomized interventional clinical study included 87 patients with diagnosed supratentorial tumor masses scheduled for craniotomy between June 2016 and July 2017 was performed after approval from Ethics Committee (IEC). Patients were divided in two groups depending whether they receive equiosmolar dose 3ml/kg of 3% hypertonic saline (HTS group) or 20% mannitol. The primary outcome was to evaluate tissue cerebral oxygenation measured with NIRS and brain relaxation comparing HTS and mannitol. Secondary outcomes were to evaluate the correlation with bispectral index (BIS) value, hemodynamic parameters, osmolarity, diuresis and electrolyte status. Serum lactate and C-reactive protein. The parameters were followed during several time intervals.

**Results and Discussion:** Both agents, HTS and mannitol produce equally good brain relaxation. Results for cerebral oxygenation after 30 min of osmotherapy showed increased oxygenation in HTS group compared to mannitol group especially in left hemisphere (P<0.05). Values of C-reactive protein (CRP) and diuresis were consistently increased in mannitol group noticeable after 6 hours (P>0.005) for
CRP and 30 min, 120 min and 6 hours for diuresis (P<0.005). MAP was higher in HTN group 30 min and consistently higher in all other time intervals (P<0.005).

**Conclusion(s):** In elective neurosurgical supratentorial craniotomies 3% of hypertonic saline comparing to 20% mannitol demonstrate increased regional cerebral oxygenation, more stable hemodynamics without effect on diuresis and osmolarity. Cerebral relaxation in HTS group was equally good as in mannitol group.
Background and Goal of Study: Use of high-frequency jet ventilation (HFJV) is advocated by some authors due to the near immobility of thoracic, as well as abdominal structures. (1) Some studies showed that ventilation with HFJV during atrial fibrillation ablation is associated with a reduction in operating and fluoroscopic times and arrhythmia recurrence rate. (2) However, no study has quantified the movements of cardiac structures during HFJV compared to normal mechanical ventilation.

Materials and Methods: After ethical approval and written informed consent, we included 21 patients scheduled for atrial fibrillation ablation in this prospective crossover study. Each patient was ventilated by normal mechanical ventilation and by HFJV. During each ventilation mode displacement of cardiac structures were measured by the EnSite Precision mapping system using a catheter placed in the coronary sinus (HD grid and Abbott Inquiry, Abbott Cardiovascular, Plymouth, MN, USA).

Results and Discussion: The median [Q1 – Q4] displacement was 2.0 [0.6 – 2.8] mm during HFJV and 10.5 [9.3 – 13.0] mm during conventional ventilation (P <0.000001). The figure shows the catheter displacement during mechanical ventilation (A1 and A2), as well during HFJV (B) for a typical patient. This reduction of movement can potentially lead to a greater contact force between the ablation catheter and cardiac structures. (3) Better contact force may lead to a better result, and this could be an explanation for the association between HFJV and lower recurrence rates of atrial fibrillation.

Conclusion: This study quantifies for the first time the minimal movement of cardiac structures during HFJV compared to standard mechanical ventilation.

References:
**07AP01-03**

**Effects of inhaled nitric oxide on gas exchange and hemodynamics during one-lung ventilation in pigs in supine position**

J. Wittenstein¹, M. Scharffenberg¹, C. Rothmann¹, T. Koch², R. Huhle², M. Gama de Abreu²

¹University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus at Technische Universität Dresden, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Pulmonary Engineering Group, Dresden, Germany, ²Cleveland Clinic, Department of Outcomes Research, Cleveland, United States

**Background and Goal of Study:** One-lung ventilation (OLV) impairs gas exchange and hemodynamics due to ventilation-perfusion mismatching (1). This impairment could be attenuated by inhaled nitric oxide (iNO), but studies have shown conflicting results. Moreover, these effects have not been investigated during supine position. We hypothesised that, during OLV in supine position, iNO dose-dependently improves gas exchange and lowers mean pulmonary arterial pressure.

**Materials and Methods:** After regulatory approval (DD25-5131/496/33), eight pigs were anaesthetized in supine position and submitted to OLV. Then, animals were randomly assigned to one of four Latin-square sequences of iNO 0 (iNO0), 5 (iNO5), 10 (iNO10), and 20 ppm (iNO20), for 30 minutes each. Between interventions, a 30-minute washout period with iNO=0 ppm was applied. To mimic thoracic surgery and the associated inflammatory response, a thoracotomy was performed, and lipopolysaccharide was administered intravenously at a rate of 0.5 μg/kg/h. We examined changes in gas exchange and haemodynamics at iNO0, iNO5, iNO10, and iNO20 relative to pre-examination time point. Statistical analyses were performed using SPSS by paired t-tests and a general linear model for repeated measures. Statistical significance was accepted at a P<0.05.

**Results and Discussion:** Relative to pre-examination time point, PaO2/FiO2 increased during iNO5 (102±102 mmHg, P=0.025) and iNO10 (95±81 mmHg; P=0.013) but not iNO20 (60±102 mmHg, P=0.138). iNO had no significant effect on PaCO2 and arterial pH. Mean pulmonary arterial pressure was significantly lower at iNO5 (26±6 mmHg, P=0.031), iNO10 (24±3 mmHg, P=0.004), and iNO20 (24±5 mmHg, P=0.032), as compared to iNO0 (31±6 mmHg). iNO had no significant effect on cardiac output, heart rate, mean arterial blood pressure, pulmonary capillary occlusion pressure, or systemic vascular resistance.

**Conclusion:** During OLV in pigs in supine position, iNO showed a dose-dependent, inverted U-shape effect on oxygenation, while a ceiling effect was observed in the reduction of mean pulmonary arterial pressure, suggesting that concentrations of 5 and 10ppm might represent an optimum for improvement of gas exchange and haemodynamics.

**References:**

**07AP01-04**

**Regional renal oxygen saturation correlation to central venous and regional cerebral oxygen saturation in patients undergoing off-pump coronary artery bypass graft surgery**

J. Baek¹, S.M. Jung¹, S. Kim², H. Ryu³, K. Kim¹

¹Yeungnam University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Korea, Republic of

**Background and Goal of Study:** Displacement of heart during off-pump coronary artery bypass graft surgery (OPCAB) lead to hemodynamic instability and global hypoperfusion. Global hypoperfusion can be estimated by central venous oxygen saturation (ScvO2) whereas regional hypoperfusion can be estimated by measuring cerebral (SrrO2) and somatic (renal; SrrO2) oxygen saturation using near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) during surgery. Recent studies have shown SrrO2 is significantly correlated with development of postoperative acute kidney injury (AKI). This study was aimed to investigate SrrO2 correlation to ScvO2 and SrrO2 in patients undergoing OPCAB.

**Materials and Methods:** This prospective, observational study was conducted in 46 adult patients undergoing OPCAB for 3-vessel disease. Patients with depth from skin to kidney ≥ 4 cm, renal vascular stenosis, previous renal disease, carotid artery stenosis, combined cardiac procedure, urgent CPB conversion were excluded. In addition to standard monitoring, Bilateral SrrO2 and ScvO2 were measured using NIRS sensors (INVOS 5100C) and ScvO2 was measured using PreSep oximetry catheter (Edwards life sciences) at 16 time points. The primary point was the correlation of SrrO2 change with ScvO2 and SrrO2 during OPCAB. Pearson’s correlation analysis was performed.

**Results and Discussion:** Forty-two patients were included in final analysis. Postoperative AKI occurred in 9 patients (21%). SrrO2 change was significantly correlated with ScvO2 change (r = 0.296, p<0.001) but not ScvO2 change (r=-0.028, p=0.464). The incidence of postoperative AKI was higher in patient with higher age (69.9 vs 61.6), emergency surgery, and low albumin (3.7 vs 4.0) and hematocrit (37.4 vs 42.4) before surgery, norepinephrine requirement (77.6% vs 33.3%) and RBC transfusion (88.9% vs 42.4%) during surgery, epinephrine requirement (33.3% vs 3.0%) and colloid use (44.4% vs 3.0%) after surgery. SrrO2 were lower at the end of surgery in patients with AKI compared to those without AKI.

**Conclusion(s):** SrrO2 was poorly correlated with ScvO2 and was not associated with ScvO2. Therefore, separate measurement of SrrO2 targeting kidney may required to detect and prevent postoperative AKI rather than global or cerebral oxygen saturation in OPCAB patients.

07AP01-05
Sex and height do not predict left bronchial diameter for DLT selection – a 3D-reconstruction study

L. Mihatsch1,2, S. Weiland1,2, P. Friederich1
1München Klinik Bogenhausen, Department of Anaesthesiology, Critical Care Medicine, Pain Therapy, Munich, Germany, 2Technical University of Munich, Institute for Medical Information Processing, Biometry, and Epidemiology, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Determination of the left bronchial diameter (BD) is key in the correct selection of left double lumen tube (DLT) for one lung ventilation1. To avert damage to the left bronchus while minimizing the risk of cuff overblocking and high airway resistance the largest DLT adhering to a safety margin of ≥1 mm between the BD and DLT diameter is suggested2.

In the absence of accurate radiographic measurement several demographic methods to approximate BD for DLT size selection have been proposed2. Here, we analyze the predictability of BD by sex and height using 3D-reconstruction of CT scans3.

Materials and Methods: 100 patients were included. Sample size calculation for a linear regression model with two independent predictors determined at least n ≥ 50 to meet an R² of 20% (1−χ² = 0.8, χ² = 0.05). The precision of BD prediction was measured using cross-validated R² and difference between measured BD and predicted BD in absolute value (prediction error). P-values are Bonferroni corrected.

Results and Discussion: Men (57%) had mean height of 178 ± 8 cm and women of 163 ± 7 cm (p<0.001). Mean BD was significantly different between the sexes (men: 14.8±1.2 mm; women: 11.9±1.1 mm, p<0.001) and significantly depended on body height (p<0.001). However, sex and height only explained 46% of BD variability (Fig.). 95% of individually predicted BDs differed by up to ±3.5 mm from the measured BD. The mean individual prediction error was 1.24 mm.

Conclusion(s): Observed variability of BD is too large for individual prediction of BD by sex and height. Thus, these selection criteria cannot assure a safety margin of ≥1 mm between BD and DLT 3D-reconstruction may proof advantageous for individualization of DLT selection.3

Figure: Measured BD is shown depending on sex and height. Predicted BD is shown as black dots on the red regression line. Vertical black lines show the prediction error. 95%-prediction intervals cover 95% of measured BDs for men and women (red areas).

References:

07AP01-06
Oxygen transport and hypoxic-hyperoxic preconditioning in coronary surgery with a cardiopulmonary bypass: a randomized clinical trial

I. Mandel1,2, Y. Podoksenkov2, S. Mikheev3, Y. Svirko2, V. Sizov2, A. Karoshietskiy2,8
1Sechenov University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 2Federal Scientific and Clinical Center of Specialized Types of Medical Care and Medical Technologies, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 3Tomsk National Research Medical Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Cardiology Research Institute, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Tomsk, Russian Federation, 4Joint Stock Company Group of Companies MEDSI, Therapy, Moscow, Russian Federation, 5Tomsk National Research Medical Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Cardiology Research Institute, Laboratory, Tomsk, Russian Federation, 6University Ayr Hospital, DESAIC, Ayr, United Kingdom, 7Pirogov Russian National Research Medical University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 8Sechenov University, Pulmonology, Moscow, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: A recent study has pointed out an important role of hypoxia and hyperoxia signaling in the organ protection [1-2]. The hypothesis is that a HHP is associated with a beneficial effect on postoperative outcome in patients undergoing coronary surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB).

Materials and Methods: Patients (n=120) were randomly assigned to equal groups: a HHP and a control. Perioperative data, oxygen transport characteristics were collected. The HHP was administered to anesthetized, catheterized, and mechanically ventilated patients before CPB. An anaerobic threshold was determined to establish a safe oxygen concentration in the respiratory gas mixture during the hypoxic phase (10-14% oxygen fraction for 10 minutes), followed by a hyperoxic gas mixture (75-80% oxygen fraction for 30 minutes).

Results and Discussion: The frequency of postoperative complications was 14 (23.3%) in the HHP vs 23 (41.1%) in the control group, spontaneous sinus rhythm recovery was registered in 34 (56.7%) vs 18 (32.1%); the lactic acidosis score (VIS) after CPB was 6 [IQR 5; 7] h vs 9.5 [IQR 6.3; 15] h; the length of mechanical ventilation was 10 [IQR 8; 22] h vs 17 [IQR 11.3; 24] h (respectively), p<0.05. «Vessel training» in the form of intermittent vasodilation and vasoconstriction as a result of hypoxic and hyperoxic influences may constitute a possible mechanism of protection.

According to ROC analysis the ΔPCO2/(Ca-v)O2 after 10 minutes of hyperoxia more than 0.90 could predict postoperative complications in chronic heart failure patients (area under curve 0.85 (95% CI 0.682; 1.000), p=0.010, sensitivity 88%, specificity 64%). This may be a kind of «stress-test» for the adaptive capacity of the vessels.
Conclusions: The HHP with individual parameters based on the anaerobic threshold exerted a cardioprotective effect and associated with shorter duration of mechanical ventilation, lower levels of VIS, a lower number of postoperative complications, and contributed to a more frequent sinus rhythm recovery. The ΔPCO2/C(a-v)O2 as a response to hyperoxia in a test-like mode may predict complications.

References:

07AP01-07
Analysis of pressure- and strain-volume-loops from perioperative images and radial arterial blood pressure data with a new app

T. Schweizer1, E. Mauermann2, M. Vandenheuvel3, K. Fischer1, R. Ranjan1, D.P. Guensch1
1Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, 2University Hospital Basel, Department for Anaesthesia, Surgical Intensive Care, Prehospital Emergency Medicine and Pain Therapy, Basel, Switzerland, 3Ghent University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Ghent, Belgium

Background and Goal of the Study: Transoesophageal echocardiography (TOE) is routinely used during cardiac surgery to monitor cardiac function. However, because these imaging measurements do not account for blood pressure, they do not provide a full account of cardiomechanics. The University Hospital of Basel is designing an application for anaesthetists, which only requires a trace of the ventricular function curve (i.e. volumetry or strain) obtained from the TOE images and the arterial blood pressure curve from the monitor to generate pressure-volume-loops (PVL) and strain-volume-loops (SVL). We investigated if these app-generated parameters of cardiomechanics are related to traditional TOE assessments in patients under general anaesthesia.

Materials and Methods: In 53 anaesthetized patients (66±8 years) undergoing coronary-artery-bypass-graft surgery, TOE images have been collected prior to revascularization. Snapshots of the radial arterial blood pressure curve and both global longitudinal strain and volume curves of the left ventricle acquired from 3D TOE data sets were analyzed using the app to create PVL and SVL. The new parameters were correlated to traditional 2D TEE measurements of left ventricular emptying and filling rates.

Results: From the PVL, a mean ventricular elastance of 1.97±1.02 mmHg/ml was computed. A higher ventricular elastance indicating stiffer ventricles correlated to a slower left ventricular systolic emptying rate (r=0.332, p=0.021). SVL slopes (0.30±0.08 %/ml) further correlated to poor early (r=-0.291 p=0.049) and late diastolic filling rates (r=-0.472 p=0.001).

Conclusions: Novel “apps” can generate peri-operative pressure- and strain-volume-loops from data available in the typical cardiovacular anaesthesia setting without requiring intraventricular catheters. These new measurements describe diastolic and systolic function and correlate with traditional echocardiography. Continuing development of the app should improve real-time assessments and user-friendliness so that in the future this imaging-based app has the potential to provide anaesthetists with a comprehensive picture of changes in peri-operative cardiac function.

07AP01-08
Does disulfide/thiol homeostasis predict postoperative neurocognitive dysfunction in near-infrared spectroscopy-guided coronary artery bypass surgery patients: a prospective study

E. Kesimi1, Ç. Yazar1, D. Topçu2, N. Akovali3, Z. Kayhan1
1Baskent University, Department of Anaesthesiology, Ankara, Turkey, 2Baskent University, Department of Biochemistry, Ankara, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Profound exposure to ischemia-reperfusion (IR) injury during cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) plays an essential role in the pathophysiology of postoperative neurocognitive disorders. Following prolonged ischemia, when oxygen is re-introduced during reperfusion, toxic reactive oxygen species (ROS) are formed. Antioxidants and particularly thiol groups attempting to prevent the devastating effects of ROS may not preserve their plasma and tissue levels. However, formed disulfide bonds may again be reduced to thiol groups, and thiol/disulfide homeostasis (TDH) is maintained.

Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) is a method for non-invasive monitoring of cerebral oxygenation. Given the possible link among CPB, cerebral oxygenation, and cognitive functions, we conducted this prospective study to hypothesize that during CPB, impaired TDH could predict the deterioration of NIRS values intraoperatively and cognitive functions postoperatively.

Materials and Methods: Seventy-one ASA III-IV patients between 40-80 years of age (79 % men) undergoing elective coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery were prospectively studied after approval from Baskent University Medical Faculty, Ethics Committee (KA20/22). They were assessed with Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) test pre and postoperatively. In the operating room, a NIRS sensor was placed on the forehead of patients for continuous measurement of regional oxygen saturation (rSO2). After standard moniorization and anesthesia induction, blood samples were obtained for thiol-disulfide homeostasis (TDH) status at five stages of the operation as T1: before anesthesia; T2: 20 min after anesthesia, T3: 20 min after aortic cross-clamp; T4: 20 min after the removal of aortic cross-clamp; and T5: 24 h after the operation.

Results and Discussion: Postoperative MMSE scores of the patients were significantly lower than the preoperative scores (p<0.001). Total and native thiol measurements were significantly higher at T5 compared to T2, T3, and T4 (p<0.001). Both disulfide/total thiol and disulfide/native thiol ratios decreased considerably at T5 (p=0.024, p=0.028, respectively). rSO2 value changes were insignificant but increased at T5.

Conclusion(s): This study revealed that TDH correlates not with cognitive cerebral oxygenation but with MMSE. Since this is the first study using TDH as a predictor of IR injury in CPB, our study will enlighten the current literature.
07AP01-09
Extracorporeal cytokine hemadsorption during prolonged cardiopulmonary bypass

N. Jabayeva1, B. Bekishev1, A. Kuanyshbek2, T. Li2, R. Kaliev1, Z. Nurmykhametova1
1National Research Cardiac Surgery Center, Laboratory of Extracorporeal Methods of Treatment, Astana, Kazakhstan,
2National Research Cardiac Surgery Center, Intensive Care Unit, Astana, Kazakhstan

Background and Goal of Study: Cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) leads to a well-known immunological response. In some cases, it may be induced excessive immune response, leading to severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SSR) or cytokine storm and induced organ dysfunction. Prevention and treatment of excessive immune responce urgent problem. Advances in cardiac surgery have led to a decrease in the overall mortality associated with open-heart surgery, however, it can still exceed 50% among those patients who develop a postoperative.

Materials and Methods: Single center randomized study. Patients who were assigned a planned complex cardiac surgery with a duration of CPB > 120 minutes, were randomized into three study groups: CytoSorb -300, HA 330 and the control group. A simple method of randomization. Inclusion criteria: patients who were assigned a planned complex cardiac surgery with a CPB (> 120 min), informed consent to participate in the study, age ≥18 years.

Results and Discussion:
Group HA 330 (n=20), Group CytoSorb300 (n=20) were compared with control group (n=20).
Baseline parameters, surgery characteristics and complications in the postoperative period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complication</th>
<th>HA 330 Group (n=20)</th>
<th>CytoSorb 300 Group (n=20)</th>
<th>Control Group (n=20)</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± standard deviation</td>
<td>53.19 ±14.44</td>
<td>49.15±18.15</td>
<td>51.68±12.58</td>
<td>0.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>9 (45%)</td>
<td>11 (55%)</td>
<td>13 (65%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>11(55%)</td>
<td>9(45%)</td>
<td>7(35%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>26.58 ±4.46</td>
<td>26.94 ±3.7</td>
<td>26.18 ±5.6</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apache II</td>
<td>16.73 ±2.55</td>
<td>14.32 ±6.25</td>
<td>12.73 ±8.29</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBP time (min)</td>
<td>218.14±66.92</td>
<td>201.85±65.39</td>
<td>194.45±54.42</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross clamp time</td>
<td>121.23 ±66.91</td>
<td>103.25 ±50.86</td>
<td>115±44.69</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulatory arrest</td>
<td>4.04 ±8.08</td>
<td>8.45 ±9.47</td>
<td>3.5 ±8.31</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU stay days</td>
<td>3.80±7.24</td>
<td>4.47±5.58</td>
<td>10.05±17.52</td>
<td>0.082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventilation days</td>
<td>3.33 ±5.24</td>
<td>3.42 ±5.51</td>
<td>7.7 ±17.39</td>
<td>0.178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital stay days</td>
<td>24.05±12.24</td>
<td>23.31±14.38</td>
<td>28.63±18.39</td>
<td>0.475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>2(10%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complications</th>
<th>HA 330</th>
<th>CytoSorb 300</th>
<th>Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AKI</td>
<td>7 (35%)</td>
<td>2 (10%)</td>
<td>8(40%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRT</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver injury</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>3 (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleeding*</td>
<td>3 (15%)</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA ECMO*</td>
<td>5(25%)</td>
<td>4(20%)</td>
<td>2(10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIT*</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ischemic stroke</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1(5%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): Extracorporeal cytokine hemadsorption during prolonged CBP decrease inflammation markers, but not affected incidence of postoperative complications.

07AP01-10
Multimodal low-opioid anesthesia protocol during on-pump coronary artery bypass grafting: a prospective cohort study

S. Maruniak1,2, O. Loskutov1,3, O. Druzhyna1,3, J. Swol2
1Heart Institute Ministry of Health of Ukraine, Department of Extracorporeal Methods of Treatment, Kyiv, Ukraine,
2Paracelsus Medical University, Department of Respiratory Medicine, Nuremberg, Germany, 3PL Shupyk National Healthcare University of Ukraine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kyiv, Ukraine

Background and Goal of Study: Despite the significant number of publications on the influence of components of anesthesia protocols on the development of post-operative complications, the question of choosing the optimal anesthesia protocol during coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) in patients with coronary heart disease remains unclear. This study aimed to determine the effect of multimodal low-opioid protocol (MLOP) on early post-operative complications during on-pump CABG.

Materials and Methods: A single-center prospective cohort study including 120 patients undergoing on-pump CABG aged 18 to 65 years, divided into two equal groups according to undergoing MLOP or routine-opioid anesthesia protocol (ROP). The analyzed parameters were plasma IL-6 levels, complications, duration of mechanical ventilation, length of ICU stay and length of hospitalization. The study is registered in clinicaltrials.gov NCT05514652.

Results and Discussion: In the MLOP group, the levels of IL-6 at the end of the surgery were 25.6% significantly lower compared to the ROP group (33.4 ± 9.4 vs. 44.9 ± 15.9, p<0.0001), the duration of mechanical ventilation (2.0 (2.0; 3.0) h vs. 4.0 (3.0; 5.0) h, p<0.001) significantly shorter, the incidence of low cardiac output syndrome (LCOS) (7 (11.7%) vs. 16 (26.7%), p = 0.037) almost 2.5 times lower and also the incidence of post-operative atrial fibrillation (9 (15.0%) vs. 19 (31.7%), p=0.031) significantly lower. The length of stay in the hospital did not significantly differ between both groups (11.0 (9.25; 12.75) days vs. 12.0 (11.0; 13.0) days, p=0.056). Patients with LCOS were characterized by lower left ventricle ejection fraction before surgery, higher use of a routine opioid protocol of anesthesia, longer duration of cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) and aortic cross-clamping, and higher levels of IL-6 at the end of surgery (all p<0.05). Logistic regression analyses identified the following two independent predictors of LCOS: duration of CPB and level of IL-6 at the end of surgery.

Conclusion(s): Our study confirms that using an MLOP was characterized by significantly lower levels of IL-6 at the end of surgery and a lower incidence of low cardiac output syndrome and post-operative atrial fibrillation compared to ROP.
07AP01-11
The choice of respiratory support tactics during cardiopulmonary bypass in cardiac surgery patients

A. Kirillov1, A. Yavorovsky1, I. Mandel1,2, A. Tetenich3, E. Rassadina3, D. Sheptalina3
1Sechenov University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 2Federal Scientific and Clinical Center of Specialized Types of Medical Care and Medical Technologies, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 3Sechenov University, Moscow, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative pulmonary complications represent a large part of cardiac surgery complications. No consensus exists regarding the effects of maintaining mechanical ventilation during CPB to decrease these complications [1]. The study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of three different tactics of respiratory support during CPB for the prevention of postoperative pulmonary complications.

Materials and Methods: In a prospective, randomized, controlled study included 90 patients scheduled for different cardiac procedures (CABG, Mitral or Aortic valve replacement), devided into 3 equal groups: CPAP group (constant positive airway pressure +5 cm H2O); VC group (mechanical ventilation with a low tidal volume of 3 ml/kg, a respiratory rate 6 per minute, positive end-expiratory pressure +5 cm H2O); apnea group (no ventilation during CPB). Primary outcome was the PaO2/FiO2 ratio at the end of the CPB. Secondary composite outcome combining the rate of pulmonary postoperative complications, reinsertion, respiratory support more than 24 hours. The PaO2/FiO2 ratio was measured as follows: T1 (after the beginning of mechanical ventilation), T2 (1 minute before the CPB), T3 (1 minute after CPB), T4 (at the end of the surgery), T5 (1 hour after surgery), T6 and T7 (6 and 12 hours after surgery, respectively).

Results and Discussion: In both the CPAP and apnea groups, there was a decrease of PaO2/FiO2 ratio at the end of the CPB compared with baseline values. In the CPAP group, the PaO2/FiO2 dropped from 319±80 to 223±152, while in the apnea group it decreased from 316±82 to 230±102 (P<0.001, Wilcoxon test). No significant changes in this parameter were observed in the VC group (331±55 and 290±100). The frequency of postoperative pulmonary complications, reinsertion, respiratory support more than 24 hours. The PaO2/FiO2 ratio was measured as follows: T1 (after the beginning of mechanical ventilation), T2 (1 minute before the CPB), T3 (1 minute after CPB), T4 (at the end of the surgery), T5 (1 hour after surgery), T6 and T7 (6 and 12 hours after surgery, respectively).

Conclusions: Low-tidal ventilation during cardiopulmonary bypass was associated with fewer pulmonary postoperative complications compared to a CPAP or no-ventilation tactics in cardiac surgery patients.

References:

07AP02-01
Predicting mortality after minimally invasive cardiac surgery with machine learning: model development and validation

P.-F Chen1, C.-W. Huang1, T.-Y. Lin1, C.-W. Lu1
1Far Eastern Memorial Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: The European System for Cardiac Operative Risk Evaluation (EuroSCORE) estimates the risk of cardiac surgery by patient-related, cardiac-related, and operation-related factors. The lastest version, EuroSCORE II was published in 2012 and provides good discrimination in predicting the mortality after cardiac surgeries. While minimally invasive cardiac surgeries (MICS) increased, the EuroSCORE II overestimated its mortality. This study aims to develop and validate machine learning models in predicting the mortality after MICS.

Materials and Methods: We retrospectively collected electronic health record of adults undergoing MICS in Far Eastern Memorial Hospital from 2016 to 2020. Input features included demographics (A), surgery types (B), vital signs (A), laboratory values (A), co-morbidities (B), ASA classes (B), and variables of EuroSCORE II (C). Data were split by 4:1 into training and validation set randomly. Machine learning algorithm including random forest classifier, XGBoost classifier, and logistic regression were used to trained models using feature set 1 (A), 2 (A+B) and 3 (A+B+C), which included 38, 57, and 71 features, respectively. The area under the receiver operating characteristics curve (AUROC) and area under the precision-recall curve (AUPRC) of models were compared. The AUPRC is better than the AUROC for evaluating rare event prediction.

Results and Discussion: In our cohort, 22.8% (214/940) of patients received coronary artery bypass surgery. Mortality rate was 5.5% (52/940) and the mean EuroSCORE II was 7.3 ± 8.9. The EuroSCORE II overestimated its mortality. The random forest had the highest AUROC of 0.880 using feature set 3 and the highest AUPRC of 0.398 using feature set 1. EuroSCORE II had an AUROC of 0.706 and an AUPRC of 0.172. The random forest and logistic regression using feature set 1, which only contained objective values, had higher AUROCs than those using feature set 2. The AUROC increased when XGBoost used more features.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Feature set</th>
<th>AUROC</th>
<th>AUPRC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Random forest classifier</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.868 (0.798 - 0.917)</td>
<td>0.418 (0.244 - 0.574)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.852 (0.763 - 0.923)</td>
<td>0.414 (0.254 - 0.582)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.880 (0.820 - 0.921)</td>
<td>0.398 (0.233 - 0.547)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XGBoost classifier</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.803 (0.712 - 0.876)</td>
<td>0.321 (0.174 - 0.468)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.810 (0.711 - 0.893)</td>
<td>0.393 (0.230 - 0.546)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.843 (0.781 - 0.893)</td>
<td>0.352 (0.194 - 0.502)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistic regression</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.807 (0.703 - 0.891)</td>
<td>0.309 (0.124 - 0.462)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.763 (0.646 - 0.864)</td>
<td>0.343 (0.173 - 0.492)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.778 (0.655 - 0.882)</td>
<td>0.316 (0.177 - 0.470)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EuroSCORE II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.706 (0.612 - 0.804)</td>
<td>0.172 (0.097 - 0.280)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.758 (0.671 - 0.854)</td>
<td>0.186 (0.104 - 0.279)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: Machine learning algorithm had a higher AUROC and AUPRC than EuroSCORE II in predicting mortality after MICS.
07AP02-02
A retrospective study of preoperative risk factors and perioperative complications in patients that underwent surgical removal of intracardiac thrombus

H. Ando1, A. Sakai1, T. Honda1, K. Sugimura1, H. Okamoto1
1Kitasato University School of Medicine, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Sagamihara, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Two common treatments for intracardiac thrombi are anticoagulation therapy and surgical removal. Anticoagulation therapy is associated with bleeding complications, while surgical treatment is associated with various perioperative complications. The goal of this study is to examine the cause of the thrombus, preoperative risk factors, and intra-operative complications, by reviewing the anesthesia records of the patients who underwent surgical removal of an intracardiac thrombus.

Materials and Methods: Following IRB approval (No. B21-141), this study was conducted retrospectively in patients who underwent intracardiac thrombectomy. Data are expressed as median values. Statistics were performed using Mann-Whitney U test or Chi square test, and p<0.05 was considered significant.

Results and Discussion: We recruited 20 patients in this study. In 18 and 2 patients, thrombus removal was performed with and without cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB), respectively. The cause of the thrombus in 11 (55%), 6 (30%), 2 (10%), and 1 (5%) patient was atrial fibrillation (Af), heart failure, left ventricular dysfunction, and pacemaker lead thrombus, respectively. Nine (45%) and 11 (55%) patients received and did not receive preoperative anticoagulation therapy, respectively. In 18 patients, durations of CPB, anesthesia, and operative procedure were 106 min (no preoperative anticoagulation) vs. 164 min (with preoperative anticoagulation) vs. 320 min vs. 426 min, and 228 min vs. 319 min, respectively; blood loss and transfusion volumes were 343 ml vs. 281 ml, and 795 ml vs. 840 ml, respectively, all of which were independent of the preoperative anticoagulation. No major perioperative complications such as stroke, heart failure, or myocardial infarction were noted; however, one patient died due to delayed wound infection.

Conclusion(s): In patients undergoing surgical removal of an intracardiac thrombus, Af is a major cause of the thrombus. Surgical bleeding is not affected by the preoperative anticoagulation therapy. Surgical thrombectomy can be performed safely with fewer perioperative complications.

07AP02-03
Oral carbohydrate loading in cardiac surgical patients with type 2 diabetes as a part of ERAS

A. Gandhi1, M. Maccaroni2, J. Gandhi3
1Essex Cardiothoracic Centre, Department of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia, Basildon, United Kingdom,
2Essex Cardiothoracic Centre, Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia, Basildon, United Kingdom, 3Queens Hospital, Anaesthesia, Romford/London, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Prevalence of diabetes in cardiac surgical patients is 30-40%. It is well recognized that they have higher rates of complications, and longer stays in hospital compared to patients without diabetes. The objective of this study was to explore the safety and feasibility of preoperative oral carbohydrate drink in diabetic patients undergoing cardiothoracic surgery.

Materials and Methods: This was a hospital-based study of 50 adult surgical patients with type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (DM) undergoing cardiothoracic surgery between January and April 2022. A carbohydrate-rich drink (400 ml, 12.5%) was given as per protocols. The primary outcome was blood sugar levels at 2 hours (pre-induction-T1), 8 hours (arrival in ITU-T2) and 24 hours (Day1 in ITU after operation-T3) after administration. Among secondary outcomes- aspiration, new AKI, worsening of pre-existing AKI, length of stay in ITU after surgery and any wound infection till the time of discharge were assessed.

Results and Discussion: The blood sugar levels were <8 mmol/L in approximately 75% of patients till the time they arrived in ITU i.e. 8 hours after administration. There was no incidence of aspiration in any of the patient, no new AKI or any wound infection till the time of discharge from hospital. Length of stay (LOS) in ITU was 1 day in 80% of patients.

Conclusion(s): Administration of oral carbohydrate beverage 2 hr before cardiothoracic surgery in patients with type 2 DM is safe, effective and can be used for ERAS protocols as recommended for non-diabetic patients undergoing major surgery.

07AP02-04
Measuring the negative impact of oxygen and caffeine on aortic function using 4D cardiovascular magnetic resonance blood flow techniques

L. Setz1, K. Fischer1, M.D. Neuenschwander1, H. von Tengg-Kobligk2, B. Jung1, D.P. Guensch1,2
1Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, 2Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Diagnostic, Interventional and Paediatric Radiology, Bern, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: ESAIC guidelines suggest that black coffee may be consumed up to 2h prior to the induction of general anaesthesia. Yet, little is known about the impact of caffeine on the aortic vasculature and potential interactions with other perioperative drugs, of which the most common administered agent is oxygen. It is important to understand if these factors may compromise aortic function as aortic elasticity is vital to maintain a sufficient blood pressure in diastole for coronary perfusion and to reduce the
afterload on the left ventricle. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) exams can non-invasively measure aortic haemodynamics and function using 4D-blood flow techniques and elasticity. We investigated the effects of caffeine on the healthy aorta and if there is any interaction with supplemental oxygen using multiparametric 2D and 4D MRI.

**Materials and Methods:** Healthy volunteers (<45y, n=15) underwent an MRI exam and 2D images of the ascending aorta were acquired to quantify distensibility for the calculation of theoretical vascular age. 4D-flow images were acquired to visualize blood flow and quantify total blood flow in the ascending aorta. Images were acquired first at rest and then during oxygen inhalation (10L/min) administered through a rebreathing facemask. Participants then consumed 150mg of caffeine (~3 espresso shots), and imaging was repeated two hours later with and without oxygen.

**Results and Discussion:** The calculated vascular age at baseline was 31.5y [25.5-37.8]. Oxygen, coffee, and their combination all reduced aortic elasticity and thus increased the calculated vascular age (Figure, p<0.05). Similarly, 4D-flow analysis demonstrated oxygen and coffee consumption decreased total aortic forward volume (p<0.05) from a baseline of 75.8ml [59.7-91.9], while a non-significant trend for a decrease was observed with the combined stimulus (p=0.054).

**Conclusion:** In healthy participants, both caffeine and oxygen have a stiffening effect on the aorta and reduce net aortic forward volume measured by 2D and 4D MRI. Since caffeine and oxygen are omnipresent agents, they may have an impact on the management of general anaesthesia.

**Materials and Methods:** CAD patients scheduled for elective coronary artery bypass graft surgery (n=103) were prospectively recruited. Prior to surgical incision, FiO₂ was titrated to both a normoxaemic state (FiO₂=0.3, SpO₂=95-98%) and a hyperoxic state (FiO₂=0.8, SpO₂>98%), in random order. At both states 2-, 3- and 4-chamber views were acquired with transoesophageal echocardiography (TOE), and global left-ventricular longitudinal strain (LVGLS) was quantified and compared between oxygen levels. Preoperative markers (listed in the figure) were acquired from the clinical files and logistic regression was applied to assess their predictive value in determining which patients benefit or worsen from hyperoxia.

**Results and Discussion:** Images from both levels could be quantified in 99 patients, of which the change in LVGLS was heterogeneous (range: Δ6.2 to -7.2%), with 50 (51%) worsening at FiO₂=0.8, while in the remaining 49 (49%) hyperoxia was beneficial. Preoperative predictor analysis shows LVGLS deteriorated at FiO₂=0.8 if patients were older (AUC: 0.615, p=0.049), had a longer QTc interval (AUC:0.651, p=0.010), or lower haemoglobin (AUC:0.660, p=0.014) and haematocrit (AUC:0.630, p=0.048). Other factors such as preoperative troponin, body mass index and presence of 1- vs. 2- or 3-vessel disease were not associated with hyperoxia induced changes in LVGLS.

**Conclusion:** In an interim analysis in CAD patients undergoing general anaesthesia, preoperative markers could predict in which individuals hyperoxia have a detrimental effect on LV systolic function. Incorporating these preoperative markers might be a tool to target oxygen levels based on individual needs.
07AP02-07
Pulse wave transit time for non-invasive monitoring of pulmonary artery pressure: respiratory gating improves correlation with gold standard in experimental pulmonary hypertension

F Müller-Graf1,2, M. Prütz1, P. Frenkel1, A. Zitzmann2, A. Adler2, D.A. Reuter1
1University Medical Center Rostock, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, Rostock, Germany, 2University Medical Center Rostock, Rudolf-Zenker-Institute for Experimental Surgery, Rostock, Germany, 3Carleton University, Systems and Computer Engineering, Ottawa, Canada

Background and Goal of Study: Pulse wave transit time (PWTT) shortens as pulmonary artery pressure (PAP) increases and was therefore suggested as a potential non-invasive surrogate for PAP1. The state of lung filling is also known to affect PWTT independently of PAP2. The aim of this retrospective analysis was to test whether respiratory gating improved correlation between PWTT and PAP.

Materials and Methods: In each one of five anesthetized and mechanically ventilated pigs two high-fidelity pressure catheters were placed, one directly behind the pulmonary valve, and the second one in a distal branch of the pulmonary artery. PAP was raised using the thromboxane A2 analogue U46619 and animals were pressure-controlled ventilated (I:E ratio 1:2; respiratory rate 12/min; tidal volume of 6 ml/kg). All signals were recorded using the multi-channel platform PowerLab®. The arrival of the pulse wave at each catheter tip was determined using a MATLAB-based modified hyperbolic tangent algorithm and PWTT calculated as the time interval between these arrivals.

Results and Discussion: Visualizing the respective time point of each heartbeat within the respiratory cycle blue (inspiration) and red (expiration) revealed a characteristic respiratory dependency of PWTT (Fig. 1) with a correlation coefficient for PWTT and mPAP of \( r = 0.712 \). This correlation increased dramatically when heart beats were selected (i.e. gated) at end-inspiration (\( r = 0.934 \)) or end-expiration (\( r = 0.978 \)).

Figure 1: Scatter plot showing the relation between mean PAP and PWTT. The last heartbeat of each inspiration is highlighted in blue (X) and that of expiration in red (dots) while all others are shown faintly in the respective color.

Conclusion: The estimation of mean PAP from PWTT improved significantly when taking the respiratory cycle into account. Since expiration is typically longer, end-expiratory gating is suggested.

References:

07AP02-09
Low bioelectrical impedance phase angle - a predictor of blood transfusion and hyperglycemia in cardiac surgical patients

S. Indrajit1*, S. Suman1, M. Alex2, H. Anandan3, B. Ninan4
1The Madras Medical Mission, Cardiac Anesthesia, Chennai, India, 2The Madras Medical Mission, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Chennai, India, 3The Madras Medical Mission, Cardiology, Chennai, India

Background and Goal of Study: To analyze bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) derived phase angle (PA) as a predictor of blood transfusion and hyperglycemia. BIA measures fat and fat free mass, minerals, PA and the body’s water. PA is considered a biological marker of cellular health.

We aimed to study whether PA can predict the requirement of blood transfusion, intra and post-operative hyperglycemia in cardiac surgical patients.

Materials and Methods: This prospective observational study was done in 109 patients with preoperative data of BIA, who underwent elective cardiac surgery on cardio pulmonary bypass(CPB) in our institute from November 2020 to October 2021 after Institutional Ethics committee approval. Based on PA angle, patients were divided into low PA (\( \leq 5.4^\circ \)) and normal PA (\( >5.4^\circ \)) group. To analyze the incidence of hyperglycemia (\( >180 \text{mg/dl} \)), patients were divided into diabetic and non-diabetic groups based on preoperative history. Blood glucose was managed with insulin (IU/hr) in accordance with the sliding scale, and total units given were recorded. Baseline demographic details, peri-operative lab investigations, inotropic, ventilation duration and length of ICU stay were collected. The Primary outcome comprised of blood transfusion, hyperglycemia, and insulin requirement.

Results and Discussion: The mean age was 56.3±11.1 years and 78.9% were males. 66.1% and 33.9% of patients were in normal and low PA group respectively. Among females majority were in low PA group (60.8%, p=0.005). Among low PA group 8.1% had prior preoperative stroke(p=0.04) with elevated blood sugar before surgery (133.7±46.7 vs 115.8±31.8, p=0.009) and during CPB (191±36.5 vs 176±38.4, p=0.05).

Non-diabetics low PA group had hyperglycemia during CPB (217.4±34.3 vs 168.5±32.9, p=0.001) with significant requirement of insulin (IU/hr) (18.8±16.4 vs 9.53±11.8, p=0.05) when compared with normal PA. Low PA group had increased incidence of blood transfusion (75.7%, p=0.04).

Logistic regression analysis showed low baseline hemoglobin (OR=0.57, CI=0.42-0.76, p<0.001), systemic hypertension (OR=3.03, CI=1.2-7.5, p=0.01) and PA <25th percentile (OR=2.93, CI=1.05-8.17, p=0.03) were independent predictors for blood transfusion.
Conclusion(s): BIA-derived PA < 25th percentile is an independent predictor for blood transfusion and perioperative hyperglycemia in non-diabetic patients.

07AP02-10
Comparison of the analgesic effects of erector spina plane block and combined serratus anterior plane block in coronary surgery: a randomized controlled study

H. Yiğit1, Z.A. Demir1, E. Balci1, S. Kurtbeyoğlu1, E.N. Zengin1, H.L. Mavioğlu2
1Ankara City Hospital, University of Health Sciences, Anesthesiology Department, Ankara, Turkey, 2Ankara City Hospital, University of Health Sciences, Cardiovascular Surgery Department, Ankara, Turkey

Background and Goal of Study: Facial plane blocks are being used with increasing frequency in the postoperative pain management of cardiac surgery because of their easy accessibility and few complications. In this study, it was aimed to compare the analgesic effects of ultrasonography guided erector spina(ESPB) and deep and superficial(combined) serratus anterior plane block(C-SAPB) in patients who underwent coronary surgery.

Materials and Methods: Adult patients who will undergo elective coronary bypass surgery were included in the study after ethics committee approval. Patients underwent bilateral ESPB or bilateral C-SAPB before induction of anesthesia. In both groups (for ESPB and SAPB), 30 ml of 0.25% bupivacaine was administered to each side, with a total of 60 ml of bupivacaine. While remifentanil was used as an intraoperative analgesic, paracetamol (4x1gr) and tramadol 1mg/kg iv were administered at the end of the operation. If VAS>4, fentanyl was given as a rescue analgesic. Demographic data, intraoperative data, active/passive/drain site visual analog scale (VAS) values at 1,2,4,6,12,24 hours after extubation, sleep quality, additional opioid requirement and postoperative complications were recorded.

Results and Discussion: In our study, which included 50 patients in each group, demographic characteristics of the groups, duration of cross-clamp, cardiopulmonary bypass and surgery, duration of intensive care and hospital stay were found to be similar between the groups (p>0.05). VAS pain scores, sleep quality, opioid consumption and postoperative complications did not differ between the groups after extubation (p>0.05). Active VAS values of 6th, 12th and 24th hours were >4 in four patients in the SAPB group, whereas active VAS values of 4th and 12th hours were >4 in two patients in the ESPB group. Drain VAS values of 6th and 12th hours were >4 in two patients in the SAPB group, whereas drain VAS values of 4th, 12th and 24th hours were >4 in five patients in the ESPB group.

Conclusion: The fact that ESPB and C-SAPB methods are similar in terms of active and passive pain scores, sleep quality and additional opioid consumption shows that C-SAPB can be used as an alternative analgesia method. As a result, C-SAPB provides as effective analgesia as ESPB in cardiac surgery and can also be applied in the supine position, providing an advantage in terms of patient comfort.

07AP02-11
The effects of hemoadsorption with CytoSorb® on inflammatory parameters in complex cardiac surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

M. Heymann1, R. Schorer1, A. Putzu1
1Geneva University Hospitals, Division of Anesthesiology, Department of Acute Medicine, Geneva, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: The effectiveness of CytoSorb® at reducing inflammation in cardiac surgery patients is controversial. We performed a systematic review with meta-analysis of randomised-controlled trials (RCTs) to assess the effects of CytoSorb® therapy on inflammatory parameters in complex cardiac surgery.

Materials and Methods: Electronic databases were searched up to December 1st 2022. We included RCTs performed in complex cardiac surgery with patients allocated to extracorporeal hemoadsorption with CytoSorb® or standard treatment only. The primary outcome was interleukin (IL)-6 at 1 day after initiation of the therapy. Secondary outcomes were IL-6, C-reactive protein (CRP), and procalcitonin (PCT) at 1 and 2 days. We calculated mean difference (MD) and 95% confidence interval (CI). A p-value smaller or equal to 0.05 was considered statistically significant. This study is part of an unpublished study (PROSPERO database, CRD42022350144).

Results and Discussion: Nine RCTs and 542 patients were included. All the RCTs were performed in complex cardiac surgery, where the CytoSorb® cartridge was incorporated in the cardiopulmonary bypass circuit. Six trials were performed in patients with an expected long cardiopulmonary bypass duration and 3 in infectious endocarditis surgery. Hemoadsorption with CytoSorb® was not associated with lower IL-6 at 1 day (MD = -11.74 [95% CI, -47.09 to 23.62], p=0.52) or 2 days (Figure 1).

Similarly, CRP and PCT were not lower with CytoSorb® at 1 or 2 days (Figure 2). The certainty of evidence was moderate to low.
Conclusion(s): The use of CytoSorb® was not associated with a decrease in IL-6, CRP, and PCT up to 48 hours after start of treatment in complex cardiac surgery patients. The role of the device in removal of antiplatelets and anticoagulant agents in emergency cardiac surgery remain uninvestigated in RCTs.

07AP02-12
Comparative study of propofol versus dexmedetomidine for conscious sedation in transcatheter aortic valve implantation: a case series study

P Tseniklidis1, A Karakosta1, E Samara1, G Micha1, K Naka2, P Tzimas1
1University of Ioannina, Department of Anaesthesiology and Postoperative Intensive Care, University Hospital of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece, 2University of Ioannina, Second Department of Cardiology and Michaelidion Cardiac Center, Ioannina, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Conscious sedation (CS) for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) is gaining increasing popularity. Propofol and dexmedetomidine have both been used for this purpose, but there is a paucity of data comparing these agents for CS. We aim to comparatively evaluate their effect on cognitive function and postoperative delirium. Secondary outcomes include their effect on intraoperative haemodynamics, renal function, quality of sedation, post-procedural pain scores, length of hospital and ICU stay and anaesthesia-related adverse events.

Materials and Methods: This case series study is part of a prospective clinical study regarding CS for TAVI procedures and serves as a pilot sample. Eighteen patients were randomly allocated to receive either propofol (PROP group) or dexmedetomidine (DEX group), but two were excluded due to conversion to general anaesthesia. A total of 16 patients (n=6, PROP group and n=10, DEX group) were finally analysed. The Student’s t-test (or it’s nonparametric equivalent, Mann-Whitney U) and the Fisher’s exact test were employed for comparison of continuous and categorical variables, respectively.

Results and Discussion: The two groups were homogenous concerning demographic and somatometrical characteristics, pre-procedural risk scores, comorbidities, and baseline cognitive and renal function (p>0.05). However, patients in the PROP group exhibited higher scores in the Edmonton Frail Scale (p=0.041). Intraoperatively, procedural, anaesthesia and emergence duration, apnoeic episodes, end-tidal capnography, PaCO2 values, Richmond Agitation Sedation Scale (RASS) scores and intraoperative awareness did not differ between groups (p>0.05). Fentanyl consumption was higher in the DEX group (p=0.028). Concerning intraoperative haemodynamics, fluid administration and diuresis, no differences were detected between groups (p>0.05). Postoperatively, there was no difference in cognitive function, delirium, renal function, pain scores, anaesthesia-related adverse events, duration of ICU and hospital length of stay and 30-day all-cause mortality (p>0.05). Finally, satisfaction levels for both the patients and the cardiologists performing the procedure were kept high and did not differ between groups (p>0.05).

Conclusion(s): Within the study’s limitations, our findings do not support superiority of one anaesthetic agent over the other regarding the primary goals of the study.

07AP03-01
Predicting complications in cardiac surgery patients beyond biomarkers: a retrospective study

A Gkiouliava1, C Doxani1, D Sarridou2, H Argyriadou2, K Anastasiadis3, E Zintzaras1
1School of Medicine, University of Thessaly, Laboratory of Biomathematics, Larissa, Greece, 2School of Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, AHEPA University Hospital, Thessaloniki, Greece, 3School of Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Cardiothoracic Department, AHEPA University Hospital, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Predicting morbidity and mortality in search of improving patient outcome in cardiac surgery remains challenging. Extracorporeal circulation (EC) causes a disruption in perfusion and microcirculation but such techniques have not been taken into consideration. Minimal Invasive Extracorporeal Circulation (MiECC) has emerged as a more physiologic perioperative strategy over Conventional Extracorporeal Circulation (CECC). Our aim is to elucidate the role of EC on the occurrence of adverse events in cardiac surgery.

Materials and Methods: The medical records of patients who underwent cardiac surgery from January 2020 to July 2022 at the Cardiothoracic department of the University Hospital of AHEPA were retrieved after approval of the Institutional Review Board. The data equally represented MiECC (n=50) and CECC (n=50) patients. Demographics, perioperative data including hemoglobin, Neutrophil-to-Lymphocyte Ratio, Platelet-to-Lymphocyte ratio, cardiopulmonary bypass duration, 12h drainage and transfusions were recorded. The total sample was divided in two Groups, MiECC and CECC as appropriate, to investigate any discrepancies between them. The presence of event was set as atrial fibrillation, myocardial infarction, stroke, need for revascularization, stage 3 acute kidney injury, prolonged ventilation or death occurring 30 days postoperatively. Logistic regression was performed for the outcome of event. Potential predictors included EuroSCORE, perioperative data and EC Group. For the model produced by logistic regression, predicted probabilities were used for the assessment of the accuracy, expressed by Receiver Operating Characteristics curve and area under the curve (AUC).

Results and Discussion: Baseline parameters were similar among patients within each group as no statistically significant differences were detected. EC was found to be an independent predictor of adverse events following cardiac surgery. MiECC Patients had 60% lower risk of developing any complication (p=0.039, CI95% 0.18-0.9, AUC 0.61). Overall, through this study we proved that the effect of the perioperative strategy may have a significant impact in postoperative outcomes and should be incorporated in future reviews or clinical trials looking into prediction tools.

Conclusion: The EC strategy is found to be an independent predictor of adverse outcomes in cardiac surgery.
**07AP03-02**
Dexmedetomidine versus propofol sedation reduces the duration of mechanical ventilation after cardiac surgery – a randomized controlled trial

M. Preveden1,2, M. Tatic2,3, M. Lukic Sarkanovic4, A. Preveden1,2, R. Zdravkovic1,2, A. Redzek1,2
1Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases of Vojvodina, Clinic for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 2University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, 3Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 4University Clinical Center of Vojvodina, Clinic of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Novi Sad, Serbia

**Background and Goal of Study:** One of the main goals of the postoperative strategy in cardiac surgery is earlier extubation and a shorter duration of mechanical ventilation (MV) with adequate sedation. The aim of this study was to compare the clinical effects of sedation with dexmedetomidine versus propofol in patients undergoing cardiac surgery and analyze their effects on the duration of the MV, length of stay in the intensive care unit (ICU), and total hospital stay.

**Materials and Methods:** This was a prospective, randomized, single-blinded, controlled clinical trial. All 120 patients included in the study were randomized in a 1:1 ratio into two groups of 60 patients. The first group of patients, upon arrival to the ICU, were sedated with continuous dexmedetomidine infusion at doses 0.2-0.7 mcg/kg/h. The second group of patients were sedated with continuous propofol infusion in doses 1-2 mg/kg/h. Descriptive statistics, the t-test, Mann-Whitney test, and the chi-square test were used. Statistical significance for all of the tests was set at the p value of <0.05.

**Results and Discussion:** There were no significant differences in age and gender distribution and other baseline characteristics. Both groups had similar preoperative hemoglobin levels, heart rates, and left ventricular ejection fractions. Patients sedated with dexmedetomidine required 2.2 hours less time on MV (dexmedetomidine group 8.8±0.1 vs. propofol group 11.0±4.2 hours, p=0.000). There was a significant positive correlation between the duration of MV and the ICU length of stay (r=0.368; p=0.000), as well as between the duration of MV and the total hospital length of stay (r=0.204; p=0.025). Delirium occurred in the postoperative period in 25% of patients sedated with propofol, while in the other group it was only 11.7% (p=0.059). Patients who developed delirium had a significantly longer duration of MV (12.6±5.4 vs. 9.3±2.5 hours, p=0.010).

**Conclusion(s):** Postoperative sedation with dexmedetomidine in comparison to propofol reduces the duration of MV. Postoperative delirium is less common in patients sedated with dexmedetomidine.

**07AP03-03**
The advantage of remimazolam for circulatory management in patients with severe aortic stenosis undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation procedure

M. Iwata1, K. Toyota1, M. Wada1, T. Matsuo1, Y. Saito1
1Shimane University Faculty of Medicine, Anaesthesiology, Izumo, Japan

**Background and Goal of Study:** Remimazolam is a newly developed ultrashort-acting benzodiazepine with few side effects, including hypotension. However, the superiority of remimazolam to conventional inhalation anesthetics on high-risk circulatory patients with severe aortic stenosis has not been thoroughly investigated. This study aimed to evaluate the hemodynamic effects of remimazolam in a patient undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) procedure.

**Materials and Methods:** This retrospective observational study included patients who had undergone transfemoral TAVI from April 2018 to October 2022. These patients were classified into two groups by administered anesthetic agents for induction and maintenance of general anesthesia: patients treated with remimazolam for anesthetic induction and maintenance (Group R) and those treated with midazolam for induction and desflurane for maintenance (Group D). The relative change in mean blood pressure and dosage of vaso-pressors between the induction of anaesthesia and the release of aortic stenosis were extracted from the electric anaesthetic records. The total amount of vasopressor was calculated by assuming that the relative potency ratio of norepinephrine and phenylephrine was 11.3 (ref).

**Results and Discussion:** The study sample consisted of 138 patients (group R, N=72; group D, N=66). The ratio of mean blood pressure of pre-anesthetic induction to after induction did not show a significant difference between the two groups (74.0% and 76.2%, respectively). Although the mean dosage of phenylephrine was significantly larger in Group R (0.11 and 0.07μg/kg/min, respectively), the mean dosage of norepinephrine was significantly smaller in Group R than in Group D (0.031 and 0.046μg/kg/min, respectively). The total dosage of vasopressor calculated using the relative potency ratio of norepinephrine and phenylephrine was significantly smaller in Group R than in Group D (0.04 and 0.052μg/kg/min as converted in norepinephrine potency, respectively).

**Conclusion(s):** The amount of vasopressor required for perioperative circulatory stability in patients treated with remimazolam was smaller than in those treated with midazolam and desflurane. This result indicates that remimazolam is advantageous for anaesthetic management in high-risk circulatory patients.

**Reference:**
07AP03-04
Comparison of Desflurane and Propofol on organ perfusion in a porcine model during partial support with a continuous-flow left ventricular assist device

V.E. Vega Sánchez, M. Durán Aparicio, I. Fernández López, E. Sánchez, L. Kanouni, B. Quintana Villamandos
1Gregorio Marañón University Hospital, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain, 2Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Partial support can be provided with a mechanical circulatory support (MCS) device to a native ventricle with an impaired left ventricular function to ensure adequate organ perfusion. The effect of anesthetic agents on organ blood flow has already been described but not during the use of a MCS device.

Materials and Methods: 16 minipigs were divided into two groups (8 animals per group), according to the anesthetic agent received (desflurane vs. propofol) in the maintenance of general anesthesia. A Biomedicus 540 centrifugal pump was implanted in the minipigs undergoing continuous-flow support. An aortic partial cross-clamp was applied. The output cannula of the MCS was anastomosed to the ascending aorta, and the input cannula was placed through the apex of the left ventricle. Console parameters were adjusted to obtain a pump flow of 50% (partial support) of the baseline cardiac output (cardiac output before MCS is initiated) using the pulmonary artery catheter for 30 minutes. Two moments for the study of the organ blood flow were defined using the colored microsphere technique: before left ventricle assistance was initiated and after 30 minutes of partial support. This was measured by analyzing organ biopsies (brain, heart, lungs, liver and kidney) that were taken once the procedure was finished and the animal was sacrificed. Statistical analysis was performed using the independent samples t-test. Statistical significance: p<0.05. This study was approved by the Ethics Committee on Animal Experimentation of the Gregorio Marañón General University Hospital.

Results and Discussion: A significant increase in the regional blood flow of the analyzed organs was showed after 30 minutes of partial support in the Desflurane group compared to propofol.

Conclusion(s): Desflurane showed a significant increase in the regional blood flow compared to propofol during partial assistance of the left ventricle with a MCS device in a porcine experimental model. Future studies will be needed to reproduce our findings in routine clinical practice.

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07AP03-05
Chest wall sarcomas: a retrospective comparison of 3 locoregional techniques to manage post-thoracotomy pain

L. Carmona Serrano, A. Parera Ruiz, C. Martínez García, M. Melo Cruz, G. Planas Canovas, S. Sabaté Tenas
1Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesteshiology Department, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Thoracic Surgery Department, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Both management of acute postoperative pain and prevention of chronic pain after thoracic surgery remain a challenge for anesthesiologists. We aimed to compare the different analgesic options for patients undergoing thoracotomy for chest wall sarcoma resection including systemic analgesia and locoregional anesthesia.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective study analyzing 27 patients who underwent thoracotomy for chest wall sarcoma resection and we studied the locoregional technique chosen for intraoperative pain control and intravenous morphine consumption in the first 24h of surgery as the main objectives. As secondary objectives, the Numeric Pain Rating Scale (NPRS) from 0 to 10 was studied at one hour postoperatively, at 24h and 48h, as well as the presence of possible post-block complications.

Results and Discussion: Of the 27 patients, 70% received a locoregional technique and 30% did not. Of those who received locoregional technique: 37% received a thoracic epidural, 26% intrathoracic morphine, 26% continuous paravertebral block and 10%, another kind of technique. Regarding the need for intravenous morphine rescue in the first 24 hours, the results from greatest to least need were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intravenous morphine rescue in the first 24h</th>
<th>No locoregional group</th>
<th>Thoracic epidural group</th>
<th>Continuous paravertebral block group</th>
<th>Intrathecal morphine group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thoracic epidural group</td>
<td>13.75mg (±7mg)</td>
<td>5.2mg (±3.6mg)</td>
<td>3.6mg (±5.3mg)</td>
<td>1.8mg (±4.7mg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous paravertebral block group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intrathecal morphine group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding the NPRS, the following data were recorded:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NPRS average</th>
<th>No locoregional group</th>
<th>Thoracic epidural group</th>
<th>Continuous paravertebral block group</th>
<th>Intrathecal morphine group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First hour of surgery</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 hours postsurgery</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 hours postsurgery</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding complications, no serious complications such as respira-

tory depression were recorded in any of the techniques used. How-

ever, 3 patients suffered respiratory infection during hospital stay (one was not provided with a locoregional technique, the second received intrathecal morphine and the third thoracic epidural).

Conclusion(s): Despite intrathecal morphine is a technique that is widely used for postoperative analgesia in a wide variety of surgeries, there are very few studies on post-thoracotomy pain control after wide chest resections for sarcomas. It is a safe, rapid, effective, and economical technique, always implemented in a multimodal approach protocol, and may be an alternative to the technical impossi-

bility of placing an epidural or paravertebral catheter, such as the case of wide resections of the chest wall.
07AP03-06
Impact of hypothermia and sevoflurane on TRPM8 channel activity

M. Boisseau 1,2, P. Chiari 1,2, M. Jacquet-Lagreze 1,2, Y. Gouriou 2, G. Bidaux 2, J.-L. Fellahi 1,2
1 Cardiac Anesthesia Department, Hospices Civils de Lyon, Rhone, Bron, France, 2 UMR Inserm U1060 CarMeN, IRIS Team, Rhône, Bron, France

Background and Goal of Study: Targeting the cold receptor TRPM8 with pharmaceutics could be a new cardioprotection therapeutic strategy to prevent myocardial ischemia reperfusion injuries. This receptor is known to be activated by cold and volatile anesthetics (sevoflurane) which are both cardioprotective. Therapeutic hypothermia and anesthetic drugs exposition are frequently combined in clinical practice.

We investigated the temperature threshold activating TRPM8 and how sevoflurane interacted with this channel depending on temperature conditions.

Materials and Methods: Using a human-HEK-293T cell model, the calcium fluxes induced by the activity of TRPM8 were measured with an epifluorescence microscope (LEICA) by mean of the calcium probe FURA 2AM. The activity of TRPM8 was studied at 37, 33 and 25°C. The impact of sevoflurane (diluted in DMSO, 0.5 mM) on the TRPM8 activity was observed at 37 and 33°C. Results are expressed as maximum response speed to WS-12 (agonist of TRPM8) stimulation (EC50, 0.8 μM) and mean ± SD. P<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: As depicted in Figure 1, the response of TRPM8 to a WS-12 stimulation was temperature dependent, significantly increasing when the temperature decreased to 33°C (+11%) and 25°C (+39%), respectively. At 37°C, sevoflurane increased TRPM8 response to a WS-12 stimulation (+7,8%, Figure 2). At 33°C, sevoflurane had an antagonistic effect on the activation of TRPM8 (-8,4%). These results demonstrated that TRPM8 was activated at a temperature compatible with clinical conditions (33°C). Sevoflurane was an agonist of TRPM8 channel at normothermia but inhibited the effect of cold on TRPM8 at 33°C.

Conclusion(s): Cold and sevoflurane activated TRPM8 channel and could be both valuable cardioprotective strategies. In hypothermia condition, the addition of sevoflurane could be counterproductive.

Figure 1. TRPM8 maximum response speed at different temperature conditions.

07AP03-07
Factors and patient characteristics specific to the timing of tracheal extubation following pediatric cardiac surgery

S. Raju 1, M.M. Maddali 1, S. Raju 1
1 National Heart Centre, Cardiac Anesthesia, Muscat, Oman

Background and Goal of Study: Early tracheal extubation after cardiac surgery may contribute to a better recovery pattern, and early discharge from the intensive care unit results in a better turn-around of cases. If performed meticulously by recognizing factors that were explicitly found in pediatric patients who have already experienced tracheal extubation in a given unit, the technique may be associated with less reintubation incidence.

Materials and Methods: 467 pediatric patients undergoing on-pump cardiac surgery from the 1st of January 2019 that were managed with the same anesthetic regimen were included in this observational study. The patients were divided into 3 groups based on the timing of tracheal extubation after surgery.

Group I where the patient’s trachea was extubated on the table immediately after completion of surgery in the operating room, Group II where the tracheal extubation took place within 6 hours and Group III in whom tracheal extubation was performed beyond 6 hours post-operatively.

The factors and patient characteristics that were recorded in each group of patients were age, weight, gender, (RACHS-1) score, the (STAT Mortality Categories), cardiopulmonary bypass time, aortic cross-clamp time and VIS on admission to the intensive care unit.

Results and Discussion: There was a significant association between clinical variables and on-table extubation in terms of age, weight, RACHS-1 score, (STAT Mortality Categories), cardiopulmonary bypass time, aortic cross-clamp time and VIS. The younger the child, the lower the weight, the higher the RACHS-1 score and STAT category, greater the VIS, longer the cardiopulmonary bypass and aortic cross clamp time were associated with delayed extubation. The intensive care unit stay was significantly less in the on table and fast-track group.

The factors and patient characteristics that were recorded in each group of patients were age, weight, gender, (RACHS-1) score, the (STAT Mortality Categories), cardiopulmonary bypass time, aortic cross-clamp time and VIS. The younger the child, the lower the weight, the higher the RACHS-1 score and STAT category, greater the VIS, longer the cardiopulmonary bypass and aortic cross clamp time were associated with delayed extubation. The intensive care unit stay was significantly less in the on table and fast-track group.

The multivariate model showed weight, lower STAT category, cardiopulmonary bypass time and VIS were independent predictors for on-table and fast-track extubation. Age, RACHS-1 score, and aortic cross-clamp duration were not independent predictors for the time of extubation.

Figure 2. Effect of Sevoflurane on TRPM8 maximum response speed at 37°C and 33°C.
Conclusion(s): The factors and characteristics that were identified as independent predictors by a multivariate model in pediatric cardiac surgical patients undergoing open heart surgery under the same anesthetic regimen and had on table/ fast-track extubation were the weight of the child, STAT category, cardiopulmonary bypass duration and VIS.

07AP03-09
Using 3D printing to develop institutional equipment recommendations for one-lung ventilation in pediatric patients

R. Shaylor1, V. Verenkin1, E. Izrotal1, B. Cohen1
1Tel Aviv Medical Center; Division of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background: Pediatric airway anatomy has unique features compared to adult anatomy. Despite multiple review articles, there are currently no guidelines published for pediatric one lung ventilation (POLV) equipment selection. We routinely use a 3D-printed model of pediatric patients’ airway to select POLV equipment. However, this is not feasible in urgent cases. We therefore aimed to use the results of previous airway plans to develop age- and height-specific equipment guidelines for POLV. Methods: Patient electronic medical records were analyzed for age, sex, height, weight, operation, POLV equipment, POLV first attempt success rate, and 3D printed model equipment plan. Airway equipment combinations which were successfully used to achieve POLV were tabulated according to patients’ age and height. If a specific equipment combination was most common for an age or height group, it was included in the guidelines. If several combinations were found useful, an expert group was consulted, and the preferred option was chosen. In cases of no agreement, the most conservative option was chosen. Results and Discussion: Following a review of 58 cases, recommendations were made for ages 5 and up, and for children over 110 cm. The expert group agreed that a double-lumen tube (DLT) should not be attempted in children <10 years. All agreed it is recommended to wait for a 3D printed model before choosing a DLT in children aged 10-13 years, if feasible.

Our guidelines vary from suggestions previously mentioned in review articles on POLV. Importantly, previous publications allowed using a DLT starting at 8 years of age. However, we were unable to insert a DLT in 3D printed models in children <11 years. We also recommend against using a bronchial blocker with endotracheal tubes sizes 6.0 and 6.5mm, due to the short length of the 5Fr blocker. Conclusion: By combining the use of 3D printed airway models and clinical experience we have produced recommendations for equipment selection in cases requiring one-lung ventilation in pediatric patients. These recommendations can be used in urgent or emergent cases, or when 3D printing of patients’ airway is unavailable.

Paediatric OLV equipment according to Height (cm)

Paediatric OLV equipment according to age

07AP03-10
Extubation practices after congenital cardiac surgery in pediatric patients over 1 year of age

R. Leite Aguiar1, M. Machado1, P. Martins Lima1, R. Miranda1, J. Fernandes1
1São João University Hospital Centre, Anaesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: Several studies have demonstrated the benefits associated with early extubation (EE) after congenital cardiac surgery (CCS). Prolonged time to extubation after general anesthesia is an important metric associated with increased postoperative complications. We performed this study to describe extubation practices in pediatric patients over 1 year of age undergoing CCS and to understand the factors associated with EE.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval, a retrospective study was performed from January 2019 to December 2021. We reviewed medical records of pediatric patients submitted to CCS. Patients were distributed by groups according to the time to extubation: EE (extubated in the operating room or within six hours after surgery) and Delayed Extubation (DE) (extubated sometime after six hours or not extubated). IBM® SPSS® v28 software was used to perform statistics. For statistical analysis, we used Fisher exact test and Kruskal Wallis test, for categorical and continuous variables respectively, and we applied logistic regression analysis to determine possible predictors for EE.
Results and Discussion: We analyzed 104 patients with a median age of 4 years. Overall, the majority of patients had EE (65.4%) and 34.6% had DE. The variables ASA classification system, reoperation, age, weight, surgery time, extra corporeal circulation (ECC) and aortic cross-clamp time showed differences in the analysis between groups. Higher age and body weight were significantly associated with EE. Also, EE was associated with reduced surgery, ECC, and aortic cross-clamp time. ASA IV patients had reduced odds of EE. Risk Adjustment for Congenital Heart Surgery (RACHS) presented a significant association with EE, being RACHS 2 and 3 associated with reduced odds of EE, compared to RACHS 1.

In our study, most patients achieved EE with low incidence of post-operative respiratory insufficiency. Older and heavier patients were more likely to experience EE, as well as reduced surgery time, ECC and aortic cross-clamp time. Higher ASA and RACHS classification were less likely to experience EE.

Conclusion(s): Early extubation after CCS has demonstrated a relevant role in minimizing morbidity and allowed improved patients' postoperative functional status. In this study, we describe some factors that could influence the probability of EE during pediatric cardiac surgery.

07AP03-12
Monitoring of levosimendan administration in patients with pulmonary hypertension undergoing cardiac surgery
P. Flikos1, T. Antoniou1, I. Koziakas2, A. Falara1, P. Rellia1, K. Theodoraki2
1 Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Athens, Greece, 2 Aretaieion University Hospital, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Anesthesiology, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: The perioperative management of patients with pulmonary hypertension (PH) undergoing cardiac surgery represents one of the most challenging clinical scenarios. This fact mainly depends on the relation between PH and right ventricular failure (RVF). Levosimendan (LS) is an inodilator that might be an effective agent in the treatment of PH and RVF. The aim of this study was to examine the impact of the duration of cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) on the therapeutic drug monitoring of LS and to evaluate the effect of preemptive administration of LS on perioperative hemodynamic and echocardiographic parameters in cardiac surgical patients with preexisting PH.

Materials and Methods: In this study, LS was administered in 30 randomized adult patients undergoing cardiac surgery before CPB in order to prevent exacerbation of preexisting PH and subsequent right ventricular dysfunction. Thirty cardiac surgical patients with preoperatively confirmed PH were administered LS at two different doses (6 μg/kg and 12 μg/kg) after the induction of anesthesia. The plasma concentration of LS was measured after CPB. In this study, a low sample volume was used combined with a simple sample preparation protocol. The plasma sample was extracted by protein precipitation and evaporated to dryness, then the analyte was recomposed and detected using a specific and sensitive bioanalytical LC-MS/MS methodology. The clinical, hemodynamic and echocardiographic parameters were registered and evaluated before and after the administration of the drug.

Results and Discussion: A fast bioanalytical methodology LC-MS/MS (a run time of 5.5 min) was developed for the simultaneous determination of LS and OR-1896, its main metabolite in human plasma. The LC-MS/MS method was linear over a range of 0.1-50 ng/mL for LS and 1-50 ng/mL for its metabolite OR-1896. Duration of CPB was inversely related to plasma concentrations of LS administered before CPB. LS administration before CPB during cardiac surgery was effective in reducing pulmonary artery pressure and improving hemodynamic parameters after CPB, with a more pronounced and durable effect of the drug at the dose of 12 mg/kg. Additionally, administration of LS at a dose of 12 mg/kg in cardiac surgical patients with PH before CPB improves right ventricular function.
Conclusion: LS administration decreases pulmonary artery pressure and may improve right ventricular function in patients with PH undergoing cardiac surgery.

07AP04-01
CRP and creatinine as predictors of mortality after type A aortic dissection surgery

R. Zdravkovic1,2, A. Redzek1,2, S. Vickovic1,3, M. Rosic1,2, M. Golubovic1,2, M. Tatic1,4
1University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases of Vojvodina, Clinic for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 3University of Novi Sad, Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia, 4Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases of Vojvodina, Clinic of Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia

Background and Goal of Study: Aortic dissection type A (TAAD) is a surgical emergency with a mortality rate of 22% after surgery. The aim of the study was to investigate whether certain laboratory and clinical parameters at admission can indicate the postoperative outcome.

Materials and Methods: The retrospective single-center study included 116 patients with TAAD surgically treated over a five-year period. The association between in-hospital mortality and clinical parameters was examined. Descriptive statistics, t-test, Mann-Whitney test, chi-square test, and Fisher test were used. The influence of variables on treatment outcome was determined using univariate and multivariate binary logistic analysis.

Results and Discussion: Total in-hospital mortality was 22.4%. The non-survivors were older than the survivors (p=0.001). The admission creatinine values were significantly higher in non-survivors (p<0.0005) as well as CRP values (p=0.020). The groups differed significantly in the presence of stroke, which was more present in the non-survivors group (p=0.004). Cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) time was significantly longer in the non-survivor patient group (p=0.009). Also, surgical work in deep hypothermic circulatory arrest (DHCA) was significantly more common in non-survivors (p=0.044). These variables were included in the multivariate analysis, which designated the following parameters as independent mortality predictors: creatinine (OR 1.026 [1.006-1.046], p=0.009), CRP (OR 4.764 [1.066-21.283], p=0.041), and stroke (OR 6.097 [1.399-26.570], p=0.016). The ROC curve showed that creatinine could be a good predictor of mortality (Area under the ROC curve=0.767; p<0.0005). The cut-off point was 124.5 μmol/L. The sensitivity was 65% and the specificity was 80%. The cut-off point for CRP was 4.5 mg/L - sensitivity 71.4%, specificity 75% (Area under the ROC curve=0.702, p=0.021).

Conclusion(s): Despite easier and more accessible diagnostics, advanced surgical techniques, and better postoperative treatment, TAAD surgery carries a high risk of mortality. Variables suggestive of poor outcomes following the surgery are higher preoperative creatinine and CRP values, and stroke.

Reference:

07AP04-02
The BARTAAAKI Bundle: reducing AKI and RRT incidence rates following thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm repair

E. Parkinson1, C. McKechnie1, A. Lopez-Marco2, V. Sharma2, C. Corredor2
1St Bartholomew’s Hospital, Critical Care, London, United Kingdom, 2St Bartholomew’s Hospital, Cardiothoracic Surgery, London, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Open thoracoabdominal aortic aneurysm (TAAA) repair remains a complex intervention with associated morbidity and mortality. Minimisation of end-organ damage remains an ongoing challenge. Acute kidney injury (AKI) and renal replacement therapy (RRT) are recognised as relatively frequent complications following TAAA repair. A modified KDIGO bundle, the ‘BARTAAAKI Bundle’, was introduced aiming to reduce AKI and RRT rates. The bundle consists of avoidance of nephrotoxins, haemodynamic optimisation, glucose control, dexmedetomidine, mannitol, and selective Custodiol renal perfusion.

The primary outcome was rates of AKI according to KDIGO classification. We also assessed adherence to bundle elements. Institutional approval 12376.

Materials and Methods: Baseline data was sourced from patients undergoing TAAA repair at Barts Trust between 2018 and 2020 (n=62). Post-bundle data (n=11) was collected from July to December 2022. Sources comprised anaesthetic charts and electronic patient records. Compliance to the BARTAAAKI bundle and AKI stage 2 and 3 and RRT incidence rates between pre- and post-bundle cohorts was measured in addition to ICU/HDU length of stay.

Results and Discussion: AKI stage 2 and 3 rates for the pre- and post-bundle groups at 72hrs were 67.7% vs 36.4% (p=0.047), and at 1 week 83.9% vs 36.4% (p=<0.001) respectively. RRT incidence rates at 1 week were 56.5% vs 18.2% (p=0.019). Median ICU/HDU lengths of stay were comparable at 14 vs 17.5 days.

100% bundle compliance was achieved for use of Custodiol perfusate, dexmedetomidine, avoidance of nephrotoxins, and maintaining cardiac output targets 12hrs post-operatively. However, there was poor compliance for post-operative glucose control (36%).

Figure. Renal outcomes 1 week post-operatively.

Conclusion(s): Preliminary data suggests AKI and RRT rates are markedly reduced following the introduction of the BARTAAAKI Bundle. Compliance was importantly confirmed to for use of Custodiol perfusate and achieving cardiac output targets post-operatively.
Limitations include lack of data to assess some bundle elements and a small post-bundle sample size. Further data will ameliorate these factors, allowing greater statistical power.

**07AP04-03**

Title: Impact of intraoperative transoesophageal echocardiographic assessment in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy undergoing septal myectomy

C. Rodiera Clarens1, I. Rovira2, C. Ibañez2, E. Quintana3, M. Giménez-Milà2
1Anestalia. Centro Médico Teknon Quironsalud Group, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain, 2Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases ICCV, Hospital Clinic, Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Barcelona, Spain, 3Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases ICCV, Hospital Clinic, Cardiovascular Surgery, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HOCM) is a genetic heart disease that affects 0.2% of the population. It is characterized by asymmetric septal hypertrophy that causes obstruction of left ventricular outflow tract (LVOT). Septal reduction is the surgical technique of choice for patient’s refractory to medical treatment and is very effective in improving symptoms of LVOT obstruction. In this study, we aim to describe the impact of intraoperative Transoesophageal Ecchocardiography (TOE) monitoring on patients diagnosed with HOCM undergoing septal myectomy under cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) at our institution.

**Materials and Methods:** An observational, retrospective study is presented. The clinical reports of 33 patients undergoing septal myectomy in the period between January 2020 and December 2021 were reviewed, following the international ethical recommendations for medical research. The study was also approved by the ethics committee of the institution.

**Results and Discussion:** Intraoperative pre-CPB echocardiography detected new findings not previously described in the preoperative echocardiography in 50% (15/30) of patients. These findings led to a 46% (7/15) change in the surgical attitude. 42% (3/7) of those changes involved the addition of the mitral valve reparation procedure. Post-CPB echocardiography showed unexpected findings in 50% (15/30) of patients and that led into CPB re-entry in 86% (13/15) of these patients. Statistically significant differences (p-value<0.05) were found between the CPB re-entry group (n=15) and the CPB non-re-entry group (n=15) in terms of: Transfusion of blood components, postoperative complications, intraoperative use of inotropes, occurrence of ventricular fibrillation during CPB weaning and extubation in the operating room.

**Conclusion(s):** The use of transoesophageal echocardiography has a significant impact on septal myectomies as it can reveal preoperative undetected lesions that lead to a change in the surgical behavior, detect complications and evaluate the outcome of the surgery. Changes detected in the TOE before entering CPB lead in most cases to a change in surgical behavior and TOE findings during CPB weaning such as persistent obstruction prompted re-entry in CPB in most patients. Therefore, according to this study, TOE monitoring during these procedures provides unique information to improve patient outcomes.

**07AP04-04**

Impact of intraoperative Bispectral Index (BIS) monitoring on the perioperative outcome in patients undergoing thoracic aortic aneurysm surgery in Philippine Heart Center

A. Bucag1, R. Villagracia1
1Philippine Heart Center, Cardiovascular Anesthesia, Quezon City, Philippines

**Background and Goal of Study:** Surgical intervention for thoracic aortic aneurysm is complex, and therefore requires an anaesthetic approach to the specific goals for hemodynamic control, cerebral and spinal cord perfusion and neuromonitoring. This study aims to determine the utility of intraoperative bispectral index (BIS) monitoring on the postoperative outcome in patients undergoing thoracic aortic aneurysm surgeries in Philippine Heart Center (PHC) from January 2014 to December 2019.

**Materials and Methods:** To fulfil the objectives, a retrospective cohort study was conducted. Data collection was conducted in the Clinical and Medical Records Section of PHC from January 2014 to December 2019. Using G*Power 3.1.9.2, a minimum of 68 patients were required based on desired large effect size between patients with and without BIS in terms of any continuous outcome variable, 5% level of significance and 90% power.

**Results and Discussion:** It was found that factors with increased risk of in-hospital mortality are age, body mass index (BMI), operation time, anaesthesia time, cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) time, ischemic time, length of extubation time, length of ICU stay, patients with hypertension, diabetes, coronary artery disease, and patients having pneumonia complication and acute kidney injury (AKI) complication (>1.00 odds ratio). On the other hand, those with decreased risk of in-hospital mortality are male patients, being current smoker, length of hospital stay, and patients with intraoperative BIS monitoring (>1.00 odds ratio). Results reveal that all these factors were found to be not significant except for patients having pneumonia complication and acute kidney injury complication with odds ratios equal to 5.133 and 12.619, respectively.

**Conclusion(s):** Results for impact of intraoperative bispectral index monitoring on the perioperative outcome in patients undergoing thoracic aortic aneurysm surgery may differ among other institutions. Those with pneumonia and acute kidney injury complications of surgery were at increased risk of in-hospital mortality than those without the complications.

**07AP04-06**

During cardiopulmonary bypass surgery blood ketone concentrations increase, irrespective of diabetes mellitus status

A. Hulst1, L. Snel1, D. van Raalte2, J. Hermanides1
1Amsterdam UMC, Anaesthesiology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2Amsterdam UMC, Internal Medicine, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Background and Goal of Study:** Concern for perioperative ketoacidosis is rising with the increase in prescriptions of sodium-glucose co-transport-2 inhibitors (SGLT2i). As the indications for SGLT2i expand, so do the number patients taking them. However, little is
known about the effect of surgery on blood ketone concentrations. Therefore, we prospectively measured ketone concentrations in a cohort of cardiac surgery patients.

**Materials and Methods:** We collected measured blood ketone concentrations in 77 patients undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass. We recorded medical and medication history and recorded surgery and anesthesia records. We sampled blood at four time points: before start surgery, at start of CPB, end of CPB, and at time of transfer to ICU.

**Results and Discussion:** Between March and December 2022, we included 77 patients undergoing cardiac surgery. Of these patients, 21 (27%) had T2DM and 15 (19%) received an SLGT2 inhibitor (including on morning of surgery). Ketone concentrations for these four groups are plotted in Figure 1.

During cardiac surgery, ketone concentrations increased from .23 mmol/l (+/- .13) before surgery to 1.0 (+/- .51) at peak end of surgery difference, difference .77 (95% CI: .65 – .88) p < 0.001. There was no difference between patients with and without T2DM, diff: 0.03 (-.32 – .26) p=.83. There was no significant difference between patients who did and did not receive SGLT2 inhibitors before surgery 0.98 (+/- .52) vs. 1.23 (+/- .60) diff 0.24 (.10 – .57) p=.26

**Conclusion(s):** During cardiac surgery, patients develop a significant increase in ketone bodies during surgery. Clinicians concerned about ketoacidosis in patients taking SGLT2i should be aware that a certain degree of ketone concentration rise after surgery is likely normal. We advocate caution in attributing postoperative ketonemia to SGLT2i.

**Conclusion(s):** The RIPC could not prevent or reduce septal wall motion abnormalities after cardiac surgery. The mechanism seems to play a minor role in patients with comorbidities and comedications.
**07AP04-08**

Clinical effects of High Flow Nasal Cannula on diaphragmatic function after thoracic surgery: a randomized controlled trial

F Dalla Corte1,2, A. Fogagnolo3, G. Benetto2, G. De Paoli2, F Piccioni1, R. Ragazzi1

1IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Units, Rozzano, Italy, 2University of Ferrara, Department of Translational Medicine, Ferrara, Italy, 3Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Di Ferrara, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Ferrara, Italy

**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative diaphragmatic dysfunction after thoracic surgery (TS) is associated with a higher incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications (PPCs). Recently, ultrasound (US) has emerged as a point of care tool to detect diaphragmatic dysfunction (DDys)[1]. High Flow Nasal Cannula (HFNC) is a non-invasive respiratory support that can improve oxygenation and reduce work of breathing[2]. We hypothesized that HFNC could reduce the prevalence of DDys after TS assessed by US and reduce the incidence of PPCs compared to standard oxygenation therapy (SOT).

**Materials and Methods:** Patients ≥ 18 years old scheduled for major lung resection surgery in video assisted TS were enrolled. Two hours after extubation (T0) patients were randomized to receive either HFNC or SOT for 24 hours. Diaphragmatic function was assessed by ultrasound on the first (T1) and second (T2) postoperative day. Both diaphragmatic displacement (DD) and thickening fraction (TF) were assessed bilaterally with DD < 1 cm and TF < 30% indicating DDys. The incidence of PPCs was recorded daily from the 1st to the 7th postoperative day.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 60 patients were included, 28 in the HFNC and 32 in the SOT groups. Clinical characteristics of the two groups were similar. DD and TF of the operated side tended to increase over time in both groups (Figure 1). DD < 1 cm was found in 45% of patients at T1 and in 23% at T2. TF < 30% was found in 47% patients at T1 and in 30% at T2. TF < 30% prevalence was higher at T1 in SOT group as compared to HFNC group (20/32 (63%) vs 8/28 (29%), p=.009). No statistically significant differences in PPCs incidence or in hospital length of stay were found.

**Conclusion(s):** HFNC therapy is a useful and tolerable device after TS. It might be useful in reducing postoperative DDys. Additional patients must be enrolled to assess whether HFNC might reduce PPCs incidence.

![Figure 1: Diaphragmatic ultrasound measures trend.](image)

**References:**
1. Spadaro S. Anesthesiology 2019;131:266–278;

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**07AP04-09**

Which anesthesia regimen (desflurane vs. sevoflurane) is best to reduce acute kidney injury in endovascular repair of aortic aneurysm? A randomized controlled trial

A. Burgos-Santamaría1, I.M. Barrio-Perez1, A. Arnalich-Montiel1, C. Fernández Riveira1, A. Lázaro2, B. Quintana-Villamandos1

1Hospital Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Pain Therapy, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Gregorio Marañón, Fundación para la Investigación Biomédica del Hospital Gregorio Marañón, Madrid, Spain

**Background and goal of study:** Acute kidney injury (AKI) is significant after endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR). It is related with contrast administration, hypovolaemia, renal microembolization, ischaemia reperfusion syndrome, and cardiovascular risk factors. However, little is known about the contribution of volatile anaesthetics on the development of AKI in this context. We investigated renal function in anaesthetised patients with desflurane or sevoflurane after EVAR.

**Materials and Methods:** We designed a randomized controlled trial (NCT 03917186; EudraCT 2016-003906-16), approved by the local ethics committee. We included 80 patients undergoing EVAR. All the patients fulfilled the inclusion criteria. Patients were recruited consecutively and randomized into two groups depending on the anaesthetic drug used (desflurane or sevoflurane). They were managed with the same anaesthetic protocol. Blood samples were collected at two times: before anaesthesia and 24 hours after surgery; in order to study biomarkers of kidney injury. Linear mixed models were used, considering p < 0.05 as statistically significant; data was expressed as the mean ± SD.

**Results and Discussion:** Plasma creatinine, cistatine C, and estimated glomerular filtration did not significantly change between both groups. Mixed linear model showed a significant interaction (p = 0.01) of plasma neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin (NGAL) between both groups, sevoflurane versus desflurane. Both groups showed a progressive increase in plasmatic NGAL (sevoflurane 3.71 ng ml⁻¹, p < 0.001 and desflurane 1.77 ng ml⁻¹, p < 0.001) when comparing the moment before surgery to 24 hours after surgery; however, sevoflurane caused higher plasma NGAL concentration than desflurane after 24 hours of surgery (8.66 ± 5.09 vs. 6.51 ± 3.86 ng ml⁻¹, P = 0.03).

**Conclusions:** Desflurane compared with sevoflurane could be the anaesthetic of choice in elective EVAR regarding kidney function. This is the first clinical trial showing the superiority of desflurane over sevoflurane on the maintenance of renal function in EVAR surgery.
The use of supraglottic airway in therapeutic procedure of trachea via fiberoptic bronchoscopy reduced the requirement for airway manipulation compared to endotracheal intubation

C.-L. Huang, T.-Y. Chiang, C. Chiang, C.-K. Ting, C.-S. Huang, H.-Y. Wang
1Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, Taipei, Taiwan, 2Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Department of Thoracic Surgery, Taipei, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: Therapeutic procedure of trachea via fiberoptic bronchoscopy is a choice of treatment for airway lesions. Due to the nature of airway lesions and the competitive route for ventilation and the procedure itself, the airway management during the procedure has always been challenging and repeated airway manipulation is usually required. Unlike endotracheal intubation, supraglottic airway can not only serve as an alternative airway, but also as the route for fiberoptic bronchoscopy (as shown in Figure 1). In this study, we conducted a retrospective study to compare the requirement of repeated airway manipulation and the effectiveness of ventilation between supraglottic airway and endotracheal intubation.

Figure 1. The use of supraglottic airway in therapeutic procedure of trachea via fiberoptic bronchoscopy.

Materials and Methods: Patients who underwent therapeutic procedure of trachea via fiberoptic bronchoscopy under general anesthesia during 2019 to 2021 in Taipei Veterans General hospital were included. Charts were reviewed and perioperative data was compared. The primary outcome was the total number of times for repeated airway manipulation. The secondary outcome included oxygenation and the level of end-tidal CO2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repeated airway manipulation (Times)</th>
<th>Supraglottic airway (Cases)</th>
<th>Endotracheal tube (Cases)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>13 (92.9%)</td>
<td>2 (12.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 (7.1%)</td>
<td>12 (70.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>2 (12.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

W = 27, p-value = 0.00002427

Table 1. The primary outcome of the use of supraglottic airway and endotracheal tube.

Results and Discussion: 30 cases of therapeutic procedure were included. As shown in Table 1, there was a significant reduction of requirement for repeated airway manipulation with supraglottic airway compared to endotracheal intubation by the Mann-Whitney U test. The lowest saturation recorded was significantly higher with supraglottic airway and there was no significant difference of the level of end-tidal CO2 between the two groups.

Conclusion(s): The use of supraglottic airway for therapeutic procedure of trachea via fiberoptic bronchoscopy can reduce the requirement for repeated airway manipulation. In the meanwhile, it may offer a better oxygenation and compatible ventilation.

Analgesic efficacy and adverse effects of different analgesic regimens for video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery

1Instituto Português de Oncologia do Porto Francisco Gentil, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal, 2Instituto Português de Oncologia do Porto Francisco Gentil, Thoracic Surgery, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: In the past decade, the proportion of thoracic procedures performed by video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS) has increased dramatically. VATS is a minimally invasive procedure that allows a faster recovery after thoracic surgery. However, postoperative pain after VATS may affect the ability to cough and impair deep breathing and lung function, resulting in cardiorespiratory complications, delayed recovery, and increased costs. Analgesic regimens for VATS vary significantly.

The goal of this study was to evaluate the analgesic efficacy and adverse effects of different analgesic protocols for VATS.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective observational study that included adult patients submitted to uniportal VATS from 01/06/21 to 31/06/22 in a European Cancer Institute. We reviewed the analgesic protocols and compared postoperative pain scores, opioid consumption after surgery and possible adverse effects related to the analgesic strategy. Statistical tests were used as appropriate.

Results and Discussion: From 173 procedures included, 39.3% were lobectomies and 35.8% were sublobar resections. All patients received multimodal analgesia. 88.9% of the patients received conventional analgesia: 39.9% had a regimen with paracetamol, parecoxib and tramadol; 32.9% paracetamol and parecoxib; 13.9% paracetamol and tramadol and 2.2 % only paracetamol – all of these were included in the analgesic strategy. Statistical tests were used as appropriate.

Most of our patients had their pain well controlled with 83.2% and 74% reporting only mild pain, at rest or with movement respectively, in the recovery room. We didn’t find statistically significant differences between the different analgesic regimens in pain scores at the recovery room, 24, 48 or 72 h. Also, we found no statistically significant difference in morphine consumption. In 9 patients, hypotension was described, 4 of which (44.4%) were in the epidural group.
Conclusion: Conventional analgesia combined with intercostal nerve block had good analgesic results with minimal rescue analgesia and adverse events. Epidural analgesia was not superior in efficacy and may have more adverse events associated, namely hypotension.

07AP04-12
Effect of a perioperative opioid free anaesthesia-analgesia (OFA-A) strategy on surgical stress response in elective open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair: a prospective randomized study – early study findings

G. Papastratigakis1, G. Stefanakis1, V. Nyktari1,2, E. Koutoulaki1, G. Giannakakis3, A. Papaioannou1,2
1University of Crete, Faculty of Medicine, Heraklion, Greece, 2University of Crete, Faculty of Medicine, Heraklion, Greece, 3Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas (FORTH), Institute of Computer Science, Heraklion, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Open Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) repair is accompanied by intense surgical stress response. Our basic hypothesis is that a perioperative multimodal Opioid-Free Anaesthesia-Analgesia (OFA-A) strategy will lead to attenuation of the AAA repair stress response, compared to a conventional Opioid-Based Anaesthesia-Analgesia (OBA-A) strategy.

Materials and Methods: 40 patients in total, undergoing open infrarenal AAA repair, will be divided in 2 equal groups and managed under 2 different perioperative strategies, OFA-A and OBA-A. In both groups blood samples are collected at 4 timepoints and analysed for inflammatory markers (IL-6, IL-8, IL-10, TNF-a, CRP, cortisol, AVP, WBC). Haemodynamic data are collected every 20 s intraoperatively and analysed for evidence of haemodynamic instability. Parametric data were analysed via t-test. Non-parametric data were analysed via Mann Whitney U test.

Results and Discussion: Preliminary data (20 patients so far, 10 in each group), showed no statistically significant difference in noradrenaline, phenylephrine or ephedrine requirement. Haemodynamic data were not collected for 2 OFA-A patients. Analysis n=18 patients showed no statistically significant difference in haemodynamic instability episodes (defined as HR or BP ≥120% or ≤80% of baseline values, lasting ≥1 min). OFA-A patients required significantly more nitroglycerine (n=20, p=0.0348) postoperatively. Both groups received goal-directed fluid therapy and no statistically significant difference in fluid requirement were noted. OFA-A patients had a statistically significantly higher intraoperative urine output (n=20, p=0.04) and statistically significantly lower furosemide requirement (n=20, p=0.0161).

Cortisol levels were statistically significantly increased in the OBA-A group (26.29 ng/ml) compared to the OFA-A group (13.52 ng/ml) only 24 h post-aortic unclamping (U=20, z=-2.268, p=0.023). CRP and WBC did not show any statistically significant difference at any point of measurement. Analysis of the rest of the laboratory data is underway.

Conclusion(s): Despite the lack of difference in intraoperative haemodynamics up until this stage in the patients’ recruitment process, the statistically significant difference in the cortisol level 24 h post-unclamping could suggest an attenuation of the surgical stress response in the OFA-A group. Further patient recruitment and analysis of the rest of the inflammatory markers is required.

07AP05-01
Cardiac hydatid cyst: a rare case

D. Kızılay1, C. Aygün Muçoğlu1, S.D. Kücükaksu2
1Baskent University Istanbul Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Istanbul, Turkey, 2Baskent University Istanbul Hospital, Department Cardiovascular Surgery, Istanbul, Turkey

Background: Cardiac involvement of hydatid cysts is between %0.02 to %2. Clinical presentation may be asymptomatic, arrhythmia, valvular dysfunction, cardiac tamponade or failure, stroke and death.

Case report: Our 41 year old female patient presented with persistent cough. A hydatid cyst was detected in left ventricle cavity by transthoracic echocardiography. X-ray examination also revealed cysts in upper, middle and lower lobes of the left lung. The patient scheduled for hydatid cysts excision with cardiopulmonary bypass. Electrocardiography, pulse oximetry, end tidal CO2, invasive atrial pressure (right radial artery), central venous pressure (right internal jugular vein), urine output, temperature and cerebral oximetry monitoring were performed on patient. A transoesophageal echocardiography was placed. The induction made with 5 mg midazolam iv, 400 mcg fentanyl iv and the intubation made with 50 mg rocuronium bromate. Anaesthesia was maintained iv. infusion of remifentanil, iv. infusion of rucrominium bromate and 1% sevoflurane. The patient intubated with 37 Fr right endobronchial tube. Heart was approached with a median sternotomy. Multiple daughter cysts were removed from the left ventricle and the left lung. The patient was discharged 5 days after surgery.
Todology. Hemodynamic stability was not reached in the operating room and patient was transferred to the intensive care unit with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. Tryptase levels were evaluated after the event showing elevated results. During the next 24 hours, patient presented signs of general hypoperfusion and later died due to multiple organ failure.

**Discussion:** Patients with fish allergies are most at risk of a fatal reaction to protamine with a 13.2% mortality rate, recommending a skin prick test preoperatively. However, studies indicate that a positive skin test does not predict a patient’s reaction to protamine, and in our case, the test was negative. Other methods to prevent adverse events should be used, such as intradermal testing for its higher sensitivity or administration of a reduced amount of protamine before the full dose.

**Reference:**

**Learning Points:** A negative skin prick test does not exclude the possibility of life-threatening adverse reactions to protamine. Further tests should be performed in high risk patients before administering a full dose of protamine.

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**07AP05-02**
Protamine anaphylactic shock in patient with fish allergy and negative skin prick test

C. Ródenas Herranz1, S. Ferrer Reverte1, A. Plaza Saura1, B. García Iniesta1, E. Rubio Gil1, R. González Celdrán1
1Hospital General Universitario Reina Sofía, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Murcia, Spain

**Background:** Protamine, a protein isolated from salmon gonads, is the standard of care, if not sometimes the only method, for acute reversal of anticoagulation with heparin, despite its side effects. Life-threatening reactions in patients with independent risk factors are less than 2%. We present a case of anaphylactic shock in patient with mild fish allergy and negative skin prick tests for protamine.

**Case report:** A 64-year-old female underwent valve replacement and coronary artery bypass surgery, with a history of fish allergy. Due to her background, steroids and antihistamines were given before induction, even though skin prick tests for protamine were negative. After the procedure, she was effectively weaned off cardiopulmonary bypass, deciding to proceed to administer protamine. Following 200 mg of treatment, cardiovascular collapse and bronchospasms occurred, showing increased peak airway pressure, acute pulmonary hypertension leading to right ventricular failure, with reduced response to fluid replacement, steroids and inotropic support. Since anaphylactic shock secondary to protamine was suspected, further administration was avoided deciding to achieve hemostasis with blood products, guided by ACT and thromboelas-

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**07AP05-03**
Tracheal bronchus: a rare scenario of difficulty in lung isolation

D. Fonseca1, J. Lusquinhos2, T. Barbosa3
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Department of Anaesthetics, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Tracheal bronchus, usually diagnosed incidentally, is an aberrant bronchus that arises anywhere from cricoid cartilage to carina, most often from right tracheal wall, within 2cm of the carina1,2.

**Case report:** Female, 60 year-old, ASA II, proposed for excision of lung hamartoma. Pre-operative evaluation presented no alterations in blood analysis and electrocardiogram. Respiratory function test revealed: FEV1 60%, FVC 70% and positive response to bronchodilators. CT scan presented a pulmonary nodule (13mm maximal diameter) in left inferior lobe. She had no history of previous general anesthesia. Difficult airway was predicted by Mallampati III and UpperLipBit test class 2. We performed a balanced general anesthesia and airway approach was accomplished with left double lumen tube after two attempts, with the use of a bougie. After intubation, bronchoscopy was performed to confirm tube’s correct location. Difficulties were encountered in carina identification by bronchoscopy in tracheal lumen. When approaching bronchial lumen, tube was removed until true carina was identified. Repeating visualization in tracheal lumen, two distinct orifices were identified, prompting the diagnosis of tracheal bronchus just above the carina. Lung isolation was possible but difficult to perform due to this anatomical variant promoting easy cuff herniation and exclusive ventilation of upper right lobe. Intraoperative course was uneventful and patient was successfully extubated after 45 minutes of surgery.

**Discussion:** Presence of a right tracheal bronchus can lead to difficult lung isolation and right double lumen tube is probably a bad choice. Left double lumen tube can be used for both lung isolation but, although probably the best choice, its correct position-
ing can also be difficult as shown in this case. Bronchial blocker or EZ-blocker are probably feasible only for left lung isolation. In conclusion, the use of intraoperative bronchoscopy is essential to guarantee safe anesthetic management, allowing visualization of correct tube positioning. If performed preoperatively, it can detect anatomical variants and guide airway approach plan².

Reference:

Learning Points: Bronchoscopy is essential to guarantee a safe anesthetic plan and management in lung isolation.

07AP05-05
Left main bronchus injury during esophagectomy with puncture of the double lumen tube. Use of Fogarty catheter for right bronchus collapse.
A case report

B. Arroyo García¹, Á. Vasco Blázquez¹, L.C. Dominguez Ruiz¹, P. Garcia-Belenguer Cegoñino¹, F. Gutiérrez Tafur¹, D. Robador Martínez¹
¹Hospital Universitario de Burgos, Anesthesiology, Burgos, Spain

Background: Esophagus is anatomically positioned very close to trachea and main bronchi. Esophageal resection can damage these structures. Bronchial tree lesions during esophageal surgery are associated with potentially serious pulmonary complications.

Case report: 72 years old man undergoing esophagectomy. Orotracheal intubation was performed with left double lumen tube. The patient was placed in prone position to perform thoracoscopy and tracheal lumen was clamped for selective ventilation of left lung. A iatrogenic perforation of left main bronchus happened. Surgeons repaired it but they accidentally punctured the left ballon so lung isolation was impossible. We requested for a Fogarty catheter. We introduced it under fiberscope vision through the tracheal branch of the double lumen tube, placed it in the right main bronchus and inflated it with 5 ml of air. We achieved the isolation of the right lung and protective left single lung ventilation was successfully done.

Discussion: Airway damages secondary to esophageal surgery should be managed as soon as they are detected. Lung isolation alternatives may be weighed¹ ². We will suspect the persistence of bronchial damage if we observe a persistent air leak in the tube of thorax³.

References:

Learning points: Airway damage is a serious complication that we must know how to manage in our practice as anesthesiologists. Fogarty catheter can be a good alternative for lung isolation in one lung ventilation during thoracic surgery.
07AP05-06 Managing a patient with a tracheoesophageal fistula
B. Carvalho Gonçalves¹, A.C. Fernandes de Freitas¹, M. Azevedo¹, R. Rodrigues¹, D. Costa¹
¹Hospital Dr. Nélio Mendonça, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Funchal, Portugal

**Background:** The anesthesia management of patients with a tracheoesophageal fistula (TOF) is challenging. Despite various techniques of managing the airway and ventilation, selective bronchial intubation has been previously reported.¹

**Case report:** 50-years-old female cachectic patient, ASA IV, admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) under mechanical ventilation after voluntary ingestion of a caustic substance which resulted in an esophageal stricture and a TOF with bile drainage through the orotracheal tube. The patient was submitted to an esophageal-colic transposition with maintenance of the native esophagus and placement of a feeding jejunostomy. She was extubated on the third day post-operative but needed to be reintubated after excessive bile vomiting with aspiration and airway compromise. Due to her physical status and inadequacy for a major surgery, and after a multidisciplinary discussion, the patient was proposed for a bronchoscopy with the intention of placing a left double lumen tube whose tracheal cuff could block the fistula. The surgery was made under general anesthesia (GA), with ASA standard monitoring associated with anesthetic depth and invasive blood pressure monitoring.

On direct laryngoscopy, it was possible to visualize an edema and hyperemia of the glottis. The double lumen tube was introduced without complications. Aspiration of both bronchi was performed and correct tube position was confirmed with a pediatric bronchoscope. Three weeks after, the patient was submitted to an autologous pericardial patch to close the fistula under GA using the double scope. Three weeks after, the patient was submitted to an autologous pericardial patch to close the fistula under GA using the double scope. At the end of the surgery, the patient was transferred to the ICU for recovery.

**Discussion:** TOF presents a challenge of airway control and ventilation but also presents a challenge of aspiration prevention. It is crucial to formulate strategies to minimise spillover of gastric contents into the respiratory tract.²

**References:**

**Learning points:** A double lumen tube can be used as a technique to temporarily close a TOF until patient is fit for surgery and to isolate the lung when thoracic surgery is needed to repair the lesion.

07AP05-07 Management of a Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS) case under attempted conscious sedation requiring conversion to general anesthesia. A case report

M. Pertsikapa¹, D. Sarridou¹, E. Palaska¹, E. Theodosiadis¹, C. Foroullis², H. Argiriadou¹
¹AHEPA University Hospital of Thessaloniki, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Unit, Thessaloniki, Greece, ²AHEPA University Hospital of Thessaloniki, Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Thessaloniki, Greece

**Background:** Spontaneous breathing reduces many complications of mechanical ventilation¹. This case report is an example of non-intubated technique (NITS) in some selected patients during thoracoscopic procedures although there is a risk of conversion to intubation.

**Case report:** A 73 years old male with a smoking history, lung cancer, HTN, COPD, PAD and TIA, was scheduled for VATS wedge resection of the right lower lobe. Exercise tolerance was limited and he required intermittently low O₂ concentration therapy via nasal canulas preoperatively. Apart from his comorbidities his gas exchange and spirometry were of poor values. Upon arrival at the operating theatre, essential monitoring was applied, including BIS and capnography. Peripheral cannulation and invasive BP left radial line were established. O₂ was administered via face mask and patient was placed on the left lateral position. Conscious sedation was upgraded to GA via single-lumen tube and he was then placed again on left lateral position. Anesthesia was maintained with iv Midazolam 1 mg and TCI Remifentanil with titration from 0.5 ng/ml up to 1 ng/ml, was provided allowing spontaneous breathing. During the operation, the patient became tachypnoic impairing massively the operating conditions. Conscious sedation was upgraded to GA via single-lumen tube and he was then placed again on left lateral position. Anesthesia was maintained with TCI Propofol/Remifentanil 1/0.5 ng/ml. Apnoeic oxygenation was used for 15 minutes with mild desaturation. For analgesia iv 1g Paracetamol and Fentanyl 35 mcg were used and local infiltration with ropivacaine. The patient was extubated in the operating theatre, hemodynamically stable after the correction of his gas exchange initially with the transition to PSV mode before conversion to spontaneous ventilation. He was discharged after two days.

**Discussion:** The conversion rate from NITS to intubated varies between 2% and 11%. Prolonged hypoxemia/hypercapnia, disease characteristics, pain, airway hypersensitivity, ineffective intravenous sedation or a noncooperative patient are the most frequent indications for conversion¹.

Thorough anaesthetic planning can predict unanticipated intraoperative events such as discomfort or tachypnea that occurred in our case requiring conversion to GA.

**Learning Points:** An effective anesthetic plan combined with specified inclusion criteria, is essential for a successful implementation of NITS.

**Reference:**
07AP05-08
Perioperative considerations in a patient abusing metamfetamin

N. Salman1, Z.A. Demir1, M. Uçar1, A. Aykut1
1Health Sciences University Ankara City Hospital, Anesthesiology and Reanimation Department, Ankara, Turkey

Background: Substance abuse is an increasing problem worldwide. Pathologies such as hypertension, coronary artery spasm, infarction, cardiomyopathy, pulmonary hypertension, tremor, hemodynamic instability, kidney-liver failure, coagulation disorder, infection, pulmonary edema can be seen in patients using ecstasy. In this presentation, we describe perioperative anesthesia management in a patient who underwent tricuspid and mitral valve replacement operation.

Case report: A 35-year-old, 175cm, 60kg male patient was listed for TVR+MVR operation due to infective endocarditis. The patient, who had been addicted to methamphetamine for 2 years, had hypertensive, hyperthyroidism, had METS<4, poor general condition and SPAB:70 mmHg. The patient’s liver enzymes were slightly elevated and kidney functions were depressed (eGFR:65). After induction of anesthesia with ketamine, midazolam, lidocaine, fentanyl, rocuronium, maintenance was provided with sevoflurane-remitifentanil infusion. Tranexamic acid was given as 20mg/kg bolus and 2mg/kg infusion. USG guided bilateral pectointercostal facial block was performed after induction at two levels with a total of 60mL (15mLx4) of 0.25% bupivacaine.

The patient who bled 2000ml in the intraoperative period did not encounter any other surgical problem. CPB time was 180min, operation time was 360min. Intraoperatively, 3UES,2UFP, 10Ucryoprecipitate, 500mg cofact, 1g haemocopen, 2500cc crystalloid were given to the patient, 500mL urine output was obtained and 1200mL UF was performed.

At the end of cardiopulmonary bypass, norepinephrine, dopamine, dobutamine were required. Paracetamol 500mg and tramadol 60mg were administered at the end of the surgery. In case of VAS>4, paracetamol-tramadol were repeatedat (only 2 times). The patient was extubated on the 10th hour and was taken to the ward on the 5th day. Consent was obtained from the patient.

Discussion: Methamphetamine use is a well-known cause of pulmonary hypertension and hemodynamic changes during general anesthesia, and also potential hypotension may increase awareness, so hemodynamic depression and bleeding were aggressively managed and, both depth of anesthesia and hypoperfusion were confirmed. So hemodynamic depression and bleeding were aggressively managed and, both depth of anesthesia and hypoperfusion were monitored with BIS-NIRS. Analgesic management was provided with regional block and low dose analgesics. As a result, such patients require a good perioperative planning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Basal</th>
<th>After induction</th>
<th>CPB initial</th>
<th>CPB nadir temperature</th>
<th>CPB rewarming</th>
<th>CPB end</th>
<th>Sternal closure</th>
<th>ICU arrival</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PaO2</td>
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<td>206.6</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>212.4</td>
<td>200.8</td>
<td>187.5</td>
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<td>160</td>
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<td>99</td>
<td>99.1</td>
<td>99.1</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>96.7</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>98.7</td>
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<td>PaCO2</td>
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<td>36.3</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>35.4</td>
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<td>Lactate</td>
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<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>2.99</td>
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<td>2.08</td>
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<td>Hb (g/dL)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>10.4</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
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<td>NIRS Left/Right</td>
<td>59/57</td>
<td>69/66</td>
<td>58/62</td>
<td>62/64</td>
<td>65/66</td>
<td>70/71</td>
<td>74/76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temperature (°C)</td>
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<td>35.6</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>36.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urine (ml)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>500</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

07AP05-09
Opioid-free anaesthesia for thoracoscopic operation in a previous opioid dependent patient under detoxification

K. Manika1, E. Iordanidi1, A. Gkizli1, C. Papadoudi1, A. Sarigiannis1, P. Kouki1
1Nikaia Hospital, Dept of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Athens, Greece

Background: Perioperative pain management can be challenging for former opioid addicted patients under detoxification programs.

Case report: A 51-year-old male HCV positive, with a history of previous opioid addiction under detoxification and Vogt – Koyanagi – Harada syndrome was admitted for thoracoscopic excision of emphysematos cysts of the right lung. The patient has been on buprenorphine 16mg and diazepam 5 mg, as substitution therapy.

Multimodal, preemptive opioid free anaesthesia plan was organized including dexamethasone 8mg, MgSO4 infusion of 2.5gr (in 100mL N/S solution) and dexketoprofen 50mg.

Anaesthesia was induced with 180mg propofol and 70mg rocuronium. Ketamine 100mg bolus and 40μg dexmedetomidine (0.5μg/Kg BW) infusion were given immediately after intubation with 39Fr DLT. Anaesthesia was maintained with desflurane 4% to 6% (low flow, <1L/min) and O2/air. Intraoperative analgesia was maintained via a lidocaine pump (10mg/ml) in 7 ml/hr infusion.

Continuous esmolol infusion (10mg/ml) was introduced according to NOL indices. Intraoperative monitoring included ECG, SpO2, EtCO2, Entropy, core body temperature, invasive arterial blood pressure and NOL. A central venous catheter was also introduced. Vital signs intraoperatively were stable and NOL was ≤25 almost, throughout the operation.

At the end of operation (4 hours lasted) 1 gr of paracetamol was given. The surgeons did not wish to perform a peripheral nerve block. Postoperatively, PCIA infusion (according to Muller’s protocol) with a solution of lidocaine 10mg/ml, dexmedetomidine 1μg/ml and ketamine 1mg/ml (3.5ml/h and bolus at 1ml every 15min) under standard monitoring was administered in PACU and in the ward (2 days in total), along with 1gr paracetamol quid. VAS score ranged between 1-3.

Discussion: Multimodal preemptive induction and intraoperative continuous infusion of opioid free drugs, with appropriate monitoring (NOL) can be effective in perioperative pain management of previous opioid addicts for thoracoscopic operations.

Reference:

Learning points: Perioperative multimodal opioid free analgesia (dexamethasone, MgSO4, dexketoprofen, lidocaine, ketamine, esmolol, dexmedetomidine, paracetamol) along with appropriate monitoring can be effective for thoracoscopic surgery in former opioid addicted patients under detoxification.
**07AP06-01**

Right phrenic nerve pacing to reduce risk of hemidiaphragmatic palsy after atrial fibrillation ablation by radiofrequency

T. Poirier dit Caulier¹, O. Xhaet², B. Robaye², F. Dormal², A.-S. Dincq¹, M. Gourdin¹

¹Université catholique de Louvain / CHU UCL Namur, Department of Anesthesiology, Yvoir, Belgium, ²Université catholique de Louvain / CHU UCL Namur, Department of Cardiology, Yvoir, Belgium

**Background and Goal of Study:** Catheter Atrial fibrillation ablation (CAAF) is an approach to treat atrial fibrillation (AF). CAAF-related complications are rare but can induce to major morbidities. Persistent phrenic palsy (PPP) occurred in <1% and compromises respiratory function leading to severe morbidities, particularly in obese patients and patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, two AF risk factors (1, 2). Preventives strategies against PPP are not well documented. Historically, our cardiologists did not identify the phrenic nerve (PN) path. After several PN palsy, they changed their practice and systematically identify it by pacing on ablation sites looking for hiccups before right-sided pulmonary veins ablation. The aim of this retrospective study is to evaluate the interest of PN path identification by transauricular pacing prior CAAF in order to prevent PN palsy. All procedures are performed under general anesthesia.

**Materials and Methods:** After local IRB approval, we conducted a single center retrospective study. We compared two groups: Group (-), 491 patients without PN localization strategy, Group (+), 435 patients with PN localization strategy. CAAF technique was similar in both groups: a contact force-guided radiofrequency catheter (ThermoCool© SmartTouch) for CAAF (25-35W, Ablation Index >350-450). To locate right PN in Group (+), a transauricular pacing (20 mA, 1000 msec cycles) was applied before right-sided pulmonary veins ablation. If a hiccups is identified during pacing, ablation line was modified. All patients are monitored with accelerometer Philips IntelliVue® NMT to confirm decurarization (TOF ratio>25%) before pacing. PPP was diagnosed via a post-procedural chest X-Ray. Statistics used Chi-square and Mann-Whitney tests, p<0.05 is considered as statistically significant.

**Results and Discussion:** Any statistical difference was found between both groups in term of characterization of AF, demographic (age, Body mass index, sex) or cardiovascular features (CHADVasc Score, presence of hypertension, diabetes, cardiomyopathies, cardiac failure, thromboembolic events). In Group (+), PN stimulation was observed in 59% (256/435) patients resulting to a modification of ablation line in 16% (42/256). None Group (+) patient presented post-procedural PN palsy versus 6 in Group (-) (p=0.05). None difference was found at 12-month follow-up: Group (+) 82% success versus Group (-) 73% (p=0.48).

**Conclusion(s):** In our study, systematic research of the PN before CAAF lead to a significant risk reduction of PPP, supporting the necessity of Identification, an adequate neuromuscular monitoring and team communication.

**References:**

**07AP06-02**

Evaluation of common methods for double-lumen tube selection by 3D-reconstruction of left bronchial diameter

S. Weiland¹,², L. Mihatsch¹,²,³, P. Friederich¹

¹München Klinik Bogenhausen, Anaesthesiology, Critical Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, Munich, Germany, ²Technical University of Munich, TUM School of Medicine, Munich, Germany, ³Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Institute for Medical Information Processing, Biometry, and Epidemiology, München, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Selection of left double-lumen tubes (DLT) remains a matter of debate. DLT should be selected small enough to prevent airway damage and large enough to minimize airway resistance²,³. The left bronchial diameter (BD) is the critical anatomical structure and the largest DLT with ≥1 mm difference of BD to DLT diameter (ABD-DLT) is suggested². Selection methods approximate BD via sex and height¹, via tracheal diameter¹ or by 2D radiography⁴. Here, we determine BD by 3D-reconstruction, and evaluate common selection methods by applying the ≥1 mm criterion.

**Material and Methods:** 3D-reconstructions of BD were generated from CT scans (57♂, 43♀, height: 172±11 cm, age: 65±13 years). DLTs (Mallinckrodt, BronchoCath™, Dublin, Ireland) outer bronchial diameter was taken from the literature⁵. Difference in ABD-DLT was tested by repeated measure ANOVA. All p-values were Bonferroni corrected.

**Results:** DLT selection differed between methods (p<0.001, χ²-Test) and sexes (p<0.001 for all methods, Fisher Exact Tests). The ≥1 mm criterion selected 41 Fr DLTs in 96% of men, and as the only method 32 Fr DLTs (12% of women, Table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DLT Size (Fr)</th>
<th>21 mm criteria</th>
<th>24 mm criteria</th>
<th>25 mm criteria</th>
<th>28 mm criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>women</td>
<td>men</td>
<td>total</td>
<td>women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>5 0</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>5 1</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>6 0</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>5 1</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>22 55</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>77 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Distribution of DLT selection according to method**

ΔBD-DLT also differed between methods (p<0.001) and sexes (p<0.001). Regardless of the method >75% of men had a ΔBD-DLT >2.5 mm. Current methods did not meet the ≥1 mm criterion in 5-10% of patients and even allowed DLT selection with ΔBD-DLT<0 mm in up to 4% of women (Figure, following page).

**Conclusion:** Existing selection methods may violate the ≥1 mm criterion and hold the risk of bronchial damage in women and high airway resistance in men. If DLT selection by 3D-reconstruction reduces pulmonary complications needs further study.
07AP06-03

Intraoperative hemodynamic management by Acumen™ Hypotension Prediction Index in open abdominal aortic repair. Mind the DAP!

E. Giustiniano¹, F. Nisi¹, R. Aceto¹, F. Piccioni¹, M. Cecconi¹
¹IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Rozzano, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Open abdominal aortic repair (AAR) is an operation exposing the patient to the risk of intraoperative hypotension (IOH). IOH (mean arterial pressure, MAP, <65mmHg) has been demonstrated to be associated with the risk of poor post-operative outcome, [1],[2]. We used the semi-invasive hemodynamic monitoring platform Acumen HPI Hemosphere™ (Edwards Lifesciences, Irvin, CA, USA) which provides the Hypotension Prediction Index (HPI). This marker alerts about an incoming (within 5, 10 or 15 minutes) hypotension and along with other parameters regarding the response to vasoconstrictor or the vascular tone (dynamic elastance, Eadyn), the fluid responsiveness (stroke volume variation, SVV) and the contractility (dP/dt), permits to predict hypotension and the likely cause, [2],[3]. Since from our early experience with HPI we noticed that it starts to rise and then alerts when MAP is still in the range 65-75mmHg, we searched for the behavior of other monitored parameters which HPI could be more sensitive to.

Materials and Methods: We investigated 13 subjects submitted to elective AAR and monitored by Acumen HPI Hemosphere™ (Edwards Lifesciences, Irwin, CA, USA). HPI has been used according to a simple algorithm. We focused our analysis on the diastolic arterial pressure (DAP) correlation with HPI.

Results and Discussion: As Figure 1 shows, we found a strong correlation between DAP and HPI which resulted statistically significant (rs = -0.9405; p = 0.0000). HPI received some criticism by Enevoldsen et al, [3], about its potential over-estimation of hypotension when MAP is 65-75mmHg (“grey zone”). We found that within the grey zone of MAP (65-75 mmHg), diastolic pressure should be worthy of attention as it should be a sign of a low vascular tone, warning earlier than HPI alarm (set at 85/100 by default),[4]. Within the “grey zone” of MAP, when HPI is >50/100, DAP is too much often lower than 60 mmHg, despite its correlation with HPI is no more so strong (rs = -0.423).

Conclusion(s): Our results, showed that in apparently stable hemodynamics (MAP>65 mmHg), the diastolic blood pressure could be the marker of an incoming instability. So, Mind the DAP!

References:

07AP06-04

Relationship between preoperative plasma albumin levels and development of kidney injury after cardiac surgery: risk stratification through a recursive partitioning analysis

J. Miralles Bagán¹, L. Parrilla Quiles¹, T. Koller¹, P. Paniagua Iglesias¹, S. Sabaté Tenas¹, S. Pérez Garcia¹
¹Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Acute renal injury associated with cardiac surgery (AKI-CS) affects 36.8% of our cardiac surgery patients with normal preoperative renal function. AKI-CS is an important cause of morbidity and mortality, increasing the need for dialysis, economic costs and length of hospital stay. The plasma albumin level before cardiac surgery is an independent risk predictor for postoperative AKI. Recursive partitioning analysis (RPA) is a statistical method for multivariable analysis that allows stratification of individuals according to certain criteria. We conducted a retrospective study with 248 patients with ejection fraction higher than 40% undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass during 2018 and 2019 with the aim to assess the cut-off point related to the risk of developing AKI-CS depending on preoperative plasma albumin levels using the RPA.

Results and Discussion: A multivariate logistic regression model was performed including eight preoperative variables of all study patients. The selected variables were all described and published in previous studies as risk factors for AKI-CS. The selected variables were: glomerular filtration rate, plasma creatinine level, diuretic therapy, diabetes, hemoglobin, hypertension, ACEI and plasma albumin levels.

The only preoperative variable related to the development of the AKI-CS in our multivariate model was baseline albumin level. The cut-off point related to the risk of developing AKI-CS as a function of preoperative plasma albumin levels was 41 g/dl as assessed by RPA. 40.9% of patients with plasma albumin levels lower than 41 g/dl developed AKI-CS, while patients with albumin values above this cut-off point, developed AKI-CS only in 21.5% of cases.
Conclusion: Recursive partition analysis is an effective technique for the risk stratification of AKI-CS related to preoperative albumin plasmatic levels in patients undergoing cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass and ejection fraction higher than 40%

Reference:

07AP06-05
Right Ventricle Response to major lung resection: the RIVER study

F Nisi1, E. Giustiniano1, F. Piccioni1, R. Aceto1, M. Cecconi1
1IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Rozzano, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Major lung resection is associated with high post-operative morbidity and mortality, especially due to cardiorespiratory complications. Right Ventricle (RV) ejection, pulmonary artery pressure and tone are tightly coupled. Since the RV is exquisitely sensitive to changes in afterload, an acute increase in RV outflow resistance (i.e., acute pulmonary embolism) will cause acute RV dilatation and, a reduction of Left Ventricle compliance too, rapidly spiraling to acute cardiogenic shock and death.

We investigated the changes in RV performance after major lung resection.

Materials and Methods: In this prospective observational trial, we performed transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) in 30 patients looking for the incidence of early RV systolic dysfunction (defined as TAPSE < 17 cm, S'-TDI < 10 cm/s) and estimating the RV-PA coupling by the TAPSE/PAPs ratio after major lung resection. The TTE was performed before and immediately after surgery.

Results and Discussion: After the end of the operation the echocardiographic parameters of right ventricle function worsened. TAPSE decreased from 24 (21±28) to 18 (16±22) mm (p = 0.015) and PAPs increased from 26 (25±30) to 30 (25±39) mmHg (p = 0.013). TAPSE/PAPs ratio decreased from 0.85 (0.80±0.90) to 0.64 (0.54±0.79) mm/mmHg (p = 0.002).

Table. Pre- vs Post-operative heart function

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Before surgery</th>
<th>After surgery</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAP (mmHg)</td>
<td>90 (80–96)</td>
<td>86 (77–97)</td>
<td>0.939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR (bpm)</td>
<td>76 (65–83)</td>
<td>80 (74–88)</td>
<td>0.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAPSE/PAPs (mm/mmHg)</td>
<td>0.85 (0.8±0.9)</td>
<td>0.64 (0.54±0.79)</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAPSE (mm)</td>
<td>24 (21±28)</td>
<td>18 (16±22)</td>
<td>0.015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAPs (mmHg)</td>
<td>26 (25±30)</td>
<td>30 (25±39)</td>
<td>0.013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EF (%)</td>
<td>55 (55±58)</td>
<td>55 (53±55)</td>
<td>0.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S'-TDI (cm/sec)</td>
<td>13 (12±13)</td>
<td>12 (11±14)</td>
<td>0.555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IVC collapsibility (%)</td>
<td>33 (22±50)</td>
<td>30.5 (14.5±50)</td>
<td>0.048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BNP (pg/ml)</td>
<td>34 (21±62)</td>
<td>38 (29±76)</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troponin I (ng/dL)</td>
<td>2.6 (1.8±5.2)</td>
<td>44.75 (13±293.2)</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table. Pre- vs Post-operative heart function

Conclusion(s): In line with previous reports, after major lung resection the increase in afterload reduces the right ventricle function, but the impairment remains clinically not relevant.

The different clinical picture of an acute cor pulmonale due to pulmonary embolism implies that the pathogenesis of cardiac failure involves more pathways than the mere mechanic occlusion of the blood flow.

References:

07AP06-06
Long-term outcome patients, who had undergone open surgical reconstructions of the Ascending Aorta, the Aortic Arch for comparison with patients undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting (mortality, neurological, cognitive and psycho-emotional complications)

O.I. Zagorulko1, L.A. Medvedeva1, E.R. Charchan2, O.V. Drakina1, A.S. Oystrakh4, E.E. Semenyako5
1National Research Centre of Surgery, Pain Syndromes Therapy Department, Moscow, Russian Federation,
2National Research Centre of Surgery, Cardiosurgical Department I (Department of Reconstructive Cardiovascular Surgery), Moscow, Russian Federation, 3I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University, Department of Operative Surgery and Topographic Anatomy, Moscow, Russian Federation, 4National Research Centre of Surgery, Intensive Care Unit II, Moscow, Russian Federation

Goal of Study: To identify mortality, stroke, cognitive and psycho-emotional disorders in the long-term postoperative periods in patients with Ascending Aorta and the Aortic Arch surgery.

Materials and Methods: The prospective study included 150 patients.

Group I (n=50) underwent aortic arch surgery with antegrade cerebral perfusion (ACP) and hypothermic circulatory arrest (26°C). Group II (n=50) survived ascending aortic replacement with extra-corporeal circulation (EC) and moderate hypothermia (32°C).

Group III (n=50) - control group after coronary artery bypass grafting. All 150 patients underwent a balanced multicomponent anesthesia based on propofol, midazolam, ketamine, fentanyl and sevoflurane.

Before and after surgery all patients underwent testing (MOCa, HADS, Covy anxiety Scale) and the postoperative delirium testing (RASS, CAM or ICDSC). Some of patients dropped out of the study, that is why only 80,67% patients were examined 5 years after surgical treatment (n=121), 67.33% - 10 years (n=101).

Results and Discussion: Mortality, stroke and changes in the neurological sphere are presented on the picture. The Long-term mental disorders were correlated with age, preoperative baseline cognitive impairment, intraoperative microembolisation or episodes of decreased cerebral perfusion, postoperative delirium and increased duration of EC more than 3 hours and ACP more than 48 minutes. Postoperatively in 16% of patients, with high HADS scores a significant effect on the cognitive sphere was recorded (p<0,01).

Conclusion: The control group showed, that aortic surgery is more complex in terms of long-term results of the intellectual sphere of patients and strongly depends on the competent management of the postoperative period in the intensive care unit. The main attention should be paid to the early detection of the patient’s neurological impairment, diagnostic of subsyndromal delirium. Dynamic testing can identify psycho-emotional and cognitive disorders, delirium and cause therapy correction. The intellectual deficit can be aggravated by anxiety-depressive disorders or mask it, cause of their common localization of pathophysiological processes in the brain.
Results: Low VAS score of hunger, thirst and anxiety in Group A compared to B (1.5±0.5 vs 6.9±1), (1.5±0.5 vs 7.7±0.8), (4.5±0.8 vs 4.7±8.9) and also in group C compared to D (1.5±0.5 vs 6.8±1), (1.6±0.5 vs 7.1±0.8), (4.5±0.6 vs 4.8±0.7), P< 0.001 respectively. During CPB and first POD elevated blood sugar levels were noted in group B compared to A (190.4±16.5 vs 172.4±12.6), (156.3±7.5 vs 146.4±7.5), p<0.001 similarly in group D to C (155.3±16.7 vs 144.6±12.2), (156.3±7.5 vs 146.4±7.5), p< 0.001 respectively.

Insulin requirements were less in Group A compared to B (13.1±5.1 vs 18.5±0.3) and also in group C compared to D (0.2±0.6 vs 1.1±0.9), p< 0.001. Inotrope score was high in group B compared to A (4.5±4.3 vs 2.5±3.3, p< 0.001). No significant difference in ventilation duration, ICU and hospital stay between groups.

Conclusion: PCHO is safe in diabetic patients and reduces VAS scores for hunger, thirst, anxiety, and inotropic requirements. In diabetic and non-diabetics, PCHO reduces perioperative hyperglycemia and insulin requirement.

07AP06-07
The safety and efficacy of preoperative carbohydrate loading in diabetic and non-diabetic cardiac surgical patients

S. Indrajit1, A. Ramar1, M. Alex2, H. Anandan3, B. Ninan1
1The Madras Medical Mission, Cardiac Anesthesia, Chennai, India, 2The Madras Medical Mission, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Chennai, India, 3The Madras Medical Mission, Cardiology, Chennai, India

Background and Goal of Study: Traditional Nil per Oral for 6 – 8 hours’ prior surgery causes emotional and metabolic stress leading to perioperative hyperglycemia. Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Society recommends preoperative oral carbohydrate loading (PCHO) for cardiac surgical patients to reduce hyperglycemia and insulin resistance. No major studies to evaluate the safety and efficacy of PCHO in diabetic patients. We aim to assess the effect of PCHO in diabetic and non-diabetic patients undergoing cardiac surgery.

Materials and Methods: In this prospective randomized study, 500 cardiac surgical patients were enrolled between November 2020 to October 2021 after obtaining institutional ethics committee approval. The patients were divided into Group A- Diabetic carbohydrate loaded, Group B –Diabetic placebo, Group C – Non-diabetic carbohydrate loaded, Group D – Non-Diabetic placebo. 12 hours’ prior surgery, for PCHO patients 100 gm of maltodextrin in 800 ml of water followed by 50gm in 400 ml of water before 2 hours of procedure were given. Same amount of plain water given to placebo groups. Using visual analogue scale (VAS) hunger, thirst, anxiety, nausea and pain were measured. As per institutional protocol procedure was done. The blood sugar levels measured from induction to first post-operative day (POD). Total insulin requirement, inotrope score, ventilation duration, infections, Intensive care unit (ICU) and hospital stay were recorded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group I (patients)</th>
<th>Group II (patients)</th>
<th>Group III (patients)</th>
<th>Total n of patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preoperatively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate cognitive disorders</td>
<td>8 (5.33%)</td>
<td>5 (3.33%)</td>
<td>2 (1.33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe cognitive disorders</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postoperatively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>1 (0.67%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delirium (subsyndromal form)</td>
<td>10 (6.67%)</td>
<td>5 (3.33%)</td>
<td>2 (1.33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate cognitive disorders</td>
<td>21 (14%)</td>
<td>13 (8.33%)</td>
<td>5 (3.33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe cognitive disorders</td>
<td>4 (2.67%)</td>
<td>1 (0.67%)</td>
<td>2 (1.33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>2 (1.33%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term period – 5 years</td>
<td>121</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate cognitive disorders</td>
<td>14 (11.57%)</td>
<td>8 (6.67%)</td>
<td>4 (2.67%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe cognitive disorders</td>
<td>4 (3.31%)</td>
<td>2 (1.65%)</td>
<td>2 (1.65%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>1 (0.67%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>2 (1.33%)</td>
<td>1 (0.67%)</td>
<td>2 (1.65%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term period – 10 years</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate cognitive disorders</td>
<td>24 (23.7%)</td>
<td>14 (13.86%)</td>
<td>10 (9.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe cognitive disorders</td>
<td>6 (7.9%)</td>
<td>5 (4.95%)</td>
<td>3 (2.97%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>2 (1.98%)</td>
<td>2 (1.98%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>1 (0.99%)</td>
<td>2 (1.98%)</td>
<td>3 (2.97%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

07AP06-08
Improving performance of the Cleveland Clinic Score for predicting AKI after cardiac surgery: a prospective multicenter cohort study

M. Vives1, A. Candela2, P. Monedero1, E. Tamayo2, D.N. Wijeyasurydrea, D. Nagore3, on behalf of the Spanish Perioperative Cardiac Surgery Research Group
1Clínica Universidad de Navarra, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Pamplona, Spain, 2Hospital Ramon y Cajal, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Madrid, Spain, 3Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valladolid, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Valladolid, Spain, 4Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael’s Hospital, University of Toronto, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Toronto, Canada, 5Barts Heart Hospital, St Bartholomew’s Hospital, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, London, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Cardiac Surgery-Associated Acute Kidney Injury (CSA-AKI) is associated to increase short and long-term mortality rates. Prediction of CSA-AKI is crucial for early detection and treatment. Current predictive models may be improved by potentially useful preoperative and intraoperative information.

Materials and Methods: In this multicenter prospective cohort study, we recruited 261 consecutive patients at high risk for developing cardiac surgery-associated AKI, based on a Cleveland score of = or > 4 points, from July to December 2017 in 14 hospitals in Spain and the United Kingdom. Postoperative AKI occurred in 145 patients (55.5%). Receiver operator characteristics curve (AUC) of a base model including only the Cleveland Clinical Score (CCS) were compared to models including additional preoperative and intraoperative variables including estimated glomerular filtration rate instead of plasmatic creatinine, intraoperative urine output, baseline hemoglobin, nadir hemoglobin and glycosylated hemoglobin instead of diabetes mellitus. AKI was defined by the Acute Kidney Injury Network (AKIN) 2007 criteria. Performance of each model for any AKIN stage, as well as for AKIN stage I, stage II or III, and for Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) were compared.

Results and Discussion: The CCS alone gave an AUC of 0.67 (95% CI, 0.56–0.78) for postoperative AKI. None of the single variables added to the base model CCS improve discrimination. AUC for postoperative AKI was improved when baseline hemoglobin, estimated
Glomerular Filtration Rate (eGFR) instead of plasmatic creatinine, glycosylated hemoglobin, instead of diabetes mellitus, and nadir hemoglobin was added to the CCS (AUC = 0.77; 95% confidence interval, 0.67–0.87; P = 0.02).

**Conclusion(s):** Adding baseline hemoglobin, eGFR, glycosylated hemoglobin and nadir intraoperative hemoglobin may be useful for improving discrimination of clinical predictive risk scores for AKI, and it may provide a target for intervention.

07AP06-09
Carotid artery doppler screening in adult cardiac surgery patients – is it an effective screening method and does it predict post-operative cerebrovascular accidents in a racially diverse patient population?

P.C. Sivadasan1, F Al Ishak2, A. Alkhulaifi2, C.S. Carr2
1Hamad Medical Corporation, Division of Cardiac Anesthesia, Cardiothoracic Surgery Department, Doha, Qatar, 2Hamad Medical Corporation, Cardiothoracic Surgery Department, Doha, Qatar

**Background and Goal of Study:** Carotid artery doppler screening is often used pre-cardiac surgery in order to stratify the risk for postoperative stroke. We aimed to see whether such screening predicts post-operative cerebrovascular accidents and whether it is associated with left main stem coronary artery disease in our diverse patient population.

**Materials and Methods:** We targeted the patients that underwent cardiac surgery for the years 2017-2020. The collected data includes data on left main stem coronary disease, carotid stenosis, ejection fraction, as well as demographics, smoking, and chronic diseases. Post-operative neurological findings (up to 30 days) were also collected.

The data is compared to data from the patients who did not undergo Carotid doppler to further evaluate the effectiveness of the same. Exclusions include doubtful neurological status and pre-op Intra-aortic balloon pump or other mechanical circulatory support.

**Results and Discussion:** The number of patients undergoing pre-operative carotid doppler increased 6-fold over the study period (a total 817 with doppler). In patients with significant left main stem disease who underwent doppler, an average of 17% also had significant carotid artery disease. Of those patients who underwent doppler, 1.2% had post-operative neurological findings. In those without screening (a total of 549 with no doppler), an average of 0.9% had post-operative neurological findings. There was no correlation between positive neurological findings and significant carotid artery disease.

**Conclusion(s):** There appears to be no difference in neurological outcome between the group who underwent carotid doppler and the group who did not. There was no apparent association with the presence of left main stem coronary artery disease. Carotid doppler costs 192USD to perform (charge quoted by a private hospital in this country), whereas the patient is only charged 14USD. There appears to be no cost-effectiveness in doing pre-operative carotid doppler in cardiac surgery patients in Qatar.

**References:**

**Acknowledgements:** CT surgery physicians for data entry

07AP06-10
VITALISE-Pilot, a feasibility project to test methods and feasibility for the definite VITALISE-study: ex Vivo opTimisAtion of donor Lungs with Inhaled SEvoflurane during normothermic ex vivo lung perfusion, a project from bench to bedside

T. Steinkühler1, S. Yang1, M. Struys1, M. Jabaadoun2, H. Leuvenink1, G. Nieuwenhuijs-Moeke1
1UMCG, University of Groningen, Anaesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 2iGRed, Université Clermont Auvergne, Perioperative Medicine, Clermont-Ferrand, France, 3UMCG, University of Groningen, Surgery, Groningen, Netherlands

**Background:** Volatile anaesthetics have shown to reduce pulmonary ischemia reperfusion injury (IRI) in various animal models and humans and are associated with reduced levels of oxidative stress and inflammation, reduced pulmonary oedema and improved oxygenation. Ex vivo lung perfusion (EVLP) facilitates evaluation of potential grafts and enables extension of preservation time.

In addition, EVLP could serve as therapeutic platform to improve quality of donor lungs. We hypothesize that ventilating lungs with sevoflurane during EVLP is feasible and improves lung quality.

**Methods:** We performed a pilot study to test the feasibility of ventilating lungs with sevoflurane during EVLP in a slaughterhouse sheep model, comparable with the clinical setting of a deceased circulatory dead donor. Lungs were harvested, flushed, and preserved in cold storage for 3h, after which EVLP (4 hours) was initiated. When a temperature of 32°C was reached ventilation was started. The lungs were ventilated with a mixture of air and oxygen (EVLP, n 5) and in the intervention group sevoflurane 2% end tidal concentration (Cet) was added (S-EVLP, n 5). Perfusion and tissue samples were collected and functional measurements, including perfusate gas, were recorded and analysed. Compliance data were recorded every 30 minutes. Normally distributed, repeated measurements were analysed with a two-way ANOVA and a Mann Whitney test was used for not-normally distributed data.

**Results:** After approximately ten minutes, a steady state of the target Cet sevoflurane was reached. The S-EVLP group showed markedly better dynamic lung compliance over time than the EVLP group (p = 0.003). Oxygenation capacity was non-significantly superior in treated lungs, indicated by a better delta pO2 (+3.8 vs. -11.7 kPa, p = 0.151) and a higher P/F ratio (437 vs. 347 mmHg, p = 0.054). Sevoflurane was measurable in the perfusate. Samples that have been taken right after the deoxygenation period showed decreased sevoflurane levels in the perfusate compared with samples taken during normal perfusion settings.

**Conclusion:** Ventilating lungs with sevoflurane during EVLP is feasible and showed potential to improve lung quality.
Identifying factors which may predict remarkable cerebral hypoperfusion during carotid endarterectomy

Á. Sándor¹, A. Szabó¹, E. Losoncz², Z. Czinege³, P. Sótonyi³, A. Székely¹

¹Semmelweis University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Budapest, Hungary, ²Bács-Kiskun County Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kecskemét, Hungary, ³Semmelweis University, Department of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Budapest, Hungary

Background: Cerebral hypoperfusion during carotid endarterectomy may lead to several complications. In our previous study it was shown, that the border of potential harmful desaturation referring to cognitive function is 16.6% with sensitivity of 82.9%, specificity 77.8%.

Proper haemodynamic management on the part of the anaesthesiologist may not always be sufficient to prevent hypoperfusion and consecutive desaturation. In these cases shunt use may provide appropriate cerebral circulation. But preoperatively the indication of shunt use is not always obvious. We proposed to explore factors which may worsen cerebral hypoperfusion, and thus strengthen the indication for shunt use.

Methods: We enrolled 80 patients undergoing carotid endarterectomy (CEA) at Városmajor Heart and Vascular Center, Semmelweis University, Budapest, between 2019 and 2021. The surgeries were performed under general anaesthesia. To optimize collateral cerebral blood flow, mean arterial pressure (MAP) was kept within a 20% range of the baseline.

To detect cerebral hypoperfusion we monitored cerebral tissue saturation during the entire procedure using NIRS (Somanetics Invos 4000).

The maximum desaturation during the clamping period was calculated postoperatively. On this basis two patients group was formed according to a 16.6% desaturation limit.

Before surgery, a very detailed case history and a questionnaire were taken to assess the patients cognitive and “frailty” status.

Results: All 80 patients (45 men, mean age of 70.05±6.9 years, Vasc. Possum:19.06±2.991) were asymptomatic. 47 patients underwent EEA and in 33 patients TEA with shunt was performed.

From the comorbidities insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (p: 0.009), hyperlipidaemia (p: 0.001) and peripheral arterial disease (p: 0.001) showed significant connection with the degree of desaturation using the χ² test. Analysing the frailty questionnaire, preoperative weight loss (p: 0.006) and preoperative stress (p: 0.002) showed significant connection with the degree of desaturation. There was a significant correlation between the Nagi score (p: 0.001, Spearman rho: -0.568), social support (p: 0.005, Spearman rho: -0.422) and desaturation.

Conclusion: In our study we attempted to identify factors for the better evaluation of shunt indication. Beside comorbidities we have found other social factors, the presence of which may forecast cerebral hypoperfusion, and which thus may help in the decision making process about shunt use.

Can you HOLD or can YOU hold?

T. Tomić Mahešić¹, S. Juren Meaški², M. Tomićic³, M. Kasalo¹, M. Čalušić¹, B. Maločić³

¹UHC Zagreb, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, ²UHC Zagreb, Department of Neurology, Zagreb, Croatia, ³University of Zagreb School of Medicine, University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Department of Neurology, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: The cerebrovascular reactivity (CVR) is reduced in patients with internal carotid artery (ICA) stenosis to a point where cerebral perfusion is decreased, which leads to the dilatation of cerebral arterioles. An increase in arterial CO2 (which occurs after 30 sec of breath holding) also influences arteriolar dilatation. However, the brain has its own capacity for further arteriolar dilatation, and in this group of patients by measuring the difference in cerebral blood flow, CVR can be estimated. We assumed cerebral reactivity need time till recovered after carotid endarterectomy.

Materials and Methods: Fifty-five patients with internal carotid stenosis with an indication for carotid surgery procedure (aged 53-86 years) were divided into two groups according to preoperative neurological status: 28 symptomatic (TIA in anamnesis) and 27 asymptomatic. Breath-holding index (BHI) was measured and calculated the day before surgery, after the surgery procedure, and after 8 weeks. During measurements, two transducers were placed on the temporal bone window, and three breath-holding procedures were performed. The mean of all values was calculated. This study tested differences in the dynamics of BHI at these time points, as a surrogate of cerebral blood flow.

Results and Discussion: BHI is a non-invasive, using transcranial Doppler (TCD) difference in blood velocity of the middle cerebral artery (MCA) is measured during the rest phase and then during a breathing pause of 30 seconds. Analyzing our data we found a statistically significant difference only in symptomatic patients on the right side. When preoperative BHI values 0.62 (+/- SD 0.40) were compared with postoperative values, immediately after surgery we notice an average decline of 0.45 (+/- SD 0.23) p=0.02, but after 8 weeks BHI recovered 0.8 (+/- SD 0.40) p=0.0002. As the diameter of MCA is not influenced by CO2, the flow velocity change reflects the changes in cerebral blood flow.

Conclusion(s): According to available data in the literature, BHI should be significantly decreased with increased stenosis of the ICA. A BHI value <0.69 was found pathological. Measuring BHI at different time points after surgery, we found time is needed for improvement in cerebral blood flow. For a better understanding of statistically significant improvements only on the right side, more patients are needed to strengthen the quality of our results.
07AP07-01
Anesthetic management for pulmonary trunk aneurysmectomy with patent ductus arteriosus

F. Torres¹, A. Koyama¹, C. Ferreira¹, D. Hatanaka¹, D. Gaia², A. Teruya¹
¹Moriah Hospital, Anesthesiology, Sao Paulo, Brazil, ²Santa Catarina Hospital, Cardiovascular Surgery, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Pulmonary artery aneurysm (PAA) is a rare finding in the population and has multiple etiologies¹. Woman, 29 years old, previous percutaneous treatment of congenital pulmonary valve stenosis in childhood, presenting with PAA with severe valve insufficiency, right heart failure symptoms, ventricular and atrial dilatation, and pulmonary hypertension. Aneurysmectomy and reconstruction of the pulmonary trunk, and arteries, were indicated, with a valved tube. Total intravenous general anesthesia was chosen. Added to standard monitoring, minimally invasive cardiac output monitor, bispectral index monitor, and transesophageal echocardiography were used.

After pulmonary decompression, already in CPB, there was an abrupt drop in mean arterial pressure, unresponsive to vasopressor, reaching 18 mmHg, with an immediate need to return to spontaneous circulation, opening of the aortic clamp. In the absence of technical factors that could justify the hypotension, the existence of a shunt was suggested. Intraoperative echocardiography showed patent ductus arteriosus (PDA), requiring correction. CBP was restarted uneventfully after the closing of the PDA. Despite the prolonged CPB, and technical difficulty, the procedure was finished uneventfully. Weaning from CPB was uncomplicated with dobutamine and nitropresside infusion. As bleeding was noted in the surgical field, a thromboelastometry was performed and the patient was further treated with protamin and platelet apheresis. The patient was transferred to the ICU, intubated, receiving dexmedetomidine, and dobutamine. Complex and rare cases may be extremely challenging even for the most experienced professionals. According to Laplace’s law⁴, shunt flow or valvular disease cause persistent hemodynamic stress, leading to PAA formation, dilatation, and rupture. Therefore to prevent undesirable events, the causative factor must be diagnosed and treated.

References:

Learning Points: Sudden intraoperative events may require quick and effective action and suspicion. A multidisciplinary and specialized team is vital to manage complex and rare pathologies. Thinking of differential diagnoses was fundamental for the resolution and success of this case.

07AP07-02
Near-infrared spectroscopy guided anesthesia in a patient submitted to cardiac surgery compromised with unusual carotid-vertebral occlusive disease

R. Zdravkovic¹,², A. Redzek¹,², Z. Jonjev³, M. Golubovic¹,², N. Videnovic⁴, M. Rosic¹,²
¹University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, ²Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases of Vojvodina, Clinic for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremka Kamenica, Serbia, ³University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Medicine, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ⁴University of Pristina, Faculty of Medicine, Kosovska Mitrovica, Serbia

Background: Cardiac surgery patients are at a relatively high risk of neurological complications, primarily stroke. Patients with the occlusive carotid disease are particularly susceptible to this complication.

Case report: We report the case of a 62-year-old male patient, admitted for aortic valve replacement. Bilateral common carotid artery occlusion (BCCAO) and bilateral internal carotid artery occlusion (BICAO) have been reported in the past, as well as right vertebral artery (VA) occlusion (Figure 1). Given his medical history, the patient was at a very high risk of a perioperative stroke. Aortic valve replacement was performed in the standard fashion using cardiopulmonary bypass because, at that time, transcatheter aortic valve implantation was not performed in our institution.

In the perioperative course, the patient maintained hemodynamic stability; the gas exchange was adequate, and hematocrit and hemoglobin levels were satisfactory. Cerebral oximetry was assessed using near-infrared spectroscopy. Also, the bispectral index was used to monitor the depth of anesthesia (Figure 2). After the surgery, the patient was transferred to the intensive care unit. No neurological deficit was apparent on emergence from anesthesia, and the patient was extubated after 8 hours. After 10 days, he was discharged in good overall condition.

Figure 1.
Use of antithrombin III concentrates has been shown to successfully anet-alfa/

References:

Glasgow, United Kingdom
discharged home 12 days later.

returned pump blood. The patient recovered uneventfully and was
numerous blood clots were visible in the venous reservoir and the
commenced. The operation was completed successfully, however
quired for safe CPB, but an anti-FXa level was 4.68U/ml so CPB was
than 500U/kg the ACT remained less than the 400s threshold re-
ter 300U/kg of heparin the ACT increased only to 190s. After more

tertiary cardiac centre for immediate repair of the dissection and
was administered by the local medical team prior to transfer to the
atrial fibrillation for which he was anticoagulated with edoxaban. AA
A 75 year old man presented with a De-Blakey type
Case report:

andexanet alfa:
a case of clots on cardiopulmonary bypass

Background:

Andexanet alfa (AA) is licensed for reversal of direct
factor Xa (FXa) anticoagulation in cases of major bleeding1. We
present a case of heparin resistance and cardiopulmonary bypass
(CPB) clots caused by AA during emergency surgery for acute aor-
tic dissection.

Case report: A 75 year old man presented with a De-Blakey type
1 acute aortic dissection with a background of hypertension and
atrial fibrillation for which he was anticoagulated with edoxaban. AA
was administered by the local medical team prior to transfer to the
tertiary cardiac centre for immediate repair of the dissection and
aortic valve. Baseline activated clotting time (ACT) was 138s but after
300U/kg of heparin the ACT increased only to 190s. After more
than 500U/kg the ACT remained less than the 400s threshold re-
quired for safe CPB, but an anti-FXa level was 4.68U/ml so CPB was
commenced. The operation was completed successfully, however
numerous blood clots were visible in the venous reservoir and the
returned pump blood. The patient recovered uneventfully and was
discharged home 12 days later.

Discussion: In vitro data suggests binding of AA to the heparin-
antithrombin III complex results in heparin resistance but its use for
anti-FXa reversal before urgent surgery has not been evaluated2. Anti-FXa assays, an alternative measure of coagulation to ACT,
causes AA to dissociate from direct FXa inhibitors in the laboratory
causing detection of falsely elevated anti-FXa levels and an underes-
timation of the effect of AA3.

Use of antithrombin III concentrates has been shown to successfully
treat heparin resistance associated with AA administration2 and may
have been useful to prevent clots in the circuit in this case.

References:

 anet-alfa/

2. N Thalji, P Patel, R Camire; Administration of Andexanet Alfa for
Direct Factor Xa Inhibitor Reversal Precludes Therapeutic Heparin-
3. Apostel H, Winckers K, Bidar E et al. Successful antithrombin
administration in andexanet alfa-associated heparin resistance J

Learning points: AA resulted in heparin resistance in this case and therefore its administration should be withheld when possible prior to emergency surgery requiring CPB. In cases where it has been given, Anti-FXa levels are unreliable and consideration of anti-thrombin III infusion should be given prior to CPB.

07AP07-05
Splenic rupture after iliac artery angioplasty: a case report

S. Garrido Ondoño1, M. Rosas Lario1, M. Juárez Pomes4, L. Blasco Torres1, M. De la Rosa-Estadella1, M. Serrano Martin1
1Hospital Universitari Parc Tauli, Dept of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Sabadell, Spain

Background: The aortoiliac obstructive disease is a common cause of chronic limb-threatening ischemia. The endovascular approach has been recognised as an effective alternative to the open surgical revascularization due to the further development and widespread availability of endovascular devices. However, it is not a procedure exempt from complications and it is estimated around 1% of major complications1.

We present a rare case of an iatrogenic splenic laceration and its management in a patient who had been performed an iliac angioplasty.

Case report: A 54-year-old gentleman, with history of chronic hepatitis C, presented for elective endovascular iliac artery recanalization. In the postoperative period, the patient presented abdominal pain accompanied with hypotension. The analytical results highlighted an hemoglobin drop of three points (being initially of 13.3 g/dL) and lactate of 42mg/ml.

An abdominal CT scan showed signs of splenic rupture associated with a voluminous splenic hematoma with active bleeding. The patient underwent an emergency splenectomy, finding a complete splenic rupture with 2.5L of hemoperitoneum. Intraoperatively, it highlights the necessity of vasopressor use (noradrenaline 1mcg/ kg/min) and massive transfusion.

At the end of the procedure, the patient was transferred to the intensive care unit for ventilatory and hemodynamic support, being extubated 48h after surgery and discharged from the hospital on the 12 th postoperative day.

Discussion: The majority of iliac artery interventions complications are access site-related, due to the revascularization procedure itself or related to stent misadventures. Therefore, there are rare but life-threatening complications, such as iatrogenic splenic injury. It should be routinely considered in patients who have been enrolled in a technique which implies manipulation of larger guidewires or catheters, that can be related to distal complications, so as to allow for early intervention and so that the definitive management can be instituted.

Reference:

Tratamiento endovascular de la patología obstructiva aortoiliaca. Angiología 2011; 63(2): 75-94.
Learning Points: Distal complications such as splenic lesions should be considered in any patient who undergoes endovascular procedures, especially if they remain hypotensive, and physicians need to be hypervigilant for any signs and symptoms of intra-abdominal bleeding.

07AP07-06
Surgical repair of a true axillary artery aneurysm by cephalic vein graft under regional anesthesia by PECS II and infraclavicular brachial plexus block: a case report

M. Stifano1, FE. Agrò1, E. Tomaselli1, M.C. Conti1, A. Strumia1, C. Fabio1
1Fondazione Policlinico Campus Bio-Medico, Anaesthesiology, Rome, Italy

Background: Axillary true aneurysms are not uncommon. Surgical repair is usually performed via trans-axillary approach under general anaesthesia.

A major concern with locoregional anaesthesia is the difficulty of covering the axillary region. The pecto-serratus plane (PSP) block is a safe regional technique that involves the axillary region and blocks the intercostobrachial, intercostals III-IV-VI, the thoraco-dorsal and the long thoracic nerves. We report a successful anaesthetic management of a true axillary aneurysm repair under regional anaesthesia only.

Case report: A 61-year-old woman with a 2 cm true aneurysm of the right axillary artery underwent surgical repair by means of an ipsilateral cephalic vein graft.

An ultrasound (US) guided PSP block and an infraclavicular brachial plexus (ICB) block were performed. PSP block was performed in the plane between the serratus anterior muscle and pectoralis minor muscle above the third rib with 25 mL of 0.5% ropivacaine.

ICB was performed by injection of 5 mL of 0.5% ropivacaine close to the lateral cord and 10 mL of the same solution below the artery impinging the vessel-related pain. The patient did not complain of pain or nausea. No opioids were required perioperatively.

Discussion: This is the first report of an axillary aneurysm repair performed under regional anaesthesia. We chose to inject the anaesthetic on the third rib instead of the fourth, to facilitate its flow toward the axilla rather than serratus plane; similarly, we chose an ICB approach to the brachial plexus to cover the vein graft region and simultaneously deliver perivascular local anaesthesia while reducing the vessel-related pain.

Reference:

Learning Points: Adequate knowledge of anatomy allows regional techniques to be combined to cover all required surgical maneuvers.

07AP07-07
Anaesthetic management of a patient with fontan circulation: a case report

A. Calle1, F. Moraga1, A. Gallo1, C. Menéndez1, P. Cruz1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

Background: Incidence of single ventricle congenital disease is around 5 per 100,000 births. Corrective surgery is the technique of choice, being Fontan surgery (FS) one of the most performed, which achieves a survival rate of around 84 percent at 20 years of life1. We present the case of a patient with Fontan circulation and its anaesthetic considerations.

Case Report: 24-year-old male, 183cm tall and 75kg weight, with a history of hypoplastic right heart syndrome who underwent extracardiac FS at 6 years of age. The patient had congestive liver disease without signs of pulmonary hypertension. Talc pleurodesis surgery plus bullectomy is indicated due to recurrent pneumothorax (PT) using video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery. Once in the operating room, ASA standard monitoring was performed2. High-flow nasal cannula with capnography was placed. Two large peripheral venous catheters were canulated, and Vigileo system was used to monitor blood pressure; a right paravertebral catheter was placed an intraoperative and postoperative analgesic strategy, using bolus and continuous infusion (CI) of 2% lidocaine for this purpose. Anaesthetic sedation was performed with CI of remifentanil and CI of propofol.

The techniques and the procedure went without incident (Table 1). The patient reported a visual analogue scale of 5 out of 10. He was transferred to the post-anaesthesia care unit without incident.

Table 1: Haemodynamic parameters. BP: blood pressure. CI: Cardiac index. PPV: pulse pressure variation. LA: local anaesthetic. PV: paravertebral. LLD: left lateral decubitus.

Discussion: After FS, right ventricular (RV) preload is decreased and afterload is increased, both worsened by mechanical ventilation (MV), as well as pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR) is augmented due to non-pulsatile blood flow from RV. General anaesthesia with muscular relaxation (MR) leads to an impaired V/Q ratio, as well as...
VM and one lung ventilation could worsen the physiology of RV, resulting in a fall in cardiac output (CO). We therefore decided to do it under sedation and spontaneous ventilation, as surgical PT favours lung collapse. Patient tolerated it well.

References: 1.
Circulation. Sep 11, 2007; 2. ASA. Dec 13, 2020

Learning Points: As part of anaesthesic technique, it is important to avoid MR and MV in order to keep the physiology of the RV, opting for regional anaesthesia and sedation strategies.

07AP07-08
Management of already developed dissecting aortic aneurysm in 29 weeks pregnant patient with Marfan syndrome: case report

A. Zhailauova1,2, B. Zhakupbekov2, T. Lee2, I. Vakhrushev2, A. Kuanyshbek2, T. Kapyshev2
1Nazarbayev University School of Medicine, Medical School, Astana, Kazakhstan, 2National Scientific Cardiac Surgery Center, ICU, Astana, Kazakhstan

Background: Presence of aortic aneurysm could be a fatal condition in pregnant patients. Dilation of aortic root more than 40 mm is considered as a high risk of aortic dissection during pregnancy (1). This case demonstrates successful management of aortic dissecting aneurysm and emergent delivery in 29 weeks pregnant patient with Marfan Syndrome.

Case report: A 29 years old female complained on dyspnea, general weakness and dizziness upon minimal physical exertion. She was 29 weeks pregnant, primigravida, with a history of untreated arterial hypertension for 3 years. Dyspnea upon physical exertion started in 2019, but worsened last two months, when she was diagnosed with dissecting aneurysm of aorta (type I, DeBakey), aortic valve insufficiency of stage D, and Marfan Syndrome. Surgical correction was recommended.

Instrumental data: reduced systolic function of LV (41.25%), moderate pulmonary hypertension (32 mmHg), EDV 160 ml. Concomitant diagnosis: pelvic bone deformity, bilateral congenital dislocation of the hip, aseptic necrosis of femur heads.

Surgery: Bentall–de Bono surgery following cesarean delivery was performed under cardiopulmonary bypass and hypothermia (18°C).

Length of stay in ICU: 46 days. Presence of mixed encephalopathy (GCS=8), hypometraemia (165 mmol/l), acute kidney injury, vasoplegia.

Complications: sepsis, antimicrobial resistance and extirpation of the uterus and fallopian tubes.

Outcome: symptomatic and intensive treatment resulted in successful patient’s discharge.

Discussion: Current case report represents a successful recovery of a 29 weeks pregnant patient with Marfan Syndrome and dissecting aortic aneurysm. Although simultaneous performance of C-section and Bentall–de Bono surgery is truly complex, postsurgical treatment in ICU during 46 days was no less significant, and comprised of continuous symptomatic treatment including stabilization of hemodynamics, restoration of lung function, and sepsis elimination.

References:

07AP07-10
Pseudoaneurysm of radial artery - rare complication of widely used procedures

A. Silva1, M. Silva Barros1, S. Favaios1
1Centro Hospitalar do Tâmega e Sousa, Anesthesiology, Penafiel, Portugal

Background: Radial artery (RA) blood gas analysis is a very common procedure in clinical practice. RA catheterization allows hemodynamic monitoring and frequent arterial blood gas sampling. RA has also become the preferred access for cardiac catheterization.2 Although widely used, serious complications may occur.1 Discussion of these iatrogenic lesions helps to prevent its occurrence.

Here, we present two cases of radial artery pseudoaneurysm after blood gas sampling and arterial line placement.

Cases Reports: 85 years old woman, with vascular leukoencephalopathy (treated with acetylsalicylic acid), was hospitalized with acute cardiac failure and respiratory insufficiency. Arterial blood gas samples were collected to confirm the diagnosis and evaluate clinical evolution. Three weeks after discharge, she returns to the hospital presenting a pulsatile and painful tumefaction of the wrist. Doppler echography reveals pseudoaneurysm of distal RA. Surgical correction of the lesion was conducted under axillary brachial plexus block.

66 years old man, without known past history, went surgical repair of an infra-renal aorta aneurysm. Six days later, he presents with inflammatory signs in the place of the arterial line used for hemodynamic monitoring and an echography revealed a pseudoaneurysm. He is scheduled for surgical correction under peripheral nerve blocks of median and radial nerve in the forearm.

Discussion: Pseudoaneurysms is caused by catheterization of the vessel in most cases2 but infection of catheter site may also contribute to its formation.4 Preventive measures of complications such as asepsis and prolonged compression of the puncture site should always be applied,4 especially in high-risk cases. Hypocoagulation and antiplatelets may increase risk.

Choice of the most adequate treatment depends on the size of pseudoaneurysm, presence of pain, hemorrhage, infection, hand ischemia, or compression of other nearby structures.2,3 Learning Points: Despite being a widely used procedure, puncture of RA may lead to limb threatening complications. Prevention through local compression should always be applied and high-risk patients recognized.

References:
Significance of isolated persistent left superior vena cava for the patient and for the anesthesiologist - a case report

R. Zdravkovic1,2, A. Redzek1,2, Z. Jonjev1,3, M. Golubovic1,2, M. Tatic2,4, S. Vickovic1,3
1Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases of Vojvodina, Clinic for Cardiovascular Surgery, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 2University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Novi Sad, Serbia, 3University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Medicine, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 4Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina, Department of Anesthesiology, Sremska Kamenica, Serbia, 5University Clinical Center of Vojvodina, Clinic of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Novi Sad, Serbia

Background: Anomalies of systemic veins are not common, but they can pose a serious problem for anesthesiologists when performing invasive procedures.

Case report: A 57-year-old woman was admitted for mitral valve surgery. The introduction to anesthesia went smoothly. However, during the operation, after the pericardiotomy, the surgeon noticed vein anomalies, which caused him to postpone the further operation for additional diagnostics. In the postoperative computed tomography (CT) topogram, the course of the central venous catheter was from the right internal jugular vein through the innominate vein to the persistent left superior vena cava (PLSVC) (Fig. 1). A contrast-enhanced CT of the heart showed the presence of a PLSVC draining into the right atrium (RA) via the dilated coronary sinus (CS), along with the agenesis of the right superior vena cava (RSVC) (Fig. 2). A contrast-enhanced CT of the abdomen showed anomalous left hepatic vein (LHV) drainage into the RA (Fig. 3).

Discussion: PLSVC with the agenesis of RSVC is extremely rare, and it is known as an isolated PLSVC. It is often discovered incidentally while undergoing an examination for heart disease, during central venous line insertion, or pacemaker implantation. PLSVC usually drains into a dilated CS, and its catheterization can cause hypotension, angina, and perforation of the heart, causing tamponade and cardiac arrest.

Learning Points: Although anomalies of the systemic veins usually have no hemodynamic significance, they are important for anesthesiologists when performing invasive procedures.

Optic nerve sheath diameter as a surrogate for intracranial pressure monitoring using ultrasound in a rare case of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency with cerebral vein thrombosis undergoing pulmonary thromboendarterectomy under deep hypothermic circulatory arrest

P. Natarajan1, M. Kanchi2, M. Chawan2, N. Sammy2, V. Shetty3, D. Shetty3
1Freeman Hospital, Department of Cardiac Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom, 2Narayana Institute of Cardiac Aesciences, Department of Cardiothoracic Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Bengaluru, India, 3Narayana Institute of Cardiac Aesciences, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Bengaluru, India

Background: Monitoring of ICP with the help of optic nerve sheath diameter (ONSD) measurements using ocular ultrasound and IOP using a handheld tonometry device definitely helps us in timely interventions aiding to achieve a good postoperative outcome, especially in a patient undergoing PTE surgery for CTEPH under DHCA with raised ICP along with raised IOP due to cerebral venous thrombosis, plus G6PDD.
Case report: A 30-year-old gentleman presented to our hospital with breathlessness, was diagnosed to have CTEPH, raised ICP, and OOP underwent PTE surgery under general anesthesia with standard ASA monitoring after obtaining high-risk consent. We monitored the brain with NIRS, BIS, ONSD (value >5mm=ICP >20cm H2O- Figure-1), IOP and intervened at crucial steps (Table 1). Medications to be avoided in G6PDD were cautiously considered and triggers for hemolysis like hypoxia, hypotension, and acidosis were avoided. Total intravenous anesthesia was administered for maintenance. The procedure was uneventful and he was extubated on postoperative day one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENTS</th>
<th>IOP (mmHg) right eye</th>
<th>IOP (mmHg) left eye</th>
<th>ONSD (mm)</th>
<th>NIRS Right frontal</th>
<th>NIRS Left frontal</th>
<th>BIS</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preinduction</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postinduction</td>
<td>26↑</td>
<td>26↑</td>
<td>7↑</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Brimoldine+timolol eye drop methylprednisolone 1 gm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre DHCA</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>8↑</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Mannitol 20% 0.5mg/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During DHCA</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post DHCA</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Post CPB</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.
IOP- Intraocular pressure, ONSD- Optic nerve sheath diameter, DHCA- Deep hypothermic circulatory arrest, CPB- Cardiopulmonary bypass, NIRS- Near infrared spectroscopy, BIS- Bispectral index, CTEPH- Chronic pulmonary thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension, PTE- Pulmonary thromboendarterectomy, ICP- Intracranial pressure, G6PDD- glucose-6 phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency, IOP- Intraocular pressure

Discussion: PTE surgery under DHCA is challenging as it is known to cause postoperative neurological insult. Although invasive monitoring of ICP is more reliable, the complications associated with CPB and heparin can be catastrophic. Thereby noninvasive monitoring of ICP with ONSD is safer in such scenarios. It has been described previously in trauma, intensive care and robotic surgeries but none in cardiac surgery. CSF accumulation around the retrobulbar optic nerve by deriving the ONSD is a useful technique to know if the ICP is raised by measuring the diameter, 3mm behind the eyeball. Any measurement above 5 mm corresponds to an ICP of >20cm H2O (sensitivity >80%) could be diagnosed and timely intervened.

References:

Learning Points: ICP monitoring using ONSD could be a game changer in the success of such complicated surgeries.

How to manage a cryoglobulinemia safety: normothermia vs hypothermia. A case report

'Hospital Clinico San Carlos, Anaesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background: Moderate hypothermia during cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) is a standard practice. However, patients with cryoglobulinemia could not to tolerate it. Unfortunately, there are a lack in the literature describing adequate perioperative management of these patients. Our case is referred to a patient with severe cryoglobulinemia who underwent moderate hypothermia during CPB successfully.

Case report: A 62-year-old man with severe cryoglobulinemia associated with Hepatitis C underwent a CABG and mitral valve replacement.

Firstly, following hematology recommendations, plasmapheresis and corticoids was required prior the surgery in order to decrease or eliminate cryoglobulins (CGs). As levels of CGs were undetectable in patient blood, CPB under moderate hypothermia (32°C) was planned. During the CPB (123 minutes), cerebral oximetry was not inferior to 20% of baseline data, diuresis was more than 0.5ml/kg/h and lactate levels were no superior to 1.8mmol/L. After CPB, the peripheral pulses were detected. Once in ICU, the patient was awake in the next four hours successfully.

Discussion: Cryoglobulinemia is an autoimmune disease characterized by the persistent presence of CGs in the serum that precipitate at low temperatures (<37º) and redissolve upon warming. The clinical manifestations are often related to intravascular obstruction due to increase of blood viscosity and deposition of CGs into small arteries (1). Cardiac surgery is usually performed using systemic normothermia (>35°C) in patients with severe cryoglobulinemia. However, we did consider performing surgery at a moderate temperature (~32°C) because of negative qualitative analysis of cryoglobulin (CG) after preoperative plasmapheresis and corticoids treatment. Cerebral oximetry was observed continuously in order to detect cerebral ischemic. Milliliters of diuresis, glomerular filtration and creatinine per hour was also registered in order to detect any renal vascular obstruction. Levels of lactate every thirty minutes showed the peripheral blood perfusion.

Reference:
Hyperthermic intrathoracic chemotherapy: a unique anesthetic challenge

S. Nill1, E. Wylie2, E. Adams1, B. Somerset3
1Children’s Hospital Colorado, Anesthesiology, Aurora, United States, 2University of Colorado, Anesthesiology, Aurora, United States, 3Denver Health, Anesthesiology, Denver, United States

Background: Hyperthermic Intrathoracic Chemotherapy (HITHOC) is a rare procedure with promise for treating malignant pleural effusions but without well established guidelines for anesthetic care. The anesthetic is technically challenging due to the anatomy, aggressive nature of the surgery, and complications.

Case report: A 60 year old male presented with metastatic disease of the right hemithorax causing leftward mediastinal shift. History included peritoneal adenocarcinoma treated with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy 6 years prior. Thoracotomy, tumor debulking, and HITHOC were planned. Anesthesia proceeded with a preoperatively placed thoracic epidural, intravenous induction, and arterial line for blood pressure and gas monitoring. A single lumen endotracheal tube (ETT) was initially used for bronchoscopy then exchanged for a double lumen ETT for one lung ventilation. A significant air leak developed at closing due to debulking of the pleura, precluding chest tube suctioning. Extubation in the operating room occurred prior to transfer to the intensive care unit, and the hospital course was uncomplicated. He remains in remission 3 years postoperatively.

Discussion: An estimated 15% of cancer patients will develop pleural metastasis, with HITHOC increasing median survival - yet few anesthetic guidelines are described in the literature. Complications include atrial fibrillation, air leak, and pneumothorax. Ventilation is challenging due to the need for one lung ventilation. Airway management is tenuous if concurrent tumor or mediastinal shift exist. Pain control is difficult due to the thoracotomy. Hemodynamics fluctuate considerably due to chemotherapy, temperature changes, and thoracic cavity pressure variation.

References:

Learning Points: Anesthetic management must be carefully planned for HITHOC cases with particular attention paid to intubation, ventilation, fluid management, and pain control. Consideration of possible complications will dictate additional equipment.

The transformative role of veno-venous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in trachea resection and reconstruction

FD. Varga1, T. Esze1, S. Szigeti1
1National Korányi Institution of Pulmonology, Anaesthesia-Intensive Care, Budapest, Hungary

Background: Post-intubation trachea stenosis is a well-known complication of prolonged ventilation at the intensive care unit (ICU). Conservative management is lengthy and ineffective, with tracheal resection alone being a definitive solution. The airway management is a challenge for the surgeon and the anesthesiologist, as well. Veno-venous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (vv-ECMO) can be a solution.

Case report: The 54-year-old male patient suffered a haemorrhagic stroke, and after respiratory weaning his tracheostomy was removed after 31 days of ventilation. Two weeks later he developed stridor caused by tracheal stenosis that could not be resolved with repeated endobrochial interventions, so he received a tracheostomy and tracheal resection was planned. The surgery was performed in apnea using vv-ECMO (Cardiohelp, 7.0 HLS Advanced Set). Under sedation, while maintaining spontaneous breathing, ultrasound-guided cannulation of the right femoral and jugular veins was performed. After setting up ECMO flow corresponding to 50-80% of the patient’s cardiac output, the patient was anaesthetised with TIVA. During surgery, we aimed for a PaO2 of 80-120 mm Hg and a PaCO2 of 35-45 mmHg. The surgical management was the removal of the stenotic lesion and an end-to-end anastomosis of the viable trachea. Following the procedure, the patient woke up with good muscle strength and adequate spontaneous breathing, the ECMO cannula was removed in the operating room and he was transferred to our ICU. During the three-day stay in ICU, he did not require any organ support. On postoperative day 10 he was discharged home in stable condition.

Discussion: Tracheal surgery is a challenge for both the surgeon and the anaesthesiologist. With an endotracheal tube, the surgeon’s access to the surgical site is limited and the visualisation is poor. When a laryngeal mask is used, the surgeon’s position is easier, but there is a risk of aspiration and hypoxia. In contrast, when using vv-ECMO, the airway is more accessible to the surgeon, the surgery can be performed more quickly and patient oxygenation can be adequately ensured. The incidence of complications has been reduced and the number of bleeding events has not increased despite anticoagulation.

Learning Points: By using vv-ECMO, we can provide surgeons with a more suitable surgical field and reduced operating time and complication rate. A cohesive surgical team can help the patients to benefit from using vv-ECMO.
Intraoperative left side thrombus in transit in sequential double-lung transplantation diagnosed by transesophageal echocardiography

D. Perez-Ajami1, P. Carmona Garcia1, I. Zarragoikoetxea Jauregui1, G. Sales Badia1, F. Argente Navarro1, A. Fontana1
1Hospital La Fe, Valencia, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Valencia, Spain

Background: Lung transplantation is considered an established treatment for patients with end-stage chronic respiratory failure. Pulmonary vein thrombosis (PVT), kinking or stenosis and clots in the left atrium (LA) during the intraoperative stage are known but rare and challenging diagnoses.

Case report: 61-year-old man without any thrombotic predisposition was undergone double sequential lung transplantation due to terminal stage of COPD without ECMO support. After implantation and reperfusion, a transesophageal echocardiography exam was performed to check especially the pulmonary venous anastomosis. In this exam, a large heterogenous, dense, hyperchoic mobile mass was identified in the LA, which was compatible with a thrombus in transit from pulmonary veins circulation. This finding was communicated to the surgical team to reopen the anastomosis and remove the clot before further consequences.

Discussion: In the intraoperative scenario, TEE is the recommended technique to monitor suture complications. Turbulent flow in color doppler and velocities over 120 cm/s suggest the diagnosis of PVT or significant pulmonary vein blood flow obstruction. In the postoperative setting, pulmonary vascular complications should be suspected when hypoxemia, pulmonary hypertension or radiographic edema occurs. In addition to CT scan, the use of bedside TEE in the intensive care unit may help to diagnose it in the postoperative period and allows the follow up of the thrombosis regression during therapy.

PVT treatment remains controversial and depends on several factors such as diagnose stage, size and clinical course. When small thrombus are detected in the postoperative course a conservative approach with proper anticoagulation has been described. Albeit poor outcomes emergent thrombectomy has also been described when postoperative large thrombus is detected. In the Intraoperative scenario, the extraction of a visible and mobile mass in left side of the heart should be the first choice for treatment despite of the challenge and complications it presents.

Central venous waveform and oxygen pressure, misleading features during cardiac surgery

A. Ashour1, M. Rehan2, C. Chan1
1John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford University Hospitals, Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia and ICU, Headington, United Kingdom, 2Yozgat City Hospital, ENT Department, Yozgat Merkaz, Turkey

Background: Insertion of central venous catheter (CVC) is a common practice in cardiothoracic surgery. Due to limitations of confirming CVC position in theatre, paired arterial and venous blood gas is commonly used to confirm venous position. The usual case points out that blood gas and waveform analysis can give false negative confirmation of endovenous position.

Case report: A patient presented for CABG with background of renal failure with AV fistula in both upper limbs. A left subclavian was cannulated successfully using US. A CVP transducer showed a venous waveform. On coming off cardio-pulmonary bypass, the CVC waveform simulated arterial waveform and the difference between mean pressures was 15mmHg and PO2 difference was 17Kpa. A chest X-ray after shifting to ICU, confirmed correct position.

Discussion: Confirmation of site of CVC before usage is mandatory using waveform manometry, the position should be radiologically confirmed as soon as clinically appropriate. Williamson reported a similar incidence with PaO2 difference 28Kpa.

Arterial injury remains the most common complication of CVC insertion although US usage decreased incidence. The catheter migration to arterial system could be a possible immediate scenario especially if the nearby artery is punctured during insertion. Special concern should be paid to the patients with A-V fistulae owing to the associated circulatory system changes. Increased pressure of the venous system due to the connection with the high-pressure arterial system will eventually cause remodeling of the venous wall. This effect is mainly attributed to the vasodilators as NO and TGF-B1.

References:

Learning Points: AV shunt may affect the readings of the central venous access inserted at the same side. US guided insertion of CVC as a standard of care and radiological confirmation of the tip position is mandatory as early as possible. Avoidance of cannulation of venous system near an AV fistula is recommended.
**07AP08-08**

VenoVenous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VV-ECMO) for an urgent lung lobectomy. A case report of a patient where invasive mechanical ventilation is not tolerated

E. Pereda González1, E. Biosca Perea2, V. Pérez Mari3, M. Granell Gil1, C. Ferrer Gomez1, J. de Andrés Ibariez1
1Hospital General Universitario de Valencia, Servicio de Anestesia, Reanimación y Terapia del Dolor, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** Venovenous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VV-ECMO) provides adequate tissue oxygenation when conventional management has failed. Nowadays, its applications have spread in thoracic surgery, beyond the transplantation field.

**Case Report:** We report a case of a 50-year-old male with the findings described in Figure 1, who presented an episode of life-threatening hemoptysis from the cavitated pneumonia requiring emergency intubation. Using a fiberscope, we placed a left double-lumen tube in the right lung, skipping the branch of the upper right lung to isolate only this lobe. Despite having started ventilation of the mild and the lower right lobes, he had inadequate oxygenation. An emergent right upper right lobectomy was indicated, making not tolerable the mechanical ventilation (MV). In the operating room, VV-ECMO was initiated by femoro-femoral cannulation.

At the start, blood flow was set at 4L/min and the sweep gas flow at 2L/min. There were no ECMO-related complications during the placement, but during the surgery, highlighted a tendency to bleed from the surgical bed that is difficult to control, requiring high doses of vasopressor and the transfusion of several blood products.

After finishing, the patient was transferred back to the ICU, where he died in the first 24 postoperative hours because of bleeding and hemodynamic instability.

**Discussion:** The VV-ECMO is a bridging therapy in patients with compromised respiratory function, who would be otherwise excluded from surgery. This case required multidisciplinary management to give a chance to a critical situation where MV is not an option. With further experience, a more sophisticated protocol for the management of critical patients or other thoracic surgeries can be derived.

**References:**

**Learning Points:** ECMO can be considered a feasible method for complex thoracic surgery.

![Figure 1](image1.jpg)

**Figure 1.** Chest CT scan. A. Cavitated lesion with a maximum axis of 55mm, with thickened walls and heterogeneous content, related to probable necrotizing pneumonia. B) Focal areas of alveolar hemorrhage. C) Pneumothorax and subcutaneous emphysema.

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**07AP08-09**

Right ventricle outflow tract velocity-time integral for hemodynamic shock differential diagnosis and management in postoperative cardiac surgery

A. Escribano Arranz1, M.C. Sala-Trull1, P. Montero Lopez1, M. Luque Pelayo2, C. Garau Zaforteza1, M. Vives Santacana1
1Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Pamplona, Spain

**Background:** Cardiogenic shock due to right ventricle (RV) failure can appear in the early postoperative cardiac surgery period. Left or right ventricle outflow tract velocity-time integral (ITV) obtained by echocardiography could be helpful for differential diagnosis in these hemodynamic shock scenarios.

**Case report:** We present a 70-year-old man admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) after coronary artery bypass and aortic valve replacement due to severe aortic stenosis with preserved biventricular function. He also had hypertension, dyslipidemia, diabetes and lower limbs ischemia. The patient was admitted into the ICU intubated and with dobutamine infusion. Hours later, dobutamine weaning was possible and the patient was extubated. Next morning, the patient was disoriented with low cardiac output signs as prolonged capillary refill time, central venous saturation of 49%, venous-arterial CO₂ of 12, lactic acid of 1.6mmol/L and impaired diuresis. An ST segment elevation in V2-V3 without troponin elevation was present. Point of care ultrasound showed a non-dilated RV with longitudinal hypokinesis and proper free wall circumferential contractility, non-dilated left ventricle with basal and middle interseptal wall hypokinesia and hepatic and renal congestion (VEXUS 3). Low cardiac index (CI) of 1.6L/min/m² was estimated from RV outflow tract (RVOT) ITV (15cm). Dobutamine infusion was restarted at 4mcg/kg/min with improvement of RVOT ITV (19cm) and a consequent CI improvement (2.3L/min/m²). Tissue perfusion was also recovered. The patient was discharged the day after.

**Discussion:** The low RVOT ITV associated with VEXUS 3 suggested that the cause of the hemodynamic shock was a cardiogenic shock due to RV failure, ruling out hypovolemia and hyperdynamic shock. Thus, starting dobutamine infusion improved both CI and perfusion signs.

**References:**

**Learning points:** Right or left ventricle outflow tract ITV could help the differential diagnosis and management of hemodynamic shock.
Acute and Chronic Pain Management and Palliative Medicine

08AP01-01  
Opioid-free anaesthesia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

M.L. Feenstra¹, S. Jansen², W.J. Eshuis³, M.I. van Berge Henegouwen¹, M.W. Hollmann¹, J. Hermanides¹
¹Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, Anesthesiology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, ²Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum, Anesthesiology, Leiden, Netherlands, ³Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, Surgery, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Opioid-free anaesthesia has become a topic of discussion. Evidence is mounting that the use of opioids during surgery may cause postoperative hyperalgesia, leading to chronic postsurgical pain and long term opioid use. However, some studies showed adverse effects of opioid-free anaesthesia, and reviews of earlier literature are contradicting. This systematic review and meta-analysis aims to study all available evidence on opioid based versus opioid-free anaesthesia and its effect on acute and chronic postoperative pain.

Materials and Methods: We performed a systematic search in the MEDLINE, Embase and Cochrane database. Primary outcomes were acute and chronic postoperative pain. Secondary outcomes included quality of recovery, postoperative opioid consumption and adverse events.

Results and Discussion: We identified 1245 citations, of which 38 studies met our inclusion criteria. There is moderate quality evidence showing no clinically relevant difference of NRS scores or opioid consumption in the postoperative period (pooled mean difference of 0.39 points with a CI of 0.19 - 0.59 and 4.02 MME with a CI of 1.73 – 6.30). We found only one small-sized study reporting no effect of opioid-free anaesthesia on chronic pain. The quality of recovery was superior in patients with opioid-free anaesthesia (mean difference of 8.26 points), however, this pooled analysis was comprised of only two studies. Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) occurred less in opioid-free anaesthesia, but bradycardia was more frequent.

Conclusion(s): We concluded that we cannot recommend one strategy over the other. Future studies could focus on quality of recovery as outcome measure and adequately powered studies on the effects of opioid-free anaesthesia on chronic pain are eagerly awaited.

08AP01-02  
Subgrouping of patients with zoster-associated pain according to sensory symptom profiles: a cluster analysis

H.J. Kim¹, K.B. Yoon¹, M.G. Ban², M. Kang¹, S.H. Kim¹  
¹Yonsei University College of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Anesthesia and Pain Research Institute, Seoul, Republic of Korea, ²Yongin Severance Hospital, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Yongin, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Patients with zoster-associated pain show a variety of sensory symptoms and pain qualities. Analyzing sensory symptom profiles in these patients and knowing etiological differences are important in effective drug development. The purpose of this study is to subgroup patients who visited the hospital with zoster-associated pain through sensory symptom scores of painDETECT, analyze their respective characteristics and pain-related data, and compare similarities and differences between the groups.

Materials and Methods: The characteristics of 1050 patients complaining of zoster-associated pain and pain-related data were reviewed. To identify subgroups of patients with zoster-associated pain according to sensory symptom profiles, a cluster analysis was performed based on Korean painDETECT questionnaire. We compared epidemiological data and pain-related data between each subgroup.

Results and Discussion: We classified patients with zoster-associated pain into 5 groups according to the distribution of sensory profiles and found remarkably different profiles in the expression of the symptoms. Patients in cluster 1 complained of all three symptoms of burning sensation, allodynia and thermal sensitivity. Cluster 2 and 3 complained of burning sensation and electric shock-like pain, individually. Cluster 4 expressed tingling pain. Cluster 5 complained of both burning pain and shock-like pain. The patient age and the frequency of cardiovascular disease were significantly lower in cluster 1. Also, cluster 1 and 4 had a longer pain duration compared cluster 2 and 3. However, there were no significant differences in sex, body mass index, diabetes mellitus, mental health problems, and sleep disturbance. Even pain score, distribution of dermatomes and gaba-pentinoind usage were similar between the groups.

Conclusion(s): Despite the cause of the pain arising from the same origin, there was a difference in the distribution of sensory profiles depending on the factor of the patients. In particular, the younger the age, the more likely both the central and peripheral sensitization were to affect pain. Unlike patients with acute or subacute pain, patients with chronic pain showed diversity in sensory symptom profiles. These results show that the peripheral and central mechanisms in the pathophysiology of zoster-associated pain varies among subjects, and it is thought that it can help to develop precision pain treatments in the future.
08AP01-03
A clinical audit on pain management and its impact over patient wellbeing leading to start of pain follow up clinic at Madras Medical Mission Hospital

1Madras Medical Mission, Cardiac Anaesthesia/Intensive Care, Chennai, India, 2Madras Medical Mission, Biochemistry/Qulaity Manager, Chennai, India, 3Madras Medical Mission, Intensive Care, Chennai, India

Background and Goal of Study: Pain is the unpleasant somatic experience and may be acute or chronic. The impact of pain can be many ways.
1. Patient related-the consequence includes organ dysfunction, anxiety, depression and poor wound healing.
2. Hospital management related- impending pain shall lead to extended stay of the patient and unpleasant experience.
The main goal is to address the pain in a more effective way by clinical audit, teaching and consultant lead pain management according to clinical governance.

Materials and Methods: All doctors, staffs were educated on documentation of pain score in the case sheet. Wong baker faces pain scale and Analog scoring pattern was followed. Pain score more than two was informed to the pain team which includes nurse, physician assistants, consultant. Pain rounds was conducted and structured periodic pain assessment score sheet was prepared and documented for all patients. Depending upon the pain score patient was treated according to WHO pain ladder and neurological pain ladder guidelines.

Results and Discussion: Sample size of the clinical audit comprised of 40 patients randomly sampled out of 1100 patients assessed for pain score.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain score before intervention</th>
<th>Pain score after intervention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variance</td>
<td>7.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard deviation</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mean of the pain score before intervention and after intervention is significant at p < 0.05.

The clinical audit of pain management has a significant benefits in the patients across the hospital and leads to addressing rare cause of pain such as trigeminal neuralgia. neuropathic pain due to diabetic. The outcome benefited patient sleep pattern, enhance the psychological wellbeing and self-confidence.

Conclusion(s): The clinical audit on pain management have impacted tangible benefits on the well being of patients in both identifying, addressing and intervening pain across the hospital.

It shows by following the pillars of clinical governance like audit, education, leadership, follow up clinic (using information) high quality and safeguarding high standard of care was achieved.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: Dr. Senthilkumaran

08AP01-04
Use, abuse and inappropriate use of naloxone in perioperative and medical setting: a retrospective review in a District General Hospital

K. Turner1, V. Gadiyar1, U. Hamid2, S. Thornborough3
1Royal Oldham Hospital, Northern Care Alliance, Anaesthetics, Oldham, United Kingdom, 2Royal Oldham Hospital, Northern Care Alliance, Pharmacy, Oldham, United Kingdom, 3Royal Oldham Hospital, Northern Care Alliance, Pain Department, Oldham, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Opioid use carries the risk of opioid-induced respiratory depression. Naloxone is a competitive antagonist used to reverse the effect of opioids. Naloxone may be considered a proxy for significant postoperative opioid-induced respiratory depression1; its use may be an indirect marker of inappropriate use of opioids.

We aimed to investigate the extent of naloxone administration in our district general hospital and any correlation between its administration and opioid received, as well as patient factors including age and administration location.

Materials and Methods: The project was registered with the hospital Audit Department. We carried out a retrospective review of hospital notes over eight months in 2022. We excluded administration in Accident and Emergency (A&E), where use is less likely to be due to clinician opioid prescribing; as well as naloxone administration on Intensive Care Unit (ICU) where it is used enterally to treat opioid-induced ileus. Once naloxone use was identified, we looked at which opioid the patient had received and patient demographics including age. We also looked at the location of administration.

Results and Discussion: From January to August 2022 there were 75 episodes of naloxone administration, 24 were excluded. Of the 51 remaining episodes, 24 happened on surgical wards, 20 on medical wards and 7 in obstetrics.

Oxycodone was the most prescribed opioid associated with naloxone administration, followed by patients receiving opioid mixtures. The mean age was 62 years. 14 patients were female and 16 male; 4 patients died within 48 hours of naloxone administration.

Literature demonstrates the incidence of postoperative naloxone use after use of opioids in general anaesthesia is 0.1% and 0.23–2.7% after intrathecal opioids1. However, little data exists looking at the use of naloxone in the postoperative setting and medical wards.

Conclusion(s): Naloxone was administrated most frequently on medical wards. Its administration was most associated with oxycodone prescribing, followed by opioid mixtures. This may be due to the lack of appreciation of the relative potency of oxycodone as compared with morphine, and a lack of appreciation of peak effects of medications when considering mixed opioid prescribing. Further education and review of prescribing policy is recommended.

Reference:
08AP01-06
Contributing to a crisis? An evaluation of prescribed opioid use following discharge from hospital – a single-centre, retrospective audit

J. Wardrope1, D. Govenden1, B. Crockett1
1Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Anaesthetics Dept., Larbert, United Kingdom

Background & Goal: Opioids are high-risk drugs associated with poor outcomes when used in the general population1, with growing concern that hospitals are contributing2 to the ‘opioid crisis’. This study aims to evaluate opioid prescribing patterns in a district general hospital around the time of discharge and into the community, in order to guide better prescribing practice.

Materials & Methods: A retrospective analysis was performed of patients discharged from medical and surgical wards in Forth Valley Royal Hospital over a two-month period, including acute and elective admissions. Patients discharged on any opioid were identified using a database from the electronic prescribing system. Prescriptions including an opioid were grouped by drug name and evaluated if the patient was taking the opioid prior to admission and if the general practitioner was asked to continue therapy in the community. Individuals taking any opioid prior to admission were excluded, so only those with a new opioid prescription were investigated. The data were then cross-referenced with each patient’s own community prescribing record to identify the subsequent course of action taken, if any, with regards to the opioid(s).

Results & Discussion: 449 patient discharges including an opioid occurred in June/July 2021. 72.8% were for patients with a new prescription of an opioid and a total of 499 “new to patient” opioid drugs were dispensed. 62.7% of discharges requested the GP to continue therapy in the community. Excluding patients who died between discharge and study period, 55.8% of patients had their opioid stopped, 26.1% had therapy switched or deescalated by their primary care team and 16.4% of patients remained on the same opioid, a notable proportion one-year following discharge.

Conclusion: A large number of opioids on discharge were prescribed to patients new to the drug(s). The majority of patients later stopped therapy or stepped down to simpler analgesia, yet a significant proportion continued to be prescribed such high-risk analgesic drugs. Reducing these numbers by educating on appropriate prescribing beyond discharge is one step hospitals can take towards tackling the opioid crisis.

References:
2. Liberman JS et al. Opioid Prescriptions at Hospital Discharge Are Associated With More Postdischarge Healthcare Utilization. JAH. 2019;8:e010664

08AP01-07
Comparison between two methods of intravenous titration of morphine in terminal cancer patients: optimizing B.I. mode of patient-controlled analgesia vs. conventional method

Y.C. Yeo1, K.Y. Lee1
1Yonsei University College of Medicine, Anesthesiology, Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Background and Goal of Study: Opioid titration without side effects is an essential in cancer pain management. However, sufficient pain control may not be achieved rapidly, because opioid titration dose is calculated based on the opioid demand for the previous 24 hours. A recent patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) device can perform an optimizing B.I. mode in which the background infusion rate is adjusted according to the patient uses the bolus button. We aimed to determine the efficacy and safety of the optimizing B.I. method of PCA in titration of intravenous morphine in patients with cancer pain.

Materials and Methods: This study was conducted as a prospective, randomized, open-label, active-controlled study. After randomization, the previously administered opioid was switched to intravenous morphine. In the conventional group, the dose of continuous infusion morphine for the next day was adjusted by physician based on the total amount of morphine administered during previous 24 hours. In the optimizing PCA group, morphine titration was performed by increasing or decreasing the background infusion rate immediately by the number and interval of pressing the bolus button. The patients received pain management for at least 3 days, and we compared the two groups by the pain-related outcomes via medical records and questionnaires.

Results and Discussion: 20 and 19 patients were assigned to the conventional and the optimizing PCA group. The number of breakthrough pain complaints (NRS≥4) decreased in the optimizing PCA group within 24 hours (p=0.012) compared to the conventional group. The total daily dose of morphine was increased significantly between 0-24 hours in the optimizing PCA group (p<0.001). The pain reduction rate increased between 24-48 hours (p=0.022) and was maintained until 72 hours in the optimizing PCA group. The conversion rate to oral or transdermal opioids after 72 hours was higher in the optimizing PCA group (35.0% vs. 78.9%, p=0.010). There were no uncontrolled side effects due to morphine titration in both groups. Patients using the PCA with optimizing BI mode showed faster intravenous morphine titration and achieved rapid pain relief compared to the conventional method.

Conclusion(s): This study revealed that active opioid titration is necessary for patients admitted by cancer pain. It also suggested that the patient’s actual opioid demands for pain control may be greater than the amount of opioid through conventional titration methods.
08AP01-08
TMI-1, TNF-α-converting enzyme inhibitor, alleviates mechanical hyperalgesia in CINP rat by inhibiting TLR4 signaling

J.-M. Hong1, Y.-Y. Lim1, J. Baik1, D. Lee1, J.-Y. Kwon1, E. Kim1,2
1 Pusan National University, School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Palliative Medicine, Busan, Republic of Korea, 2 Pusan National University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Palliative Medicine, Biomedical Research Institute, Busan, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy is challenging to treat and can adversely impact the quality of life. TNF-α contributes to CIPN by neuroinflammation and upregulation of TRPV1. The objective of study is to assess the analgesic effect of TMI-1, a TNF-α-converting enzyme inhibitor, and the underlying mechanism in a rat model of paclitaxel-induced neuropathic pain (PINP).

Materials and Methods: Rats received intraperitoneal injections of 4 mg/kg paclitaxel on days 0, 2, 4, and 6 and received single or multiple intraperitoneal injections of TMI-1 at various times. The mechanical thresholds, TNF-α, TNFR, PI3K, phospho-Akt, TRPV1, TLR4, and Cav 3.2 were assessed with behavioral testing, Western blotting, RT-PCR, ELISA, and immunohistochemistry in lumbar DRG.

Results and Discussion: Single and multiple injections of TMI-1 reduced mechanical hyperalgesia (Figure 1). Paclitaxel significantly increased, and TMI-1 subsequently decreased, the expression levels of TNF-α, TNFR, PI3K, phospho-Akt, TRPV1, TLR4, and Cav 3.2 in the lumbar DRG (Figure 2). In addition, TMI-1 showed an analgesic effect by inhibiting TLR4 signaling and secretion of TNF-α (Figure 3).

Conclusion(s): TMI-1 alleviated PINP by reversing the upregulation of TRPV1 and decreasing levels of TNF-α through TLR4 signaling in the rat model of PINP.

Figure 1. The analgesic effect of single administration and multiple administration of TMI-1 in rats.

Figure 2. The difference of expression of TNF-α, TNFR, proinflammatory cytokines by TMI-1.

Figure 3. The difference of expression of TLR4 and signaling protein by TMI-1 in DRG.

08AP01-09
Long COVID 19 infection and acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy

G. Ljiljana1, N. Vico1, S. Maričić Prijičić1, R. Popović1, N. Andjelić1
1 University of Medicine, University Clinical Center Vojvodina, Department of Anesthesiology, Novi Sad, Serbia

Background and Goal of Study: Certain severe neurological illnesses associated with long COVID-19 include immune neuropathies like Guillain–Barré syndrome (GBS) and exacerbation of pre-existing chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP). The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of pain in patients with acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (AIDP) and to analyze sociodemographic, clinical predictors for the occurrence of pain, clinical phenotype and course of the pain.

Materials and Methods: A total of 124 patients with recently diagnosed long COVID-19 infection presented at the Pain Clinic, UCC of Vojvodina, Novi Sad. The research was conducted with the consent of the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad. Data were collected monthly for one year.

Results and Discussion: The patients had pain, bilateral lower extremity weakness, mute reflexes and sensory loss. Pain was present in 62 patients, 3 months after the onset of symptoms, but only five patients had neuropathic pain. More pronounced deficits, age, female gender, the presence of protein in cerebrospinal fluid, occurrence of sensory symptoms and dysautonomia were recorded as predictors for maintaining pain. When comparing types of pain, non-neuropathic pain was more frequent but less intense and had fewer consequences on the mental health of the sufferer. Musculoskeletal pain persisted for up to 2 years in as many as 1/3 of the patients.

Conclusion(s): Neuropathic pain in AIDP was experienced by 3.72% of the total number of patients; 50% of all patients mentioned pain as a symptom. After 3 months, neuropathic pain was recorded in less than 10% of the total number of patients.

References:
08AP01-10
Pain after childbirth – preliminary study in a Portuguese sample

M. Asseiro1, S. Fernandes1, G. Carreira1, P. Santos1, S. Carvalho1,2, T. Lapa3,4
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Anesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal, 2University of Coimbra, Center for Research in Neuropsychology and Cognitive Behavioral, Psychology, Coimbra, Portugal, 3HEI-Lab: Digital Human-Environment Interaction Lab, School of Psychology and Life Sciences (EPVC), Lusófona University, Psychology, Lisboa, Portugal, 4Faculdade de Ciências da Saúde - Universidade da Beira Interior (UBI), Pain, Covilhã, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: Labor pain is an intense and usually limited experience. However, it can persist beyond the healing process and evolve to chronicity. Postpartum Chronic Pain (PCP) prolongs for more than 3 months after delivery and affects a young population, can hinder functioning, and carry an emotional, social and economic impact. Few studies have explored the risk factors associated with the chronicity of pain after childbirth. This together with the fact that its incidence is unknown in Portugal, calls for more studies in this area. The aim of this study is to characterize pain after childbirth and quantify the incidence of persistent and chronic pain after childbirth.

Materials and Methods: A prospective observational cohort study is being carried out since May 2022. A sample of pregnant women whose delivery takes place in two Portuguese maternity wards was collected. The participants completed a set of questionnaires that measure pain assessment and hypothesized determinants of progression to PCP, along with emotional regulation factors using validated psychological scales. The participants were contacted by telephone in the first, third and sixth months postpartum to evaluate pain progression. All participants with moderate to severe pain were invited for a face-to-face consultation.

Results and Discussion: In the first six months, 86 participants were recruited for the study. The mean age was M = 32 years. 78% of the participants reported moderate to intense pain before labor analgesia was implemented compared to 20% during labor. The majority (91%) had an epidural block as labor anesthesia and 44% of women went through a cesarean. Up to 72 hours after delivery, 24% and 62% reported moderate to intense pain at rest and in movement, respectively. The cesarean incision was the main expressed pain location. At one- and three-months postpartum 27% and 31% of participants reported persistency of pain, with 11% filling criteria for PCP. The main location of pain remained the cesarean incision.

Conclusions: We had an incidence of PCP at 3 months of 11%, which corroborates with the incidence reported in international studies in this area. After ascertaining the determinants associated with progression to PCP, we intend to develop a Risk Score for the development of PCP to predict which pregnant women are at increased risk of PCP. This allows the integration of predisposed women in educational and preventive programs for pain after childbirth.
08AP01-12
Remifentanil-induced hyperalgesia in healthy volunteers: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

C. Dello Russo1,2, V. Di Franco3, F. Rapido4, L. Sollazzi3, F. Aceto3
1Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Section of Pharmacology, Department of Healthcare Surveillance and Bioethics, Roma, Italy, 2University of Liverpool, MRC Centre for Drug Safety Science and Wolfson Centre for Personalized Medicine, Institute of Systems Molecular and Integrative Biology (ISMIB), Liverpool, United Kingdom, 3Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Roma, Italy, 4Montpellier University Hospital Center, Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine, Gui de Chauliac Hospital, Montpellier, France

Background and Goal of Study: Several pre-clinical studies suggest that exposure to opioids may enhance pain sensitivity resulting in opioid-induced hyperalgesia (OIH). This phenomenon is still controversial in humans. We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to evaluate if remifentanil may induce hyperalgesia after withdrawal in healthy volunteers.

Materials and Methods: A systematic literature search was performed in the following databases, CENTRAL, PubMed, Embase, Scopus, clinicaltrials.gov up to June 27th, 2022. We selected randomized trials, including those with cross-over design, comparing pain intensity after receiving remifentanil or placebo. Primary outcome was pain severity at 30±15 minutes after discontinuation of remifentanil assessed by any pain scale using any quantitative sensory testing modality. Secondary outcomes included the area of hyperalgesia and allodynia. Outcomes were presented as Standardized mean differences (SMD) with 95% confidence interval (CI). The weighted averages of pain score differences between baseline and 30 min measures after withdrawal of remifentanil or placebo were calculated.

Results and Discussion: Ten studies involving 150 patients were included in the analyses. Healthy volunteers showed higher pain intensity after receiving remifentanil or placebo. Primary outcome was pain severity at 30±15 minutes after discontinuation of remifentanil assessed by any pain scale using any quantitative sensory testing modality. Secondary outcomes included the area of hyperalgesia and allodynia. Outcomes were presented as Standardized mean differences (SMD) with 95% confidence interval (CI). The weighted averages of pain score differences between baseline and 30 min measures after withdrawal of remifentanil or placebo were calculated.

Conclusion(s): Our review suggests that OIH occurs in human experimental pain models after remifentanil withdrawal. These results corroborate clinical observations that high intra-operative doses of remifentanil are associated with small but significant increases in acute pain after surgery. If a significant concern for the development of remifentanil OIH is suspected, we suggest using the least possible effective dose of remifentanil as the primary prevention strategy.

08AP02-01
Management of symptomatic cervical facet cyst with cervical interlaminar epidural block

J.-H. Kim1, S.-M. Hwang1, S. Kim1
1Kyungpook National University, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Republic of Korea

Background: Symptomatic cervical facet cysts are relatively rare compared to those in the lumbar region. Surgical excision is performed in most cases. However, facet cysts are associated with degenerative conditions, and elderly patients are often ineligible for surgical procedures.

Case report: A 70-year-old man complained of a tingling sensation in the left hand, focused on the 4th and 5th fingers, for 1 year, and posterior neck pain for over 5 months. The patient’s numeric rating scale (NRS) score was 5/10. The patient was diagnosed with symptomatic cervical facet cyst at the left C7/T1 facet joint. Fluoroscopy-guided cervical interlaminar epidural block at the C7/T1 level with 20 mg triamcinolone and 5 mL of 0.5% lidocaine was administered. The patient’s symptoms improved immediately after the block, with an NRS score of 3 points. After 3 months, his left posterior neck pain and tingling along the left 8th cervical dermatome were relieved, with an NRS score of 2.
Discussion: A cervical interlaminar epidural block is a good alternative for managing symptomatic cervical facet cysts.

References:

Learning Points:
Intraspinal facet cysts are usually asymptomatic and incidentally identified. However, they could be symptomatic and interfere with the patient’s quality of life. Symptomatic cervical facet cysts are relatively rare compared to those in the lumbar region. Guidelines for the management of cervical facet cysts have not been well established. Several patients reported in the existing literature underwent surgery for symptomatic cervical facet cysts, but there are situations where surgery may not be possible, such as an underlying disorder or refusal of the patient. In such cases, a cervical interlaminar epidural block can be a good alternative.

08AP02-02
A slightly different BRILMA for chest tube pain relief

R. Rodrigues Oliveira1, A.I. Oliveira2, J. Abreu2, J. Pereira2, A. Mestre3, A. Simões4
1Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Anesthesiology, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal, 2Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Internal Medicine, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal, 3Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Intensive Care, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal

Background: The block of lateral branches of the intercostal nerves in the midaxillary line (BRILMA) is an interfascial block for analgesia in thoracic wall and upper abdominal surgery.1 It’s a superficial block, safe and easy to accomplish under ultrasound guidance.2 Tube thoracostomy is painful and poorly tolerated, commonly requiring opioids,3 with its pain management being particularly challenging. Serratus anterior plane and intercostal nerve block have been described as useful,3 but there isn’t much information about BRILMA in this context. We present a case of a modified BRILMA for chest tube pain relief.

Case report: An 18-year-old male, 35kg, with post-anoxic cerebral palsy was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) due to complicated pneumonia, with empyema. A chest tube was inserted on the 6th intercostal space under sedoanalgesia. After the drug effects wore off, the patient had a FLACC-r (revised face, legs, activity, cry, consolability score) of 8 under continuous intravenous analgesia. After the family agreement, it was decided to use a BRILMA approach. Since the chest tube was placed in the midaxillary line, a singleshot, ultrasound-guided block was performed at the 6th rib of the anterior axillary line, with ropivacaine 0.1% (10mL). Afterward, the patient had a FLACC-r score of 0.

Discussion: BRILMA is a simple block that can provide significant relief of chest tube discomfort. This modified block allowed for excellent pain control and opioid eviction in this patient. BRILMA should be regarded as an excellent option for analgesia in the ICU.

References:

08AP02-04
Nociception guided opioid free anesthesia for breast cancer surgery: a case report

D. Zafeiriadis1, G. Karras1, N. Panayi1, Z. Konstanta1, C. Mavropoulos1, N. Zaimi1
1Hippocrates’ General Hospital Thessaloniki, Anaesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background: Recently, Opioid Free Anesthesia (OFA) for breast cancer surgery is gaining ground over Opioid Based Anesthesia (OBA) due to the well documented opioid administration disadvantages. In terms of general anesthesia, both OFA and OBA protocols demand nociception monitoring for effective titration of the administered drugs. We present a pilot case of our OFA protocol for breast cancer surgery, where nociception monitoring is being deployed.

Case report: A 64-year-old woman, ASA III, was scheduled for left radical mastectomy due to invasive ductal carcinoma ductal (NOS grade I). HT 150cm, BW 58kg, medical history of well controlled hypothyroidism under T4 replacement and past surgeries for cervical Loop Electrosurgical Excision procedure and Core Needle Biopsy. She was under anti-estrogen and monoclononal antibodies anticancer treatment. Standard anesthetic along with nociception monitoring (Analgesic Nociception Index, ANI®, MDoloris, France) was applied. Induction included midazolam (3 mg, 0.05 mg/kg), lidocaine (60mg, 1mg/kg), propofol (120mg, 2mg/kg) and rocuronium (1mg/kg, 60mg).

After 150 sec mask ventilation with 4% sevoflurane, intubation was performed uneventfully. Immediately after induction, ketamine 30mg (0.5mg/kg), clonidine 120mcg (2mcg/kg), omeprazole 40mg and dexamethasone 8mg were administered. Anesthesia was maintained with sevoflurane 1-2% (MAC 0.9-1.2), lidocaine infusion 0.5-1.5mg/kg/h, MgSO4 infusion (total 3g, 50mg/kg). Drug titration was based on ANI instantaneous (ANII) and mean (ANIM) values targeted at a range 50-70. 30 minutes before skin closure ketamine 30mg (0.5mg/kg), paracetamol 1g, parecoxib 40mg and ondansetron 4 mg were administered. Neuromuscular blockade was reversed with sugammadex 120mg (2mg/kg). ANII and ANIM values after extubation were 66 and 67 respectively. Lidocaine infusion was continued till circular breast binder was placed. Patient’s pain scores were 2/10, 4/10 and 1/10 at 10 minutes, 6 and 12 hours after extubation, respectively. Postoperatively, the patient’s analgesia needs were fulfilled with only 1g of paracetamol.

Discussion: Current evidence indicates the beneficial effects of OFA in patients undergoing breast cancer surgery. ANI use for nociception monitoring during OFA protocol is of significant value for OFA optimization. Oncologic patients’ outcomes may be improved with OFA appropriate use.

Learning points: Nociception monitors suggest a useful tool for optimizing OFA delivery.
08AP02-05

Lumbar epidural blood patch for the treatment of spontaneous intracranial hypotension syndrome

E. Samara1, A. Giannakis2, A. Karakosta3, G.-E. Izountouemoi1, S. Konitsiotis2, P. Tzimas3
1University of Ioannina, Department of Anaesthesiology and Postoperative Intensive Care, Ioannina, Greece, 2University of Hospital of Ioannina, Department of Neurology, Ioannina, Greece, 3University Hospital of Ioannina, Department of Anaesthesiology and Postoperative Intensive Care, Ioannina, Greece

Background: The incidence of spontaneous intracranial hypotension is 1 in 50,000. The exact pathogenetic mechanism is unknown.

Case report: A 33-year-old male visited the ED, in the context of sudden onset of occipital headache and neck pain, unable to treat with classical analgesic treatment (paracetamol, ibuprofen).

A brain CT was performed, which showed a non-traumatic right parietal subdural collection. A brain MRI and an MR myelography confirmed the CT findings. On the 7th day of his hospitalization, the patient presented sudden diplopia, left abductor paresis and cervical stiffness.

A Lumbar Puncture was performed with an accompanying CSF pressure measurement (=55mm H2O), without significant microscopic, cytological or biochemical findings. Based on CSF pressure and MRI findings, diagnosis was spontaneous intracranial hypotension.

The patient was initially treated conservatively, with intravenous hydration, Trendelenburg position and per os classical analgesic and caffeine treatment, offering some benefit for a few days, followed by a relapse. Methylprednisolone iv was added.

The patient demonstrated a slight symptom improvement, without reaching his previous functionality level, so an epidural blood patch epidural was performed after informed consent. 15ml of autologous blood was withdrawn aseptically via the left main cubital vein and was administered in L2-L3 level.

The patient remained in Trendelenburg position for 1 hour and in supine position for 24h. Symptom relief was immediate. On a three month follow up the patient remained asymptomatic and satisfied with the treatment outcome.

Discussion: In case of conservative treatment failure of low intracranial pressure headache, a blood patch is recommended. Lumbar blood patch is recommended in case of unknown site of CSF leak, but also to reduce possible complications related to targeted approach. Lumbar blood patch is described to have a high success rate.

Approval of this case report was waived from the Ethics Committee of Kyungpook National University Chilgok Hospital, based upon their policy on case reports. The authors obtained written consent from the patient to publish this case report.

Learning Points: When lumbar facet joint syndrome is suspected as the cause of LBP, accurate implementation of MBB is difficult, diagnosis using bone scan with SPECT/CT and treatment using intra-articular corticosteroid injection may be useful.

References:


08AP02-06

Clinical usefulness of bone scan with SPECT/CT on the diagnosis of lumbar facet joint syndrome

J. Park1
1Kyungpook National University / Kyungpook National University Chilgok Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Republic of Korea

Background: Conventional radiographic modalities have a limitation in providing only detailed information on anatomical aspects. However, it is often seen that an anatomically abnormal structure is not always the cause of lower back pain (LBP). Bone scan along with single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT/CT) can help identify structures that are anatomically normal but cause pain or anatomically abnormal but not causing pain.

Case report: A 54-year-old female patient complained of left buttock pain that had started 4 years ago. Her Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) score was 6 out of 10. She underwent spinal surgery for spondylarthrosis 30 years ago.

In the meantime, despite continuous various treatments, there was no improvement, so she is only taking painkillers. Lumbar MRI showed suspicious internal disc disruption at L45 and L5S1 discs, and fluid collection in the left L45 facet joint.

Because of the deformity of the spine as a result of suffering from spondylarthrosis, a bone scan along with SPECT/CT was performed, and asymmetric tracer uptake was confirmed in the left L45 facet joint. I injected 1ml of mixture with 0.5% lidocaine and 20 mg of triamcinolone into the left L45 facet joint under the fluoroscopic guidance, and after 1 week, the patient’s VAS score decreased from 6 to 3. I performed the same procedure once again, and after that, the patient’s VAS score was maintained at 1 or 2 after 6 months.

Approval of this case report was waived from the Ethics Committee of Kyungpook National University Chilgok Hospital, based upon their policy on case reports. The authors obtained written consent from the patient to publish this case report.

Discussion: Until now, it is known that the gold standard for the diagnosis and treatment of lumbar facet joint syndrome is treatment using radiofrequency after confirming the diagnosis by performing MBB. However, when MBB cannot be performed accurately, treatment using intra-articular corticosteroid injection after diagnosing lumbar facet joint syndrome through bone scan with SPECT/CT can be useful.

Learning Points: When lumbar facet joint syndrome is suspected as the cause of LBP, but accurate implementation of MBB is difficult, diagnosis using bone scan with SPECT/CT and treatment using intra-articular corticosteroid injection may be useful.
**08AP02-07**  
Erector spinae block makes opioid use unnecessary for pain management of hepatic chemoembolization with irinotecan

I. Peñuela Saldaña¹, N. Mira Jovells¹, J. Saludes Serra¹, R. Barranco Pons², V. Cuba Camasca², Á.A. Marín²  
¹Hospital Universitario Joan XXIII, Anestesia, Tarragona, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario de Bellvitge, Radiología, Barcelona, Spain

**Background:** Transarterial hepatic chemoembolization (TACE) with irinotecan-relasing beads (DEBIRI) is a treatment for unresectable metastatic liver cancer. Post procedural pain is severe (VAS score 8-9) requiring high doses of opioids. Ultrasound-guided erector spinae block (ESP) is an alternative analgesic technique for sparing periprocedural opioid use.

**Case report:** We present a series of 5 procedures underwent in two patients. Bilateral ultrasound guided ESP blockade was performed, as an alternative to the usual opioid analgesic management. 

First case: 58-year-old woman with colon cancer and liver metasis. After resection surgery and chemotherapy treatment she presented recurrence with unresectable lesions. Two sessions of DEBIRI were performed under ESP block. In the first one VAS after the chemoembolisation were 0 and no nausea or vomiting were registered. After the second session she presented VAS 4 controlled with NSAIDs and some nausea.

Second case: 55-year-old man with a stage IV colonic cancer being not candidate to surgical resection. After convetional chemotherapy and due to the progression of the disease three DEBIRI sessions were performed under ESP block registering VAS scores of 0 and no nausea or vomiting were recorded.

**Discussion:** Analgesic management protocols of TACE DEBIRI include high doses of opioids to treat the severe pain (1). The high opioids doses synergizes with chemotherapy in the presentation of post procedural nausea and vomiting.

ESP block was well tolerated by the patients making unnecessary the use of opioids in the recovery, thus reducing nausea and vomiting and improving recovery times. ESP block makes an excellent alternative in the management of post-procedural pain in TACE DEBIRI.

**Learning Points:** This small case series shows that ESP block is an excellent alternative analgesia technique to the use of high dose opioids in pain management for TACE DEBIRI and has the advantage of avoiding the potentiation of nausea and vomiting caused by the use of opioids with chemotherapy.

**References:**

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**08AP02-08**  
Dorsal root ganglion pulsed radiofrequency in postherpetic neuralgia of the gluteal area: a case report

A. Romera Rabasa¹, Á. Palacios², M. Lema Tomé³, E. Cabezuelo Markaide², U. García-Aldao³  
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Madrid, Spain, ²Hospital Covadonga, Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Gijón, Spain, ³Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Post-herpetic neuralgia (PHN) is a persistent pain syndrome, described as a burning sensation constantly present in the dermatome that corresponds with the acute herpes zoster rash. Early treatment of the infection and the pain reduce the risk of PHN. However, recommendations for PHN treatment are limited evidence based. A neuromodulation method such as pulsed radiofrequency (PRF) of the dorsal root ganglion (DRG) may be a useful option for reducing the progression of neuropathic changes.

We present the case of a woman with refractive PHN in an unusual location who was submitted to DRG PRF. Our aim is to describe the therapeutic options and highlight the importance of aggressive, early action.

**Case report:** A 73-year-old woman, treated with corticosteroids, presented with a tingling sensation on her left thigh and gluteal. 72 hours later, vesicles appeared in a L5 dermatome pattern. She was then diagnosed with herpes zoster and treated with antivirals, both oral and topical. In the next two months, tramadol, corticosteroids, and amitriptyline, pregabaline and lidocaine 5% patch were started with limited success. On day 90, the patient was submitted to left L5 DRG PRF.

Up to day 160, the scab formation was still present but her pain and quality of life had improved substantially.

**Discussion:** PHN may persist for years and is difficult to treat. The vesicles most commonly appear on the trunk, along a thoracic dermatome. Our patient was affected in the lumbar and gluteal region, which delayed the diagnosis. In addition, although multiple treatments were ordered, pain control was never achieved before PRF. Considering her age, low immunity, and the insidious course of her illness, we believe that intervention measurements should have been proposed earlier on. No single best treatment has been identified. Amitriptyline, gabapentin and topical lidocaine, opioids, capsaicin 8% patch, epidural and paravertebral injections have been used. When conservative treatment fails, PRF, sympathetic block or spinal cord stimulation may be considered. It is important for the clinician to establish a baseline pain intensity as well as quality of life measures against which to judge the effectiveness of any treatment.

**Learning points:**
- Early and aggressive treatment of herpes zoster can reduce the incidence of PHN.
- Better drugs and interventions are needed for the therapy of PHN.
- This case illustrates PRF DRG may be a successful treatment option for PHN.
08AP02-09
Splanchnic denervation in the treatment of refractory abdominal adhesions

B.S. Spiteri1, C. Fenech1
1Mater Dei Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Pain and Intensive Care Medicine, Msida, Malta

Background: Splanchnic denervation is a technique that has been used to treat pain from cancer and metastasis or chronic pancreatitis, here it is used to treat abdominal pain from adhesions.

Case report: A 44 year old woman presented with severe intractable abdominal pain radiating to L1 on the right and L2 on the left after having had multiple abdominal surgeries, which was severe enough to necessitate multiple admissions for IV ketamine. She was investigated by general surgery and gynaecology with scans and laparoscopies, with no pathology other than adhesions found. Adhesiolysis had not provided relief.

A diagnostic splanchnic plexus block was carried out with good effect so it was decided to go for a splanchnic nerve radiofrequency (RF) ablation. The patient was consented and admitted, and she was given an IV bolus of crystalloid prior to starting. Vital signs were monitored. Prone positioning allowed for fluoroscopic imaging of T10 to L3. T11 was identified keeping the edge of the diaphragm visible. A curved RF needle was introduced at the junction of the rib and vertebra and directed anteriorly, towards the lateral aspect of T11 close to the costovertebral angle and advanced until the junction of the anterior 1/3 and posterior 2/3 of the vertebral body. Sensory and motor stimulation was carried out to ensure the stimulated nerves were eliciting pain in the abdomen and not along the rib margin. Local anaesthetic and steroid were infiltrated via the RF needle prior to creating an RF lesion. A 2nd lesion was created after rotating the RF needle by 180º. The same procedure was the repeated on the other side, then at T12. There were no side effects or complications.

Discussion: At a three month follow up the patient reported that for the first time in years her pain had improved with no need for rescue analgesia or any sick days and cutting back on antineuropathics facilitated cooperation with physiotherapy and occupational therapy enabling the patient to have controlled pain for several days and facilitate the management of severe intractable abdominal pain in cases other than malignancy.

References:

Learning Points: Splanchnic nerve denervation can be a useful tool in the management of severe intractable abdominal pain in cases other than malignancy.

08AP02-10
The use of infraclavicular catheters in the treatment of refractory CRPS

B.S. Spiteri1, C. Fenech1
1Mater Dei Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Pain and Intensive Care Medicine, Msida, Malta

Background: Complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS) is a relatively common complication with an incidence of up to 5% after injury or surgery.

Case report: A 55 year old gentleman with CRPS affecting his right upper limb after a traumatic biceps tendon rupture and repair. His CRPS was refractory to various types of therapy such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, TENS, and pharmacological therapies, including analgesics, antidepressants, anticonvulsants and steroids.

He had undergone multiple infiltrations for pain with variable results. An infraclavicular nerve block had some success, and therefore a decision was taken to insert an infraclavicular catheter to enable titration of the block to target sensory nerves as well as to prolong the block allowing for increased cooperation with therapy.

The procedure was carried out using a strict asepsis under ultrasound guidance using an in-plane technique with a linear probe. The patient was positioned supine with his head turned away from the side to be blocked and his arm abducted to 90 degrees. A costoclavicular approach was used. The skin was infiltrated with local anaesthetic and a 19G spinal needle was used to infiltrate the brachial plexus at the level of the cords around the axillary artery with 20mls of 0.375% bupivacaine with adrenaline.

A 20G epidural catheter was used and its tip was left in the middle of the cords, cephalad to the axillary artery, at a depth of 4cm. The catheter was then tunnelled and secured with fixators. The catheter was then attached to an elastomeric pump filled with 0.05% bupivacaine solution which was started at a rate of 4ml/hr.

Discussion: An infraclavicular pump filled with 0.05% bupivacaine solution which was started at a rate of 4ml/hr.

References:
Melf-Marzi A et al. Modern Principles of Diagnosis and Treatment in Complex Regional Pain Syndrome

Learning Points: Nerve blocks with catheters may prove useful in the multi-modal management of refractory pain in CRPS management.
**Epidural blood patch in CSF fistula after neurosurgery - an approach to practice in anesthesiology**

R. Calaia¹, C. Ferros¹, A. Silva¹, P. Antunes¹; M.J. Freitas¹, J.P. Assunção²

¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela-Viseu, Anesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

**Background:** Epidural blood patch (EBP) is the gold standard technique for the treatment of post-dural puncture headache (PDPH) in patients who don’t respond to conservative measures. The typical headache is characterized by worsening orthostatic fronto-occipital pain. More than 90% of PDPH resolve spontaneously in 7 to 10 days. However, if left untreated, some may worsen and lead to cerebral venous thrombosis, subdural hematoma, seizures or even coma and death.

**Case Report:** We present a case of a 57yo woman, ASA II, complaining of severe and incapacitating orthostatic frontal headache with photophobia, 2 months after lumbar arthodesis. In other previous surgeries, a CSF fluid leak was diagnosed fibrine glue was applied. During this period, the symptoms didn’t improve despite conservative measures and pharmacological treatment, so the patient was admitted for an epidural blood patch. The technique was uneventful, and the headache improved during her stay in the hospital. On reevaluation, the patient had a significant improvement in symptoms and is now capable of standing for more than 10 hours. The patient reported an improvement in her daily life.

**Discussion:** EBP is most used for the management of post-dural puncture headaches after a neuraxial approach, when non-responsive to medical treatment. It has a high success rate and can be used to treat CSF hypotension after complicated neurosurgery. Hence, anesthesia and its techniques offer treatment options, even if not directly related to anaesthetic management.

**References:**

**Learning Points:** Epidural blood patch is the most effective treatment for PDPH after medical treatment fails. In many cases, the success of this technique improves patients’ quality of life and can simultaneously avoid complications.

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**Intrathecal infusion pump of morphine, bupivacaine and ziconotide in the treatment of oncologic pain: a case report**

N. Romero-García¹, E. Passariello¹, L. Escamilla¹, C. Crisan², M. Garzando¹, B. Escamilla¹

¹Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valencia / INCLIVA Research Institute, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** Chronic pain in pancreatic cancer patients is a major health problem due to its high prevalence, up to 82% [1]. Intrathecal analgesia has shown to reduce systemic opioid doses, minimize adverse effects and improve pain control. Ziconotide has recently proven of use in intrathecal infusion and has positioned as first-line monotherapy for cancer pain [2].

**Case report:** Our patient is a 52-year-old male who was diagnosed with locally advanced pancreatic adenocarcinoma and treated with chemotherapy and surgery. 2 years later, as disease progressed, a lytic lesion in left scapula is found, for which he is referred to our Pain Unit. The pain has mixed somatic and neuropathic features and scores 10/10 on VAS; it is poorly controlled with systemic treatment.

The implantation of an intrathecal pump is decided after a test dose with combined opioids and local anesthetics achieves a 50% improvement of pain. The patient underwent controls every two weeks for dosing adjustment and pump refill. Three months after, ziconotide was added to the pump.

At 12 months he reports optimal pain control (VAS 2/10) with intrathecal perfusion of morphine 3.35mg/24h, isobaric bupivacaine 3.48mg, ziconotide 3.35mcg. Within the first month of treatment with ziconotide, he reports mild symptoms of agitation and aggressiveness, both well-known adverse effects of the drug that were controlled with a temporary decrease in the dose.

During treatment, he required a maximum of 1-2 oral morphine rescue doses per day, and did not report the usual adverse effects of systemic opioids. Following an readmission for pneumonia in another country, the pump was refilled with morphine alone. Our patient reported escalation of pain to levels of 9-10/10, which subsided with the return to the usual regimen.

**Discussion:** It is concluded that treatment with morphine, bupivacaine and ziconotide by continuous intrathecal infusion pump was effective, achieving better pain control, a lower dose of systemic opioids and an improvement in the patient’s quality of life.

**References:**

**Learning points:**
- Intrathecal pumps may be used in an earlier stage of oncologic pain treatment in patients with life expectancy longer than 6 months.
- Combined treatment with opioids, local anesthetics and adjuvants like ziconotide confers an advantage over individual drugs.
Interlaminar epidural steroid injections versus conservative treatment for lumbar central spinal stenosis

V. Dzabijeva\textsuperscript{1}, I. Logina\textsuperscript{2}, S. Petronis\textsuperscript{3}
\textsuperscript{1}Riga 2nd Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, \textsuperscript{2}Riga Stradins University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, \textsuperscript{3}Riga 2nd Hospital, Traumatology, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Lumbar central spinal stenosis (LCSS) is a pathological condition associated with degeneration of the spine and often results in disability and persistent chronic pain. The goal of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of interlaminar epidural steroid injections (IESI) compared with conservative therapy (CT) in adults with symptomatic LCSS.

Materials and Methods: The randomized controlled study which compares the efficacy of IESI with CT. Primary outcomes included quality of life (European Quality of Life Questionnaire (EuroQol EQ-5D)), disability (Oswestry Disability Index (ODI)), pain (Visual Analog Scale (VAS)). Outcomes were analyzed as short-term (≤ 3 months), intermediate-term (3 to 6 months) and long-term (3 months, 3 months to 6 months, 6 months to 1 year). Patients included with VAS ≥ 7.

Results and Discussion: 169 patients with symptomatic LCSS were randomly assigned to IESI or CT group: 82 (age 57±9) and 87 participants (age 63±9), respectively. Mean improvement in physical function for IESI and CT groups was 22.4 (95% confidence interval (CI) 16.9 to 27.9) and 19.2 (95% CI 13.6 to 24.8), respectively. IESI was valuable for pain relief at short-term (MD 1.23, 95% CI 0.54-1.89; \(P=0.0002\)) and intermediate-term (MD 0.85, 95% CI 0.46-1.24; \(P=0.0001\)) follow-up compared with CT. But this effect was no maintained at long-term follow-up (MD 2.43, 95% CI 0.46-4.33; \(P=0.02\)). There were no statistically significant differences in functional improvement after CT and IESI at short-term and intermediate-term follow-up (MD 3.65; 95% CI 2.24-9.53; \(P=0.21\)). This study showed that patients’ satisfaction with the treatment was significantly higher in IESI group than those who received CT (MD 1.33; 95% CI 1.15-1.54; \(P=0.0001\)).

Conclusion(s): Basing on the results of the study, the use of IESI is more effective for relieving LCSS pain than CT in short-term and intermediate-term. Patients also noticed more successful outcomes after receiving IESI. However, this effect was not achieved at long-term follow-up. This study might help clinicians to make decisions for the treatment of patients with LCSS.

Analgesic efficacy of lumbar sympathetic ganglion block in post spinal surgery syndrome

J.Y. Lee\textsuperscript{1}, S.E. Sim\textsuperscript{2}, C. Kim\textsuperscript{3}, J. Choi\textsuperscript{2}, H.J. Park\textsuperscript{2}
\textsuperscript{1}Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea, \textsuperscript{2}Seoul St. Mary’s Hospital, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea, \textsuperscript{3}Eunpyung St Mary’s Hospital, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Department of Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Persistent or recurrent lumbosacral pain is a commonly encountered symptom after spinal surgery. Several interventions have been introduced for post spinal surgery syndrome, but the clinical efficacy, safety, or cost-effectiveness are insufficient. Sympathetic ganglion block has been selected for pain associated with sympathetic nervous system. In this study, we evaluated analgesic efficacy of lumbar sympathetic ganglion block (LSGB) in post spinal surgery syndrome.

Materials and Methods: We retrospectively analyzed data from patients who underwent LSGB. The patients were diagnosed with post spinal surgery syndrome and had lumbosacral pain. Clinical outcomes were assessed before (T0), 1 week after (T1), and 4 week after (T4) LSGB. Based on pain difference from T0 to T1, we categorized patients into two groups: patients over 50% pain reduction as responder group and patients under 50% pain reduction as non-responder group. Demographic data, clinical data, surgical data, and fluoroscopic data were evaluated and compared.

Results and Discussion: Of the 87 patients assessed for eligibility, 3 were excluded. Among 84 patients analysed, 41 (48.8%) experienced over 50% pain reduction (responder group). Demographic, surgical, and fluoroscopic data did not differ between the groups. LSGB had significantly improvement in pain at T1 and T4 when compared with T0 in both groups. LSGB improved EuroQol-5D (EQ-5D) at T1 when compared with T0 in responder group (\(p=0.046\)). Responder group had a significant decrease in pain at T1 from T0 and at T4 from T0 (\(p <0.001\), \(p <0.001\)) and a significant decrease in EQ-5D at T1 from T0 (\(p=0.016\)) compared with non-responder group. Coldness of leg did not differ over time in both groups. No serious adverse events occurred in both groups.

Conclusion(s): LSGB may improve pain at 1 and 4 week in post spinal surgery syndrome. Patient with over 50% pain reduction at 1 week showed improvement in quality of life at same time and in pain reduction at 4 week.

References:
08AP03-05  
**Effect of Dexmedetomidine as an adjuvant to bupivacaine in epidural infusion on postoperative analgesia after upper abdominal cancer surgeries**

R. Verma¹, J. Kannan¹, H. Hemlata¹, A. Shukla¹  
¹King George’s Medical University, Anaesthesia, Lucknow, India

**Background and Goal of Study:** Patients after upper abdominal cancer surgery experience severe pain. Opioids as an adjuvant to local anesthetics in epidural are the most commonly drugs used for management of postoperative pain but use of opioid is debatable in cancer patients. Dexmedetomidine (DEXM) as an adjuvant to local anesthetics in bolus doses has been used previously for postoperative analgesia with promising results.¹ In this study, we have compared epidural DEXM and epidural fentanyl in infusions as an adjuvant to bupivacaine for postoperative analgesia.

**Materials and Methods:** This randomized control study was done on 68 patients who underwent upper abdominal cancer surgeries. Group F (n=34) received epidural analgesia with bupivacaine .1% and fentanyl 2μgm/ml for 24 hrs @ 6 ml/hr. Group D (n=34) received epidural analgesia with bupivacaine .1% and DEXM 0.5μgm/ml for 24 hrs @ 6 ml/hr. SPSS software version 20 was used for statistical analysis.

**Results and Discussion:** Both static and dynamic mean VAS scores remained higher in group F in comparison to group D. But a significant difference was observed only at baseline (immediately after extubation) for static VAS score and at baseline and at 1 hr and 2 hrs for dynamic VAS score. For rescue analgesic requirement a significant difference was observed only at baseline and at 1 hr. Regarding side effects, 4(11.76%) patients had hypotension in group D and 3(8.8%) patients had hypotension in group F in postoperative period. Nausea was observed in 4(11.76%) patients in group D and 7(20.6%) patients in group F Hetta DF et al observed in their study that epidural infusion of DEXM added to bupivacaine significantly reduces requirement of analgesia and pain scores postoperatively.²

**Conclusion(s):** Both DEXM and fentanyl as an adjuvant to bupivacaine in continuous infusion are effective for providing postoperative analgesia after upper abdominal surgery.

**References:**

08AP03-06  
**Defective branched-chain amino acid catabolism in dorsal root ganglion neurons sensitizes mice to mechanical pain**

H. Xie¹, P. Lu¹, T. Li¹  
¹West China Hospital of Sichuan University, Department of Anaesthesiology, Laboratory of Mitochondria and Metabolism, Chengdu, China

**Background and Goal of Study:** Diabetes is linked to impaired branched-chain amino (BCAA) catabolism and mechanical pain. But the internal association between defective BCAA catabolism and the hypersensitivity to mechanical stimuli is ill-explored. BCAA catabolism is activated by protein phosphatase 2C in mitochondria (PP2Cm). In this study, we assessed the role of defective BCAA catabolism in the development of mechanical pain, and elucidate the metabolic mechanism of dorsal root ganglion (DRG) neurons underlying the phenotype.

**Materials and Methods:** AAV9-hSyn-Cre was injected into L4-L5 DRGs of Pp2Cm⁻/⁻ mice to delete Pp2Cm (cKO). Mechanical pain was tested by von Frey test. For cell study, lentivirus-shRNA was applied to silence Pp2Cm expression in primary DRG neurons. Glycolytic flux was determined through Seahorse assay and ¹³C metabolic flux analysis. Downregulation of lactate dehydrogenase A (Ldha) was achieved by intrathecally injecting siRNA with the help of In vivo SilenceMag™ transfection reagent. Colorimetry was used to measure lactate content. Protein expression was measured by immunofluorescence and western blot.

**Results and Discussion:** Conditional knockout of Pp2Cm in DRG neurons sensitized mice to mechanical pain. Mechanistically, glucose-dependent glycolytic capacity and glycolytic reserve were enhanced in shPp2Cm neurons, which was accompanied by increased lactate release. ¹³C-flux analysis suggested that the increased lactate was derived from glucose. Inhibiting lactate accumulation by silLdha ameliorated mechanical pain. Our study demonstrates the regulatory role of defective BCAA catabolism in mechanical pain and highlights lactate as a critical intermediary.

**Conclusion(s):** Defective BCAA catabolism in DRG neurons sensitizes mice to mechanical pain by increasing glycolytic flux and lactate production. Targeting BCAA catabolism or lactate production might be a potential therapeutic strategy for mechanical pain.

08AP03-07  
**Perioperative pain management in spine surgery: a retrospective observational study**

U. Rodriguez Rivas¹, E. Villà¹, A.C. Carpintero¹, I. Adalid¹, D.P. Oviedo², A. Vilches¹  
¹Parc de Salut Mar, Anaesthesia, Barcelona, Spain

**Background:** Spinal surgery (SS) is related with poor pain control (PPC). Our goals were describe pain management, perioperative patients’ characteristics and complications related to PPC.

**Methods:** Retrospective unicenter observational study during 2019 and 2020. 501 patients were enrolled. Demographic and SS data were described. Incidence of PPC [verbal numerical score (VNS) ≥4] during hospital [H] stay, length of H stay and early rehabilitation [ER, feasibility to walk ≤48hours (h) after SS] were analyzed. Perioperative Analgesic regimens [PAR] applied and complications related to them were studied.
Major SS definition: intrumented thoracolumbar SS, laminectomy ≥ 3 or scoliosis SS. Chronic Opioid Treatment patients (COT) definition: major opioid or tramadol ≥ 200mg/24h treatment 3 months before SS. Available PAR were paracetamol intravenous (iv) 1g/6h and dexketoprofen iv 50mg/8h plus: tramadol (T) iv 1mg/kg/6h; Morphone (M) iv patient-controlled analgesia [PCA]; sublingual sufentanil (S) PCA; intraproretically. 0.5mg/kg bolus iv ketamine followed by an infusion of 0.2mg/kg/h until SS end + postoperatively morphine-ketamine iv [M-K] PCA (specially indicated for COT patients).

Statistics: X²-categorical, t student continuous variables

Results: 502 patients were enrolled: average age 61.07 years, 43.2% (216) women, main reason for SS was spinal stenosis (33.0%, 166). 13.6% (65) of total patients presented VNS=4 at H stay. The relationship between VNS ≥ 4 and preoperative patients’ characteristics were [% of total patients who present any specific characteristic - % of patients with specific characteristic who had VNS ≥ 4 patients - p value]: Anxiety syndrome [19.6% (76) - 21.1% (16) - 0.078]; Depression Syndrome [26.75% (98) - 19.4% (19) - 0.052]; Major SS [26.0% (130) - 20.8% (27) - 0.002]; COT [26.8% (134) - 17.2% (23) - 0.091]. PAR: 53.1% (266) of patients received T; 25.8% (124) M-K PCA; 18.36% (92) M PCA; 3.79% (19) S PCA. 88.71% (110) of M-K patients were COT. COT treated with MK had lower % of PPC: 14% vs 17.2%. Postoperative complications related to PAR: 3.99% (20) nausea-vomiting (PONV), 1.40% (7) paralytic ileus and 1.40% (7) delirium. T PAR had higher prevalence of PONV: 30.77% (20) VNS=4 patients presented ER vs 7.3% (32) with NVS<4. PPC is correlated with unfeasible ER (p<0.001).

Conclusions: SS has high prevalence of PPC, specially major SS. Anxiety, depression and COT could increased PPC. Improve PPC decrease H stay and improve ER.

08AP03-08 Evaluation of the efficacy and safety of implantable intrathecal infusion systems for refractory pain in a Catalan university hospital

M. Sangrà Puig1, A. Ojeda1, C. Gracia1, T. Topczewski2, T. Cuñat1, C. Dürsteler1
1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Neurosurgery, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Chronic pain represents a major public health problem and is the main cause of incapacity in Europe. Cancer-related pain is also a serious problem, with devastating impact on patients and relatives. Both with healthcare and financial burden.

Intrathecal drug administration is justified when systemic treatment doesn’t accomplish an adequate control or presents intolerable side effects. This therapy is usually proposed as a last resource. In the last two decades there has been an increase in its use, being right now an important step on refractory pain algorithms, but in our geographical setting there aren’t retrospective studies which evaluate its effectiveness and safety.

Materials and Methods: A descriptive, retrospective study was carried out, analyzing all patients with an intrathecal infusion system implanted between January 2020 and September 2022 in our center. The primary objective was the effectiveness of the therapy, with the numeric pain rating scale (NPRS) at 6 months’ time (or the last measurement if the patient passed away before) as the main variable.

The secondary objective was the safety of the therapy, analyzing the number and percentage of patients with complications or related adverse effects. Underlying pathology (oncological or not), neuropathic pain criteria, intrathecal drugs used, equivalent morphine dose (before and after the treatment) and demographic data were also collected. Data was analyzed with Excel Spreadsheet Software.

Results and Discussion: A total of 41 patients underwent an intrathecal infusion pump implantation. Mean age was 57 (SD 13) years old, with 51.2% of them females. 30 patients (73%) presented neuropathic pain. 27 (65%) were cancer-related, with a mean Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status at the moment of implantation of 2.4 (SD 0.78). Morphine was the main drug in 95% of the therapies.

Overall, patients presented a decrease, at 6 moths or at the last measured time, of the NRS of 58,7% (57% for oncological patients and 61.5% for non-oncological patients). There were 4 (9.75%) associated complications registered. Equivalent morphine dose was reduced by 76,9% for non-oncological patients and 40,6% on oncological patients.

Conclusions: Intrathecal therapy is an effective and safe therapy once pain is no longer controlled with less invasive treatments. It reduces pain intensity in a short period of time and decreases opioid dosage, with clearly fewer side-effects.

08AP03-09 Management of cervicogenic headache by injection of hypertonic dextrose solution 5% (prolotherapy type)

I.-I. Zagklis1, Z. Raphael2, D. Zagklis3, K. Theodoraki4
1Hellenic Red Cross Hospital, Department of Neurology, Athens, Greece, 2National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Economics, Athens, Greece, 3Private Practice, Clinic for Comprehensive Treatment of Chronic Pain and Headache Disorders, Athens, Greece, 4Areteiaion University Hospital, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Anesthesiology, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Cervicogenic headache is a type of headache where the pain originates from the cervical structures. Prolotherapy is a method that uses hypertonic dextrose solution for managing painful and mostly chronic skeletonmuscular disturbances and myofascial diseases. The goal of this study was to investigate whether there is a better outcome by treating cervicogenic headache with paracetamol and ibuprofen versus the injection of hypertonic dextrose solution.

Materials and Methods: Forty patients suffering from cervicogenic headache were randomized to treatment by either per os pain killers (paracetemol and ibuprofen) or by injection of hypertonic dextrose solution 5%. The group that was treated with conventional pain killers used the treatment during the episodes of headache. The other 20 patients were subjected to injection of hypertonic dextrose solution 5% in 10 symmetrical points of the neck and upper back in every visit to the Pain Clinic. Visits to the Clinic were one week apart from each other in both cohorts. In every visit, the frequency of headache per week, the duration of headache in hours and the pain intensity with the VAS score 0-10 were assessed.

Results and Discussion: From the results of the study, it appears that therapy with injection of hypertonic dextrose 5% solution shows higher rates of successful treatment of cervicogenic headache, with statistically significant differences between the first assessment at
the first visit and the last assessment at the third visit in all aspects of headache. Reduction by 81.25% of the frequency of attacks per week, reduction by 89.75% of the duration in hours and reduction by 77.84% of the headache intensity were demonstrated between the first and the third visit. Changes were less spectacular in the conventional treatment group: In fact, the treatment with conventional pain killers resulted in 6.25% decrease in the frequency of attacks per week, in 44.61% decrease in the duration of pain in hours and in 26.81% decrease in the headache intensity between the first and third visit. Differences between groups were statistically significant.

**Conclusion:** In cases of cervicogenic headache, patients treated with the injection of hypertonic dextrose solution 5% have significant improvement in the frequency, duration and intensity of headache. It appears that prolotherapy, by strengthening the ligaments and tendons of the cervical area can target the trigger points that cause the headache.

**08AP03-10 Hyperalgesia following Fascia-Iliaca Block**

**L. Harris¹, G. Brannan¹**

¹University Hospital Crosshouse, Department of Anaesthetics and Intensive Care, Kilmarnock, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Patients attending the Emergency Department (ED) at University Hospital Crosshouse (UHC) with a neck of femur (NOF) fracture are considered for fascia-iliaca block (FIB) regional analgesia (RA), as recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Hip Fracture Management Clinical Guideline 2011 and Scottish Standards of Care for Hip Fracture Patients.

Rebound hyperalgesia following “wear off” of RA is a documented risk for increased opiate requirement. Rebound pain is poorly understood, typically occurring 6-24 hours post RA. Published data regarding opioid consumption post FIB is limited. We aimed to audit delivery of FIB and investigate opioid use between patients undergoing operative repair of NOF fracture who receive FIB versus those who did not.

**Materials and Methods:** The Opera digital database identified 35 and 38 patients undergoing operative repair of a NOF fracture, in February and June 2022. Patient notes within paper records and scanned to Clinical Portal were used to identify delivery of FIB. Prescribing data was reviewed using the Wellsky electronic platform. Pre-operative oral morphine equivalent (OME) was calculated using the paindata.org calculator. Inferential statistical analysis performed using Wilcoxon rank sum test and Fisher’s exact test.

**Results and Discussion:** 82.2% of patients with NOF fracture received a FIB (74.3% February, 89.5% June). The pre-operative OME of the FIB group was statistically significantly higher than the group with no FIB (P=0.006). The group with no FIB were statistically older than those who received RA (p=0.071). No patients with RA were referred to acute pain services.

**Conclusion(s):** The majority of patients receive a FIB. There is a statistically significant increase in pre-operative OME in NOF fracture cohort receiving FIB, for whom increased opioid use confers increased side-effects. Hyperalgesia following RA is increasingly recognised, however proactive strategies to avoid increased opioid usage have not been widely reported. Strategies for management and prevention are needed to ensure the benefits of RA continue to predominate in acute pain patients.

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**08AP03-11 Use of opioid IV PCA in critical care setting**

**S. Amer¹, A. McGuire¹, J. Gardner¹**

¹Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Glasgow, United Kingdom

**Background:** Despite advancement of perioperative care medicine over the last two decades, pain remains one of the undesirable sequelae of any surgery. Pain is associated with triggering of the Autonomic Nervous System to release major endocrine and metabolic responses that eventually contribute to organ dysfunction⁴. Intravenous Opioid Patient Controlled Analgesia (IV PCA) are widely used in management of post-operative pain and associated with improved patient satisfaction and decreased nursing workload.⁵

When comparing Fentanyl to Morphine IV PCA, Fentanyl had lower incidence of side effects such as nausea, vomiting, pruritus, urinary retention and sedation and associated with lower median pain scores on day 1 and 2 post operatively.⁶

Studies comparing oxycodone to other opioids are mostly inconclusive, however in one study Oxycodone had superior analgesia to Fentanyl, but it was associated with more nausea, vomiting and dizziness⁷.

**Material & Methods:** A total of 566 patients were extracted from Philips IntelliSpace Critical Care and Anaesthesia on 13/12/2022 for Intensive Care Unit admissions using Structured Query Language (SQL) since 2015.

**Results:**

**Figure. Use of opioid PCS in critical care setting.**

**Discussion:** This is a retrospective look into the trend of opioid IV PCA use in critical care setting over eight years. Opioid IV PCA is in one of many analgesic options used in our critical care unit as part of multimodal analgesia. Morphine remains a popular choice for IV PCA although its use has been in decline over the period of study. Use of Oxycodone IV PCA has gained popularity especially over the last two years where it became as popular as morphine while the use of Fentanyl remains fairly constant.

**Conclusion:** Overall PCA numbers remain similar throughout the 8 year period and oxycodone is gaining popularity in our unit. Further analysis of side effects is planned for quality improvement purposes.
08AP03-12
Short-term outcome of low back pain in the Chronic Pain Treatment Unit
C.A. Perez Lehmann1, M.A. Carames Alvarez1, A. Becerra Bolaños1, M.L. Torres Machii, L. Herrera Rodríguez1, A. Rodríguez Perez1
1Hospital Universitario de Gran Canaria Doctor Negrín, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine, and Pain Medicine, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Low back pain (LBP) is one of the main reasons for consultation in chronic pain units. Nonetheless, it is a very heterogeneous condition in both its clinical picture and its response to treatment. We aim to describe the response to treatment of LBP patients in their first visit to the Chronic Pain Treatment Unit (UTDC).

Methods: After the approval of the EC of our hospital, we carried out a retrospective study including patients referred to the UTDC for LBP of any origin from July 2017 to February 2018. We excluded patients that had been previously seen in the UTDC and patients referred to the unit in the context of a clinical trial. Data were anonymously gathered from electronic medical records focusing into treatment received and their response.

Results and Discussion: From the 466 patients accepted to the UTDC for LBP, 171 met the exclusion criteria. Then, data were gathered for 295 patients: 52.9% had pharmacological treatment adjusted, 18% received interventionism, 13.9% were discharged due to the absence of a valid therapeutic alternative, 5% received TENS therapy. The remaining 10.2% were referred to other physicians. In the second visit, 39.5% referred feeling better, 30.8% said pain had not changed, 11.9% said pain was worse, and 17.8% were lost from follow up. 72.9% of patients who had received interventionism treatment referred improvement compared to 46.6% of patients receiving other types of treatment (p<0.001).

Pain of 46.6% of patients with anxiety or depression had improved after the first visit, compared to 48.7% of those without those conditions (p=0.78). No differences were found between patients with prior Lumbar spine surgery (LSS) whose pain improved (42.2%) compared to those without prior LSS (49.7%) (p=0.38). 46.3% of patients with pure LBP showed improvement after interventionism, compared to 49.2% with radiated LBP (p=0.69).

Improvement in working age patients: 52.3% of employed active patients, 39.9% of those with a temporary incapacity (TI), 53.8% of those with a permanent incapacity (PI), and 45% of unemployed patients (p=0.73).

Conclusions: Interventionism in the first consultation showed higher success rate in improving LBP than conservative treatment. However, candidates should be carefully selected as time and resources do not allow it to be indicated. Although no statistical significance was found, patients with a TI relate less improvement than those occupationally active or with a PI.
Background and Goal of Study: Erector spinae plane blocks (ESP), thoracic epidural infusion, and patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) have all been used for perioperative pain management in the Nuss procedure for the repair of pectus excavatum without a consensus on what modality produces the best outcomes. Intercostal nerve cryoablation (INC) is a relatively new modality that involves freezing the nerves to prevent pain during recovery.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective, observational study compared 108 patients who underwent the Nuss procedure at Nemours Children’s Hospital in Orlando, FL. Patient charts were evaluated for significant differences in length of stay (LOS), opioid use, and reported pain ratings based on type of analgesia administered: INC (n=30), ESP (n=19), thoracic epidural (n=41), PCA (n=18). Secondary variables included emergency department visits, readmissions, opioid refills, and various anesthetic and operative costs. Analysis of variance was performed on all outcome measures.

Results and Discussion: Average LOS was significantly decreased in the INC group (2.9 days) compared to both the thoracic epidural group (4.7 days, p<.05) and the PCA group (3.7 days, p<.05). Average cumulative opioid use was significantly decreased in the INC group (50.4 MME) compared to the thoracic epidural group (117 MME, p<.05) and PCA group (172.1 MME, p<.05). INC did not significantly affect average overall pain when compared to other groups. Operative costs for INC ($22,755) were significantly more expensive than thoracic epidural ($17,151, p=.001 and PCA ($14,601, p=.001). INC anesthetic charges ($58,843) were more expensive than thoracic epidural ($17,151, p=.001 and PCA ($52,735, p=.001). However, there was no significant difference in total hospital charges in between groups.

Conclusion(s): This study suggests that INC can be a viable option for reducing postoperative opioid consumption and LOS in Nuss procedure patients. Limitations include retrospective design, small sample size, and patient use of non-opioid pain control medications that may have affected patient reported pain scores. As prior studies have shown inconclusive evidence for the efficacy of INC, additional research would be helpful in assessing its impact.

Background and Goal of Study: Long-term opioid therapy patients [LOT] present higher risk of poor pain control [PPC] after spine surgery [SS]. We aim to describe the incidence of PPC, efficacy of postoperative analgesia regimens [AR], hospital length of stay and early ambulation in LOT after SS in our center.

Materials and Methods: We design an observational descriptive study during 2019 and 2020. LOT was defined as treatment with any strong opioid or ≥200mg/24h tramadol 3 months before SS. Demographic and surgery data were collected. Thoracicolumbar SS with instrumentation, laminectomy ≥3 or scoliosis SS were considered major SS. We analyzed: incidence of PPC (defined as ≥4 score at verbal numerical scale [VNS]) at postoperative anesthetic critical unit [PACU] and hospital stay [H]; efficacy of perioperative AR; length of H; early ambulation (≤48h after SS).

In our center, LOT have specific analgesic protocol: intraoperatively, 0.5mg/kg bolus of intravenous [iv] ketamine followed by an infusion of 0.2mg/kg/h until SS end; postoperatively morphine-ketamine iv [M-K] patient-controlled analgesia [PCA] plus paracetamol iv 1g/6h and dexketoprofen 50mg/8h iv. However, anaesthetist in charge can also treat LOT with tramadol iv 1mg/kg/6h or morphine iv PCA plus paracetamol and dexketoprofen.

Results and Discussion: 501 patients underwent SS and 135 (26.9%) where LOT: average age of 62.5 years, 62 (45.9%) were women, 55 (40.7%) underwent major SS and 36 (26.7%) had a SS before.

13.3% (18) patients presented VNS ≥4 at PACU and 17.2% (23) at H. Regarding AR: 82.2% (111) received intra and postoperative M-K protocol, 9.6% (13) received tramadol and 7.4% (10) followed morphine PCA. Patients receiving M-K AR:11.1% (13) had VNS ≥4 at PACU and 19 (14.1%) at H. Although not significantly correlated, it represented a decrease of 16.0% and 17.4% of patients with PPC, compared to other AR, at PACU and H respectively.

PPC increased H length of stay (p 0.025): 13.9 days (d) in VNS ≥4 patients vs 8.1d in VNS <4 patients. PPC was a risk factor of inability to early ambulation: 24.32% (9) VNS ≥4 vs 5.71% (12) VNS <4 patients (p<0.001).

Conclusion(s): Prevalence of LOT is high in SS. PPC is increased with longer H length of stay and delay in ambulation. AR design specifically for LOT could contribute to reduce PPC.
08AP04-04
Intravenous patient-controlled analgesia with nefopam versus nefopam and fentanyl for acute postoperative pain management in patients undergoing laparoscopic colorectal oncosurgery

I. Cîndea¹, V. Gherghina¹, A. Balcan², B. Samoila², A. Tabacaru¹, D. Iosif¹
¹Emergency Clinical Hospital of Constanta, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Constanta, Romania, ²Ovidius University of Constanta, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Constanta, Romania, ³John Radcliffe Hospital, Intensive Care, Oxford, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Intravenous patient-controlled analgesia is an accepted and effective strategy for relieving acute pain after laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery. Opioid administration by this method is associated with nausea/vomiting, sedation and respiratory depression, thus drug combinations or alternative drugs are required to avoid such complications. The goal of our study is to evaluate the impact of patient-controlled analgesia with nefopam vs nefopam-fentanyl on acute postoperative pain management during first 24h after laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery, in terms of efficacy and safety.

Materials and Methods: This randomized prospective double-blind controlled study included 82 patients (ASA I-III), aged>45 years, candidates to elective laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery. They were randomly assigned into 2 groups, each with 41 subjects, group N and Group NF that received iv PCA with nefopam, respectively nefopam-fentanyl for acute postoperative pain control, during first 24h after surgery. In all patients, PCA devices were set to deliver a bolus demand dose of 2 ml, with a background infusion rate of 2 ml/h and a lockout interval of 10 min. For pain intensity exceeding 4 points on numerical rating scale (NRS), iv morphine was administered as rescue analgesia. The primary outcomes were the incidence and the intensity of acute postoperative pain, evaluated by NRS every 6 hours and the morphine consumption, during study. The rate of nausea/vomiting episodes, incidence of sedation and patient satisfaction with postoperative analgesia during study were recorded as secondary outcomes. Data were analyzed using Student’s t-test and Fisher test, with a significance level considered for p<0.05.

Results and Discussion: Lack of significant difference between groups was detected concerning the incidence and severity of acute postoperative pain, assessed for all time intervals. Total morphine consumption revealed similar values in both groups (p=0.23). The occurrence of nausea/vomiting and sedation episodes registered significant lower values in group N vs group NF (p<0.01, p<0.03). Assessment of patient satisfaction showed statistically favorable scores for group N (p<0.03).

Conclusion: According to our data, nefopam seems to be as efficient as fentanyl-nefopam combination when administered by iv PCA for acute postoperative pain control after laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery, but with the advantage of a better safety profile.

08AP04-05
Trajectories of pain and opioid use up to 12 months after surgery

M. Harnik¹, D. Hofer¹, F. Stüber¹, W. Meissner², U. Stamer³
¹University of Bern, Inselspital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, ²Jena University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Jena, Germany

Background: Chronic postsurgical pain (CPSP) and associated persistent postoperative opioid prescriptions are considered as a major healthcare problem in some countries. Data from Europe are heterogeneous, e.g., for persistent opioid prescriptions after surgery 2-41% of the patients are affected (1). Goal of the study: To evaluate trajectories of pain and opioid use from the preoperative phase up to 12 months after surgery in a mixed surgical cohort.

Methods: Ethics approval for analysis of registry data derived from the European PAIN OUT project. Endpoints: Preoperative and postoperative opioid medication (morphine equivalents), long-term use of opioids at 6 and 12 months (M6/M12). Subgroups without or with pre-existing chronic pain (pre-CP), with/without opioids before surgery, and with postoperative chronic pain unrelated to surgery vs CPSP (new ICD-11 definition) at M6/M12 were compared. Statistics: t-test, ANOVA, level of significance p<0.05.

Results: Of 2233 patients, 42% suffered from pre-CP at the site of surgery, elsewhere or both. Opioid medication before surgery was reported by 5.6% of the patients, with more frequent use in patients with pre-CP compared to patients without pain (11.9% vs 1.3%; p<0.001). Reasons for preoperative opioid medication were back or joint pain, cancer pain, a chronic pain syndrome, or opioid abuse/addiction (0.3%). Postoperative opioid doses were higher in patients with pre-CP compared to patients without pre-CP (mean 95% CI): 21 (19-23) vs. 13 (12-14) mg/24 h; p<0.001). At M6 and M12, 4.6% and 3.7% were taking opioids (without pre-CP 1.0%; with pre-CP 6.7%; p<0.001). Cessation of opioids at M12 was observed in 56% of the preoperative opioid users. Of previously opioid-naïve patients, 1.2% were new opioid users at M12. However, only 0.8% reported a pain localization corresponding to the type of surgery. The remaining patients suffered from chronic pain unrelated to surgery or cancer-related pain. For the whole cohort, the incidence of moderate to severe CPSP at M12 amounted to 1.7%.

Conclusions: In this European cohort, most patients with persistent opioid use already had pre-CP with some of them taking opioids. Persistent postoperative opioid use in opioid-naïve patients seems to be lower than in published studies, however, opioid prescriptions should be watched closely. More emphasis has to be placed on opioid tapering before and after surgery.

Reference:
08AP04-06  
Efficacy of acute pain treatment after shoulder joint replacement using N. Suprascapularis stimulating catheter or local anesthetic injections and measuring analgesia nociception index (ANI)

I. Golubovska1, K. Moskalenko2, A. Miščuks1, I. Čerņavskā1, M. Radziņš1, A. Vugulis1
1Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics, Dept of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Latvia, Latvia, 2Riga Stradiņš University, Medicine, Latvia, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Patients after shoulder joint replacement surgery report moderate to severe pain even though postoperative pain is treated with opioids, which have some side effects. Prolonged perineural placement of the stimulating catheter is a novel analgesic modality. The objective was to compare the efficacy of perineural block with a N. Suprascapularis stimulating catheter compared to local anesthetic injection after shoulder arthroplasty.

Materials and Methods: The prospective study was carried out at the Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics Riga, Latvia, from May to December 2022. Overall 10 patients undergoing shoulder arthroplasty surgery where ultrasound-guided stimulating catheter was inserted close to N.Suprascapularis were included in the study. Within the recovery room, the treatment group received 10 minutes long nerve stimulation twice, before the movement of the shoulder and after. The control group received Ropivacaine 37.5 mg injections via a catheter. For the pain assessment the Analgesia Nociception Index (ANI) was used - instantaneous (ANIi) and mean (ANIm). Scale from 0 to 100 (respectively, maximum of nociception/predominance to complete analgesia/predominance of the sympathetic nervous system). Also for subjective pain experience the Numeric Rating Scale (NRS) was used - patients rated pain from 1 (no pain) to 10 (worst pain). For the analysis of data, IBM SPSS 27.0 was used.

Results and Discussion: Mean values after stimulation in the treatment group – before movement ANIm - 62.20 and ANII - 61, after shoulder movement ANIm - 68.80 and ANII - 70. In the control group, the mean values were ANIm - 64.60 and ANII – 64.20. ANI indexes were also compared to pharmacological treatment – there was no statistically significant association (p < 0.05) compared to stimulation, in both situations, in rest and after movement. Although NRS were compared in the same way - in both groups there was no statistically significant association (p < 0.05).

Conclusion(s): Both groups are equivalent and equally successful in pain relief. Future research would be needed to conduct a more comprehensive analysis of the use of this nerve stimulation method on a daily basis.

08AP04-07  
Incidence and risk factors for chronic pain after thoracic surgery: a retrospective study

H. Rivera Ramos1, A. Montes Pérez1, L. Larrañaga Altuna1, M. García Olivera1, M. Armengol Gay1, S. Bermejo Martínez1
1Hospital del Mar–Consorci Sanitari PSMAR, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Chronic pain after thoracic surgery (CPATS) is a frequent complication that affects the quality of life of patients. Open thoracotomy entails high risk of pain chronification. Video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS) is a less traumatic option, but his role in CPATS is unclear. Regardless of the surgical approach, there is growing evidence about the influence of other demographic, psychosocial or clinical factors. The aim of this study was to detect the incidence and predictors of CPATS at 6 months, both from thoracotomy and VATS.

Methods: Observational retrospective study conducted in a tertiary hospital. We reviewed electronic medical records of patients scheduled for thoracic surgery from January/16 to January/20. The diagnosis of CPATS was assessed from the follow-up visit at 6 months after surgery. Variables with established relationship with the CPATS and/or its aetiopathogenic plausibility were obtained. Logistic binary regression was applied for the multivariate model. A p value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: We analysed 259 patients with an average age of 62.5 years (range 17-86), 36.3% were women and 46.7% vs. 53.3% had VATS and thoracotomies, respectively. The overall incidence of CPATS was 12%; 4.1% for VATS and 18.8% for open thoracotomy. Multivariate model revealed that severity of postoperative acute pain and a higher number of thoracic drainages at first day were risk factors for CPATS (Figure 1). Despite the differences in the incidence of CPATS between surgical approaches, open thoracotomy did not increase the risk of CPATS.

Figure 1. Multivariate model of the risk factors for Chronic Pain After Thoracic Surgery.

Conclusions: The incidence of CPATS was 12% in our center. Patients with higher severity of acute pain and those with higher number of thoracic drainages have greater likelihood of developing CPATS. Open thoracotomy was not a risk factor for CPATS.
Patient satisfaction with analgesia in the postoperative period: a survey

V. Panova¹, S. Zadorožnijs², A. Miščuks¹, I. Golubovska³
¹University of Latvia, Faculty of Medicine, Riga, Latvia
²Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics, Department of Big Joint Surgery, Riga, Latvia
³Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics, Department of Anesthesiology, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Patients often have a severe pain after surgery, which causes discomfort and stress. Although various studies have been conducted regarding the identification and management of postoperative pain, relatively limited data is available on patient satisfaction with their care. The goal of this study was to understand patient satisfaction with analgesia administered to them in the postoperative period.

Materials and Methods: A prospective study involving patients who underwent different types of orthopedic surgeries was conducted in the Hospital of Traumatology and Orthopaedics, Riga, Latvia from September to November 2022. Patients were interviewed two days after surgical intervention. Satisfaction with analgesia was categorized on scale from 0 to 10, 0 being completely unsatisfied and 10 being completely satisfied. Patients also were asked about the worst and the least pain they felt at rest and during movements. Pain was evaluated using a Visual Analog Scale (VAS). Patients were categorized based on the gender and age group. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 27th version.

Results and Discussion: 102 patients agreed to participate in the survey. Mean satisfaction score with analgesia in the postoperative period was 9.32 for female patients and 9.45 for male patients. The worst pain during movement for female patients was 5.97 and 5.16 for male patients. The worst pain during rest for females – 4.94 and male – 4.06. The least pain during movement for female patients – 3.80 and male – 3.19. The least pain during rest for females – 2.75 and male – 1.84.

Looking at mean satisfaction with analgesia in postoperative period by age groups, the lowest score is in the 18-39 age group – 8.33 and the highest in the 80-90 age group being 9.88. The worst pain both at rest and during movement was in the 18-39 age group – 5.50 and 6.33, but the worst pain in the 80-90 age group – 2.68 and 4.75, which is significantly lower.

Conclusion(s): Women have more pain after surgery. Younger adults have more pain and are less satisfied with analgesia. Overall satisfaction with analgesia is very high despite moderate pain after surgery.

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Chronic pain following thoracotomy: It’s incidence regarding patient’s age, ASA score and type of perioperative analgesia used

R. Saiti¹, A. Theodorou - Kanakari¹, K. Manika¹, P. Ampou - Chantitzi¹, E. Chrona¹, P. Kouki²
¹Nikaia Hospital, Dept of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Athens, Greece
²University of Latvia, Faculty of Medicine, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Chronic pain is common following thoracotomy and can affect quality of life. Post thoracotomy pain syndrome (PTPS) is defined by International Association for the study of Pain (IASP) as pain that recurs or persists along a thoracotomy incision at least two months following surgical procedure. Goal of this study was to investigate the incidence of PTPS 6-12 months after thoracotomy in our institution and its relation regarding age, ASA score and type of perioperative analgesia.

Materials and Methods: After approval from hospital’s Ethics Committee, 42 consented patients were included. All patients had undergone a typical posterolateral thoracotomy between June 2021 and July 2022. Patients’ average age was 61 years old. All patients were contacted by phone 6-12 months post-surgery and were evaluated using the Douleur neuropathique questionnaire (DN4). PTPS was defined as DN4 score above 3. Regression analysis, t-test and analysis of variance were used in statistical analysis. STATA was used as method for statistical analysis.

Results and Discussion: Among the 42 patients, 6 were ASA I, 20 were ASA II and 16 were ASA III. Mean DN4 score was 1.4 (1.4). Twelve of them received systemic opioids as postoperative analgesia and had a mean DN4 score of 1.3. Twenty one of them received continuous epidural infusion with ropivacaine 2% and fentanyl 2.5μg/ml and had a mean DN4 score of 1.15 and 9 of them received PCA with fentanyl 20μg/ml and had a mean DN4 score of 2.1. No statistically significant difference was observed among the different groups regarding DN4 score (p value 0.3). We observed a statistically significant correlation between DN4 score and age with the older patients having reduced DN4 score than the younger ones (p value 0.01). No statistically significant difference was observed between ASA I, II and III patients regarding DN4 score.

Conclusion(s): In the present study post thoracotomy pain syndrome is not related to ASA group or type of perioperative analgesia. It appears that as patients’ age increases it is less likely to present PTPS. Further studies involving larger number of patients are required in order to obtain more accurate data.
08AP04-10
Patient Empowerment and education via Pain App reduce the incidence of chronic postthoracotomy pain

S. Kampe1, S. Welter2, H. Winter3, T. Krbek4, G. Weinreich5, C. Aigner6
1Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg / University Medicine Essen-Ruhrlandklinik and University Hospital Magdeburg, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Essen, Germany, 2Lungenklinik Hemer, Department of Thoracic Surgery, Hemer, Germany, 3University Heidelberg / Thoraxklinik Heidelberg - University Hospital Heidelberg, Department of Thoracic Surgery, Heidelberg, Germany, 4Stiftung Bethanien Essen-Ruhrlandklinik, Department of Thoracic Surgery and Thoracic Endoscopy, Essen, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Chronic postthoracotomy pain, defined as pain after 3 months postoperatively, is still described in appr. 40% of patients (1, 2). We evaluated the influence of patient empowerment/education with a pain App on the incidence of chronic postthoracotomy pain.

Materials and Methods: The present multicenter, open randomized clinical study was approved by the ethics committee (19-8833-BO). After written informed consent patients either received standard pain protocol of each clinical study centre (Control Group) or standard pain protocol plus patient empowerment and education (App Group) by pain nurses and access to our pain App up to 6 months postoperatively.

The data collected is evaluated using SPSS. The primary outcome parameter was defined as incidence of pain after 6 months postoperatively. Data were analysed by using t-test, Mann-Whitney-U-test and chi-square test.

Results and Discussion: 613 patients were enrolled and randomized in our prospective multicentre study (55.8% male and 44.2% female). Patients were 55.3±12.6 years old. Patients in the App Group developed less chronic postthoracotomy pain after 6 months compared to the Control-Group (App Group 6.4% vs Control-Group 12%, p<0.05). We identified younger age (App Group 3.9% vs Control Group 10.0%, p<0.05) and female gender (App Group 3.0% vs Control Group 7.9%, p<0.05) as subgroups with strongest differences in chronic postthoracotomy pain.

In general, patients in the App Group consumed less non opioid drugs over 6 months postoperatively than patients in the Control Group (17.9% vs. 23.8%, p<0.05). Between groups there was no difference in prescription of opioids (10.1% vs. 8.4%, p=n.s.) and anti-depressant drugs (8.7% vs. 8.5%, p=n.s.).

Conclusion: Patient Empowerment and education via Pain App is superior to standard postoperative pain protocols in reducing post-thoracotomy pain.

References:

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08AP04-11
Postoperative pain as an independent predictor for quality of life

A. Kunseorg1, M. Velten1, J. Menzenbach1, M. Wittmann1, G. Masseoth1
1University Hospital Bonn, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Bonn, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative pain is often a considerable burden for the patient, especially in the first 24 hours. Several studies have shown that increased pain leads to a reduced quality of life (QoL) in the long-term outcome as well as a delayed return to normal daily living. This is especially the case when the pain is severe.

The aim of this sub-analysis was to investigate in a surgical patient cohort how high the average postoperative pain was and whether this had an influence on the QoL in the long-term outcome.

Methods: This prospective observational single centre study, conducted from 2018 to 2019, included 1097 patients aged 60 years or older and with a planned surgery duration of at least 60 minutes. The sub-analysis presented here is based on the preoperative baseline parameters, including the EQ-5D-5L and EQ-VAS as QoL questionnaires, which were also collected 180 days postoperatively during a follow-up (FUP) call.

Furthermore, the patients’ pain was assessed on five postoperative days using the Visual Analogue Scale (VRS) and Numerical Rating Scale (NRS). In order to adjust the impact of postoperative pain on the quality of life in the FUP with other influencing parameters, beta regression models were conducted.

Results: The mean age of the 1021 analysed patients was 72 (±7.3) years. Average NRS significantly reduced from 3.4 (±2.7) to 2.4 (±2.4) from the first to fifth visit day (p<0.001). Subjectively assessed overall self-rated health status (EQ-VAS) of patients increased on average from 61 (±22.6) to 66 (±21) points from baseline to FUP (p<0.001).

In addition, the patients’ subjective perception of pain and discomfort decreased significantly from baseline to FUP from 2.5 (±1.3) to 2.2 (±1.2) (p<0.001). The beta regression models showed that the level of postoperative pain on day 1, in addition to the ASA classification and the surgery risk, had a significant influence on the EQ-5D-5L index and the EQ-VAS 180 days after surgery.

Conclusion(s): Our sub-analysis shows that even a low pain level, among other factors, has an impact on the patients’ quality of life in the long-term course. Since patient- and surgery-related factors such as multimorbidity and surgical risk often cannot be changed, major attention should be paid to postoperative pain management in the future to avoid negative long-term effects.

References:
2. Menzenbach J et al., JCA 2022
Postoperative pain management in patients undergoing open hepatectomy at Srinagarind Hospital

S. Bhakdisongkhram¹, Y. Kanokun¹, S. Pongjanyakul¹, K. Wanphon¹, P. Ratanasuwan¹
¹Khon Kaen University, Anesthesiology, Muang Khon Kaen, Thailand

Background and Goal of Study: Effective pain control is essential for patient recovery, and reduced complications in open hepatectomy. Thoracic epidural analgesia (TEA) is commonly used to provide analgesia. However, TEA remains controversial because of postoperative coagulopathy which could delay the removal of the epidural catheter and increase the risk of serious complications such as epidural hematoma. Currently, there is no consensus among anesthesiologists regarding which technique is superior for pain management in open hepatectomy. This study aims to compare the severity of postoperative pain utilizing various techniques of pain management in patients who undergo open hepatectomy at Srinagarind Hospital.

Materials and Methods: For this retrospective descriptive study, the data were collected from patients who undergo open hepatectomy from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2020, at Srinagarind Hospital, Khon Kaen University via anesthetic and acute pain service records. The scope of our study includes the severity of pain in various types of postoperative analgesic techniques, their side effects, and complications.

Results and Discussion: A total of 551 cases was included in this study. At 24 hours post-surgery, patients who reported severe pain at rest were as followed IV PCA (intravenous patient-controlled analgesia) group, spinal MO (spinal morphine) + IV PCA group, and TEA group (51.22%, 42.86%, 25.58%; p<0.001). Patients who reported severe pain during movement were as followed IV PCA group, spinal MO+IV PCA group, and TEA group (84.15%, 71.43%, 58.16%; p<0.001). No significant difference in pain severity was observed in all groups during 24-48 hours post-surgery. Pain severity during movement was significantly lower in TEA group compared to spinal MO+IV PCA and IV PCA group at 48-72 hours post-surgery (38.64%, 25.00%, 17.30%; p=0.005). Side effects such as vomiting, pruritus, and over-sedation were more frequent in spinal MO+IV PCA. The incidence of delayed epidural catheter removal due to coagulopathy is 9.69%, and no incidence of epidural hematoma was reported.

Conclusion(s): Pain severity was significantly lower in TEA group during the first 24 hours post-surgery. At 48-72 hours post-surgery, pain severity at movement was significantly lower in TEA group compared to spinal MO+IV PCA and IV PCA group. Side effects of analgesic drugs were more frequent in spinal MO+IV PCA group and no incident of epidural hematoma was reported.
Is an episode of Acute Kidney Injury in ICU associated with an increased risk of subsequent Ventilator Associated Pneumonia?

O. Clark1
1The University of Edinburgh, Medical School, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Background: Following biological reports that an episode of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) impairs pulmonary innate immunity (1, 2), it’s association with subsequent Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP) has been the topic of several clinical studies (3), each using different, highly specific definitions of VAP. This study aimed to establish whether a significant association exists when using a more pragmatic definition of VAP, combining that of the US CDC and European ECDC.

Methods: In this retrospective case-control study, patients admitted to two adult general ICUs in Edinburgh between 1st June 2015 and 31st May 2016 were screened for diagnosis of either CDC or ECDC VAP. 56 patients were identified and matched 1:2 (Case-Control) on site, sex, age and severity of illness with non-VAP patients from the same population. All patients then had their serum creatinine between ICU admission and VAP diagnosis/ICU discharge screened for retrospective diagnosis of AKI as per the KDIGO criteria. Univariate and multivariate analysis was then performed for association of AKI to subsequent VAP

Main Results: There was no significant association found at univariate (p=0.19) or multivariate (p=0.26) analysis.

Conclusions: This dataset suggests that an episode of AKI is not significantly associated with subsequent VAP. This is at odds with most of the research on this topic (1-3) and suggests that further study is warranted. I would encourage future researchers to adopt this study’s combined CDC/ECDC definition of VAP, to improve external validity by approximating the true clinical burden of VAP better than either single definition.

References:
1University Hospital of Regensburg, Anaesthesiology, Regensburg, Germany

Table 1: migration values with respect to applied g-time [kgs]; *=p<.05, **=p<.001 vs. control (<2kgs).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>parameter (medians)</th>
<th>observation period [h]</th>
<th>applied g-time [kgs]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&lt;2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL [µm]</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TS [µm/s]</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDX [µm]</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>straightness [1]</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results and Discussion: Our data suggest that g-forces applied during DGS or caused by an ECMO have a significant influence on PMN migration correlating to the g-time.

Conclusion(s): Only gently isolated PMNs should be used for future analyses. The clinical implications of ECMO therapy on the immune response need to be further investigated.

References:
2. Hundhunner Biomedicines 2022; 10(11)
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation does not lead to sequestration of cefiderocol in an ex-vivo setup

H. Booke1,2, B. Friedrichson2, L. Draheim2, K. Zacharowski2, O. Frey3, E.H. Adam2
1University of Muenster, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine University Hospital Muenster, Münster, Germany, 2Goethe-University Frankfurt, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, University Hospital Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 3Heidenheim General Hospital, Department of Pharmacy, Heidenheim, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: It is shown that extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) can lead to different pharmacokinetics (PK) of commonly used drugs possibly due to sequestration in the circuit and oxygenator.[1] No data exists for the new cephalosporin cefiderocol.

Therefore, this study uses an ex-vivo setup to show if cefiderocol gets absorbed in the ECMO-circuit (tubes and oxygenator) with the need for dose adjustment.

Materials and Methods: This is an experimental ex-vivo study using a fully functional ECMO-device (Cardiohelp System, Getinge AB, Gothenburg, Sweden). 20L of an albumin-electrolyte-solution with an albumin concentration of 4mg/dL and 1g cefiderocol (aim of 50mg/L) were used to mimic the volume of distribution and expected concentration of cefiderocol in patients. The ECMO ran at 5L/min “bloodflow” and samples were taken at baseline (0), 5, 15, 45, 60, 120, 180 and 240 min. Concentration of cefiderocol was measured using a high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method for the quantification of cefiderocol in serum. Simultaneously, 100mL of the same albumin-electrolyte-solution and 5mg cefiderocol were incubated and stirred in a control jar to demonstrate drug stability over the study period.

Results and Discussion: Baseline concentration in the ECMO-set-up was 52 mg/L. Concentration after 240 min of ECMO was 53 mg/L. The control samples proved cefiderocol stability over the study period with 100% drug recovery after 240 min. Our study shows no occurrence of relevant sequestration of cefiderocol in the ECMO-circuit over a period of 3 hours. Therefore, the sole existence of an ECMO-circuit does not require dose adjustments in ECMO-patients. However, other pathophysiological changes that might be a result of ECMO-treatment (e.g. systemic inflammation, reduced organ function) can alter PK and might result in necessary dosage changes. This can be done best by therapeutic drug monitoring.

Conclusion(s): In an ex-vivo setup, cefiderocol does not show adsorption to ECMO-tubes or -oxygenator.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: This study received funding from the German research foundation.

Standard piperacillin dosing fails target attainment in most patients with veno-arterial extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VA-ECMO)

H. Booke1,2, O. Frey3, A. Röhr3, K. Zacharowski2, E.H. Adam2
1University of Muenster, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine University Hospital Muenster, Münster, Germany, 2Goethe-University Frankfurt, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, University Hospital Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 3Heidenheim General Hospital, Department of Pharmacy, Heidenheim, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Treatment of infections is crucial in patients with veno-arterial extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VA-ECMO). Often, broad spectrum antibiotics like piperacillin are used empirically to cover pathogens that are common in critically ill patients, e.g. pseudomonas aeruginosa (PA). It is from interest, whether standard dosing of piperacillin leads to sufficient plasma levels.

Materials and Methods: This was a prospective observational study measuring piperacillin plasma levels in VA-ECMO patients. 12 g/d of piperacillin were continuously administered over the treatment period and plasma samples were taken daily for a maximum of 5 samples. A high-performance liquid chromatograph was used for measuring. Plasma concentrations were evaluated based on The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) non-species related breakpoint (BPn; 8 mg/l) and PA breakpoint (BPn; 16 mg/l) for piperacillin.[1] As recommended for β-lactams, target plasma levels were defined as 4 to 8 times BPn/ BPn with an upper limit of 96 mg/l (= 40 mg/l [32-64 mg/l] / 80 mg/l [64-96 mg/l]).[2]

Results and Discussion: 10 patients were included and 31 measurements taken. Patients were mainly male (n=9; 90%) and obese (body mass index 33±6.4 kg/m2). Mean plasma concentrations were 69.1±36.6 mg/l. 35% of all samples (n=11) were within BP N lactam antibiotics in critically ill patients—Guidelines from the French Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics (Société Française de Pharmacologie et Thérapeutique—SFPT) and the French Society of Anaesthesia. CritCare 23, 1–20.(2019).

Conclusion(s): Standard dosing of piperacillin might lead to under- or overdosed in patients on VA-ECMO. Both, individual empirical dosing, which takes into account the germ spectrum and organ function and therapeutic drug monitoring, can be recommended.

References:
1. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (accessed 09 December 2022); https://eucast.org клинические пороговые значения/2.
Haptoglobin depletion is associated with mortality in patients with ARDS and veno-venous ECMO

V. Bünger1, O. Hunsicker1, C.D. Spies1, S. Weber-Carstens1, M. Menk2, J.A. Graw1,3
1Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Berlin, Germany, 2University Hospital “Carl Gustav Carus”, Technische Universität Dresden, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Dresden, Germany, 3Universitätsklinikum Ulm, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Ulm, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Haptoglobin (Hp) can scavenge cell-free hemoglobin (CFH) liberated by hemolysis which is frequent in patients with sepsis, the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), or during therapy with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO). In patients on the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), an association between hemolysis and increased mortality has been observed. In addition, low plasma levels of Hp seem independently associated with mortality. In this study, we analyzed Hp depletion in patients with ARDS and therapy with veno-venous ECMO (VV ECMO). We identified patients at risk by cut-off values of the initial Hp.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective analysis of patients with ARDS admitted to a tertiary ARDS referral center from 01/2007 to 12/2018. All patients with Hp and CFH measurements within the first week of ECMO treatment were included. Hp depletion was defined as a drop of Hp concentration under the threshold of 0.39g/l and patients were grouped accordingly. To adjust for confounders and to identify independent risk factors associated with Hp depletion, baseline characteristics at ECMO initiation were compared between the groups. A cut-off value of an initial Hp concentration associated with significant Hp depletion was calculated with recursive binary partitioning. All significantly different variables were included in a multivariable logistic regression model optimized by backward variable selection according to AIC.

Results and Discussion: In 269 of 435 included patients, Hp depletion (≤0.39g/l) during seven days following ECMO initiation was observed, 166 patients were not affected. The groups differed significantly in the occurrence of septic shock (Hp≤0.39g/l: 67.7% vs. Hp>0.39g/l: 45.4%, p=0.011) and ICU mortality (Hp≤0.39g/l: 59.1%, [95% CI, 53.0-65.0] vs Hp>0.39g/l: 34.9%, [27.8-42.8], p<0.001). The subgroup of patients with Hp measurements at ECMO initiation (n=215) was divided by the calculated cut-off value for the initial Hp of 1.69g/l into groups with a significantly different risk for Hp depletion (initial Hp≤1.69g/l: 74.8%, [95% CI, 65.3-82.4], n=107 vs. initial Hp>1.69g/l: 47.2%, [37.6-57.0], n=108, p<0.001). This initial Hp limit remained significantly associated with the risk of Hp depletion in the multivariable logistic regression model (adj. OR 13.08, [3.10-83.11], p=0.002). Other independent risk factors for Hp depletion included septic shock and peak inspiratory pressure at ECMO initiation.

Conclusion(s): Hp depletion is significantly associated with adverse outcomes in patient with ARDS and treatment with VV ECMO. The cut-off value of the initial Hp plasma concentration associated with significant Hp depletion can identify a patient population that might benefit from Hp-supplementation.

Intravascular cell free haemoglobin aggravates ventilator induced lung injury in mice

M. Buttenberg1, N. Hoefer1, M. Taher1, R.C.E. Francis2,3, W.M. Kuebler4, J.A. Graw1
1Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (CCM | CVK), Berlin, Germany, 2Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU), Department of Anesthesiology, Erlangen, Germany, 3Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Institute of Physiology, Berlin, Germany, 4Ulm University, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Ulm, Germany

Background: Mechanical ventilation (MV) is a common intervention in critical care medicine. However, MV itself can cause pulmonary damage, especially when high tidal volumes (HV) or high plateau and driving pressures are used. Ventilator Induced Lung Injury (VILI) is enhanced by predisposing host factors such as inflammation, infection or atelectasis, making the lung vulnerable for additional injury by MV. Elevated levels of intravascular cell-free haemoglobin (CFH) are common in many diseases such as sepsis, the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome, or after blood transfusion. Although there is growing evidence for the toxicity of CFH, data are scarce on the interaction between CFH and VILI.

Methods: C57Bl6/J mice were ventilated for five hours with either protective low-pressure ventilation (LPV) or injurious MV with high tidal volumes (HV) to induce VILI (peak pressures: 9 vs. 30 cmH2O). One hour after commencement of ventilation, mice received either an intravascular infusion of CFH (0.24g/kg BW) or an equivalent volume of isotonic saline. In addition, one group of mice received an infusion with norepinephrine (NE) to mimic CFH-induced hypertension. Lung edema was quantified by assessment of wet-to-dry-ratio (WtD) and protein content of bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (pcBALF). In lung tissue, IL-6 and TNF-α were measured by quantitative PCR. Tidal volumes and pressure-volume-curves were monitored to evaluate lung mechanics.

Results: While lung edema did not differ between mice receiving LPV+CFH and mice receiving LPV alone, WtD was significantly higher in mice receiving HV+CFH compared to HV (WtD: p=0.003, HV vs. HV+CFH). Lung edema in mice with HV+NE was greater compared to HV alone (WtD: p=0.033, pcBALF: p=0.025) and similar to HV+CFH (WtD: p=1.000, pcBALF: p=0.283). Similarly, IL-6 and TNF-α mRNA-levels did not differ between mice with LPV+CFH and mice receiving LPV but increased significantly in mice with HV+CFH. In addition, mice receiving HV+NE showed higher IL-6 mRNA-levels than mice with HV+CFH (IL-6: p<0.001). After five hours of ventilation, mice treated with CFH showed significantly impaired lung mechanics compared to mice treated with HV, alone or mice treated with HV+NE (V̇e per kg BW: p=0.009, HV vs. HV+CFH; p=0.019, HV+CFH vs. HV+NE).

Conclusion: Mice with HV+CFH show increased impairment of lung mechanics when treated with CFH that appears independent from increased lung edema or inflammatory processes caused by HV.
09AP01-07
Optimal ventilation time after endovascular treatment for acute ischemic stroke: a prospective, observational study

K. Williams Cidre1, L. Barreiro1, F. Garcia1, M. Rodríguez1, E. Rodriguez1, M. Taboada1
1Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago de Compostela, Anesthesiology, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Background and Aim of Study: Optimal ventilation time after endovascular treatment under general anesthesia for acute ischemic stroke is controversial. We aimed to determine whether early (<6 hours) vs middle (6-12 hours) vs delayed (6-24 hours) extubation after endovascular treatment under general anesthesia for acute ischemic stroke is associated with functional outcome at 90 days.

Materials and Methods: During 20 months, we prospectively collected data from patients with a proximal occlusion of the anterior circulation treated with successful endovascular treatment (TICI 2b-3) under general anesthesia and that could be extubated in the first 24 hours. Three groups were established regarding mechanical ventilation time after the procedure. Demographic and clinical parameters were compared between the groups. The primary outcome was distribution on the modified Rankin Scale (mRS) at 3 months.

Results and Discussion: A total of 184 patients after endovascular treatment for acute ischemic stroke were admitted in our ICU during the study period. 114 patients with a proximal occlusion of the anterior circulation treated with successful endovascular treatment (TICI 2b-3) under general anesthesia and that could be extubated in the first 24 hours. Three groups were established regarding mechanical ventilation time after the procedure. Demographic and clinical parameters were compared between the groups. The primary outcome was distribution on the modified Rankin Scale (mRS) at 3 months.

Table 1. Comparison between prone positioning and control group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prone positioning</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N (%)</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>475</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age, years, median (IQR)</td>
<td>66 (58-73)</td>
<td>70 (62-76)</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex, M, n (%)</td>
<td>415 (72%)</td>
<td>314 (66.1%)</td>
<td>0.038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barotrauma, n (%)</td>
<td>58 (10%)</td>
<td>30 (5.3%)</td>
<td>0.029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PaO2/FiO2, mmHg, median (IQR)</td>
<td>75 (61-90)</td>
<td>90 (69-150)</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU LoS, days, median (IQR)</td>
<td>12 (8-18)</td>
<td>6 (2-10)</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital LoS, days, median (IQR)</td>
<td>21 (16-31)</td>
<td>17 (9-25)</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions: Extubation in the first 12 hours after endovascular treatment under general anesthesia for acute ischemic stroke extubation was associated with improved neurological status at hospital discharge and favourable outcome at 3 months compared with delayed extubation.

09AP01-08
Prone positioning as a risk factor for the development of pulmonary barotrauma

P. Bajto1, D. Ilić1, N. Delić1, B. Duplančić1, S. Stojanović Stipić1, L. Šarić1
1University Hospital Split, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Split, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: The goal of this study was to investigate incidence of pulmonary barotrauma in patients treated with prone positioning in the ICU.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective observational cohort study included all adult patients with COVID-19 admitted to ICU from September 1, 2020, to February 28, 2022. All admitted patients received some form of respiratory support. Primary outcome was occurrence of barotrauma. Data was collected from available electronic medical records. Descriptive statistics was used for demographic data. Mann-Whitney U-test or Chi-squared tests were used for group comparisons as appropriate. P value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: Among 1051 patients, pulmonary barotrauma occurred in 88 (8.4%) of them: Subcutaneous emphysema in 74 (83%) patients, pneumomediastinum in 68 (77.3%) and pneumothorax in 54 (67.4%) patients. Less common complications were pneumoperitoneum (9.1%) and pneumopericardium (2.3%). Results are presented in Table 1.

Ventilator induced lung injury (VILI) is well known term and refers to lung damage caused by mechanical ventilation (invasive or non-invasive). Most common mechanisms causing VILI are volutrauma, barotrauma, atelectotrauma and biotrauma. Prone positioning has been used for over 30 years in the management of patients with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). It improves lung oxygenation by homogeneously distributing alveolar inflation and reduces stress and strain caused by mechanical ventilation therefore decreasing the incidence of pulmonary barotrauma. However, our study showed that there was a higher incidence of pulmonary barotrauma in patients treated with prone positioning.

Conclusion: It is possible that COVID-19 induces lung injury which makes patients more susceptible to VILI.
09AP01-09
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation patients in peripartum period: maternal and fetal outcome

D. Yahav-Shafir1, N. Shimoni1,2, E. Ilginyaev3, L. Sternik3, A. Schmelczer1, A. Kogan2
1Sheba Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Ramat-Gan, Israel, 2Sheba Medical Center, Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit, Ramat-Gan, Israel, 3Shamir Medical Center, General Intensive Care, Zrifin, Israel, 4Sheba Medical Center, Department of Cardiac Surgery, Ramat-Gan, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is a widely used rescue treatment to patients experiencing respiratory or cardiac failure, but data on the use of ECMO in pregnant and postpartum patients is still scarce. In this case series, we describe the clinical outcomes of seven-teen pregnant or postpartum patients that required ECMO support. Our objectives were to characterize maternal and fetal survival in peripartum ECMO and better understand ECMO-related complications that occur in this unique patient population.

Materials and Methods: Data regarding pregnant and postpartum patients treated with ECMO for respiratory or circulatory failure starting January 2020 were collected from seven medical centers in Israel. For all patients, indications for ECMO, maternal and neonatal outcomes, details of ECMO support, and bleeding complications were collected.

Results and Discussion: Seven-teen obstetric patients were treated with ECMO. 11 patients were treated with VV ECMO 5 patients were treated with VA ECMO. One patient was connected to V-V-A ECMO. Two patients were pregnant at the time of cannulation, in both cases the patient were weaned off from ECMO and the pregnancy continued, one patient gave birth at term, and the second patient was delivered at 28 weeks due to pre-eclampsia and re-pregnation (ECMO) is a widely used rescue treatment to patients experiencing respiratory or cardiac failure, but data on the use of ECMO in pregnant and postpartum patients is still scarce. In this case series, we describe the clinical outcomes of seven-teen pregnant or postpartum patients that required ECMO support. Our objectives were to characterize maternal and fetal survival in peripartum ECMO and better understand ECMO-related complications that occur in this unique patient population.

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Conclusion(s): Survival for mother and neonate are very good with peripartum ECMO in a high-volume ECMO centers. Based on these results, ECMO remains an important treatment option for peripartum patients with cardiopulmonary failure.

09AP01-10
Improved oxygenation in prone positioning of mechanically ventilated patients with COVID-19 acute respiratory distress syndrome is associated with decreased pulmonary shunt fraction: a prospective multicenter study

1Karolinska Institutet, Danderyds Sjukhus, Danderyd, Sweden, 2Karolinska Institutet, FyFa, Stockholm, Sweden, 34th Military Clinical Hospital, Wroclaw, Poland, 4Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, 6Wroclaw Medical University, Wroclaw, Poland, 6Karolinska Institutet, Södersjukhuset, Stockholm, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: Prone position is used in acute respiratory distress syndrome and in coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). However, physiological mechanisms remain unclear. The aim of this study was to determine whether improved oxygenation was related to pulmonary shunt fraction (Q’s/Q’t), alveolar dead space (Vd/Vtalv) and ventilation/perfusion mismatch (V’A/Q’).

Materials and Methods: This was an international, prospective, observational, multicenter, cohort study, including six intensive care units in Sweden and Poland and 71 mechanically ventilated adult patients.

Results and Discussion: Prone position increased PaO2:FiO2 after 30 minutes, by 78% (83 – 148 mm Hg). The effect persisted 120 minutes after return to supine (p<0.001). Oxygenation index decreased 30 minutes after prone positioning by 43 % (21 – 12 units). Q’s/Q’t decreased already after 30 minutes in prone position by 17% (0.41 – 0.34). The effect persisted 120 minutes after return to supine (p<0.005). Q’s/Q’t and PaO2:FiO2 were correlated both in prone (Beta -1.37) (p<0.001) and in supine position (Beta -270) (p<0.001). V’A/Q’ was unaffected and did not correlate to PaO2:FiO2 (p=0.8). Vd/Vtalv increased at 120 minutes by 11% (0.55 – 0.61) (p<0.05) and did not correlate to PaO2:FiO2 (p=0.3). Ventilatory ratio increased after 30 minutes in prone position by 58% (1.9 – 3.0) (p<0.001). PaO2:FiO2 at baseline predicted PaO2:FiO2 at 30 minutes after proning (Beta 1.3) (p<0.001).

Conclusion: Improved oxygenation by prone positioning in COVID-19 ARDS patients was primarily associated with a decrease in pulmonary shunt fraction. Dead space remained high and the global V’A/Q’ measure could not explain the differences in gas exchange.

Acknowledgements: The Prone Covid-study group: Piotr Harbut, Francesca Campoccia Jalde, Martin Dahlberg, Anders Forsgren, Elisabeth Andersson, Andreas Lundholm, Jaroslaw Janc, Patrycja Lesnik, Michal Suchanski, Pawel Zatorski, Janusz Trzebicki, Tomasz Skalec, Mattias Günther
Impact of early nutrition on outcomes of critically ill COVID-19 patients on high-PEEP non-invasive ventilation

D. Karmelić¹, A. Mandarić¹, A.-M. Šarušić², B. Habijanec³, V. Nedeljković, I. Šitum¹
¹University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Department of Anesthesiology and ICU, Zagreb, Croatia, ²University of Zagreb, School of Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, ³University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: A significant portion of COVID-19 patients developed ARDS needed ICU placement and mechanical ventilatory support. Our national guidelines, patients failing high flow nasal oxygen therapy, and without contraindications, were put on non-invasive ventilation (NIV) support in spontaneous mode with high PEEP, delivered by total-face mask, with nasogastric tube in place to for feeding and gastric air insufflation relief. Current ESPEN guidelines suggest gradual achievement of energy and protein target of 20kcal/kg and 1.3g/kg for critical patients by day 4. In those patients, both over- and under-feeding are associated with worse outcomes. COVID-19 ARDS patient nutrition was challenging from many reasons: various patient comorbidities, difficult-to-predict energy requirements, hypercapnia, organisational difficulties and staff’s varying educational and clinical background. In this study we analysed the achievement of energy and protein targets in first 7 days of ICU stay of COVID-19 patients on NIV and how it affected their clinical outcomes.

Methods: In this sub-study of retrospective analysis of treatment and outcomes of NIV COVID-19 patients in our centre from October 2021 to February 2022, we analysed medical charts of consecutive 106 adult patients. We retrospectively calculated the energy and protein targets for each day, as well as the amount of enteral and parenteral preparations the patients were given, including the glucose solutions and propofol infusions. Analysed clinical outcomes included mortality, length of stay in ICU, lowering of Horrowitz index.

Results and Discussion: Patients were fed enterally, with occasional parenteral supplementation. In most of the patients, adequate intake (20% +/- of target values) was not achieved, while the proportion of over-fed was negligible. The biggest lowering of Horrowitz index (marking the clinical improvement) was in the group that achieved adequate protein intake, however, patients who reached the early targeted caloric intake on day 1 and 4 had higher mortality. Also, patient who received more calories on days 4-7 had a longer ICU stay.

Conclusion: It seems that adequate protein, but not caloric intake in early nutrition of COVID-19 NIV patients correlates with better clinical outcomes. A significant number of patients never achieved targeted intake values, and more efforts need to be put in organisation and education for more efficient clinical nutrition solutions.

Sedation and analgesia in mechanically ventilated COVID-19 patients: a cohort study of clinical outcomes

J.P. Cidade¹, I. Castro¹, L. Morais¹, T. Miranda¹, P. Fidalgo¹, P. Póvoa¹
¹Hospital São Francisco Xavier, Intensive Care Department, Lisboa, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: The SARS-CoV-2 infection is frequently associated with life-threatening organ dysfunctions, often requiring ICU admission and mechanical ventilation. Despite the proven benefits of sedation-analgesia therapies in these patients, such as buffering the sympathetic response, improvement of drive ventilation control, and prevention of patient-ventilator asynchrony, comparative evidence concerning different sedation-analgesia strategies are still scarce. Furthermore, considering the rate of the requirement of vasopressor support, sedation-analgesia strategies conducive to hemodynamic stability (as the propofol-midazolam association) could have a potential benefit in patients’ clinical outcomes. We aimed to evaluate the clinical outcomes of mechanically ventilated COVID-19 patients, admitted to ICU care, and submitted to different sedation-analgesia strategies.

Materials and Methods: A single-center prospective cohort study was performed. All adult patients with ICU admission, mechanical ventilation, and SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia were eligible. Analyzed patients were divided into two groups: Propofol-Remifentanil (PR) and Propofol-Midazolam-alfentanil (PMA) group. The chi-square test was used for categorical variables and Kruskal-Wallis test was used on continuous variables for outcomes assessment between groups. Cox regression models were also obtained.

Results and Discussion: 70 patients (mean age 65 years, 60,1% males) were eligible for the analysis. 75% of patients (n=47 in the PR group and n=23 in the PMA group). The PMA group revealed a significantly lower SAPS III value at admission and a higher length of mechanical ventilation time and ICU length of stay when compared to the PR group. However, no differences were appreciated in other demographic and biochemical variables, or in major clinical outcomes, with both groups presenting similar 28-day ventilator and vasopressor free-days and mortality rates. Furthermore, the Cox-regression survival curve was not significantly different (HR 1.9; 95% CI 0.84-4.48, p=0.124), even when adjusted for gender, age, SOFA score at admission, and length of mechanical ventilation time.

Conclusion(s): PR and PMA sedation-analgesia therapies do not appear to have a significant impact on COVID-19 patients’ mortality rate or major clinical outcomes, namely vasopressor-free days.
09AP02-01
Can 2-hour indirect calorimetry measurement accurately predict 24-hour energy expenditure in critically ill surgical patients?

Y. Lichter1,2, O. Sold3,2, Y. Angel1,2, E. Nizri3,2, P. Singer1,2, N. Godin1,2
1Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Anesthesia, Pain and Intensive Care, Tel-Aviv, Israel, 2Tel Aviv University, Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel, 3Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Division of Surgery, Tel-Aviv, Israel, 4Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Campus, Department of Intensive Care, Petah Tikva, Israel

Background and Goal: Measuring energy expenditure (EE) by indirect calorimetry (IC) has become the gold standard for critically ill, ventilated patients, in order to evaluate their nutritional needs, and tailor nutrition(1). Debate remains as to the optimal duration of measurements, or the optimal time of day when to perform IC. This matter is especially important when the availability of this resource is limited(2-3).

Materials and Methods: In this retrospective observational study, we analyzed results of daily continuous IC in 270 mechanically ventilated, critically ill patients, admitted to the surgical intensive care unit in a tertiary medical center, and compared measurements performed at different hours of the day.

Results and Discussion: A total of 51,448 IC hours was recorded, with an average 24-hour EE of 1523±443 kcal/day. Night shift (00:00-8:00) was found to have a significantly lower EE measurements (mean of 1498 kcal/day, 95% CI 1445-1551), than afternoon (16:00-00:00, mean of 1526 kcal/day 95% CI 1473-1577) and morning (8:00-16:00, mean of 1539 kcal/day, 95% CI 1483-1594) measurements. These probably represent different activities that take place in our unit’s daily routine. The bihourly time frame which most closely resembled the daily mean was 18:00-19:59, with a mean of 1523±434 kcal/day. Daily EE measurements of the continuous IC at days 3-7 of admission showed a trend towards a daily increase in 24-hour EE, in alignment with the hypothesis that the metabolic needs of patients in this late period of the acute phase are gradually stabilizing(4).

Conclusions: Periodic measurements of EE differ slightly in various hours of the day, but the error range is small and may not have a clinical impact. When continuous IC is not available, a 2-hour EE measurement between 18:00-19:59 can serve as a reasonable alternative.

References:

09AP02-02
Kinetic estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate as an effective approach in timely diagnosis prediction of Acute Kidney Injury in critically ill septic patients

L. Lijović1,2, S. Pelajić2, F. Hawchar3, I. Minev4, B.H. Cermaria Soares da Silva5,2, A. Angelucci7
1Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit, Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Laboratory for Critical Care Computational Intelligence, Medical Data Science, Public Health, Cardiovascular Science, Institute for Infection and Immunity, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2University Hospital Center Sestre Milosrdnice, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Management, Zagreb, Croatia, 3University of Szeged, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Szeged, Hungary, 4Medical University of Plovdiv, University Hospital St. George, Department of Anaesthesiology, Emergency and Intensive Care Medicine, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 5Universidade Nove de Julho, Diretoria de Ciencias Medicas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 6Universidade Federal de Sao Paolo, Departamento de Anesthesiologia, Dor e Terapia Intensiva, Sao Paolo, Brazil, 7Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informazione e Bioingegneria, Milano, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: The incidence of acute kidney injury (AKI) in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is from 20% to more than 50% in septic patients and is associated with both short- and long-term adverse outcomes. Thus, accurate and actionable diagnosis of AKI ahead of time is important to prevent or alleviate renal dysfunction. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the timely performance of Kinetic estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate (KeGFR) in predicting AKI in critically ill septic patients.

Materials and Methods: Our work is a retrospective analysis on septic ICU patients who developed AKI using the data of AmsterdamUMCdb, the first freely available European ICU database. The reference standard classification for AKI was the Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO), based on serum creatinine and urine output (UO). For our prediction of AKI, stages by combination of KeGFR and UO were defined. To calculate the KeGFR, a modified expression by O’Sullivan was used. Classifications were compared by length of ICU stay (LOS), need for renal replacement therapy and 28-day mortality. Predictive performance and time between prediction and diagnosis were calculated.

Results: Our cohort consisted of 2492 patients, 1560 (62.0%) of them were diagnosed with AKI by KDIGO and 1706 (68.5%) by KeGFR criteria. Disease stages had agreement of kappa=0.77, with KeGFR sensitivity 93.2%, specificity 73.0% and accuracy 85.7%. Median time to recognition of AKI Stage 1 was 13.2 h faster for KeGFR, and 7.5 h and 5.0 h for Stages 2 and 3 (Figure 1). Outcomes revealed a slight difference in LOS and 28-day mortality for Stage 1.

Figure 1. Paired differences between time to diagnosis of AKI by stage between KDIGO and KeGFR in the first 7 days of ICU admission.
Conclusion: According to our study, KeGFR combined with UO criteria showed a distinguished efficiency in predicting the diagnosis of AKI. Compared to KDIGO, deterioration of renal function was identified earlier, most prominently in less severe stages of AKI. Saving time by early prediction, clinicians may better deal with prevention and alleviation of renal insufficiency in critically ill septic patients.

09AP02-03
Association between body temperature abnormalities and in-hospital mortality of septic ICU patients

A. Siennicka1
1Medical University of Warsaw, II Dept of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Warsaw, Poland

Background and Goal of Study: Numerous studies have shown that hypothermia in sepsis is associated with increased mortality, some indicated that also hyperthermia may be disadvantageous.

However, most commonly body temperature (BT) was measured at ICU admission regardless of treatment initiation time. This study was aimed to investigate association of BT during antibiotic treatment with in-hospital mortality in septic ICU patients.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective analysis of electronic database MIMIC-IV was performed.[2]

According to Sepsis-3 criteria ICU septic patients who received antibiotic at diagnosis were identified. For each patient time-averaged BT during antibiotic treatment (ABT) was calculated. To examine whether ABT was associated with in-hospital mortality, logistic regression was applied to ABT ranges with adjustment for potential confounders. For data extraction and statistical analysis SQL and SPSS 29.0 were used, respectively.

Results and Discussion: Among 25,956 ICU patients included in the study 3,896(15%) died during hospital stay. Patients were treated with antibiotics for 37(IQR 17-88)h, BT was measured 13(IQR 6-28) times during treatment. U-shaped association between ABT and hospital mortality was observed (Figure.1).

![Figure 1](image)

The lowest mortality was noted for ABT ranges 36.75-37°C: 10.7% and 37-37.25°C: 11.4%. Risk of in-hospital mortality was significantly increased for all ABT ranges other than reference range of 36.5-37.5°C (Tab.1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time averaged BT, °C</th>
<th>No. of patients</th>
<th>Crude mortality rate</th>
<th>Crude OR (95% CI) P</th>
<th>OR (95% CI) adjusted for age and SOFA P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;35.5</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
<td>23.6 (16.2 – 34.3) &lt;0.01</td>
<td>19.8 (13.4 – 29.3) &lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.5-36.5</td>
<td>3412</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>2.08 (1.9 – 2.2) &lt;0.01</td>
<td>1.8 (1.7-2.0) &lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.5-37.5</td>
<td>19958</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.5-38.5</td>
<td>2355</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>1.9 (1.7 – 2.2) &lt;0.01</td>
<td>2.5 (2.2 – 2.8) &lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;38.5</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>63.2%</td>
<td>12.2 (7.7 – 19.5) &lt;0.01</td>
<td>15.1 (9.2 – 24.6) &lt;0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Risk of in-hospital mortality

Conclusions: Both hypothermia and hyperthermia during antibiotic treatment are associated with increased in-hospital mortality of ICU septic patients. Average body temperature of 36.75-37.25°C is associated with the lowest in-hospital mortality.

References:

09AP02-04
Acylcarnitine profile in survivors of a prolonged versus a short stay in ICU

A.-F Rousseau1,2, A. Dongier1, C. Colson1, B. Misset1, G. Minguet1,2, F. Boemer4
1University Hospital of Liège, Intensive Care, Liège, Belgium, 2University of Liège, GIGA-Research, GIGA-I3 Thematic Unit, Inflammation and Enhanced Rehabilitation Laboratory (Intensive Care), Liège, Belgium, 3University Hospital of Liège, Anaesthesiology, Liège, Belgium, 4University Hospital of Liège, Biochemical Genetics Laboratory, Liège, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: In a previously published study [1], we described an abnormal acylcarnitine (AC) profile in survivors of a prolonged stay in intensive care unit (ICU). However, it is unknown if ICU survivors have a different AC profile after less severe disease and shorter ICU stay. This observational study aimed to compare AC profile of ICU survivors of a prolonged versus a short stay.

Materials and Methods: Consecutive adults who survived an ICU stay < 7 days after an elective cardiac surgery between November 2021 and March 2022 were recruited (short stayers, SS). For each SS, 1 to 2 long stayers (LS), matched for gender and age, were recruited among patients enrolled in our post-ICU follow-up program targeting survivors of an ICU stay ≥ 7 days. Exclusion criteria were treated HIV infection and ongoing treatment with valproate, cyclosporine or cisplatin. In both groups, AC profile was determined during the week following ICU discharge by liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry.

Results and Discussion: 50 SS (80% men, age 70.9 (65-77.6) years, SAPS II 23 (18-26.7) years) survived an ICU stay of 2 (2-3) days and were evaluated 4 (2-5) days after ICU discharge. They were matched to 85 LS (21.2% men, age 68 (63-73) years, SAPS II 40.5 (29-54.5) who survived an ICU stay of 11 (8-15.5) days. In ICU, 2/85 (2.3%) LS benefited from renal replacement therapy, while 58/85 (68.2%) received propofol. AC profile was assessed 6 (4-8) days after ICU discharge in LS. Their AC profile was significantly different.
The sum of C3, C4 and C5 derivatives was higher in LS: 1.520 (1.178-1.974) vs 1.185 (0.932-1.895) μmol/l (p<0.001). The long-chain ACs were lower in LS: 0.830 (0.660-1.105) vs 1.090 (0.935-1.293) μmol/l (p<0.001). Carnitine (C0) concentration was similar in LS and SS: respectively 50.79 (38.22-62.93) vs 45.58 (39.2-55.75) μmol/l (p=0.072). No carnitine deficiency was observed in either group. Their total AC/C0 ratio was also similar: respectively 0.355 (0.288-0.415) and 0.358 (0.289-0.417) (p=0.391). A ratio > 0.4 (representing, by definition, a disturbed mitochondrial metabolism) was observed in 26/65 (30.6%) LS and in 15/50 (30%) SS (p<0.999).

**Conclusion(s):** Survivors of a prolonged ICU stay differed from SS after a scheduled cardiac surgery in terms of short-chain and long-chain ACs. Short-chain ACs concentrations were higher in LS, suggesting a higher protein catabolic rate, while long-chain ACs concentrations were lower, suggesting an altered mitochondrial beta-oxidation. Whether these findings correlate with the impaired exercise tolerance and the related mitochondrial dysfunction observed in ICU survivors should be further explored.

**References:**

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**09AP02-05**

**Mid-term acylcarnitine profile evolution in survivors of a prolonged ICU stay**

A. Ngongan1, F. Boemer2, C. Colson3, B. Misset4, G. Minguet5,6, A.-F. Rousseau2,3,4
1University Hospital of Liege, Anaesthesiology, Liege, Belgium, 2University Hospital of Liege, Biochemical Genetics Laboratory, Liege, Belgium, 3University Hospital of Liege, Intensive Care, Liege, Belgium, 4University of Liege, GIGA-Research, GIGA-I3 Thematic Unit, Inflammation and Enhanced Rehabilitation Laboratory (Intensive Care), Liege, Belgium

**Background and Goal of Study:** In a previous study [1], we observed an abnormal acylcarnitine (AC) profile in survivors recently discharged from an intensive care unit (ICU) after a prolonged stay. Whether such alteration persists over time is unknown. This observational study aimed to describe the mid-term AC profile evolution in survivors of a prolonged ICU stay.

**Materials and Methods:** Adults who survived an ICU stay &ge; 7 days between September 2020 and March 2022 were included if they were enrolled in our follow-up program and if they attended the consultation 3 months (M3) after ICU discharge. Exclusion criteria were known primary carnitine deficiency and ongoing treatment with zidovudine, valproate, cyclosporine or cisplatin. Serum AC concentrations, determined by liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry, were assessed as routine practice during the first 7 days following ICU discharge (T0) and at the M3 consultation.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 64 survivors (69% males, age 63 (50-69) years, SAPS2 33 (26-54)) were analyzed, after an ICU stay of 15 (9-24) days for mixed medical (34/64, 53%) and surgical diseases. During ICU stay, 46/64 (72%) patients were sedated using propofol, and 10/64 (16%) were fed at least partly by parenteral route during 7 (4-9) days.

Free carnitine (C0) concentration (normal range 14.95-84.34 &micro;mol/l) decreased from 45.89 (35.80-127.5) to 28.73 (20.31-38.93) &micro;mol/l (p=0.001). C0 deficiency was not observed at T0 and in 7/64 (11%) survivors at M3.

The sum of short-chain ACs (C3, C4 and C5) (normal range 0.270-0.471 &micro;mol/l) decreased from 1.310 (0.927-1.829) at T0 to 0.945 (0.709-1.127) &micro;mol/l at M3 (p=0.001). The long-chain ACs (normal range 0.195-1.295 &micro;mol/l) were similar at T0 and M3, respectively 0.812 (0.579-1.065) and 0.825 (0.582-1.020) &micro;mol/l (p=0.845).

The total AC/C0 ratio (normal &le; 0.4) was 0.33 (0.24-0.39) at T0 and reached 0.39 (0.30-0.56) at M3 (p=0.001). A ratio &gt;0.4 was observed in 16/64 (25%) at T0 and in 32/64 (50%) at M3 (p=0.006).

**Conclusion(s):** In patients surviving a prolonged ICU stay, occurrence of C0 deficiency increased within the 3 months following discharge. The concomitant decrease in short-chain ACs may suggest a progressive resolution of protein catabolism. On the contrary, the increasing proportion of abnormal AC/C0 ratio may reflect a worsening of mitochondrial function, as suggested by published observations of mid-term exercise intolerance in ICU survivors.

**References:**
Statistical analysis: Data collated offline in Microsoft excel spreadsheet and analysed using r software. Interval scale variables were presented as medians and interquartile ranges. Analysis for primary objective was done by creation of binary Logistic Regression model. Results presented as odds ratios with confidence intervals. P value <0.05 were taken as statistically significant.

Results and Discussion:
1. Of the total patients (n=54), 31 patients passed the first planned SBT, 23 patients failed the first SBT.
2. Out of the 31 patients who successfully passed the first SBT, 28 were successfully extubated and 3 patients were reintubated within 48 hours.
3. HR, NIBP, LF, HF, LF/HF, TINN, I/RRtri were not statistically significant in predicting SBT or extubation.
4. However AD% (AD% >17.5%, p value=0.002, Sensitivity=90%), TP (TP>4444, p value=0.037, sensitivity=74%) at T1 could predict SBT failure.
5. Patients trending towards worsening of sympathetic function before initiation of SBT had chances of SBT failure (T2-T1 difference>5.5, p value=0.03, Sensitivity=94%)
6) Patients having early autonomic dysfunction (AD%>16.5%, p value=0.03, sensitivity=81%) at T1 had higher chances of extubation failure.

Conclusion: Monitoring autonomic function is a simple, repeatable, noninvasive and reproducible test in addition to the standard parameters to predict weaning and extubation in neurosurgical patients. It empowers the intensivist with adequate information to anticipate and formulate plans tailored for individual patients. A larger sample size is needed for in depth understanding of autonomic function in weaning and extubation.

09AP02-07 Electroencephalogram-derived indices for sedation monitoring in the intensive care unit: a systematic review

S. Kaur1, I. Estruch-Pons1, E. Engelman1, P. Pandin1
1Université Libre de Bruxelles / Hub Erasmus Hospital, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Brussels, Belgium

Background: ICU patients often require sedation (S) and analgesia for mechanical ventilation (MV). Current observational sedation scales are used to titrate S. Neurophysiology has been proposed to titrate more accurately the depth of sedation. This review aims to assess the correlation between electroencephalogram-derived (ED) indices and S scales in the assessment of mechanically ventilated ICU patients. Additionally, we assessed the ED monitoring effects on the S drugs dosage.

Methods: The databases searched include PubMed, Cochrane Library, Ovid, SpringerLink, and Cible+ from the year 2000 onwards. We included studies comparing any ED monitoring to clinical assessment for adult ICU patients under MV. 15 studies were included (Figure 1 & Table 1). A meta-analysis using the correlation coefficient was done. It was performed using an inverse variance method and a random-effects model. A mean value of Fisher’s z with a 95% confidence interval was computed and a Forest plot (Figure 2 & Table 2) was produced.

Results: The global analysis demonstrated that clinical scales showed significant correlation with ED indices ($R^2 = 0.52, p<10^{-4}$ & $R^2 = 0.58, p<10^{-4}$). No difference was observed in the dosage of sedatives to the ED monitoring group and the control group. But, there was a significant difference in the amount of sedatives given over time.

Conclusion: All S scales significantly correlated with ED indices. Insufficient evidence was found demonstrating a clear benefit of ED indices over clinical assessment of S in MV ventilated ICU patients due to the limited number of studies and low quality of evidence. However, electroencephalogram-based monitoring could be used as an additional tool when sedative scales cannot be used.

Figure 1. PRISMA flowchart of the literature search and study selection.

Table 1. Study characteristics.
Predictors of mechanical ventilation dependency in elderly intensive care unit patients - a prospective observational study

V. Gherghina1, I. Cindea1, A. Balcan2, M. Prazaru1, D. Costea3, D. Iosif1
1Constanta County Clinical Hospital, ATI, Constanta, Romania, 2Facultatea de Medicina - Universitatea Ovidius, ATI, Constanta, Romania, 3Constanta County Clinical Hospital, Chirurgie, Constanta, Romania

Background and Goal of Study: The population is aging, and this phenomenon affects intensive care units. Up to 60% of ICU hospitalized patients require ventilatory support, invasive mechanical ventilation (IMV) being the most frequently used therapy. In elderly ICU patients deciding the optimal timing for extubation is challenging, and clinical predictors are not very accurate. We aimed to determine the incidence of failed extubations in elderly patients and identify associated factors.

Materials and Methods: In this prospective observational study, 113 patients aged 65 years or older, who required mechanical ventilation for > 48 hr, were screened for weaning success or failure. Exclusion criteria included paraplegia, tracheostomy, or planned non-invasive ventilation (NIV) after extubation. We recorded clinical characteristics and demographic profiles. Blood gas parameters and serum biochemistry, collected 24 hours after attachment to the mechanical ventilator and before weaning, were compared between patients who required reintubation and those who did not. Weaning success means no need for reintubation or non-invasive ventilation for 48 hours after extubation. The primary endpoint was to evaluate the reintubation rate. The secondary endpoint was to identify the predictors of extubation failure. We analyzed collected data using SPSS Statistics 26.

Results and Discussion: We documented 113 extubation attempts, of which 84 (74.3%) were male, with a mean age of 73 (±8) years and a median of 114 [92-211] and 93 [80-174] hours on IMV in the successful and failed group, respectively. Of these patients, 23 (20.3%) required reintubation within 48 hours. Hypoxia (52.1%) and hypercapnia (34.7%) were the primary indications for reintubation. The mean time to reintubation was 26.8 h (median 17.4; 4.6-29.3). Patient demographic factors and other premorbid and comorbid medical conditions did not significantly influence our study’s reintubation rates.

Binomial logistic regression revealed that independent predictors of the need for reintubation were: pH (p =0.03), serum albumin (p=0.01), and PaCO2 rise 12 hours after extubation ( p =0.01).

Conclusion(s): The presence of acidemia, hypoalbuminemia at admission, and PaCO2 rise in the initial 12 hours after extubation predict the need for reintubation in elderly intensive care unit patients. Age, in and of itself, is not a predictor of weaning from mechanical ventilation.

“Power of ventilation” (POV) and flow-controlled ventilation: new target for Ventilator-Induced Lung Injury (VILI)

G. Curci1, M. Rauseo1, P. Vetuschi1, N. Morlino1, G. Cinnella1, L. Mirabella1
1University of Foggia, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Intensive Care Unit, Foggia, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Mechanical ventilation is required to treat several pulmonary and extra-pulmonary conditions, among which Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS). However it may cause lung damage by itself. Ventilator-Induced Lung Injury (VILI) and ARDS share some common pathophysiological mechanisms. Power of ventilation (POV) estimates energy dissipation by the lung during mechanical ventilation. It synthesizes all mechanisms of VILI in one single parameter. Currently flow-controlled ventilation (FCV) is the only technique able to reduce POV. This is obtained by an active expiratory phase, differently than conventional ventilation modalities. The aim of the study is to evaluate the efficacy of FCV in the reduction of POV, resulting in a lower risk of VILI in ARDS patients.

Materials and Methods: Patients diagnosed with a mild, moderate or severe ARDS, according to Berlin criteria, also Covid-related, were enrolled in the study. Subjects sedated and curarized, who received controlled ventilation by intubation or tracheostomy for at least 24 hours, were included. All patients received 3 hours trial of FCV by means of EVONE®Ventilator (Ventinova Medical). We measured POV by Gattinoni’s formula (Energy Calculator V.1.2.7. by P. Hermann) and PO2 FiO2 ratio at five different timepoints: T0 (before the beginning of the trial), during conventional ventilation), T1 (one
hour after the start of the trial), T2 (after two hours), T3 (after three hours, at the end of the trial) and T4 (one hour after the end of the trial, with conventional ventilation).

**Results and Discussion:** Twelve patients with ARDS were included. Two groups were defined: N (NON COVID ARDS related) and C (COVID ARDS related). The mean age was 69 ± 4.45, the mean BMI was 28.5 ± 2.59 kg/m² and male female ratio was 5/1. The results are presented as mean and standard deviation. P-value was considered significant.

### Results and Discussion

#### 09AP02-10

**Challenges in recruitment to Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) trials**

A. Morenikeji1, A.A.C. Waite1, K. Williams1, V. Waugh1, I. Welters1,2

1Royal Liverpool University Hospital, Critical Care, Liverpool, United Kingdom, 2University of Liverpool, Institute of Life Course and Medical Sciences, Liverpool, United Kingdom

**Background:** Obstacles exist for recruitment of intensive care patients into clinical trials1. We explored recruitment rates and reasons for exclusion into ARDS studies at a large University teaching hospital.

**Methods:** Data were extracted from screening logs and research databases for three ARDS trials (PHIND, SEAL, REALIST) between 12.10.2020 and 31.10.2022. Reasons for exclusion were categorised into consent issues, inclusion criteria no longer fulfilled at the time of randomisation, comorbidities, DNACPR order in place, patient palliation or death precluded recruitment. Consent issues were the main reason for exclusion (26.1%). Consent was declined in 20 cases; and consent was not provided in 3 cases within the study-specific recruitment window. In 22 cases the patient’s clinical situation changed so that the inclusion criteria were not fulfilled any longer. Typically the clinical condition improved, less often palliation or death precluded recruitment. Comorbidities led to exclusion in 10 cases. Logistic reasons led to 9 exclusions.

**Conclusion:** Consent issues and changes in clinical condition were the commonest reasons for exclusion into research studies. Although patients and public stakeholders widely support the consent models in use for patients lacking capacity2, relatives commonly declined consent for research failure. The use of waived or deferred consent and professional legal representatives may increase recruitment numbers in emergency situations. Reasons why personal consultees decline consent for ARDS studies and how to optimise recruitment windows need to be explored.

**References:**


#### 09AP02-11

**Safeness of Apneaa Test for determining of brain death: a retrospective data analysis**

P Capua1, A. Bartolotta1, P. Giorfei1, O. Mandraffino1, D. Gupta1, A.T. Mazzeo1

1Università degli Studi di Messina, Anestesia e Rianimazione, Messina, Italy, 2All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Neurosurgery, New Delhi, India

**Background and Goal of Study:** Apnoea test is a fundamental part of protocol for determining brain death using clinical criteria. Literature on its clinical impact is limited. The aim of this study was to investigate its safeness, evaluating minor or major clinical changes.

**Materials and Methods:** We performed a single-center retrospective analysis of patients undergoing brain death determination using clinical criteria from January 2019 to October 2022 at University hospital in Messina, Italy. Two apnoea tests are required by Italian law. Hemodynamic and respiratory parameters were evaluated during the tests. Mean arterial pressure, vasopressors dose, serum lactate, PaO2, PaCO2, P/F, heart rate, pH before and after apnoea test were analysed, using paired T-test. The association between SAPS II and delta MAP pre-/post-test, and between SAPS II at the day of brain death and Delta Noradrenaline infusion rate pre-/post-test, were evaluated using Pearson correlation test.

**Results and Discussion:** Fifty-seven patients were enrolled (56% male). There were significant changes in heart rate during the first test (86.7 ± 78.77 vs 90.63 ± 20.51 bpm, p = 0.23 [95% CI 0.6076; 7.892], P/F value in both (259.8 ± 132.03 vs 201.57 ± 153.37, p = 0.23, 95% CI 107.5; 272.5 and 327.35 ± 243.25 vs 211.58 ± 141.01, p = 0.0017, 95% CI 92.54; 22.47), Noradrenaline infusion rate (0.2 ± 0.2 vs 0.35 ± 0.24 mcg/Kg/min, p = 0.0001, 95% CI 0.09402; 0.1884). We report a case of arrhythmia, 3 cases (2.6% of tests) of hypotension during II apnoea test, requiring introduction of noradrenaline. There was no correlation between SAPS II vs Delta MAP (r=0.26 -95% CI 0.07884; 0.5469) and SAPS II and Delta Noradrenaline rate infusion (r=0.03 - 95% CI 0.1677, 0.2817).
Conclusions: Apnoea test appears to be safe, but its impact on patients who are undergoing clinical brain death diagnosis is not completely harmless and could potentially affect systemic homeostasis and organ function.

References:

Acknowledgements: ICU Team and Chief at Policlinico G.Martino, Prof A. David

09AP03-02
Rhodotorula mucilaginosa fungemia in an infected biloma patient following a traumatic liver injury

M.N. Mokhtar1, FH. Abdullah1, I. Azaharuddin1, R. Abdul Rahman1, A. Izaham1, C.H. Ding2
1Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Department of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Faculty of Medicine, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Background: Fungemia due to Rhodotorula mucilaginosa is rare and highly resistant to antifungal therapy.

Case report: A 31-year-old immunocompetent man admitted to our ICU sustaining grade IV liver injury with right hepatic vein thrombosis and hemoperitoneum after being involved in a motor vehicle accident. He underwent laparotomy for evacuation of clot. Postoperatively in the ICU, despite on piperaclilin-tazobactam and fluconazole, his septic parameters did not improve.

A repeated CT abdomen revealed infected biloma at the devascularised subcapsular region of the liver. Repeated fungal and blood culture revealed R. mucilaginosa and Klebsiella oxytoca respectively.

After consultation with clinical microbiologist and infectious disease physician, he was treated with IV amphotericin B and IV meropenem for R. mucilaginosa and K. oxytoca respectively. Percutaneous subdiaphragmatic drain were performed sonographically to drain the biloma. His clinical parameters slowly improved and was able to wean from mechanical ventilation.

Discussion: Biloma is a rare abnormal bilious collection of either intrahepatic or extrahepatic and has the propensity to get infected. Approximately 16% will have bacteraemia at the time of biloma diagnosis. R. mucilaginosa is of low virulence, which can be found as normal flora in respiratory, gastrointestinal, genitourinary tracts and skin.

It was previously considered non-pathogenic but during the last few decades, it has emerged as an opportunistic agent and is associated with crude mortality of 20% [1]. Previous antibiotic therapy, parenteral nutrition, and abdominal surgery were found as risk factors of R. fungemia [2].

References:

Learning Points: In this case we have demonstrated that an immunocompetent host may be susceptible to these infections following an abdominal surgery and commencement of broad-spectrum antibiotic therapy. Early surgical intervention for source control along with adequate dosing and targeted antifungals are essential to ensure a good outcome.

09AP03-03
Euglycemic diabetic ketoacidosis in a diabetic patient on SGLT2i

A. Pola Jiménez1, L. Veiga Gil1, L. Clemente Armendáriz1, A. Alegre Cortés1, A. Bilbao Ares1, M. Salvador Bravo1
1Hospital Universitario de Navarra, Department of Anesthesiology, Pamplona, Spain

Background: Diabetes ketoacidosis (DKA) is defined by hyperglycaemia, high AG metabolic acidosis and ketosis. Euglycemic diabetic ketoacidosis (euDKA) is defined by relative euglycemia (serum glucose < 200 mg/dl).

SGLT2 inhibitors (SGLT2i) improve serum glucose and cardiovascular mortality, but they are implicated in euDKA.

We report an euDKA after cholecystectomy in a diabetic patient on SGLT2i.

Case report: A 63-year-old man. Hypertension on ACEI, dyslipidemia, ischemic heart disease and DM type II on metformin and SGLT2i.

Two hours after an emergency cholecystectomy he presents tachycardia, tachypnea and malaise. A VBG showed an elevated AG metabolic acidosis: pH 7.13, HCO3 7 mmol/L, anion GAP 23 mmol/L, lactate 1.9 mmol/L, pCO2 21 mmHg. He was confused, with signs of dehydration and thirst, without fever, signs of sepsis or pain.

We started 100 mEq bicarbonate 1M i.v bolus and bicarbonate 1/6M infusion, crystalloid fluid resuscitation and insulin 0.05 units/kg/h. Symptoms and blood gas improved:

- 3 hours later VBG: pH 7.25, HCO3 13,2mmol/L, anion GAP 23mmol/L, lactate 1,6mmol/L, pCO2 21 mmHg, glycaemia 172 mg/dl. He was less confused, eueptic and feeling better. In the first 6h polyuria (3L) was present.

An acute kidney failure, ethanol or others drugs were excluded. Urinary test revealed 2000 mg/dl (0-10mg/dl) glucose and methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) 80mg/dl (0-5mg/dl). An euDKA induced by SGLT2i dapagliflozin was diagnosed.

Laboratory close monitoring of acidosis was conducted for 24h in ICU. He remained on the ward with iv bicarbonate 1/6M for 2 days and was discharged 3 days later.

Discussion: EuDKA must be present in the differential diagnosis of high AG metabolic acidosis, mainly in diabetic patients. Risk factors are: use of SGLT2i, fasting, surgery, infection, fever. The absence of hyperglycaemia could delay the diagnosis and treatment which could lead into an awful outcome.

Sodium beta-hydroxybutyrate is the most recommended diagnostic tool, but it is not available in our hospital, so we use urine MEK.

Treatment should be provided as soon as possible, starting with crystalloid fluids resuscitation and insulin.

Learning Points: EuDKA must be considered in the differential diagnosis of a metabolic acidosis in patients with DM and risk factors. SGLT2i must be stopped 24h before elective surgery to prevent euDKA(1).

09AP03-04
Citrate induced lactic acidosis in a patient with septic shock – case report
I. Hurtado Ortiz1, R.A. Martínez Albadalejo1, A. Viciano Molina2, J. Uncio Veyrat1, R. Florea1, R.J. Badenes Quiles1
1Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valencia, Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Valencia, Spain, 2Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valencia, Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor, Valencia, Spain

Background: When providing Renal Continuous Replacement Therapy (CRRT) an anticoagulation strategy is mandatory, consisting of non-fractioned heparin (systemic) or regional anticoagulation with citrate (RAC) (1). Usually the last one is the first option, preventing the formation of clots in the circuit, without increasing the risk of hemorrhage; however, it is not exempt of complications, like calcium disorders or metabolic alkalosis.

Case report: A 72-year old male patient is admitted for a scheduled left hemicolectomy. On the sixth day after surgery he presents with worsening general state and hypotension, so he is admitted to our ICU, with the diagnosis of bacteremia-associated septic shock. He was hemodynamically unstable, despite initial fluid administration, requiring noradrenaline at 0.6 mcg/kg/min and vasopressin at 0.6 UI/h. During his first 24 hours he developed oliguria, so CRRT was started, using the oXiris filter (adsorptive membrane). Anticoagulation with citrate was chosen.

Twelve hours after the patient presents progressive lactic acidosis (peak lactate of 15 mmol/L) and an elevated anion gap (17 mEq/L). Liver failure was then suspected (increased hepatic enzymes) and anticoagulation changed for non-fractioned heparin. After stopping the citrate, the acidosis resolved, and the lactate fell to 2.3 mmol/L.

Discussion: Patients with hepatic failure can have alterations in citrate metabolism, leading to severe lactic acidosis and low calcium levels; correct identification of the patients who are at risk of complications (liver enzymes >1000 UI/L or patients with cardiogenic shock and serum lactate > 8 mmol/L) allow to choose the best anticoagulation strategy. It is mandatory to monitor electrolytes (including total calcium/ionic calcium relationship) (2). RCA should be suspended if citrate accumulation is suspected (unexplained anion GAP increase, worsening of metabolic acidosis and total calcium/ionic calcium relation > 2.5).

References:

Learning Points:
• Electrolyte monitoring in RCA is important to detect complications
• In selected patients, a strategy with NFH might be the best option.
• If citrate accumulation is suspected, RCA should be stopped.

09AP03-05
Multifocal mycotic aneurysms complicating bivalvular bacterial endocarditis
C. Young1, J. Mitchell2
1University Hospital Ayr, Anaesthetics Department, Ayr, United Kingdom

Background: Mycotic aneurysms (MA) are a known complication of infective endocarditis (IE). Intracranial mycotic aneurysm occurs in less than 5% of patients with IE, with only a minority of developing multiple aneurysmal loci. Intracranial MA is associated with a high mortality, 20% if unruptured but up to 80% if ruptured. 1,2. We describe a case of subarachnoid haemorrhage (SAH), multi-focus peripheral MA, in bivalvular IE.

Case report: A 68 year old man with a 6 month history of lethargy, weight loss and night sweats of uncertain aetiology presented to Intensive Care with a seizure and reduced consciousness. CT head revealed a left SAH. A systolic murmur, enlarged spleen and splinter haemorrhages were noted. Transthoracic echo demonstrated destruction of both aortic and mitral valves consistent with IE. He developed a compartment syndrome in his right forearm, and a MA of his ulnar artery was later found and repaired. He underwent successful mitral and aortic valve replacements. He also developed MA of common femoral and proximal external carotid arteries which required surgical repair after valve replacements. The patient survived and has made a full recovery.

Discussion: Mycotic aneurysm pathogenesis is believed to be due to vascular adventitial inflammation, leading to weakening of areas of vessels, most frequently in the cerebral circulation, the visceral arteries and less commonly, peripherally.3 Management can complex or conservative with prolonged courses of antibiotics, endovascular management or surgical debridement. Peripheral MA need to be considered for presentation of peripheral pain.

References:

Learning Points:
• An intracerebral bleed may be a presenting condition for patients with undiagnosed IE.
• Peripheral MA can occur and may produce a compartment syndrome if they rupture so should be considered with prompt imaging and treatment to prevent neurological sequelae.
09AP03-06
Nutrition management in a severe case of hyperemesis gravidarum complicated by central pontine myelinolisis

G. Ferrara1, A. Lamanna1, I. Roca1, M.A. Margiotta1, G. Zingarelli1, A. Cotoia1
1University of Foggia, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Unit, Foggia, Italy

Background: Hyperemesis gravidarum is a syndrome characterized by intractable nausea and vomiting during the first trimester of pregnancy, with severe nutritional deficiency. One of its worst possible consequences is central pontine myelinolisis.

Case report: A 5 weeks pregnant (29 years old) was admitted to our ICU with diagnosis of hyperemesis gravidarum with cerebral pontine myelinolisis detected by a cerebral MRI. At ICU admission she weighed 61 kg (weight loss ≈ 12%) and laboratory tests showed these values: Sodium 140 mmol/l, Potassium 2.9 mmol/l, Calcium 8.3 mmol/l, Phosphorus 2.7 mmol/l, Albumin 2.43 g/dl, Plasma proteins 4.8 g/dl, Triglycerides 224 mg/dl and Nitrogen balance 2.3 g/dl (mNUTRIC SCORE=6). During Non-Invasive Ventilation she started electrolytes correction and parenteral nutrition (SmofKabiven). 25 kcal/kg/die were calculated by Harris-Benedict equation.

At 3rd day respiratory failure got worse and the pregnant was intubated and mechanically ventilated. The enteral nutrition was started (Fresubin Hp Energy), combined with parenteral one; at 7th day the tracheostomy was performed and she started the respiratory weaning.

At 21st day the woman was in spontaneous breathing (mNUTRIC SCORE=2) and she started the oral nutrition after one week of physiotherapy treatment for dysphagia and psychokinetic therapy. The normal morphological development of fetal growth parameters was detected by ultrasound follow-up.

Discussion: During the ICU patient’s recovery, parenteral, enteral and oral nutrition were differently combined; however indirect calorimetry couldn’t have been use for a precise calculation of resting energy expenditure.

Learning Points: Daily nutrition treatment was based on sedation, vomiting, nausea and variation of electrolytes and nitrogen balance. However, the indirect calorimetry should allowed for accurate measure of resting energy expenditure.

09AP03-07
Monkeypox-associated encephalitis: a diagnostic and therapeutic challenge

A. Vergara1, P. Vicente1, M.J. Hernández1, R. Durá1, C. Ferrer1, J. De Andrés1
1Consorcio Hospital General Universitario de Valencia, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Valencia, Spain

Background: The most frequent neurological symptomatology in monkeypox is headache. Encephalitis is a major neurological complication with very few published cases and without studies evaluating a specific treatment at present (1).

Case Report: A 49-year-old male began with sore throat, fever and headache. 5 days later, he presented disorientation, agitation, and a few small erythematous plaques with scabs on his extremities. He was admitted at ICU to control that agitation and get completed the study. His magnetic resonance imaging presented an alteration of white matter signal intensity in thalami. Lumbar puncture revealed high protein level and leukocyte count increased at Cerebral spinal fluid (CFS). Negative CSF serology and PCR including Monkeypox. Erythematous plaque exudate, urethral, pharyngeal and anal exudate were positive for Monkeypox.

Methylprednisolone and immunoglobulins treatment was started since the beginning because parainfectious autoimmune was considered. Tecovirimat treatment was began after the results of CSF, despite the negative PCR because absence of detectable nucleic acid in the CSF is not uncommon at viral infections(2). There was a neurological improvement since the Tecovirimat.

The patient evolved satisfactorily with no subsequent neurological alterations.

Discussion: Currently, there is no specific approved medication for Monkeypox infection, although it exists for smallpox (both of them orthopoxviruses). The use of Tecovirimat seems to be useful in cases where encephalitis or encephalomyelitis is present with appropriate outcomes(3).

References:


Learning Points: Encephalitis is a rare neurological complication and very few published literature. That complication does not usually appear at the first infection days. Tecovirimat presents a good treatment results for monkeypox encephalitis.
09AP03-08
Severe septic shock in a patient with intestinal perforation secondary to undiagnosed gastrinoma

M. Luque Peláez1, Á. Escribano Arranz1, P. Montero López1, L. Goñi Galindo1, C. Sala Trull1, G. Echarri González1
1Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Unit, Pamplona, Spain

Background: Gastrinoma is a very rare neuroendocrine tumour that produces non-specific symptoms which are also present in other pathologies. This means a delay in the diagnosis of the disease of almost 5 years, when the tumour is metastatic in 80% of the cases. It is therefore very important to diagnose and suspect it in those patients with possible clinical symptoms because surgical treatment in most cases is curative.

Case Report: We present the case of a 35-year-old man who came to the emergency department with abdominal pain hours later of the administration of an endopic capsule for the study of diarrhoea of 6 years of evolution. Since March 2021, the patient had undergone surgery twice for intestinal microperforations without any apparent cause being diagnosed. All the studies performed had been negative, so this condition was attributed to a possible malabsorptive disorder. Hours after hospital admission, the patient began to present severe shock symptoms and anemia. ICU was called for hemodynamic stabilization before performing a CT scan where a new intestinal perforation was observed. The patient required intensive shock resuscitation with vasoactive drugs (noradrenaline, adrenaline) and broad-spectrum antibiotic therapy was initiated. The study of intestinal biopsies showed the presence of cellularity compatible with neuroendocrine tumor. Studies showed the presence of hypergastrinemia, and with these data the patient was diagnosed with gastrinoma. Then, a study of the extension of the disease was performed with a PET-CT scan which ruled out the presence of metastasis. Two months later the patient underwent intestinal resection surgery as definitive treatment of the gastrinoma.

Discussion: The history of several intestinal perforations in the same place with no other apparent cause being diagnosed. All the studies performed had been negative, so this condition was attributed to a possible malabsorptive disorder. Hours after hospital admission, the patient began to present severe shock symptoms and anemia. ICU was called for hemodynamic stabilization before performing a CT scan where a new intestinal perforation was observed. The patient required intensive shock resuscitation with vasoactive drugs (noradrenaline, adrenaline) and broad-spectrum antibiotic therapy was initiated. The study of intestinal biopsies showed the presence of cellularity compatible with neuroendocrine tumor. Studies showed the presence of hypergastrinemia, and with these data the patient was diagnosed with gastrinoma. Then, a study of the extension of the disease was performed with a PET-CT scan which ruled out the presence of metastasis. Two months later the patient underwent intestinal resection surgery as definitive treatment of the gastrinoma.

References:

09AP03-09
Spontaneous pure acute subdural haematoma as the initial manifestation of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia - a case report

A. Bolanča1, A. Kruc1, A. Kustura1, V. Hostić1, H. Krolo Videka1, I. Ivanovski1
1University Hospital Center Sestre milosrdnice, Division of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Background: Spontaneous non-traumatic acute subdural haematoma (SDH) is a rare condition with an incidence rate of 3-5% associated with neoplasm, aneurysm and AVM, along with high mortality and morbidity. On the other hand, intracranial haemorrhage (ICH) is the second most common complication of haematological malignancies. While ICH is often identified later on, it is rare for ICH to be the presenting sign. We report a case of spontaneous acute SDH as the initial presenting symptom of an acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Case Report: A previously healthy 55-year-old male was found unconscious in bed, without a history of head trauma. On initial examination has had GCS 4, anisocoria with dilated left pupil, unresponsive to light. Brain CT disclosed acute SDH of the left-brain hemisphere, brain oedema, without visible bone fracture. Initial laboratory data showed pancytopenia, elevated D-Dimer, LDH and fibrinogen and normal coagulation tests. The patient was stabilised in the ICU, was given 1g of TXA and platelet count was corrected with 24 units of platelets. An emergency craniotomy and evacuation of the SDH was performed soon after with the continuation of analgesosedation for 72 hours after the end of the procedure. Bone marrow aspiration and bone biopsy was done (hypoplastic bone marrow with atypical blast cells) and the diagnosis of B-ALL was revealed. Prophylactic antibiotic, antiviral and antifungal treatment was initiated, with daily control and correction of blood cells and coagulation parameters, including factor XIII. Rasburicase, an agent for tumour lysis syndrome was indicated. Control CT scan showed ischaemic regions in the right temporal and parietal region. Unfortunately, the patient’s neurological status did not recover, he remained unconscious with GCS 4. Despite this, active haematological treatment (HOVON-100 protocol) was started with the consent of the family.

Discussion: Publications reported the mortality rate of acute SDH up to 79%, where worse outcomes may be associated with a higher age, lower GCS at presentation and delay in surgical treatment. ICH continues to be a significant cause of major morbidity and mortality in patients with acute leukaemia.

Learning Points: Despite the low incidence, this case highlights the importance for clinicians to be aware that pure SDH may be an initial presenting symptom of ALL and therefore early recognition of concomitant SDH and ALL and treatment of this life-threatening condition is crucial.
**09AP03-10**

**Euglycemic diabetic ketoacidosis (EDKA) in intensive care unit: a rare complication of sodium-glucose cotransporter inhibitor**

E. Pereda González1, P. Santiago Patterson1, M. Granell Gil1, C.S. Romero1, E. Biosca Pérez1, J. de Andrés Ibáñez2

1Hospital General Universitario de Valencia, Servicio de Anestesia, Reanimación y Terapia del Dolor, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** Euglycemic diabetic ketoacidosis (EDKA) is an uncommon and life-threatening diabetic emergency recently associated with the sodium-glucose cotransporter-2 inhibitors (SGLT2i). EDKA is characterized by euglycemia (glucose < 250 mg/dL) in presence of severe metabolic acidosis and ketonemia. It also presents a diagnostic challenge for physicians, often resulting in delayed diagnosis2.

**Case report:** A 72-year-old male with a medical history of poorly controlled diabetes mellitus type 2 (with chronic retinopathy), was admitted to the hospital following hip fracture. On the second day, he debuted with an impaired level of consciousness (Glasgow scale 8/15), tachypnea and tachycardia. Arterial blood gas was ordered which revealed pH of 7.19, PCO2 of 21 mmHg, and HCO3 of 9 mmol/L. After assessment by the intensive care specialist and stabilization with fluid therapy with bicarbonate, we carried out more analysis and reassessed the drug prescription during the hospitalization; omeprazole, analgesics, dapagliflozin and insulin therapy. Surprisingly, his ketonemia levels were 6.9 mmol/L, but his blood glucose levels were consistently below 250 mg/dL. A multidisciplinary approach was used that allowed us to discover this rare pathology in ICU.

**Learning points:**
1. EDKA should be part of the differential diagnosis of increased anion GAP acidosis.
2. Early treatment is essential.

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**09AP03-12**

**Sevoflurane sedation in ICU for septic shock: a case report**

M. Jiménez Fenellós1, Á. Araque Sánchez2, J. Lluí García1, J.M. González Ibáñez1, T. Gabaldón Conejos1, C. Ferrer Gómez1, A. Vergara Sanchez2

1Consorcio Hospital General Universitario de Valencia, Anaesthesiology, Reanimation and Pain Management, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** After the recent pandemic, various studies have been highlight the role of inhalation agents as sedative drugs. It could be useful for septic shock too.

**Case report:** A 69-year-old patient with cardiovascular and pulmonary history underwent urgent cholecystectomy due to septic shock with subsequent admission to ICU five days without complications. On the same day of discharge, he presented a sudden dyspnoea. Transthoracic echocardiography showed severe ventricular dysfunction. Due to the respiratory failure, orotracheal intubation was required and was transferred to ICU.

The patient was admitted with multiple organ failure, PaO2/FiO2 ratio 80 and fever. Sedated with propofol, nitric oxide was started, a lung recruitment manoeuvre was performed, and neuromuscular blocker perfusion was started. He was hemodynamically unstable, with severe coagulopathy and acute renal failure so replacement therapy was started; the blood test showed infection parameters so we initiate ceftazidime-avibactam and tigecycline. After 24 hours of admission, the patient was evolving unfavourably, x-ray showed right lung condensation; high doses of propofol and neuromuscular blocker was needed. It was decided to sedate with sevoflurane, monitored with Massimo.

The fourth day of admission, presented clinical stability that allowed a sedation window. Cardiac index improved and PaO2/FiO2 ratio was >300. On the fifth day, the patient was extubated and after 9 days patient was discharged to the hospital room.

**Discussion:** By one hand, sevoflurane allows a decrease in airway resistance. It showed an improvement in the respiratory parameters [1], and allowed adequate sedation and shortened the weaking and extubation time. On the other hand, propofol may lead to greater hemodynamic instability. Furthermore, this patient had severe ventricular dysfunction and sevoflurane has myocardial protective effect[2].

**References:**

**Learning points:** Sevoflurane has anti-inflammatory effects and allows a decrease in airway resistance. We apply this goal-guided drug as another treatment in a patient with multiple organ failure with very satisfactory results.
09AP03-13
Severe hyperlactatemia in a septic patient on CRRT with regional citrate anticoagulation: a case report

A. Devis-Peiró1, N. Romero-García1, C. Beltran-Piles1, M.X. Hidalgo Torres1, E. Romero1, A. Guillen1
1Hospital Clínico Universitario de Valencia, SVARTD, Valencia, Spain

Background: Regional citrate anticoagulation (RCA) has become the standard of choice in continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT) of critically ill patients with acute kidney injury (AKI). Nonetheless, there are certain scenarios where its use has been controversial, such as severe hyperlactatemia or liver failure (1). Furthermore, complications like citrate accumulation have been reported, although their incidence is rare.

Case report: We report the case of a 63-year-old male who presented with increasing levels of lactate during his stay ICU with a diagnosis of respiratory sepsis after a hip fracture surgery. CRRT with RCA was initiated on day 4 due to AKI. Lactate levels increased progressively from 3.5mmol/L on day 5 up to 15mmol/L with increased anion gap metabolic acidosis on day 7, without increase of acute phase reactants. Liver compromise with 2.24mg/dL total bilirubin and need of 50% glucose drip to maintain glycemia was observed. Total/ionized calcium ratio was <2.5. CRRT was stopped, resulting in lactate clearance to 1.9mmol/L with metabolic alkalosis and need of 5% glucose drip within hours. Serum citrate intra and post CRRT was 63μmol/L and 140μmol/L respectively.

Discussion: Citrate accumulation is a complication of CRRT with RCA that can occur in patients with hyperlactatemia and liver failure as increased anion gap metabolic acidosis, nevertheless the total/ionized calcium ratio was <2.5 (2). The Cori cycle produces lactate in muscle from glucose and is activated by citrate among others. Serum citrate can reach up to 1070μmol/L in patients on CRRT with RCA (3). High production of lactate and low glucose levels in patients with impaired liver function could be explained by increased activation of the Cori cycle in patients with high serum citrate, reducing glucose consumption and lactate production when citrate levels decrease to normal.

References:

Learning points:
- Raise awareness on RCA-related complications
- Insight on lactate and citrate metabolism

09AP04-01
Early postoperative hypoalbuminemia predicts mortality and “days alive and out of hospital” after orthotopic heart transplantation

R. M’Pembele1, S. Roth1, A. Stroda1, T. Tenge1, U. Boeken2, G. Lurati Buse1
1University Hospital Düsseldorf, Department of Anaesthesiology, Düsseldorf, Germany; 2University Hospital Düsseldorf, Department of Cardiac Surgery, Düsseldorf, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative hypoalbuminemia is frequent after cardiac surgery and results from blood loss, dilution or capillary leak amongst others (1). In patients undergoing heart transplantation (HTX) preoperative liver impairment and consequent hypoalbuminemia is associated with increased mortality, but the role of early postoperative hypoalbuminemia is unclear (2). This study investigated associations between early postoperative hypoalbuminemia and 1-year mortality as well as “days alive and out of hospital” (DAOH) after HTX.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective cohort study included patients who underwent HTX at the University Hospital Düsseldorf, Germany between 2011 and 2021. The main exposure was serum albumin concentration at ICU. The primary endpoints were mortality and DAOH within one year after surgery. Albumin levels were compared between survivors and non-survivors using unpaired t-tests. Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve analysis, logistic regression models and linear regression models with adjustment for the “Model for End-stage Liver Disease” (MELD) score and the Index for Mortality Prediction After Cardiac Transplantation (IMPACT) were performed.

Results and Discussion: Out of 231 patients screened, 212 were included into analysis (mean age 55 ± 11 years, 73% male). One-year mortality was 19.7% (40 patients) and median DAOH were 298 (229-322). Postoperative serum albumin was higher in survivors as compared to non-survivors (3.3 ± 0.5 g/dl vs. 2.8 ±0.6 g/dl; p<0.0001). ROC analysis showed good discrimination for mortality by postoperative serum albumin after HTX [AUC = 0.74 95% CI: 0.66-0.83]. According to Youden Index, the cut-off for serum albumin at arrival ICU and mortality was 3.0 g/dl. In univariate analysis DAOH were lower in patients with albumin below cutoff [Albumin >3.0 g/dl: 310 (268-326) days vs. Albumin < 3.0 g/dl: 253 (0-365) days]. After adjustment for MELD and IMPACT score multivariate logistic and linear regression showed independent associations between hypoalbuminemia and mortality / DAOH with odds ratio of 4.57 [95%CI 2.23-9.35] and unstandardized regression coefficient of -73.47 [95%CI -101.23 - -45.70], respectively.

Conclusion(s): Postoperative hypoalbuminemia <3.0 g/dl is associated with 1-year mortality and poor DAOH after HTX. The role of early postoperative albumin substitution as therapeutic approach needs to be investigated.

References:
**09AP04-04**
Characterization of the efficacy of furosemide depending on albumin function

G. Klinkmann¹, S. Klammt², M. Jäschke³, D. Reuter¹, S. Mitzner⁴
¹University Medical Center, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Therapy, Rostock, Germany, ²University Medical Center, Department of Internal Medicine, Rostock, Germany, ³University Medical Center, Institute for Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology, Rostock, Germany, ⁴University Medical Center, Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine, Rostock, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Albumin binding of furosemide forms the basis for its transport to the kidney and subsequent tubular secretion, which is a prerequisite for the effect of furosemide¹. Accordingly, high albumin concentrations should result in higher efficacy of furosemide. However, study results on the combination of furosemide in conjunction with albumin and on the efficacy of furosemide in hypoalbuminemia did not confirm this hypothesis². The aim of this study was to determine the efficacy of furosemide not only in relation to concentration, but also to take albumin function into account.

**Materials and Methods:** In a prospective and non-interventional clinical observational trial, blood and urine samples from 30 critically ill patients receiving intravenous furosemide therapy were evaluated. Albumin binding capacity (ABIC) determination allowed conclusions to be drawn about the binding site-specific loading state of albumin by quantifying the unbound fraction of the fluorescent marker dansylsarcosine. In addition, assessment of total concentration of furosemide in plasma and urine as well as the concentration of free furosemide fraction in plasma was performed by high-performance liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry. Efficacy of furosemide was evaluated by the ratio of urine excretion to fluid intake.

**Results and Discussion:** In patients with an ABIC ≥ 60% free furosemide fraction was significantly lower compared to patients with a lower ABIC, urinary furosemide concentration was higher, and a significantly higher proportion of infused furosemide was excreted renally. ABIC was positively correlated with the increase in urine excretion to fluid input ratio after initiation of furosemide therapy.

**Conclusion:** ABIC could serve as a marker for individual response to furosemide and could be used to generate patient-specific therapeutic regimens. In view of the relatively low number of patients in this study, the relationship between furosemide efficacy and albumin function should be investigated in larger studies in the future.

**References:**

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**09AP04-05**
The effects of continuous renal replacement therapy on interleukin 6, Heepicin and Ferritin in critically III patients with COVID-19

R. Szabo¹, C. Constantinescu¹, V. Dobre¹, C.-L. Petrisor¹
¹Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj Napoca, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

**Background and Goal of Study:** SARS-COV2, potentially, produces a cytokine storm and a disproportionate inflammatory response. The overwhelming cytokines like interleukin 6 (IL-6) and others, negatively impact survival causing multiple organ dysfunction, iron overload and death. Renal Replacement Therapy (RRT) has been used to remove circulating cytokines. The aim of the study is to assess the effects of RRT on cytokines and the products of inflammation, as well as to establish if early versus late treatment influences intensive care unit (ICU) stay and mortality.

**Materials and Methods:** This prospective study included adults admitted to the ICU at the Emergency Hospital Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Patients were critically ill and confirmed with SARS-COV2 infection and were followed for 28 days from admission. Blood parameters were determined before and after RRT including IL-6, Heepicin (Hep), Ferritin, Transferrin Saturation (TS), C-reactive protein (CRP), Neutrophil/Lymphocyte ratio (NLR).

**Results and Discussion:** IL-6 and Hep decreased by MdOD of 80.65 pg/mL for IL-6 (CI -998 to -4.9; p=0.0029) and -78.7 pg/mL (CI -185 to -48.4; p=0.002) for Hep. Ferritin increased by MdOD of 925 mg/dL (CI -437 to 10727; p=0.042). Although TS, CRP and NLR increased, neither were statistically significant. MnOD were 22.83% (±42.26; p=0.088) for TS, 0.56 mg/dL (±13.14; p=0.88) for CRP and 2.76 (±13.61; p=0.43) for NLR.

Finally, the median survival in early treatment was 7 days compared to 4 days in late RRT with a HR of 1.9 in the latter, but not statistically significant (p=0.29).

**Conclusion(s):** RRT seems to be efficient at eliminating IL-6 and Hep which could have increased the TS. In theory, the latter is also possible due to a wider clearance of cytokines which create alternative pathways for Hep production. Our results also suggest that an early RRT might yield a benefit, but this needs further studying.
09AP04-06
Association of oxygenation levels after successful mechanical thrombectomy under general anesthesia and 3-months functional outcome in patients with acute ischemic stroke: an observational study

L. Barreiro¹, F. García¹, K. Williams¹, M. Santamaría¹, S. Arias¹, J. Fernández²
¹Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago de Compostela, Anesthesiology, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Background and Aim of Study: The effects of oxygenation levels on patients with acute ischemic stroke treated with mechanical thrombectomy is unknown. We aim to determine whether the oxygenation level (PaO₂ <150mmHg vs PaO₂ ≥150mmHg) in ventilated patients after successful mechanical thrombectomy under general anesthesia for acute ischemic stroke is associated with 3-months functional outcome.

Materials and Methods: We prospectively collected data from patients with a proximal occlusion of the anterior circulation treated with successful mechanical thrombectomy under general anesthesia for 21 months. After the procedure, patients were admitted to the ICU for delayed extubation. Two groups were established regarding partial pressure of oxygen (PaO₂ <150mmHg vs PaO₂ ≥150mmHg) measured in a blood arterial gas analysis on admission to the ICU. Demographics, clinical factors, and neurological status (NIHSS scale and modified Rankin Scale, (mRS)) were compared between the two groups.

Results and discussion: 184 patients after endovascular treatment for acute ischemic stroke were admitted in our ICU during the period study. 70 patients with unsatisfactory mechanical thrombectomy, or occlusion of the posterior circulation were excluded from the analysis.

There were no differences between the groups in relation to demographics, clinical factors, neurological status at hospital discharge and functional outcome at 3 months. (Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Data</th>
<th>Total 114 patients</th>
<th>PaO₂ &lt; 150mmHg</th>
<th>PaO₂ ≥ 150mmHg</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years, median, IQR)</td>
<td>79 (70,85-79)</td>
<td>79 (70,25-85)</td>
<td>79 (70,75-85)</td>
<td>0,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIHSS at admission (median, IQR)</td>
<td>16 (11,75-19)</td>
<td>17 (11,25-19,75)</td>
<td>15 (11,75-19)</td>
<td>0,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time to recanalization (min, median, IQR)</td>
<td>330 (265-598)</td>
<td>370 (278-830)</td>
<td>325 (253-448)</td>
<td>0,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of mechanical ventilation (hours, median (IQR))</td>
<td>5,48 (6,04)</td>
<td>6,27 (6,41)</td>
<td>4,51 (6,21)</td>
<td>0,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days of stay in the Hospital (days, median, IQR)</td>
<td>5,5 (3-8)</td>
<td>6,5 (3,25-10)</td>
<td>5 (2,25-7)</td>
<td>0,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIHSS at discharge from Hospital (Median, IQR)</td>
<td>3 (0-6)</td>
<td>3 (0-6,11,75)</td>
<td>3 (0-8,25)</td>
<td>0,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mRS at discharge from Hospital (median, IQR)</td>
<td>3 (2-5)</td>
<td>4 (2-5)</td>
<td>3 (2-4)</td>
<td>0,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mRS 3 months post-stroke (median, IQR)</td>
<td>3 (1-5)</td>
<td>3 (1-5)</td>
<td>3 (1-4,25)</td>
<td>0,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Favorable outcome at 3 months (mRS 0-2(%))</td>
<td>45 (39,5)</td>
<td>18 (34,6)</td>
<td>27 (43,5)</td>
<td>0,344</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PaO₂<150mmHg compared to PaO₂>150mmHg, mRS: modified Rankin scale (range 0 (no symptoms) to 6 (deathly), NIHSS: National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale, TICI 2b-3: scores indicate near-total and total reperfusion grades.

Probably, early extubation after performing the thrombectomy (5-7 hours), and the fact that we have studied only patients with successful thrombectomy and reperfusion, have influenced not to find differences between the two groups studied.

Conclusions: In patients with acute ischemic stroke in the anterior cerebral circulation treated satisfactory with mechanical thrombectomy under general anesthesia, we found no association between 3-months functional outcome and levels of oxygen post-procedure.

09AP04-07
Superoxide dismutase mediated response to oxidative stress following severe traumatic brain injury

S. Zmara¹, V. Krusić Alić², T. Jagoić², M. Biberić¹, J. Tarčuković³, K. Grabušić²
¹Pula General Hospital, Anesthesiology, Pula, Croatia, ²School of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Physiology, Rijeka, Croatia, ³School of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Anesthesiology, Physiology, Rijeka, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Severe traumatic brain injury (sTBI) is an acquired brain injury caused by external force. The initial injury triggers further pathophysiological events such as excitotoxicity, oxidative stress and hypoxia, collectively termed as secondary brain injury. The acute treatment focuses on mitigating the secondary brain injury mainly by monitoring and managing elevated intracranial pressure (ICP). Whether other aspects of secondary brain injury could be monitored and managed remains a topic for research. Here we aim to characterize superoxide dismutases (SOD) in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) after sTBI. SOD enzymes perform the initial step in removing superoxide and thus are crucial in anti-oxidative response.

Materials and Methods: CSF samples were collected daily following the insertion of external ventricular drainage in patients with sTBI. Signed informed consent was obtained from a family member and study was approved by the Ethical committee. CSF samples and protein lysate of neuroblastoma cell line SH-SY5Y were analyzed by western blot using antibodies against SOD1, SOD2 and SOD3.

Results and Discussion: A total of 64 CSF samples were collected from 9 sTBI patients during the first 10 days after injury. We detected SOD1 in SH-SY5Y cells and sTBI samples with a total of 43 CSFs samples being SOD1 positive but containing SOD1 at different levels, with predominant expression during the first 5 days after injury. SOD2 and SOD3 were analyzed in 2 patients providing 13 CSFs. None of these CSFs were found to be SOD2 positive in contrast to SH-SY5Y cells. SOD3 was detected at high levels in all 13 analyzed CSFs but not in SH-SY5Y cells. These results confirm SOD3 as a known extracellular protein. Moreover, failure to detect SOD2 in CSF might indicate that analyzed CSFs did not contain cellular debris since SOD2 is located in mitochondria. A somewhat surprising finding was detection of SOD1 in two thirds of CSFs, given the fact that SOD1 is a cytoplasmic enzyme. Further characterization should reveal whether extracellular SOD1 has anti-oxidative activity and thereby contributes to the well-known SOD3 anti-oxidative activity in the extracellular space.

Conclusion(s): This is a pilot study showing that SOD1, a ubiquitously expressed protein located in cytoplasm, is readily detectable in CSFs early after sTBI. The main limitations of the study are low number of patients and lack of SOD1 protein quantification.
09AP04-08
Mean Platelet Volume to Lymphocyte Ratio (MPVLR) as a predictor of mortality in brain injured patients: preliminary data

T.G. Zimotti1, F Di Pierro1, L. Napolitano1, D. Correnti1, P Vetulci1, A. Cotoa1
1’OORR - Ospedali Riuniti di Foggia, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Foggia, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Prognostic role of several haematological indices in various diseases is well known, but the role of Mean Platelet Volume to Lymphocyte ratio (MPVLR) and Neutrophil to Lymphocyte ratio (NLR) in predicting brain injured patients outcome still needs to be outlined.

In this study MPVLR and NLR have been investigated to assess their prognostic role in ICU brain injured patients outcome.

Materials and Methods: From May 2021 to December 2022 hemogram at admission and clinical history of adult ICU brain injured patients were collected. MPVLR was calculated. All the patients were followed up to their discharge from ICU in order to evaluate their mortality or survival.

Study population was retrospectively divided in two groups:
Group 0 = survived;
Group 1 = not survived.

Different ratios were calculated from hemograms, including MPVLR and NLR. Also SOFA score and APACHE score were evaluated.

Results and Discussion: 57 patients were enrolled: mean age was 62±18 years, 37 patients (65%) were male. Diagnosis at admission was: TBI 35%, lCH 28%, SAH 14%, Epidural hematoma 2%, Subdural hematoma 14%, AIS 7%. 24 patients died in the ICU (42%), while 33 (58%) survived.

Mean MPVLR at admission was 44,32 ± 37 in survivors and 104,42 ± 91 in non survivors (p=0,000), while mean APACHE score was 5,67 ± 1,59 in survivors and 6,04 ± 1,94 in non survivors (p=0,436), while mean NLR was 13,10 ± 8 in survivors and 18,33 ± 29 in Group 1(p=0,093).

Mean SOFA score at admission was 5,67 ± 1,59 in survivors and 6,04 ± 1,94 in non survivors (p=0,436), while mean APACHE score was 19 ± 3,95 in Group 0 and 20,67 ± 3,19 in Group 1(p=0,287).

Conclusions: At the time of admission in ICU hemogram should be evaluated and MPVLR should be calculated as we can consider MPVLR a good independent predictor of mortality in brain injured patients using our preliminary data.

09AP04-09
Fluid balance targets in ICU: how useful are they?

R. Dryden1, D. Allen1
1’University Hospital Hairmyres, Anaesthetics, East Kilbride, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Critically ill patients who become fluid overloaded have increased rates of morbidity and mortality. We aimed to improve fluid management within our intensive care unit by increasing the rates at which a daily fluid balance target was documented in the patient notes.

Materials and Methods: The study was performed at University Hospital Hairmyres, a district general hospital outside Glasgow. Data was collected on patients admitted to a combined HDU and ICU over two 3 week periods, before and after a presentation on fluid balance was delivered at a local ICU multidisciplinary team meeting. Data for each patient was collected throughout their stay in intensive care and fluid balance was recorded over a 24hr period. 7 level 3 patients with a combined 16 24hr periods were included in the first 3 weeks of data collection, followed by 15 level 2 and 3 patients with a combined 52 24hr periods studied in the second 3 weeks. Microsoft excel was used to calculate mean averages and unpaired t tests and chi square tests were used to determine statistical significance.

Results and Discussion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial round of data collection</th>
<th>Data collection post MDT presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of 24hr periods with fluid target recorded (P = 0.05 to 0.10)</td>
<td>2/16 (12.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average volume above daily fluid target (P = 0.0215)</td>
<td>Positive 2750 mls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results subsequently showed that if a fluid balance target was recorded in the notes, the average fluid balance for that 24hr period was around 1 litre less than patients without any fluid balance target recorded (negative 410mls vs positive 564mls respectively, P = 0.0373). This project was limited by small numbers in the initial round of data collection and subsequently level 2 patients were included, creating a difference between the two groups studied. Although this project shows a statistically significant association between recording a fluid balance target and a less positive 24hr fluid balance, this does not prove causation.

Conclusion(s): Simple measures such as raising awareness through presentation can result in an increase in rates of fluid balance target recording. This change in practice was associated with a significant reduction in the volume of fluid given to patient’s over a 24hr period, showing the importance of this area of documentation for critically ill patients. Further work would include repeating data collection after fluid balance target reminders were included in the local daily ward round proforma.

09AP04-10
The influence of therapeutic plasma exchange on the inflammatory response in septic shock: results from the EXCHANGE trial

A. Sauer1, K. Stahl2, B. Seeliger3, C. Putensen1, S. David4, C. Bode for the BonHanZA Study Group1
1’University Hospital Bonn, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Bonn, Germany, 2Hannover Medical School, Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Endocrinology, Hannover, Germany, 3Hannover Medical School, Department of Respiratory Medicine and German Centre of Lung Research (DZL), Hannover, Germany, 4Hannover Medical School, Department of Nephrology and Hypertension, Hannover, Germany, 5University Hospital Zurich, Institute of Intensive Care Medicine, Zurich, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Sepsis and septic shock, defined by a profound immune dysregulation, are among the leading causes of death in the ICU. Despite advances in understanding the underlying pathophysiology and multiple randomized controlled trials (RCT), no specific treatment exists to date. Therapeutic plasma exchange (TPE) represents a promising adjunctive treatment approach to rebalance immune homeostasis. A recently published RCT demonstrated a rapid hemodynamic improvement after TPE possibly caused by the removal of harmful mediators and the replacement of protective plasma proteins.
The aim of this study is to further characterize the underlying immunomodulatory effects and to identify biomarkers that may predict treatment response to TPE.

**Materials and Methods:** After written informed consent was obtained, 53 patients in early septic shock (<24h duration) and a nor-epinephrine (NE) dose of ≥0.4 μg/kg/min were randomized 1:1 to receive standard of care (SOC) or SOC + one single TPE. TPE was immediately performed after randomization. Serum samples were collected at randomization and 6h post randomization. Acute-phase proteins (CRP and Pentraxin3(PTX3), inflammatory mediators (IL-4, IL-6, IL-8, IL-10, TNF-α, IL-2Rα) and damage-associated molecular patterns (DAMPs) (cell-free DNA (cfDNA), HMGB1) were determined via multiplex analysis or ELISA.

**Results and Discussion:** TPE led to a significant reduction in acute-phase protein levels (CRP p=0.0008, PTX3 p=0.0008) while no difference was observed in the SOC group. TNF-α, IL-6- und IL-8-levels were significantly reduced in both groups, however no significant difference was observed between groups except for IL-2Rα (p=0.02). cfDNA und HMGB1 levels were significantly decreased in the TPE group compared to the SOC group (p=0.004, p=0.03). Treatment responders, defined as a decrease in NE dose of ≥50% 6h post randomization, displayed significantly increased cfDNA levels and decreased IL-8 levels compared to non-responders.

**Conclusion(s):** TPE is associated with the elimination of inflammatory mediators such as acute-phase proteins and DAMPs that may explain the recently observed hemodynamic improvement in septic shock patients. Increased cfDNA levels in combination with decreased IL-8 levels may represent a dual biomarker approach to predict treatment response.

**Results and Discussion:** Baseline PPV and SVV increased significantly during hemorrhage, with a decrease in AoF and IVCF (P <0.05). PHE infusion induced a significant TPR increase and C decrease in bled animals with a significant decrease of dynamic indices. BW condition increased MV/VCO2 (P <0.05) and decreased VCO2, end-tidal (PetCO2), mean expired CO2 (PACO2), and alveolar (PACO2) PCO2 (P =0.059). PHE infusion did not change the VCap parameters compared to BW. VDphys did not change significantly beyond experimental conditions.

**Conclusion(s):** VCap parameters could predict fluid responsiveness during hemorrhage under increased vasomotor tone induced by PHE administration. The IVCF decrease could reduce the supply of CO2 to the lungs, which, in turn, decreases PetCO2, PACO2, PECO2, and CO2 excretion without significant change in alveolar dead space.

### 09AP04-11

**Ability of CO2 kinetics parameters to predict fluid responsiveness during the increase of vasomotor tone in a rabbit model of hemorrhage**

J.G. Lorenzo Godoy1, C. Nani2, L. Quintela1, G. Jorge1, M. Isper1, J.P. Bouchacourt2

1Facultad de Medicina Udelar, Departamento de Fisiopatología, Montevideo, Uruguay, 2Facultad de Veterinaria Udelar, Departamento Hospital, Montevideo, Uruguay, 3Facultad de Medicina Udelar, Cátedra de Anestesiología, Montevideo, Uruguay

**Background and Goal of Study:** Volumetric capnography (VCap) has been proposed as a novel, non-invasive tool to assess cardiac output (CO) changes and fluid responsiveness. The increase in vasomotor tone attenuates dynamic preload indicators’ ability to assess fluid responsiveness. We analyzed CO2 kinetics during hypovolemia and an increase in vasomotor tone. We hypothesized that CO2-based parameters would predict fluid responsiveness during the increase of vasomotor tone.

**Materials and Methods:** 6 anesthetized and mechanically ventilated rabbits were studied during normovolemia (BL), after progressive blood withdrawal (10 mL/kg, BW), and during phenylephrine infusion (BW+PHE). Aortic (AoF) and inferior vena cava (IVCF) flows were measured through a lumbotomy incision. Central venous and abdominal aortic (AoP) pressures were measured. VCap was obtained by a CO2 mainstream (Treaton) clipped onto a pediatric digital flowmeter sensor (Sensiron). Both signals were recorded online by a dedicated device designed in our laboratory (SAMAY S24, 200 Hz) which displayed the different CO2 parameters.

We assessed the vasomotor tone by the total peripheral resistance (TPR= mean aortic pressure/mean AoF) and arterial compliance (C= stroke volume/pulse AoP). We estimated stroke volume, pulse pressure variations (SVV, PPV), physiological dead space (VDphys, Bohr equation), and minute ventilation to minute exhaled CO2 ratio (MV/VCO2).

Data was expressed by mean±SE. We used ANOVA with the Tukey test as post-hoc, and a P value <0.05. The study was approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (N° 070153-000638-20).

**Results and Discussion:** Baseline PPV and SVV increased significantly during hemorrhage, with a decrease in AoF and IVCF (P <0.05). PHE infusion induced a significant TPR increase and C decrease in bled animals with a significant decrease of dynamic indices. BW condition increased MV/VCO2 (P <0.05) and decreased VCO2, end-tidal (PetCO2), mean expired CO2 (PACO2), and alveolar (PACO2) PCO2 (P =0.059). PHE infusion did not change the VCap parameters compared to BW. VDphys did not change significantly beyond experimental conditions.

**Conclusion(s):** VCap parameters could predict fluid responsiveness during hemorrhage under increased vasomotor tone induced by PHE administration. The IVCF decrease could reduce the supply of CO2 to the lungs, which, in turn, decreases PetCO2, PACO2, PECO2, and CO2 excretion without significant change in alveolar dead space.

### 09AP04-12

**Remote photoplethysmography and automated capillary refill time technique for peripheral perfusion assessment between COVID-19 and Septic shock patients**

M. Klibus1, V. Eunapu1, U. Rubins2, I. Vanags3, O. Sabelnikovs1

1Riga Stradiņš University, Department of Clinical Skills and Medical Technology, Riga, Latvia, 2University of Latvia, Institute of Atomic Physics and Spectroscopy, Riga, Latvia, 3Riga Stradiņš University, Anaesthesiology, Reanimatology, Riga, Latvia

**Background:** Assessment of microcirculation during fluid resuscitation of septic shock patients mainly rely on the serum lactate level and routine clinical bed-side tests (as CRT). New techniques for evaluation of tissue perfusion have been developed -remote photoplethysmography (rPPG) and automated objective capillary refill time measurement technique (aCRT).

**The Goal of Study:** Was to assess changes in peripheral perfusion during fluid resuscitation using remote photoplethysmography and automated capillary refill time in ICU patients with bacterial septic shock and severe Covid-19 patients.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients with positive passive leg raising test (PLRT) were initially resuscitated with crystalloids (10ml/kg over 60min). Hemodynamic variables, manual capillary refill time (mCRT) and aCRT parameters (T90 –time when 90% of capillary refill is over, Tst –time when capillary refill is fully over), peripheral perfusion index (PPI) detected using rPPG were collected before and after PLRT and after volume expansion (VE)

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 34 patients were divided into 2 groups:COVID-19 (n=18) and bacterial septic shock (n=16). In COVID-19 mean PPI increased during PLRT by 7% (from 43+/- 27
to 46.5+/−29.1), by 15% after VE (from 43.0+/−27.8 to 49.5+/−22.6), while in septic shock PPI increased during PLRT by 18% (from 28.3+/−20.9 to 33.6+/−25.3), by 28% after VE (from 28.3+/−20.0 to 36.3+/−25.8). Mean mCRT in COVID-19 decreased by 22% during PLRT (2.57+/−0.59 to 1.98+/−0.68), by 22% after VE (from 2.57+/−0.59 to 1.98+/−0.78), while in septic shock decreased by 31% during PLRT (from 1.85+/−0.64 to 1.29+/−0.38), by 32% after VE (from 1.85+/−0.64 to 1.26+/−0.29).

Mean acCRT T90 in COVID-19 decreased by 32% during PLRT (from 1.74+/−1.16 to 1.17+/−0.79), by 17% after VE (from 1.74+/−1.16 to 1.45+/−1.06), in septic shock decreased by 41% during PLRT (from 1.93+/−1.03 to 1.38+/−0.79), by 8% after VE (from 1.93+/−1.03 to 1.78+/−0.66). Mean Tt in COVID-19 decreased by 21% during PLRT (from 3.33+/−1.59 to 2.63+/−1.37), by 10% after VE (from 3.33+/−1.59 to 3.03+/−1.44), in septic shock decreased by 25% during PLRT (from 3.74+/−1.24 to 2.81+/−1.22) by 2% after VE (from 3.74+/−1.24 to 3.69+/−1.12). In COVID-19 lactate level decreased by 10% after VE (from 2.0+/−0.7 to 1.8+/−0.8), in septic shock by 18% (from 2.3+/−1.6 to 1.9+/−1.2).

Conclusion: rPPG and aCRT are techniques potentially applicable to assess microcirculation during fluid resuscitation in critically ill patients.

09AP05-01 Impact of sedation method on mortality and clinically relevant outcomes

K. Kadantseva1,2, M. Yadgarov1, G. Landoni3,4, L. Berikashvili1,2, A. Kuzovlev5, V. Likhvantsev1,7
1V. Negovsky Reanimatology Research Institute, Department of Clinical Trials, Moscow, Russian Federation, 2IRCCS San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation, 3IRCCS San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Department of Clinical T rials, Milan, Italy, 4Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Faculty of Medicine, Milan, Italy, 5M. Vladimirsky Moscow Regional Research Clinical Institute, Intensive Care Department, Moscow, Russian Federation, 6V. Negovsky Reanimatology Research Institute, Laboratory of Clinical Pathophysiology in Critical Conditions, Moscow, Russian Federation, 7First Moscow State Medical University, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Moscow, Russian Federation

Background and Goal of Study: Sedation is frequently used in intensive care units (ICUs) to prevent arouse and delirium associated harm, relieve anxiety, and reduce the stress of being mechanically ventilated. Since agitation and anxiety occurs in about 30%-80% of patients being treated in the ICU settings, sedation is a highly sought strategy for ICU patients.

The aim of this study was to comprehensively assess published randomized and non-randomized peer-reviewed studies which compared volatile (VA) and intravenous (I/V) anesthetics for ICU sedation, with the hypothesis that the type of sedation may have an impact on mortality and other clinically relevant outcomes.

Materials and Methods: Studies comparing VA versus I/V anesthetics used in the ICU settings were independently systematically searched in PubMed, Medline, Google Scholar, Russian Science Citation Index and Cochrane databases. 15 studies (1520 patients of predominantly surgical profile needed VA sedation for less than 96 h) were included.

Results and Discussion: VA had no impact on all-cause mortality (very low quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=0.82 [0.60-1.12], p=0.20). VA were associated with a reduction in duration of mechanical ventilation (very low quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=−0.46 [−0.88 to −0.04], p=0.03), increase in ventilator-free days (very low quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=0.46 [0.28-0.64], p<0.001). VA also reduced postoperative level of cardiac troponin (low quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=−0.52 [−0.84 to −0.20], p=0.001), time to extubation (moderate quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=−1.59 [−2.26 to −0.91], p<0.001) and awakening (very low quality of evidence, Odds Ratio=−1.30 [−2.54 to −0.06]; p=0.04). No differences were observed in length of ICU stay (moderate quality of evidence, p=0.93), length of hospital stay (low quality of evidence, p=0.69), and need for catecholamines (very low quality of evidence, p=0.5).

Conclusion(s): Volatile sedation vs propofol causes the increase in ventilator-free days accompanied with reduction of time to extubation and the drop of troponin release in both medical or surgical ICU patients. The shortening of awakening was proved only for surgical ICU patients.

09AP05-02 Potential pro-angiogenic role of large extracellular vesicles (L-EV) derived from in vitro differentiated regulatory anti-inflammatory macrophages (Mreg)

K. Zitta1, L. Hummitzsch1, M. Steinfath1, F. Fändrich2, R. Berndt1, M. Albrecht3
1UKSH-Kiel, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Kiel, Germany, 2UKSH-Kiel, Clinic for Applied Cell Therapy, Kiel, Germany, 3UKSH-Kiel, Clinic of Cardiovascular Surgery, Kiel, Germany

Background: Human monocyte derived anti-inflammatory macrophages (regulatory macrophages, Mreg) bear pro-angiogenic potential in-vitro. Extracellular vesicles (EV) are known to be released by numerous different cell types and transport active molecules that participate in cell communication. Interestingly, during the in vitro differentiation of Mregs, large extracellular vesicles (L-EV) with unknown characteristics and functions are released.

Aim of this Study: Gain insights into the possible participation of Mreg-derived L-EV in in-vitro endothelial remodeling and angiogenesis.

Materials and Methods: Peripheral blood monocytes from healthy donors (N=9) were in-vitro differentiated into Mreg and the released L-EV were isolated from the culture supernatants by differential centrifugation. Automated cell/particles analysis as well as flow cytometry was used for L-EV and Mreg characterization. Angiogenesis proteome profiling arrays were performed to characterize the intravesicular protein composition. The impact of L-EV on wound healing and angiogenesis were evaluated in-vitro using endothelial scratch and tube formation assays. MMP activity was evaluated by gelatin zymography.

Results: Mregs release about 1.5 L-EV/Mreg into the culture medium. Specific markers revealed close similarities between Mreg and L-EV regarding their cell surface marker composition. However, compared to Mreg, fewer L-EV were positive for CD31 (P<0.01), CD206 (P<0.05), CD103 (P<0.01) and CD45 (P<0.05). Several pro-angiogenic proteins were highly expressed in L-EV: e.g. angiogenin, CXCL16, MMP-8, PF4, Serpin E1, Serpin F1, TIMP-1, Thrombospondin-1 and MMP-9. The latter also revealed high enzymatic activity.
09AP05-03
Post-operative days alive and ventilator-free in critically ill tube-fed patients requiring anesthesia care: a retrospective cohort study

A. Khoudary¹, A. Choi¹, T. Ramaswamy¹, H. Deng¹, M.F Vidal Melo², A. Nagrebetsky¹
¹Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine, Boston, United States; ²Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, New York, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Data on postoperative ventilator-free days is needed to inform the design of studies assessing the effects of preprocedural fasting on postoperative pulmonary outcomes in critically ill tube-fed patients. To date, such data is scarce. We aimed to quantify days alive and ventilator-free in a heterogeneous cohort of ICU patients.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective cohort study using a dataset of adult patients at Massachusetts General Hospital who underwent non-emergency, non-GI tract, non-airway procedures with anesthesia during ICU admission between 2016 and 2022. Data were extracted from medical records. Patients in the dataset received mechanical ventilation within 12 hours and tube feeding within 48 hours before surgery.

Days alive and ventilator free at postoperative day 28 after the index procedure were defined as:
1. 28 minus the last day of mechanical ventilation in survivors;
2. 0 in non-survivors or if mechanically ventilated on day 28.

Duration of preoperative fasting was defined as the time difference between the last documentation of non-trophic tube feeding and start of anesthesia care.

Results and Discussion: Our final sample included 526 patients, with a median (Q1, Q3) age of 59 (47, 67) years, who underwent a total of 736 procedures during their ICU admission with a median (Q1, Q3) duration of stay of 29 (15, 64) days. The median preoperative fasting time was 13 (10,18) hours.

Median number of days alive and ventilator-free at postoperative day 28 was 12 (0, 24) and the frequency distribution is presented in the Figure. 139 (26.4%) patients died before or on day 28 and 58 (11%) were ventilated on day 28.

Conclusion(s): Our study demonstrates that critically ill tube-fed patients who undergo procedures commonly require prolonged postoperative mechanical ventilation and, likely, tube feeding. Such prolonged critical illness in combination with multiple procedures indicates potential for clinically impactful nutritional loss with repeated preprocedural fasting.

09AP05-04
Proof of concept: use of a virtual reality game in rehabilitation of stroke patients in a tertiary hospital neuro intensive care unit (NICU) in Singapore

Y. Wong¹, T.T.S.@. Cao¹, C. Gu¹, S.R. Iqbal¹
¹Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Patients with stroke make up the biggest proportion of admission to NICU. There are minimal physiotherapy (PT)-led rehabilitation activities currently in NICU. There is a potential to improve this by introducing virtual reality rehabilitation (VR) games for early mobilisation within the ICU. AHA/ASA recommends “range-of-motion activities, motor challenges and seated activities” within 24 hours after stroke to prevent deconditioning and orthostatic intolerance. We hypothesize that the use of VR games in stroke patients in NICU would improve their muscle strength and frequency of physiotherapy.

Objectives:
1. To estimate a change in muscle strength by Medical Research Council (MRC) grading
2. To assess the residual disability post-ICU discharge using Modified Rankin Score (MRS) and Functional Status Score for ICU (FSS-ICU)

Methodology: 20 patients with a diagnosis of stroke of pure motor/sensory type affecting the limbs, Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) 14–15, Richmond Agitation Sedation Scale (RASS) -1 to +1 were recruited. Eligible patients would use VR games to improve movement of upper and lower limbs daily under supervision of PT. The same PT reviewed the patients to assess MRC and FSS-ICU upon transfer out of the unit. The total number and duration of VR rehab sessions were recorded.

Results: 15 patients (75%) received 1 VR rehab in ICU, whereas 6 (30%) and 1 (5%) patient received 2 and 3 sessions, respectively. A total of 7 (35%), 9 (45%), and 4 (20%) patients received the first rehab session for 15, 20, and 25 minutes, respectively. On average, the total rehab duration was 27.5 minutes (figure 1).

Majority of the patients (95%), returned to their premorbid status of physical mobility.

Conclusion(s): We show for the first time that L-EV with regenerative and pro-angiogenic potential can be reproducibly isolated from in-vitro cultured human regulatory macrophages. We propose that L-EV may exert similar effects in-vivo and could represent a therapeutic option for the treatment of chronic wounds and ischemia-associated diseases.

References:
**09AP05-05**

The role of curcumin on lipopolysaccharide-induced inflammatory cell activation and acute lung injury

S. Kwak¹, H. Bae², E.A. Jang³, S. Jeong¹, S. Lee¹, J. Kim¹ ¹Chonnam National University Medical School & Hospital, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Gwangju, Republic of Korea, ²Chonnam National University Hospital & School of Dentistry, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Gwangju, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Over-activation of inflammatory cells involving macrophages and neutrophils are associated with multiple organ failure under those conditions. Thus, nontoxic molecules that regulate inflammatory cells may provide a novel therapeutic strategy.

Materials and Methods: In this study, we measured the production of tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) and macrophage inflammatory proteins-2, and activation of extracellular signal-regulated kinases (ERK1/2, c-JUN N-terminal kinase (JNK) and p38) in murine monocyted cell line RAW264.7. We also evaluated the effects of curcumin in a murine model of lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced acute lung injury.

Results and Discussion: We found that curcumin inhibited the production of TNF-α and attenuated phosphorylation levels of ERK1/2 and JNK, but not p38, in RAW264.7 cells stimulated with LPS. Curcumin also attenuated the production of TNF-α and the phosphorylation of ERK1/2 in the lungs of mice administered intratracheal LPS. Curcumin reduced the wet/dry weight ratio, histological severity, and neutrophil accumulation in the lungs and improved mortality after LPS treatment.

Conclusion(s): Curcumin attenuated LPS-induced lung injury by suppressing TNF-α production as well as ERK1/2 and JNK activation in macrophage stimulated with LPS.

**09AP05-06**

Incidence, risk factors and prognosis of patients who develop acute kidney injury (AKI) in the postsurgical intensive care unit

M. Montesdeoca-González¹, Á. Becerra-Bolaños¹, M.L. Torres-Machi¹, N. Ojeda-Betancor¹, L. Santana-Ortega¹, A. Rodríguez-Pérez¹ ¹Hospital Universitario de Gran Canaria Doctor Negrín, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Background: Acute kidney injury (AKI) used to be defined as the increase in creatinine and/or the reduction in diuresis, both serving as markers of glomerular filtration rate (GFR). It is estimated that AKI affects 30-60% of critically ill patients, an important cause of morbidity and mortality in the short and long term. Recently published studies highlight that up to 41.2% of these patients do not recover renal function, neither before hospital discharge, nor in the following years. Our aim was to evaluate the incidence, risk factors, prognosis, and mortality of patients who develop AKI during their postsurgical intensive care unit stay.

Materials: After obtaining the approval of the ethics committee, we carried out a retrospective study including patients admitted to the ICU of the Hospital Universitario de GC Dr. Negrín from January 1,
2020 to March 31, 2020. Patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) were excluded. All demographic variables and those corresponding to admission that could influence the development of renal failure were collected. The clinical evolution of the patients was evaluated, as well as the permanence of renal failure at 6 months, one year, and two years.

Results and Discussion: Of the 206 patients included (55.8% male, 64.6 ± 13.9 years old), 41.2% developed AKI: AKIN I 24.3%, AKIN II 9.2%, AKIN III 7.8%. Of those classified as AKIN III, 4.9% required renal replacement therapy (RRT). Development of AKI was more frequent in patients with arterial hypertension (p=0.026), diabetes mellitus (p=0.019) and ischemic heart disease (p=0.01). The use of catecholamines and invasive mechanical ventilation were also associated with the development of AKI (p < 0.0001).

Of those patients who suffered AKI during their ICU stay, 10% remained with AKI at the end of the stay. Development of AKI during their stay in the ICU was associated with an increase in mortality before discharge (p<0.0001), at one year (p<0.001) and at two years (p<0.0001). Patients who required RRT died in the ICU or prior to leaving the hospital. Therefore, it was impossible to evaluate the permanence in RRT after hospital discharge.

Conclusion: Development of AKI is associated with the presence of cardiovascular risk factors and with the severity of the disease that led to admission to the ICU. The higher the degree of AKI development during admission to the ICU, the worse prognosis. Optimizing cardiovascular risk factors preoperatively may prevent the occurrence of AKI.

09AP05-07
Using local requirements to inform the design and implementation of an AI-driven predictive model of deterioration: a case study

D.F. Stein1, D. Hanlon1, S. Vaughan1, K. Kohler2, J. Welch3, S. Harris1
1University College London, Institute of Health Informatics, London, United Kingdom, 2University of Cambridge, Division of Anaesthesia, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 3University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Critical Care Outreach, London, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: There has been significant work on building predictive models for in-patient deterioration but most are not implemented. These projects generally do not build the research objectives around the practical requirements of the end users. Here, we aimed to predict ICU admission for two purposes: predicting aggregate bed demand and assisting the deteriorating patient team (PERRT) with identifying patients likely to need ICU admission alongside prioritising their worklist.

Materials and Methods: To smooth implementation and make the model useful in clinical practice, we planned to involve PERRT at all stages of building, validating and implementing the model prototype. We ascertained PERRT’s requirements pre-emptively: that predictions are live, predict 24h in advance, are built into a utilisable dashboard and cover all adult inpatient beds in the hospital. We used live data from a major inner city teaching hospital, processing data including patient specific observations, bloods, demographics, admission type and in-patient referrals. Summary statistics formed the model input. We compared the performance of different models including using the National Early Warning Score (NEWS2) by itself (most recent NEWS score in a logistic regression), ensemble models including gradient boosted decision trees (XGBoost) and random forests, and a neural network. As requested by PERRT we aimed to reduce false positives by iterating over the model. We trained the final model on 193834 individual patient days, with a 64:15:21 chronological train-test-validation split.

Results and Discussion: We found that XGBoost performed best, outperforming the nationally validated NEWS2 (AUROC 0.832 and 0.587 respectively). We implemented this model and regularly delivered the predictions to PERRT. The web app allowed users to interact with individual predictions and relevant data including recent observations and bloods. We used feedback via the NHSX DTAC guidelines to validate and guide design of a future final model.

We found that initial referral type and admission type, surrogates for patient mobility and ward strain, NEWS score and age contributed most to the predictions.

Conclusion(s): We showed that it is feasible to build an AI-based model according to local requirements, to deliver individualised live predictions of ICU admission to clinical teams with clinical utility, and complete this project within 9 months from design to implementation.

09AP05-08
Evaluation of compliance in use of CAM ICU in delirium assessment

C. Nwalusi1, K. Ahmed1, C. Manish1
1Pilgrim Hospital, Anaesthesia and ITU, Boston, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Delirium accounts for a higher percentage of organ dysfunction commonly seen in ICU [1]. It usually manifests as sudden onset of confusion with alternating mental status associated with inattention, disorganized thinking and/or altered consciousness. Prevalence varies from 34.4% to 46.3% in critically ill patients and more common in mechanically ventilated patients accounting for 80% [2]. CAM ICU has been validated and widely used for structured delirium assessment. Improper and lack of use of CAM ICU has led to missed diagnosis and underestimation of delirium [3]. The essence of continuous education and retraining in use of CAM ICU tool cannot be overemphasized. The objective is to evaluate compliance in the use of CAM ICU to assess delirium.

Materials and Methods: This audit evaluated the compliance in the use of CAM ICU tool for assessing delirium in the ICU in PHB. Retrospective study of 70 patients admitted to the ICU from 01/10/2020 to 31/12/2020. Patients were selected based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. Data retrieved and analysed and assessed against the NICE guidelines 2010 on the management of Delirium. Staff were trained with educational videos on CAM ICU assessment and followed by a reaudit.

Results and Discussion: Delirium was appropriately assessed using CAM ICU in 62% of the patients and after the educational videos intervention CAM ICU assessment has improved to 65%. There was decrease in inappropriate unable to assess (UTA). Incidence of Delirium was 37.8%. The initial audit identified a gap in knowledge as regards the use of CAM ICU and was addressed by a simple video on CAM ICU assessment. A reaudit has shown improvement but a lot still need to be done.

Conclusion(s): This audit showed the ICU is not meeting the national standard of screening of patients for delirium using CAM ICU. Continuous education and retraining of staff on the use of CAM ICU will increase screening, diagnosis and appropriate treatment of delirium.
References:

09AP05-09
COVID-19 associated Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome (PIMS-TS) in intensive care: retrospective cohort trial (PIMS-TS INT)

T. Musilová1,2, J. Jonáš3, E. Klabusayová1,2, J. Klůčka1,2, A. Vrtková4, P. Štourač1,2
1University Hospital Brno and Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 2Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 32nd Medical Faculty, Charles University and University Hospital Motol, Department of Anaesthesiology, Resuscitation and Intensive Care Medicine, Prague, Czech Republic, 4Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, Department of Applied Mathematics, Ostrava, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: In the spring of 2020, a new disease similar to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock syndrome began to appear.1 It was manifested by different clinical symptomatology and different severity of disease.2 The association with COVID-19 was assumed because this disease began to appear following a previous SARS-CoV-2 infection.3

The aim of this trial was to describe the initial clinical presentation, diagnostics, therapy and clinical outcome of pediatric patients PIMS-TS admitted during the study period to one of the 3 university hospital PICUs.

Materials and Methods: The trial was designed as a multicentric retrospective cohort trial. The study involved patients from three different hospitals from two countries (Czechia and Austria). All patients younger than 19 years of age who were admitted to the PICUs with a diagnosis of PIMS-TS between May 2020 and May 2022 were enrolled in the study. Demographic, epidemiological data, initial clinical presentation, diagnostics, treatment and patient clinical outcome including cardiac functions were collected.

Results and Discussion: 180 patients were admitted to the PICUs with a diagnosis of PIMS-TS. The most common symptoms on admission were fever (81.6 %, n=147) and rash (70.6 %, n=127). Acute respiratory failure had 21.1 % of patients (n=38). Vasopressor support was used in 20.6 % (n=37) of cases.

Overall 96.7 % of patients (n=174) were initially tested positive for previous SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibodies. No patient died during hospital stay and 28 days follow-up.

Conclusion: We identified initial clinical presentation and organ system involvement of PIMS-TS including laboratory manifestations and treatment in patients admitted to the one of the 3 university hospital PICUs.

References:

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09AP05-10
Ultrasound as a method of checking the nasogastric tube

E.J. Cabrera Suárez1, Á. Becerra Bolaños1, M.L. Torres Machí1, G.M. Hernanz Rodríguez1, N. Ojeda Betancor1, A.E. Rodríguez Pérez1
1Hospital Universitario de Gran Canaria Doctor Negrín, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Nasogastric tube (NGT) placement is a common and simple procedure. However, its malposition can lead to devastating complications. Therefore, it is important to guarantee normoposition as soon as possible. Chest X-ray is the “gold standard” test. Ultrasound is emerging as a potentially useful test as it is non-invasive, cheap, fast and available, but with limited evidence yet. We aim to evaluate the reliability of ultrasound as a verification method of the normoposition of NGT.

Methods: After obtaining the approval of the ethics committee, we carried out a prospective observational, including patients admitted to the intensive care unit with NGT, or in whom reassessment of the normoposition of the NGT was necessary. Abdominal ultrasound was performed by an anaesthesiologist, specifying the visualization or not of the NGT in the stomach. Then, normal placement was confirmed by X-ray. The number of NGTs correctly identified with ultrasound, its comparison with X-ray as a diagnostic test, and possible confounding factors were studied.

Results and Discussion: During recruitment, 52 patients were included (65.4% male, age 62 ± 12, BMI 27 ± 9), mostly ASA III (42.3%) and post-surgery (92.3%). The purpose of NGT was feeding in 53.8% and drainage in 46.2%. X-ray confirmed that the NGT was infra-diaphragmatic in 92.3% of cases. Ultrasound was able to confirm the position of the NGT in 78.8% of patients, obtaining an area under the curve (AUC) 0.656 (IC95% 0.350 – 0.963) (sensitivity 0.81 and specificity 0.50). Difficulties for the ultrasound were found in 67.3% of patients: laparotomy (36.5%), invasive mechanical ventilation (30.7%) and obesity (17.3%). In those patients in whom the normal position of the NGT could not be demonstrated with ultrasound, a higher prevalence of the described difficulties was found (p=0.21). No differences were found between the ultrasound verification and the type of NGT (p=0.36), the ultrasound approach (trans-splenic or epigastric, p=0.73) or the BMI (p=0.32).

Conclusion(s): Ultrasound may be useful in screening for normal positioning of the NGT, especially when chest X-ray is not available. It may not be a good test in patients with difficulties, such as those who have undergone laparotomy, obese, or under mechanical ventilation. Our study did not achieve sufficient statistical power probably due to the small sample size.
09AP06-01
Iatrogenic diaphragmatic rupture: case report

N. Garrigós¹, C. Sánchez¹, Á.V. Lloret¹, A. Pastor¹, R. Armero¹, J.V. Llau¹
¹Hospital Doctor Peset, Anestesiology, Valencia, Spain

Background: Iatrogenic diaphragmatic hernias have been reported as a rare but serious complication during abdominal surgery. Diaphragmatic hernias are well reported in the medical literature; however, iatrogenic diaphragmatic rupture is rarely documented after abdominal surgery in which the diaphragm is not part of the surgery[1].

Case report: A 67-year-old male patient, ASA II, who was admitted to the intensive care unit of the Hospital Doctor Peset in Valencia, after block resection of a retroperitoneal mass, left hemicolectomy, and left nephrectomy because of retroperitoneal tumor; without any surgical incidents. During the first postoperative day, the patient reported dyspnea and chest pain. The lung ultrasound shown an intrathoracic gastric chamber and the result of CT scan was: “posterolateral defect of the left diaphragmatic dome with spleen herniation and stomach”. Emergency surgical intervention was performed in order to repair the leakage. The main complication after that was a nosocomial pneumonia who was successfully treated, and the patient was discharged 10 days after.

Discussion: Iatrogenic diaphragmatic hernias have been reported after nephrectomy, although the cause of iatrogenic diaphragmatic hernia is difficult to assess. Studies have speculated that the diaphragm could be inadvertently injured because of the contact with electrical devices[2].

Diaphragmatic hernia has not a pathognomonal clinical presentation and added to its low incidence causes a delay in its diagnosis. In the emergency onset, diagnostic delay means an increase mortality. Surgical treatment is the first attempting in order to resolve it[3]. The morbidity and mortality rates of this condition depends on the severity of the associated injuries and the delay in its diagnosis.

Reference:

Learning Points: Post-surgery diaphragmatic rupture is a very uncommon condition. Primary prevention is essential. It has to be suspected as a possible complication after abdominal surgery in our differential diagnosis of dyspnea or chest pain to avoid delayed treatment.

09AP06-02
Isolated massive Pulmonary Embolism (PE) in a patient who underwent elective gynecomastia surgery within 1 month of contracting COVID-19 infection - successfully treated with medical therapy alone

M. Jain¹, A. Espinosa², A. Khalifa², S. Motwani²
¹St. James University Hospital, Intensive Care, Leeds, United Kingdom, ²MKCC Hospital, Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia, Awali, Bahrain, ³MKCC Hospital, Cardiology, Awali, Bahrain

Background: Development of thrombosis in patients undergoing elective surgeries after contracting COVID has been concerning and there has been debate on when is it safe to perform surgeries on them. Here we present a rare case of a patient who developed isolated Pulmonary embolism (PE) after 1 week of having elective gynecomastia surgery and had COVID 22 days back.

Case report: Patient was admitted to the hospital with shortness of breath, palpitations and chest pain since 3 days. He had normal hemodynamics and SpO2 of 93% on room air. Initially pain killers and O2 via nasal cannula were given. ECG had S1Q3T3 pattern and ECHO showed decreased RV systolic function. D dimer was high and DVT was excluded on USG. CTPA revealed PE in left and right pulmonary arteries. Heparin infusion was started but next day the severity of symptoms increased. Radial arterial line was inserted and he was thrombolysed with Alteplase. He started to improve progressively and after 4 days a repeat CT showed regression of PE. After 1 week heparin was discontinued and Rivaroxaban 15 mg twice a day was started orally. Echo showed improved RV size and function. He showed remarkable improvement with SpO2 of 97% on room air. Patient was discharged after 13 days in hospital in a stable condition with a advise to take Rivaroxaban for 3 months.

Follow up after 1 month: He had normal Echo and no other complaints.

Discussion: According to studies, the risk of PE is <1% in post surgical patients who recently had COVID. In this case, symptoms and positive findings of investigations clinched the diagnosis. Triad of inflammation, endothelial injury and thrombosis is a probable underlying mechanism leading to PE.
Reference:
Anesthesiology 2022; 77: 3–6: SARS-CoV-2 infection and venous thromboembolism after surgery: cohort study

Learning Points: 1. Isolated PE in a postoperative case with a recent infection with COVID is rare but with a high index of clinical suspicion and proper investigations an early diagnosis can be made. 2. Preventive strategies like posting elective surgeries at least 7 weeks after getting COVID and using appropriate drugs for prevention and management of PE are recommended.

09AP06-03
Isolated type 2 respiratory failure in myasthenia gravis along with pheochromocytoma-rare presentation

K. Sathish1, P. Shanmughapurumal1, R. Indhujanani2, S. Parameshwaran2, K. Sivabalaji2, S. Jaikumar2
1Madras Medical Mission, Cardiac Anaesthesia/Intensive Care, Chennai, India, 2Madras Medical Mission, Intensive Care, Chennai, India, 3Madras Medical Mission, Neurology, Chennai, India

Background: Myasthenia gravis is a spectrum of autoimmune disease which is characterized by weakness and fatigability due to autoantibody mediated loss of functional acetylcholine receptors. Most of the patients who develop respiratory symptoms during the late course of the myasthenia crisis. This case presented with isolated type 2 respiratory failure, with hypertensive crisis diagnosed as Pheochromocytoma.

Case report: 65 year old female patient who is a known hypertensive and diabetic for past 15 years presented with progressive breathlessness, headache, neck pain, vomiting and diarrhoea. Her blood pressure was 220/114mmhg with pulse rate of 80, oxygen saturation of 97% in room air and respiratory rate of 28/min. Chest x-ray was clear. Her routine total counts, USG KUB, CT KUB normal and procalcitonin 0.10ng/ml. Patient desaturated and tachypnoeic with Pco2 98mmhg needs NIV support. CT chest showed right middle lobe atelectasis. On trial of weaning from NIV patient showed inability to incentive spirometer and deep breathing exercise. Chest x-ray had diaphragmatic raise but all other muscle power were normal. Suspecting MG acetyl choline receptor antibodies test was done (7.22 nmol/l- positive >0.50 nmol/l) and treated with pyridostigmine 180mg/day, prednisolone 30mg/day, intravenous immunoglobulin at 0.4mg/kg/day for 5 days. She was evaluated for her fluctuatig blood pressure and no evidence of congestive cardiac failure in echocardiography or pulmonary thromboembolism in CT. Treated with nitroglycerin infusion, labetolol and telmesartan. On suspecting pheochromocytoma urine vanillyl mandelic acid was checked -12.13mg/24 hrs(normal<1mg/24hrs). Metanephrine level in urine was 354.56 mcg/day(normal 33-109). Patient was weaned from Non Invasive ventilation and blood pressure to 140/88mmhg.

Discussion & Learning: Respiratory failure can be a complication during the late course of MG, known as a myasthenic crisis. However, isolated respiratory failure as the presenting symptom, as in the present case, is very unusual with other condition of Pheochromocytoma.

Patients with MG can initially present with acute type 2 respiratory failure with gastroenteritis and if hypercapnic respiratory failure occurs in patients with no underlying pulmonary disease, should consider performing ach receptor antibody test. Two different condition can coexist and if required appropriate test should be undertaken.

09AP06-04
Description of the pulmonary ultrasound pattern in the immediate postoperative period of double lung transplantation

G. Pérez Garrigues1, B. VidalAlejandre1, M.d.i.P. Martí Castelló1, D. Fernández Morales1, P. García Carmona1, P. Argente Navarro2
1Hospital Universitario y Politécnico La Fe, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Valencia, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario y Politécnico La Fe, Anesthesiology an Reanimation, Valencia, Spain

Background and Goals: One of the main complications in the double lung transplantation (DLT) is the primary graft dysfunction (PGD). For its diagnosis chest X-ray are usually required. Lung ultrasound (LU) has become a useful tool for the identification of the lung pattern. The goals are to define the LU pattern in adult patients in the early postoperative period of DLT and to study whether the described patterns correlate with the usual clinical diagnosis of PGD.

Materials and Methods: Observational and descriptive study. We included patients over 18 years who have undergone DLT and who were admitted to the ICU of the Hospital La Fe. A LU was performed in the first 12 h, at 24 h, and 48 h after admission following the BLUE LU protocol, by fields, the lung score (LS) was obtained. 72 h after surgery, the analytical, gasometrical data, radiological report and the diagnosis of the patient was consulted.

Results and Discussion: Data was taken from 39 patients between November 2020 and December 2022. 20 of the patients were diagnosed with PGD (51.28%). The incidence was 12 cases (30.77%) at 12 h, 5 cases at 24 h (18.52%) and 3 at 48 h (16.64%). The average LS in the overall sample was 4.72 at 12 h, 4.76 at 24 h, 4.81 at 48 h and 4.81 at 72 h. In the PGD subgroup, the average LS, it was 4.81 within the first 12 h, 4.81 at 24 h, 4.81 at 48 h and 4.81 at 72 h.

To assess the differences between the average LS in those that developed PGD and those who did not, we use the non-parametric Mann-Whitney U test. This analysis showed no statistically significant differences in both groups.

A non-parametric Wilcoxon sign-rango test was performed to compare the average LS in successive days within the PGD group, and no statistically significant differences were found. A pattern was the most prevalent, in the overall sample and in the PGD subgroup.

The LS in the PGD subgroup was found to be slightly higher than that of the overall sample during the first 12 h and at 24 h. No differences were observed at 48 and 72 hours.

Conclusions: LU is a useful test to detect the interstitial pattern. We have not found correlation between PGD and LS. Moreover, in patients that develop PGD, no evidence was found for the correlation between the LS and the development of the clinical status of the patient. However, the lack of evidence can be due to the insufficient sample size, and it is important to increase its statistical strength to unlock possible evidence.
09AP06-05
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation to treat acute respiratory failure due to hemorrhagic alveolitis in a patient with acute myeloblastic leukemia: striking or waiting strategies?

M. Cuccarelli1, A. Mattei1, G. Pascarella1, A. Strumia1, F.E. Agro1, L. Schiavoni1
1Campus Bio-Medico University Hospital Foundation, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Roma, Italy

Background: ECMO support for severe ARDS is nowadays widely used with important results on overall survival, reported in ELSO registry near to 55% at 90 days, and today ECMO teams force the use of this extreme technique to several populations but there is a lack of data on hematological patients.

Case report: A 39 years-old woman without a history of previous diseases but a new diagnosis of acute myeloblastic leukemia (AML) was admitted to intensive care unit (ICU) for worsening hypoxia and respiratory acidosis for hemorrhagic alveolitis, as shown by chest computed tomography (CT), presenting an ARDS with P/F < 100 in spontaneous breathing treated with non-invasive ventilation via full-face mask.

Meanwhile chemotherapy was started and led to a severe bone marrow aplasia (PLTs <1000 cell/mm³) that was managed with multiple blood and platelets transfusions. So, it was decided to delay any invasive approaches.

After 14 days ARDS worsened but bone marrow recovered PLTs > 100.000 cell/mm³, leading us to start invasive mechanical ventilation, with low positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP 4 cmH2O) and a low tidal volume (TV 320 mL) and immediately ECCO₂R therapy was added.

No improvement was achieved, and veno-venous ECMO by femoral-jugular cannulation was achieved, with a full protective lung ventilation using ultra-low tidal volumes (near to 2 mL/kg), with prophylactic intravenous sodic heparin.

After 2 weeks of ECMO, we started a gradual weaning, and removed ECMO after two days. no ECMO-related complications were registered.

Patient started weaning from mechanical ventilation and reached 12 hours of spontaneous ventilation in oxygen therapy, however the patient at least died for AML recurrence after 90 days from admission.

Discussion: ECMO is used as a rescue therapy in patients affected by severe respiratory failure with life-threatening hypoxia and respiratory acidosis non-responsive to other maneuvers. However, immunosuppression and coagulopathies of hematological malignancies are considered as relative contraindications for ECMO. On the other side, long-lasting respiratory failure represents another relative contraindication to extracorporeal support.

In consideration of severe hemorrhagic manifestations, we preferred to keep firstly a conservative approach, starting a late extracorporeal support after bone marrow recovery.

ECMO could be a valid option to improve the survival of hematological patients with severe ARDS and thrombocytopenia, even if high incidence of recurrency.

Reference:

Learning Points: Specific strategy for management of these patients is needed and actual thread is individualized approach avoiding collateral effects.

09AP06-06
Esophageal prosthesis vs. Eso-Sponge therapy in the treatment of anastomotic dehiscence after Ivor-Lewis esophagectomy: a case report

A. Pastor González1, R. Armero1, N. Garrigós1, A.V. Lloret1, E. Martínez1, J.V. Llau1
1Hospital Dr. Peset, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Valencia, Spain

Background: Suture dehiscence of the esophageal surgery anastomosis is a complication observed in around 5-30% of treated patients.

Possible treatments include endoscopic clipping, placement of endoluminal prostheses, surgical treatment with cervicotomy, and insertion of a polyurethane sponge connected to a suction system².

Case report: A 53-year-old male, smoker, diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma of the esophagus and treated with adjuvant therapy, was scheduled to elective Ivor Lewis esophagectomy.

Five days later, our patient began septic shock due to suture dehiscence, with paraesophageal collection and bilateral pleural effusion, and we decided to place an esophageal prothesis and pleural drains. After 10 days, clinical and imaging deterioration with right hydropneumothorax and the persistence of the esophageal leak. We placed the Eso-sponge. 12 days later, CT showed radiological improvement with right hydropneumothorax and esophageal deject reduction. After 19 endoscopic sponge changes every 4 days and the need to reduce the VAC therapy suction from -125mmHg to -90mmHg due to gastrointestinal bleeding, a neofomed wall with complete cannulation was created and the patient could be fed orally without digestive symptoms.

Discussion: Dehiscence of the esophageal anastomosis has a mortality rate of close to 20%³. Even though prostheses are the most used treatment, recent evidence shows a higher success rate with the Eso-Sponge (86.4% vs. 60.9%) and shorter treatment times (26.5m days vs. 36)³. Although the costs are higher, they can be balanced with the reduction in hospitalization days and complications.

References:
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Learning points: Eso-sponge can be an effective treatment in cases of large esophageal dehiscences, even in the long term and in fragile patients, when prostheses have not been successful.
09AP06-07
Low flow extracorporeal CO2 removal to allow lung-protective ventilation

R. García-Álvarez¹, N. Sánchez-López¹, I.Z. Aguado Acevedo¹, E. Murcia Sánchez¹, I. de la Calle Gil¹, R. Navarro Casado¹
¹University Hospital 12 Octubre, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain

Background: Invasive mechanical ventilation (MV) is lifesaving in severe acute respiratory failure but can cause ventilation-induced lung injury (VILI). Advances in extracorporeal CO2 removal (EC-CO2R) technologies may facilitate more protective lung ventilation in acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

Case report: We report on a 72-year-old man 8 years after lung transplantation who presented with SARS-COV2 infection. He was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) for ARDS, requiring MV. The initial artery gasometry after intubation was: pH 7.20 PaFi ratio 100 PaCO2 80; then we decided to prone position. The ventilator’s settings best optimized were under pressure control: peak pressure 32, best PEEP 10, FiO2 50%, respiratory rate 29. With this, we got to improve oxemia (160 mmHg; PaFi ratio 320) but worsened respiratory acidosis (pH 7.06) with hypercapnia (PaCO2 96 mm Hg). After 20 hours of prone position, the situation was similar, so we decided to supinate and start an extracorporeal CO2 removal (EC-CO2R) called PrismaLung+, integrated on a continuous renal replacement therapy platform.

After one hour of treatment with the PrismaLung+, PaCO2 decreased to 50 mmHg and pH increased to 7.35, while maintaining lung protective ventilation with peak ventilator pressure 23 mmHg, PEEP optimal 9, FiO2 40% and respiratory rate of 15. The next forty eight hours, respiratory improvement continued, there were no incidents related to EC-CO2R device and the patient kept in supine position. But finally the patient died by hemodynamic instability due to septic shock secondary to bacterial superinfection.

Discussion: Acute respiratory distress secondary to SARS-COV2 infection is generally characterized by hypoxemia and less common hypercapnia. In this case, after one cycle of prone position, hypoxenia improved a lot but hypercapnia got worse. The ventilator’s settings were optimized but were not protective and could cause VILI. We decided to use a minimally invasive EC-CO2R to achieve a lung protective ventilation and we got it.

Reference:

Learning Points: EC-CO2R devices may allow lung-protective ventilation in severe hypercapnic respiratory failure unresponsive to medical treatments and mechanical ventilatory support

09AP06-08
The role of Echocardiography for differential diagnosis in hemodynamic shock based on left ventricle outflow tract velocity-time integral measurement: a case report

A. Juan¹, G. Mata¹, J. Rodriguez¹, J.L. Maciel¹, A. Martínez¹, M. Vives²
¹Hospital Universitari de Girona Dr J Trueta, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Girona, Spain, ²Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Anesthesiology & Critical Care, Pamplona, Spain

Background: Transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) offers real-time bedside diagnosis and hemodynamic monitoring in ICUs. TTE may be superior to arterial pulse contour analysis (APCA) for stroke volume (SV) monitoring in critically ill patients. A case of a severe septic shock patient where the role of TTE was key for differential diagnosis.

Case report: A 60-year-old man was admitted to ICU for septic shock secondary to a scrotal abscess secondary to a scrotal trauma requiring multiple abscess drainages. Severe Septic Shock required up to 1.5mcg/kg/min of noradrenaline and 0.03 IU/min of vasopressin, presenting poor distal perfusion and oliguria secondary to an Acute Kidney Injury AKIN 3 on furosemide infusion. APCA (FloTrac/Vigileo system) was falsely showing a Cardiac Index (CI) a 4.5l/min/ m2 and Systemic vascular resistance (SVR) of 634 dyn.s.cm5. A TTE was performed, showing apical and medial anterior and anteroseptal hypokinesia. The CI measured by TTE was 1.4 l/min/m2 (LVOT Velocity time integral (VTI) of 13cm and HR of 60 bpm). Furthermore, E/E’ ratio was 12. TTE monitoring suggested a mixed shock, septic and cardiogenic. Stress cardiomyopathy was the most likely diagnosis. Hence, dobutamine at 5mcg/kg/min was initiated allowing us to withdraw vasopressin and decrease the dose of noradrenaline to half. Despite broad-spectrum antibiotics and multiple surgeries for controlling the source of infection, the patient developed Fournier’s gangrene. In addition, ventilator-associated pneumonia was also developed requiring tracheostomy, and eventually dying from multiorgan failure.

Discussion: The finding of stress cardiomyopathy associated with septic shock changed our strategy in this patient in which the only use of noradrenaline was leading to hypoperfusion. APCA was supra-estimating SV in this patient, whereas TTE was crucial in improving the capillary refilling time by the initiation of dobutamine. TTE is a real-time, bedside, non-invasive, and reliable method for SV monitoring. We suggest using TTE routinely for the differential diagnosis of hemodynamic shock using the LVOT VTI for Stroke Volume monitoring.

Learning Points: APCA is not reliable for CI monitoring in patients with high doses of vasopressors. TTE has evolved to become one of the most versatile modalities for diagnosing and guiding treatment in hemodynamic shock patients.
Pseudo-locked-in syndrome after emergent surgery in a type A aortic syndrome: a case report

A. Hostalot-Sanchez¹, L. Carmona Serrano¹, A. Arjona¹, I. Castellnou Asens¹, C. López León¹, A. Rivera¹
¹Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology Department, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Stroke occurs in 5-10% of patients with type A aortic syndrome (TAAS). It may appear as debut or in the postoperative period and the involvement is more frequently hemispheric than vertebro-basilar due to supra-aortic trunk anatomy. Given the great variety of possible clinical manifestations and the critical state of these patients, an early diagnosis is usually difficult, although it is very important considering the significant influence that stroke may have on patient’s prognosis.

Case report: 44-years-old male, admitted to the emergency department with transfixing thoracic pain and shortness of breath. Chest CT scan showed TAAS and he underwent a Bentall-Bono emergent surgery, staying hemodynamically stable during the intraoperative and then being transferred to the ICU. A neurological window was performed during the first hours and showed no alterations. A few minutes later, he presented with a self-limiting episode of generalized rigidity with gaze deviation that evolved into arrhythmic bilateral mydriasis and no reactivity to painful stimuli. Cranial CT was performed showing a top basilar ischemic stroke. It was decided to perform a thrombectomy, achieving a TICI 3 reperfusion. The following days, the patient continued paralyzed and without eye opening but began to answer questions by slightly nodding and shaking his head. A brain MRI showed bilateral thalamo-mesencephalic ischemic involvement. A neurological evaluation diagnosed a pseudo-locked-in syndrome with preserved consciousness, compatible with MRI findings.

Discussion: This case shows the importance that stroke has in conditioning not only vital but also functional prognosis in patients suffering from TAAS. Recent surgery contraindicates the use of thrombolysis and leaves thrombectomy as the only therapeutic option, limiting recovery in many cases, especially if small vessels are involved.

Moreover, it raises an ethical conflict because, even though the patient was paralyzed and seemed to be unconscious, his consciousness was preserved and he should be able to participate in the decision-making process regarding his treatment.

Reference:

Learning points: Stroke is a relatively frequent complication in patients with TAAS, but its early diagnosis is difficult. There are unusual presentations that can have catastrophic consequences on functional prognosis.

Air where it doesn’t belong

A.I. Oliveira¹, R. Rodrigues Oliveira², G. Pimenta², J. Pereira¹, A. Gonçalves³, F Pais Silva¹
¹Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Internal Medicine, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal, ²Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Anesthesiology, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal, ³Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, Nephrology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Cricoid fracture is rare and the main concern is airway obstruction.⁴ Due to the frequently associated emphysema, bed rest, analgesia, and sometimes antibiotics are recommended.⁵ To our knowledge, this is the first reported case of a cricoid fracture diagnosed postoperatively (it is mostly associated with blunt trauma).¹

Case report: A 75-year-old male, with a known history of vocal cord palsy due to thyroid cancer and a previous tracheotomy underwent an exploratory cervicotomy: the goal was its eventual removal; with the larynx adherent to the posterior planes and being difficult to mobilize, it was decided to maintain the tracheotomy (in situ). The patient was admitted to the ICU for postoperative surveillance and developed extensive subcutaneous emphysema. The CT revealed extensive cervico-facial emphysema dissecting the deep parapharyngeal and carotidal planes with subsequent compression and collapse of the airway as well as an extension to the middle and posterior mediastinum and subcutaneous cervico-pectoral emphysema, as well as a comminutive fragmentation of the cricoid cartilage. He was started on antibiotics and occlusive dressing. The CT 5 days later showed improvement of the emphysema.

Discussion: Cricoid fracture is rare, especially in the postoperative period. Its management precludes tight surveillance in case of a spontaneous breathing patient; many authors recommend an invasive airway for preventive purposes. This case also required careful monitoring due to the risk of further complications related to the pneumomediastinum.²

References:

Learning points: Although extremely rare, cricoid fracture may occur after laborious surgeries which may cause extensive subcutaneous emphysema and pneumomediastinum. Postoperative surveillance is essential, especially without an invasive airway due to the risk of obstruction. Antibiotic use is debatable and its administration should be individualized.
09AP06-12
Fat embolism syndrome in polytrauma patient

C. Barbasoa Martín1, M.J. Sanz de León1, T. Villán González1, L. Vaquero Pérez1, E. Laita Jimenez1, R. Urruchi Quintana1
1Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Valladolid, Spain

Background: Fat embolism syndrome (FES) is a typical little-known pathology of polytraumatized patients, with high mortality and no treatment. It is necessary to know the real incidence of this syndrome to find adequate treatment.

Case Report: A 58-year-old man arrives at the hospital after a traffic accident with multiple fractures in his right femur: of the neck and of the middle third and the distal third of the femoral diaphysis. He stays conscious and oriented, hemodynamically stable with a SpO2 of 100%. Hemoglobin of 10 mg/dL, platelets of 12000, and normal coagulation. Fractures are surgically stabilized by traction. After 24 h in the critical care unit, the patient presents sudden arterial hypotension (85/45 mmHg), supraventricular tachycardia (145 bpm) and signs of dyspnea (SpO2 80%). Analytically hemoglobin drop to 7 g/dL and platelets to 16000. Orotracheal intubation is performed with FiO2 of 1, as well as fluid, packed red blood cells, platelets, and vasopressors administration. After 48 hours of clinical maintenance, the patient starts to improve proceeding to extubation 96 hours later. After 7 days, osteosynthesis and intramedullary nail insertion are performed without incident.

Discussion: Fat embolism is defined as the appearance of a fat clot in the circulation. It is a quite common entity after trauma surgeries, but it is only a few that end in FES characterized by respiratory distress syndrome, neurological symptoms, and petechial rash, in that order. As we can see, it is usually related to long bone fractures, especially when there are multiple ones. In current studies, we can see how the real incidence is higher than we expected due to a clinical misdiagnosis. Gurd and Wilson criteria give us the diagnosis, although the importance of brain magnetic resonance imaging and chest CT in the first four hours after neurological disease, are emphasized. Regarding the treatment, early long bone fracture fixation is known to be the most major step as a preventative treatment, however, aliskiren and losartan are being studied as protectors of lung damage.

Reference:

Learning Points:
• Brain imaging test importance.
• Involvement of the renin-angiotensin axis.
09AP07-02
Interchangeable use of intensive care beds and high dependency beds in a co-located Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in Singapore: a pilot change in workflow to reduce turnover time

Y. Wong1, K. Cao2, H. Hasim2, C. Gu1
1Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Singapore, Singapore, 2Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Nursing Service, Singapore, Singapore

Background and Goal of Study: Neuroscience Intensive care Unit (NICU) in Singapore is a co-located Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and High Dependency (HD) Unit. Traditionally, patients were nursed either in an ICU bed or a HD bed. When a HD patient’s condition deteriorated, the patient would have to be physically moved to a ICU bed and managed by a different team. This delays treatment and increases turnover time.

Materials and Methods: The purpose of this project is to improve efficiency by reducing turnover time in the ICU while maintaining patient safety, promoting teamwork and reducing cost of delays in the ICU.

The intervention is to reduce turnover time (TOT). This requires education to establish a standard workflow and staffing ratios. Havelock’s theory of change is used to cultivate synergy and team engagement. Fishbone diagram, and strength, weakness opportunities, threats (SWOT) analysis were used as quality improvement tools to identify causes of delays and to guide improvement.

Turnover time (TOT) is defined as time when patient leaves the ICU room to the time the next patient can be admitted. The following activities are included in TOT: physically transporting the patient to the new bed location and cleaning the existing ICU room. Every minute wasted correlates to financial loss and longer waiting times.

Data was collected from the pilot test using the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycle over 6 months.

Results and Discussion: The TOT turnover time was reduced from 39 min to a post intervention TOT of 5 minutes. This improved efficiency in turnover time minimised delays to treatment for patient. There was also a reduction in workload for terminal cleaning and bed downtime. There was a reduced need for nurse-nurse handover of the same patient.

Conclusion(s): This pilot project to improve efficiency by reducing turnover time in NICU has been successful and will be rolled out to other ICUs within the hospital. This can improve patient, physician and nursing satisfaction, promote teamwork and reduce the cost of delays to patient treatment.

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Acknowledgements:
NICU team

09AP07-03
Optimizing alarms in Intensive Care Unit: a prospective cohort study

Á. Mingote1,2, R. Marrero García3, D. Gutiérrez Martínez1, A. Gutiérrez Martínez1, J. García-Fernández1,2, R. Irano Valero1
1Hospital Universitario Puerta de Hierro Majadahonda, Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Department, Majadahonda, Spain, 2Autonomous University of Madrid, Faculty of Medicine, Madrid, Spain, 3Hospital Clinic Barcelona, Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Department, Barcelona, Spain

Background: An inappropriate setting of the alarms in ICU (systolic, diastolic and mean arterial, SpO2, CVP and HR) might be associated to non-desirable and potentially dangerous consequences in patients admitted to the ICU and in health care professional (‘alarm fatigue syndrome’) [1,2]. This study aims to describe the impact of modifying alarm setup on their activation and to detect other beneficial modifications.

Materials and Methods: This is a prospective cohort study designed in two phases: first, an observational phase and then a second phase after modifying several parameters of certain alarms. The data recorded were captured by the monitoring system during both phases.

Results and Discussion: In phase I, 82.595 alarm records were obtained, from which 25.063 (30.3%) records were not duplicated or erroneous. In phase II, 44.120 alarm records were obtained, from which 10.257 (23.2%) records were not duplicated or erroneous. We observed a decrease of 59.1% in alarm records compared to phase I (p < 0.01) (figure 1). We observed an inverse correlation between the duration of the alarm and the chronicity of the patient (p = 0.049) as well as a direct correlation between hourly distribution and activation of the alarm, being more frequent after 15:00h (p < 0.01) and a direct correlation between the presence of a contact-precaution of the patient and the activity of the alarm (p = 0.017). After the modification of the level of these alarms we observed a considerable reduction on their activation. Most of medical and nurse intervention occurs during the activation of alarms.

Figure 1. Hourly distribution of alarms in each Phase of the study

Conclusion(s): Through the optimization of the limits and duration of the alarms, and the adequation of the monitoring material and a trained interdisciplinary personal it is possible to reduce their activation (especially those without clinical relevance).

References:
**09AP07-04**

Paraoxonase-1 as biomarker of sepsis-associated acute kidney injury after major abdominal surgery

S. Bojic1, I. Nenadic1, M. Djuric1, M. Stevic1, T. Nastasovic1, P. Stevanovic1
1Belgrade University, Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) after major abdominal surgery is independent predictor of perioperative and long-term morbidity and mortality. Low Paraoxonase-1 (PON-1) activity is found in both cardiac surgery-related AKI and sepsis. However, its role in sepsis-associated AKI (S-AKI) after major abdominal surgery is yet unexplored. The goal of this study is to evaluate PON-1 as diagnostic, predictive and prognostic biomarker of S-AKI after abdominal surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** Fifty-three surgical patients with sepsis after major abdominal surgery were compared to 50 surgical and 50 medical controls without sepsis matched by age, gender, comorbidities and type of surgery. Blood and urine samples were collected from the septic patients in admission to Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and 24 h, 48 h, 72 h and 96 h later and once from controls. PON-1 activity, Kidney Injury Molecule-1 (KIM-1) and serum and urine Neutrophil Gelatinase-Associated Lipocalin (NGAL), levels were measured. Diagnostic, predictive and prognostic value of these biomarkers was assessed using Area Under Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve (AUC-ROC).

**Results and Discussion:** Patients with S-AOB (n = 37) had significantly lower PON-1 activity compared to septic patients without S-AKI, surgical and medical controls (Median [25th – 75th percentile]: 93.0 [36.2 – 133.7] vs. 114.5 [70.0-282.0] vs. 277.0 [188.0 – 491.0] vs. 363.0 [244.0 – 920.25] U/L, respectively). PON-1 was, compared to KIM-1, serum and urine NGAL, superior diagnostic biomarker of S-AKI (AUC-ROC [95% C.I.]): 0.902 (0.842 – 0.962) vs. 0.530 (0.376 – 0.683) vs. 0.716 (0.538 – 0.894) vs. 0.729 (0.582 – 0.875), respectively. Low PON-1 activity on admission to ICU could predict S-AKI development after admission to ICU, unlike KIM-1 and serum and urine NGAL (AUC-ROC [95% C.I.]): 0.963 (0.879 – 1.046) vs. 0.775 (0.564 – 0.986) vs. 0.573 (0.176 – 0.970) vs. 0.768 (0.553 – 0.992), respectively. Measured biomarkers were not statistically significant predictors of either S-AKI progression to renal replacement therapy or improvement of renal function.

**Conclusion(s):** PON-1 is a promising diagnostic and predictive, but poor prognostic biomarker of S-AKI after major abdominal surgery.

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**09AP07-05**

Intensive care admission and outcomes of high-risk surgical patients in Brazil: a single-centre cohort study

A. Stahlschmidt1,2, S. Passos1,2, C. Pando2,1, P. Neto1, S. Castro2, L. Stefani1,2
1Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Médicas, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Serviço de Anestesia e Medicina Perioperatoria, Porto Alegre, Brazil

**Background:** Although surgeries for high-risk patients in low- and middle income countries (LMIC) are increasing in number and complexity, there is neither evidence that intensive care unit (ICU) admission positively impacts outcomes, nor universal criteria for it. Moreover, there are few data describing high-risk surgical population allocation panorama in LMIC, where critical care resources are limited. Validated risk assessment tools at this setting, like the Ex-Care model, might support ICU indication for the most vulnerable patients. We aimed to describe association between ICU allocation, Ex-Care model risk stratification classes and mortality in a LMIC scenario.

**Methods:** Retrospective cohort of high-risk inpatients operated at a Brazilian hospital between July 2017 and January 2020. Data were obtained from electronic medical records. We examined association with 30-day mortality for two groups, allocated at ICU vs. post-anesthetic care unit (PACU). We also assessed outcomes regarding patient’s Ex-Care model risk classes (predicted 30-day mortality - Class III: 5.0-9.9%; Class IV: ≥ 10%).

This model was developed within the same hospital, and comprises four variables: age; ASA-PS; surgical severity and nature (elective or urgent). It has high discriminative power for postoperative in-hospital death within 30 days.

**Results and Discussion:** Among 1431 high-risk patients, 250 (17.47%) were referred to ICU. In-hospital 30-day mortality was 28% in ICU vs. 8.9% in PACU. There was no independent effect of ICU allocation on mortality (RR 0.91; 95% CI 0.68-1.20). Very high-risk patients (Ex-Care classes III and IV) had strong association with mortality (RR 2.11; 95% CI 1.54–2.90) and were more frequently admitted to ICU (23.3% vs 13.1%).

**Conclusion:** Patients clinical status, and not allocation in ICU itself, was determinant for mortality in high-risk surgical patients. Ex-Care risk model might be an auxiliar instrument to support ICU indication for very high-risk patients in a low-resource scenario.

**References:**


Burnout among trauma and critical care clinicians during the conflict in Ukraine: preliminary data from the CERTAIN for Ukraine initiative

S. Naas Zec1, A. Tekin2, D. Dziuba3, A. Masoodi3, O. Loskutov3, A. S. Niven1
1Mayo Clinic, Department of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Rochester, United States, 2Mayo Clinic, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Rochester, United States, 3Shupyk National Healthcare University of Ukraine, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kiev, Ukraine

Background and Goal of Study: The current conflict in Ukraine has placed significant stress on its healthcare providers, increasing the risk of burnout among clinicians caring for injured and critically ill. The aim of this study was to assess the prevalence of burnout among Ukrainian critical care clinicians.

Materials and Methods: This cross-sectional study was conducted between September and December 2022. Participants of the Checklist for Early Recognition and Treatment of Acute Illness and Injury (CERTAIN) for Ukraine initiative, a multimodal trauma critical care knowledge-exchange collaborative supported by the Society of Critical Care Medicine, were invited via a private Viber® group and email to complete an anonymous survey. Demographic, practice data and a Maslach Burnout Inventory: Human Services Survey for Medical Personnel (MBI-HSS MP) translated to Ukrainian were collected and compared to the MBI sample scale. Data were collected via REDCap software.

Results and Discussion: Of the 110 participants who started the survey, 88 completed it. The majority were women (56.8%) aged 20-29 (32, 34.0%) and 30-39 years (29, 30.9%), married (63%) with at least one child (56.4%). Most were civilian medical personnel (80.7%) with a wide range of clinical experience, and the majority reported treating frontline causalities (63.6%). Anesthesiologists were the largest group represented (71.3%), followed by intensivists (19.5%). The majority reported a 40-60 hour workweek (52.3%), although 22.7% stated that they worked 70 to > 80-hour hours. 78.2% reported working far from the war zone, and 63.6% reported their clinical practice had significantly changed due to the conflict. Of the respondents, 18.2% reported their hospital being a military target. The average MBI results were 31.3 for emotional exhaustion (SD 10.8), 9.8 for depersonalization (6.2), and 34.9 for personal accomplishment (7.9). These preliminary data show that emotional exhaustion and depersonalization are increased compared to the MBI sample scale.

Conclusion(s): Burnout is high in the domain of emotional exhaustion and moderate in the areas of depersonalization and personal accomplishment in this cohort of Ukrainian clinicians. In addition to identifying opportunities to improve work hours and safety, future interventions should be targeted at identifying and alleviating the sources of emotional strain to sustain clinician performance in this challenging and demanding practice environment.

Percutaneous tracheotomy – too little, too late? Comparing COVID vs non-COVID ICU. A retrospective single-center study

S. Stojanovic Stipic1, D. Tokic1, F. Peris1, D. Kocen1, D. Kuscevic1, M. Perkovic1
1University Hospital Split, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Split, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: The aim of our study is to find differences when it comes to PT in COVID and non-COVID ICU and how do they affect the outcomes.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective study was conducted at the University Hospital of Split, Department of Anaesthesiology, in the period of two years, on two locations; COVID ICU and ICU. In total there were 77 patients, divided into two groups; COVID group, (47 patients) and non-COVID group (30 patients). Statistical analyses were done using the statistical software MedCalc. The normality of distribution was estimated using Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Comparison of quantitative data between groups was conducted using students t-test or Mann-Whitney U test while the comparison of qualitative data was conducted using chi-square test.

Results and Discussion: The aim of our study was to assess differences between PT performed in COVID and non-COVID ICU, when were they performed and does it make any difference in the outcomes. This single-center study showed that in the non-COVID ICU PT were performed significantly earlier. Treatment of COVID patients distinguish significantly from the non-COVID ICU patients; in COVID primarily there is a lung injury, requiring prone position, often manipulation with ventilation and airway, while in non-COVID ICU patients the necessity for mechanical ventilation is mostly as a support to an intensive treatment. However, when it comes to the outcomes, there is no significant differences between two investigated groups. Furthermore, there is no significant difference in the outcomes when the day of PT is considered. We found no significant difference considering these parameters.

Conclusion: Although the PT was performed earlier in the non-COVID ICU group, we showed that there is no significant difference between two investigated groups when it comes to the outcomes. Furthermore, there is no difference in the outcomes between groups regarding the day of PT. Some of the reasons are small number of patients, generally good outcomes, etc. This study shows potential in future investigation and motivation for early tracheotomy, in order to achieve better outcomes and less complications.
09AP07-08
Unplanned surgical admissions to ICU - a quality marker?

K. Daswani¹, M. Margarson¹, C. Torrilla¹
¹University Hospitals Sussex, St Richard’s Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Chichester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: The definition of a planned surgical ICU admissions is one anticipated before surgery begins, where an ICU or HDU bed is booked in advance, aiming to prevent postoperative complications in an identified higher-risk patient. Unplanned admissions following elective surgery should be infrequent and would usually be associated with unanticipated intraoperative adverse events.

We interrogated the dataset from our mixed medical/surgical ICU to identify the incidence and types of procedures associated with unplanned admission.

Materials and Methods: Data covering the five-year period July 2017-June 2022, was exported from an ICU Admissions dataset (Philips Intelliview) and for the same period the total theatre workload was collected as the denominator. The type and level of ICU support was recorded using the UK Intensive Care Society (ICS) definitions, then compared with national figures from the UK Intensive Care National Audit & Research Centre (ICNARC).

Predicted mortality and actual outcomes were compared. Where differences occurred, Chi-square test was used to determine statistical significance

Results and Discussion: During the five-year study period there were a total of 56,038 surgical theatre cases and 3046 ICU admissions. There were 1413 surgical admissions to ICU (2.52% of all theatre cases), of which 357 (11.7% of all ICU admissions, 0.64% of all theatre cases) were unplanned.

During the same period ICNARC reported the UK-wide unplanned ICU admission rates to be 20.9% of all ICU admissions. This was nearly twice the rate of our unplanned admissions. (p <0.0001).

By surgical sub-specialty and based upon overall theatre cases, colo-rectal surgery had the highest proportion of unplanned admissions (63 of 2991 theatre procedures, 2.1%). General Surgery had an unplanned admission rate of 1.37% and Trauma & Orthopaedics had a rate of 0.48%.

Severity scoring predicted 32 deaths by 30 days amongst the unplanned admissions; 24 deaths were recorded (SMR 0.75)

Conclusion(s): The proportion of unplanned admissions seemed remarkably high, yet the outcomes were better than predicted. With good communication and planning, the rate of unplanned admission should probably be lower, and this will be a focus of a local Quality Improvement Project moving forward.

Acknowledgements: No conflicts of interest to declare.

09AP07-09
Impact of Sars CoV-2 infection on anxiety and depression disorders in ICU patients

L. Linoci¹, A.C. Rizzo¹, C. Milizia¹, A. Petito², L. Mirabella¹
¹University of Foggia, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Intensive Care Unit, Foggia, Italy, ²University of Foggia, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Foggia, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: The Covid-19 pandemic had dramatic consequences representing a real challenge not only on a physical but also on a psychological level. In patients hospitalised for SARS CoV-2 infection during the pandemic emergency, anxiety-depressive symptoms were common. Anxiety disorders, stress, insomnia, depression, and feelings of anger often occurred during the Coronavirus disease but also afterwards. Aim of the study is to evaluate the prevalence of anxiety and depression symptoms during hospitalization for Covid and the persistence of these disorders in the post-discharge period from the ICU.

Materials and Methods: The assessment of psychological disorders was carried out through individual interviews and administration of self-assessment questionnaires: State trait anxiety inventory (Y1 and Y2) used to discriminate state anxiety and trait anxiety and Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) to measure the depressive state articulated in its peculiar aspects (sleep, appetite, suicide, pessimism).

Baseline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Total (N)</th>
<th>Absent</th>
<th>Mild</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>P-value</th>
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</thead>
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<td>68.0</td>
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<td>Sex</td>
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<td>Hospitalization</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State anxiety</td>
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<td>Trait anxiety</td>
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Follow up

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<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>68.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>State anxiety</td>
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<td>9 (90.0)</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results and Discussion: 24 patients admitted to ICU were enrolled in the study. Patients diagnosed with mental retardation, dementia, cognitive decline, and patients who refuse to take the tests were excluded from the study. Data are presented as media±DS, p-value <0.05 have been considered significant. There was no significant change in anxiety and depression score or prevalence over time.
Age, gender, diagnosis, were not associated with anxiety symptoms. Chi-squared test shows a relationship between state anxiety and depressive condition during hospitalization (5% significant test), but not in follow-up (10% significant test), while there seems to be no association between depression and the remaining variables considered (age, gender, cause of hospitalization and trait anxiety).

**Conclusion(s):** These preliminary data show that no significant differences were observed in ICU survivors between levels of anxiety and depression between baseline and follow-up. There is an association between state anxiety level and depression and a slight association between depression and trait anxiety.

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**09AP07-10**

**Evaluation of postoperative ICU indication criteria used by anesthesiologists: a national survey**

A.G.A. Moreira¹, P.G. Barreto¹, M.C. Janiques¹, V.C. Quintão¹, M.J.C. Carmona¹, R.d.R. Rodrigues¹

¹Hospital das Clínicas HCFMUSP, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de São Paulo, Dept of Anesthesiology, Dept of Anesthesiology, Sao Paulo, Brazil

**Introduction:** The lack of ICU beds in Brazil is a limiting factor in the surgical treatment of patients with postoperative ICU indication. In addition to the delay in the surgical intervention on patients with potentially treatable diseases, the unnecessary postoperative ICU indication impose an additional cost to the health system. Hence, it is important to stratify with the most objectivity, which patients have high surgical risk and would really benefit going to the ICU. The surgical risk of a patient is set by the surgery complexity and the preexisting comorbidities.

**Background and Goal of Study:** The goal of study was to evaluate how the postoperative ICU indication is performed by graduated anesthesiologists in Brazil.

**Material and Methods:** Transversal observational study; a Survey research was performed with Brazilian Anesthesia Society. The data was obtained through a questionnaire developed using the RED-Cap. The voluntary acceptance to participate in the survey was considered informed consent, since it was a quantitative study without any use of secondary sources or medical records. The data from REDCap was transferred to statistics software and the results are shown as frequencies.

**Results and Discussion:** We got 1083 anesthesiologists answers and most of them had at least 18 years of experience. About 43% acted mainly in private hospitals, 25% in public and 30% in both. At least 47% of the responders frequently had their surgeries suspended due to lack of rearguard ICU beds and 79% said to not use subjective criteria to indicate postoperative ICU, however, about 66% work with no care protocols of ICU indication to guide them. At last, 95% considered the presence of comorbidities, a factor important in their ICU indication, and 90% the complexity of surgery.

**Conclusion:** The lack of ICU beds was notable by the high percentage of canceled surgeries generating social and financial impacts on the health system. Although most of the participants said they use objective criteria to indicate postoperative ICU, only 2 indicators (ASA and Lee Score) are widely known between them. The most responders indicate postoperative ICU based on preexisting comorbidities and age. Most of the anesthesiologists are unaware of flowcharts to orientate their decisions in their hospitals. Thereby, a national guideline to help the postoperative ICU indication would be of great importance to optimize the public and private health resources.

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**09AP07-11**

**ICU Admission rates with Alcohol-Related Liver Disease - The impact of COVID lockdown**

S. Clarke¹, G. Williams², T. Kilpatrick¹, T. Thompson², M. Margarson²

¹St Richards Hospital, Anaesthetics, Chichester, United Kingdom, ²St Richards Hospital, Intensive Care, Chichester, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Over the past decade there has been a nearly 50% increase in UK hospital admissions with alcohol-related liver disease (ARLD) (1). Subjectively, ICU admission rates with ARLD appear to be rising at a greater rate. Following the first COVID lockdown in Spring 2020, we perceived a further sharp increase in ARLD admissions. We analysed a dataset from two medium-sized Intensive Care Units over an eight-year period, to determine if the actual numbers and subtypes of liver admissions confirmed our impressions.

**Materials and Methods:** Admissions were defined as liver-related if the patient had an admission diagnosis with the keywords ‘varices’ ‘hepatitis’, ‘cirrhosis’ or ‘alcohol’ or a past medical history of cirrhosis, portal hypertension, or encephalopathy. Liver admissions were further sorted as acute alcohol related, chronic ARLD and non-alcoholic liver disease.

The incidences of ARLD admissions before and after COVID were compared and statistical significance determined with Chi-square test.

**Results and Discussion:** Over the period January 2015–July 2022, there were 9907 admissions across the two units. 612 (6.18%) were identified as having a significant Liver-disease component, of which 288 (47% of liver cases, 2.9% of all admissions) were classed as predominantly alcohol-related. The numbers of alcohol related admissions before and after the first COVID lockdown is shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Acute Alcohol related</th>
<th>Chronic Alcohol related</th>
<th>All ARLD Admissions</th>
<th>Non-ARLD Admissions</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-COVID (2015–June 2020)</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>182 (2.47%)</td>
<td>7182</td>
<td>7364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Lockdown (Jul 2020 – Jun 22)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>106 (4.17%)</td>
<td>2543</td>
<td>2543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P value <0.0001

**Conclusion(s):** The numbers of UK alcohol-related ICU admissions had been increasing steadily by around 5% per year since 2010. Since the first COVID lockdown, we have seen a further marked increase of nearly 70% in the rates of alcohol-related liver disease admitted to our ICU, with an overall 30-day mortality of 46%. This study demonstrates a second pandemic since the first lockdown of 2020, of accelerated alcohol-related liver disease leading to ICU admission. We suspect further studies will show this trend reflected internationally.

**Reference:**

09AP07-12
The ten-year review of liver disease patterns on ICU admissions and workload in a non-specialist centre

G. Williams1, S. Clarke1, T. Kilpatrick2, T. Thompson1, M. Margarson2
1 St Richards Hospital, Intensive Care, Chichester, United Kingdom, 2 St Richards Hospital, Anaesthetics, Chichester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Over the past decade there has been a steady ~5% increase annually in UK hospital admissions with alcohol-related liver disease (ARLD) (1). The impact of these hospital admissions on ICU admission rates and workload during this period has not been clear.

We analysed a large dataset of patients admitted to two Intensive Care Units in the same trust over the last ten-years, to determine the numbers of cases, subtypes of liver admissions, the outcomes and the workload impact of ARLD on our ICU.

Material and Methods: Admissions were defined as liver-related if the patient had an admission diagnosis with the keywords ‘varices’ ‘hepatitis’ ‘cirrhosis’ or ‘alcohol’ or a past medical history of cirrhosis, portal hypertension, or encephalopathy. From review of the primary and secondary reasons for admission, plus admission diagnoses, then review of individual patient notes, liver admissions were further sorted as acute alcohol related, chronic ARLD and non-alcoholic liver disease.

The number of bed days and the levels of care were compared and statistical significance determined with Chi-square test.

Results and Discussion: Over the period July 2012-June 2022, there were 13,405 admissions across the two units. 730 (5.45%) were identified as having a significant liver disease, of which 345 (47% of liver cases, 2.6% of all admissions) were predominantly alcohol-related. The median age was 54 yrs (IQR 45-63), 63.7% were male.

Encephalopathy was present in 127 patients, with a 58% 30-day mortality. 146 patients required Renal support, with a 68% mortality. The combination of advanced respiratory, advanced cardiovascular and renal support was present in 55 patients, of which 12 (22%) survived to leave the ICU.

These patients utilized a total of 4184 ICU bed days (5.5% of all bed days), 1972 ventilator days and 601 renal replacement days.

Conclusions: There has been a steady increase in Liver-disease related admissions to our ICUs over the past ten years, with a rate these past two years twice that of 2010-12. This appears greater than the reported increase in hospital admission rates. A large proportion of this is Alcohol-related. Resource utilization is markedly increased, outcomes are variable but overall survival rates remain modest.

Reference:

09AP08-01
Spread of multiresistant Enterobacteriaceae strains in the hospital environment through intensive care passage of patients

N.V. Calina1, A. Cojocaru2, O. Zlatian3, A.F. Rosu4, D. Calina5, A. Ghenea2
1 Clinical County Emergency Hospital of Craiova, Romania, 2 Elias Emergency Hospital, Dermatology, Bucharest, Romania, 3 Clinical County Emergency Hospital of Craiova, Romania, 4 Clinical Laboratory, Craiova, Romania, 5 Hospital Garcia de Orta, Gastroenterology, Lisbon, Portugal, 6 University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova, Romania, Clinical Pharmacy, Craiova, Romania

Background and Goal of Study: Antimicrobial resistance represents an enormous global health crisis and one of the most serious threats mankind face today. Enterobacteriaceae that produce extended-spectrum beta-lactamas (ESBLs) are often involved in healthcare infections, increasing hospitalization time, morbidity and mortality rates, especially in Intensive Care Unit (ICU), where a great part of patients have debilitating diseases which make the susceptible to infections. Among several ESBLs that emerge from these pathogens, CTX-M type enzymes is most frequent. We aimed to identify the beta-lactamas circulating in a tertiary care hospital, encoded by the genes blaCTX-M-15, bla SHV-1 and bla-TEM-1 in Escherichia coli (E. coli) and Klebsiella pneumoniae (K. pneumoniae) strains.

Materials and Methods: We established the associated resistance phenotypes among patients hospitalized in the Intensive Care Unit of County Clinical Emergency Hospital of Craiova, Romania. The patients were either admitted to ICU from Emergency Room or clinics of Surgery, Orthopaedics or Urology. A total of 92 non-duplicated bacterial strains (28 strains of E. coli and 64 strains of K. pneumoniae) were resistant to infections. Among several ESBLs that emerge from these pathogens, CTX-M type enzymes is most frequent. We aimed to identify the beta-lactamas circulating in a tertiary care hospital, encoded by the genes blaCTX-M-15, bla SHV-1 and bla-TEM-1 in Escherichia coli (E. coli) and Klebsiella pneumoniae (K. pneumoniae) strains.

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Results and Discussion: E. coli strains were resistant to 3rd generation cephalosporins and moderately resistant to quinolones, whereas K. pneumoniae strains were resistant to penicillins, cephalosporins, sulfamides, resistant to quinolones and carbapenems. Most E. coli strains had blaCTX-M-15 gene (20/28 strains), two strains had the blaSHV-1 gene, but 11 strains had blaTEM-1 gene. We detected tet(A) gene in 10 strains and tet(B) in two strains. K. pneumoniae strains we detected blaCTX-M-15 in 50 strains, blaSHV-1 in all strains and blaTEM-1 in 24 strains. The tetracycline gene tet(A) was detected in 20 strains, but the gene tet(B) was not detected in any strains. Colistin resistance gene mcr-1 was not detected in either E. coli or K. pneumoniae isolates.

Conclusion(s): The high frequency of the CTX-M-1 group and a high rate of ESBL co-production are changing the epidemiology of the healthcare associated infections. This epidemiology is a constant and increasing challenge, not only in Romania, but worldwide.
Nosocomial infections in ICU with multidrugresistant *Escherichia coli* in a tertiary care hospital

N.V. Calina1, A. Cojocaru2, A. Ghenea3, D. Calina4, A.F. Rosu5, O. Zlatian3
1Clinical County Emergency Hospital of Craiova, Romania, 2Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, Department of Anaesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia, 3Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, Department of Anaesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia

Background and Goal of Study: Nosocomial infections continue to challenge hospital or ambulatory medicine, even in this century. Nosocomial infections occur in patients who have a prolonged hospitalization time so the main departments where these infections can occur are Intensive Care Unit (ICU). In plus to the exposure to the hospital environment, there is also the fact that they have depressed immunity, due to the surgical intervention plus the barrier of the skin and visceral layers is compromised.

Materials and Methods: The study was conducted on biological samples collected from 8,700 patients from the ICU, from Emergency Room, Urology, Surgery, Orthopedics and Gastroenterology clinics of the Craiova Emergency Clinical Hospital, through the years 2020-2022.

Results and Discussion: In the hospital environment was found an increased morbidity due to *Escherichia coli* infections in a percentage of 7.54%. The results of sensitivity testing to anti-infective chemotherapeutics allowed the establishment of some resistance phenotypes, which showed the phenomenon of multi-resistance. The isolated strains showed increased resistance to: chloramphenicol (100%), amoxicillin (75%), amoxicillin/clavulanate (54.62%), teicoplanin (53.09%), ceftriaxone (44.44%), cotrimoxazole (40.26%). Increased sensitivity was found to netilmicin and fosfomycin (100%), meropenem (99.1%), amikacin (96.77%), cefoxitin (94.44%), cephalothin (93.52%), tobramycin (93.18%) and tigecycline (92.31%). To highlight the behavior towards β-lactams, 4 main markers were observed: aminopenicillin (amoxicillin); carboxypenicillin (ticarcillin) or a ureidopenicillin (piperacillin); a first generation cephalosporin (cefalotin or cefoxitin); a third-generation cephalosporin (ceftaxime or cefazidime).

The most frequent was the plasmid penicillinase (PAZA) secretory phenotype in a percentage of 52.24%, followed by the inducible chromosomal cephalosporins (PAZA) secretory phenotype in a percentage of 20.76% and the wild-type phenotype in a percentage of 18.72%.

Conclusion(s): Estabishing resistance phenotypes to anti-infective chemotherapy is necessary for a medical unit, to choose effective therapy and prevent the selection of multiresistant strains. There is a need for teamwork made up of clinicians, microbiologists, epidemiologists, hygienists, hospital pharmacists, and hospital economists to bring benefits to everyone individually, but especially to patients.

Influence of intra-abdominal pressure on renal function in patients with acute pancreatitis

M. Stojanovic1,2, S. Petrovic3, A. Vranic2, M. Djordjevic2
1Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, Department of Anaesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia, 2University Medical Center Zvezdara, Department of Anaesthesiology, Belgrade, Serbia

Background and Goal of Study: The harmful effect of increased intra-abdominal pressure (IAP) on renal function is multifactorial and refers to pre-renal and renal damage. Prerenal disorders can be corrected while the direct compressive effect on the renal parenchyma leads to increased renal vascular resistance and decreased renal blood flow and often permanent renal damage. Therefore, the goal is early examination of the impact of IAP on kidney function and perfusion in patients with acute pancreatitis and developed intra-abdominal hypertension (IAH) with the aim of rapid therapeutic response and prevention of permanent consequences.

Materials and Methods: IAP was measured every 12 hours through a urinary catheter placed in the bladder, in 65 patients with acute pancreatitis and IAP values above 12 mmHg. IAP values were compared with hourly diuresis, creatinine, urea, lactate, abdominal perfusion pressure (APP) and glomerular filtration (GF) values.

Results and Discussion: Analyzing the obtained correlation coefficients, it was proven that the linear relationship between IAP and the hourly diuresis variable (r = 0.583) is positive and significant, between IAP and the tested lactate variable is positive and significant (r = 0.795), between IAP and APP variable positive and strong (r = 0.836), between IAP and GF variable positive and strong (r = 0.903), between IAP and creatinine variable positive and strong (r = 0.791), between IAP and urea variable positive and strong (r = 0.830). A simple multiple linear regression showed the influence of lactate and GF on the outcome of treatment in patients with acute pancreatitis and IAH.

Conclusion(s): An increase in IAP leads to a decrease in diuresis, the creation of tissue edema and the accumulation of toxic and decaying metabolites and an increase in lactate, creatinine and urea levels, and a decrease in APP and GF

References:
**09AP08-05**
Comparison of RIFLE and AKIN criteria in assessment of acute kidney injury in critically ill Covid-19 patients

D. Rakanovic, S. Rakanovic
'University Clinical Centre of the Republic of Srpska, Clinic for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Background and Goal of Study:** Acute kidney injury (AKI) is a sudden disruption of previously normal (stable) kidney function, which occurs within a few hours or days, resulting in the accumulation of harmful metabolic products, impaired water and electrolyte homeostasis, and acid-base disturbances. It includes a wide range of disorders - from a moderate, transient decrease in kidney function to serious, permanent damage, which requires treatment with dialysis. Pulmonary manifestations of Covid-19 are the most significant prominent, but AKI is observed as a frequent complication of the disease, and can be noticed already at the time of admission of patients for hospital treatment (1). The mortality rate of hospital Covid-19 patients with the development of AKI is higher, compared to patients without kidney damage. The objective of the work is to evaluate the frequency of AKI in the Intensive Care Unit, according to the RIFLE and AKIN scales, as well as the sensitivity of scales for the incidence and mortality of critically ill Covid-19 patients.

**Materials and Methods:** After the approval of the Ethics Committee of the University Clinical Center (UCC) of the Republic of Srpska, a retrospective, descriptive study included 204 patients and it was conducted using the data of critically ill Covid-19 patients treated in Clinic for Anaesthesiology and Intensive therapy at the UCC of the Republic of Srpska, in the period from October 2020-January 2021 and from March 2021-May 2021.

**Results and Discussion:** There are statistically significant differences (p<.001) in the distribution of patients depending on the AKI classification scale, a higher probability that the patient will be diagnosed with AKI and a higher degree of AKI, if the AKIN scale is used. Mortality is a statistically significantly more likely outcome in patients with AKI (pRIFLE < 0.001, pAKIN < 0.001), regardless of the applied scale, but there are no significant differences in predicting mortality.

**Conclusion(s):** AKIN scale is more sensitive in assessing AKI, compared to the RIFLE scale, while in terms of mortality, there are no statistically significant differences between the mentioned scales, but mortality is statistically significantly higher in patients who developed AKI.

**Reference:**

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**09AP08-06**
Differences in the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of linezolid between critically and non-critically ill patients with confirmed infections caused by Gram-positive bacteria: do the more severe patients need an initial higher dose of linezolid?

C. Velasco, A. Benitez-Cano, A. Albalat-Torres, L. Sortí, R. Adalía, A. Ferrer Segarra, S. Luque
'Parc de Salut Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, 2Parc de Salut Mar, Pharmacy Department, Barcelona, Spain, 3Parc de Salut Mar, Infectious Diseases Department, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Linezolid (LNZ) is an antibiotic used for the treatment of difficult-to-treat infections caused by Gram-positive bacteria, such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Enterococcus faecium*. No studies have compared the PK/pharmacodynamics (PKPD) achievement and outcomes between critically ill (ICU) and non-critically ill patients. The objectives were to describe the PKPD and efficacy of LNZ in patients with *E. faecium* and MRSA infections comparing ICU versus non-ICU patients.

**Materials and Methods:** Single-center, retrospective PK study conducted at the Parc de Salut Mar, Barcelona, between January 2010-October 2022. All patients treated with LZD for a confirmed infection caused by *E. faecium* or MRSA and undergoing therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) were included. Demographic, clinical, microbiological and PK variables were collected. Blood samples at day 3 of treatment were obtained within a TDM program. LNZ plasma concentrations were analyzed by a high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method. Data were compared between ICU and non-ICU patients.

**Results and Discussion:** 220 patients were included: 119 ICU patients (54%) and 101 non-ICU (46%) patients. Comparative data are shown in Table 1. Clinical cure was 69% in ICU-patients vs 82.8% in non-ICU patients (p = 0.019) and microbiological eradication was 71.6% in both groups (p = 0.99). PK LNZ data comparing both groups is shown in Table 2.

**Conclusion:** ICU patients showed a lower LNZ plasma exposure at the first TDM sample compared to non-ICU patients despite not having important differences in baseline characteristics. They also presented a lower clinical cure rate and a higher mortality. These results suggest that critically ill patients may need an initial higher LZD dose to improve PK/PD. The impact of a low LZD exposure on clinical outcomes should be evaluated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>ICU patients n=119</th>
<th>Non-ICU patients n=101</th>
<th>p value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male, mean (%)</td>
<td>81 (68.1)</td>
<td>65 (64.4)</td>
<td>0.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age, mean (SD)</td>
<td>68 (11.3)</td>
<td>68 (14.7)</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlson score, mean (SD)</td>
<td>2.7 (2.3)</td>
<td>3.1 (2.4)</td>
<td>0.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI, mean (SD)</td>
<td>28.4 (7.1)</td>
<td>26.6 (7.6)</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline GFR, mean (SD)</td>
<td>59 (37.7)</td>
<td>61.9 (43.1)</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus of infection, n (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdominal</td>
<td>56 (47.5)</td>
<td>19 (19)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>44 (37.3)</td>
<td>14 (14)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urinary</td>
<td>28 (23.9)</td>
<td>8 (8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin and soft tissue infections</td>
<td>37 (32)</td>
<td>6 (6.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>2 (2)</td>
<td>4 (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOS</td>
<td>64.8 (75.5)</td>
<td>48.4 (47.9)</td>
<td>0.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-cause mortality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-day</td>
<td>1 (0.8)</td>
<td>1 (1)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-day</td>
<td>17 (14.3)</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-hospital</td>
<td>42 (35.3)</td>
<td>18 (17.8)</td>
<td>0.044</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SD, standard deviation; BMI, Body Mass Index; GFR, Glomerular Filtration Rate; LOS, Length of hospital stay.*

*Table 1.*
Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of linezolid in critically ill patients with confirmed infections caused by drug-resistant gram-positive bacteria: is it adequate to use a standard dose?

A. Ferrer-Segarra1, A. Benitez-Cano1, J. Barceló-Vidal2, L. Sorli3, R. Adalia1, S. Luque2
1Parc de Salut Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, 2Parc de Salut Mar, Pharmacy, Barcelona, Spain, 3Parc de Salut Mar, Infectious Diseases, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Pathophysiological changes in critically ill patients with severe infections may alter the pharmacokinetics (PK) of antimicrobials, leading to treatment failure or toxicity. The objectives were to assess the interindividual PK variability of linezolid (LNZ) PK and the attainment of an optimal PK/pharmacodynamic (PD) target.

Materials and Methods: Single-center, retrospective, observational PK study (January 2010-October 2022) in patients admitted to the intensive care unit treated with LNZ at a standard dosage (600 mg/12h) and undergoing therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM). Demographic, clinical, microbiological and PKPD variables were collected. Blood samples were obtained within a TDM program and LNZ plasma concentrations were analyzed by a high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method. An optimal PKPD target attainment was defined as Cmin ≥ 1 mg/L and/or an AUC24/MIC > 100 mg*h/L and potential overexposure was defined as Cmin > 8 mg/L and/or AUC0-24 > 300 mg*h/L.

Results and Discussion: A total of 119 patients were included being 81 (68.1%) males. Mean (SD) clinical data: age 68 (11.3) years; Charlson Index and APACHE-II score 2.7 (2.3) and 21.4 (8.1), respectively; Body Mass Index 28.4 (7.1), baseline estimated glomerular filtration rate (by CKD-EPI) and creatinine serum concentrations 59 (37.7) ml/min/1.73m² and 1.74 (1.36) mg/dL, respectively. Most frequent focus of infection: abdominal 47.5%, respiratory 37.3%, urinary 28% and skin and soft tissue infections 37%. Clinical outcomes: abdominal 47.5%, respiratory 37.3%, urinary 28% and skin and soft tissue infections 37%. Clinical outcomes: clinical cure 69%, microbiological eradication 71.6% and persistence or AMR > 10% in 26 (26.5) days. Seven-day, 30-day and in-hospital all-cause mortality were 0.8%, 14.3% and 35.3%, respectively. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamic data are shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cmin, mg/L mean (SD)</td>
<td>5.8 (7.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmin&lt;2 mg/L n (%)</td>
<td>25 (25.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmin&gt;2 mg/L n (%)</td>
<td>94 (90.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmax ≥ 1 mg/L</td>
<td>87 (88.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC0-12h, mg*h/L mean (SD)</td>
<td>130.2 (121.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC0-12h/MIC &gt; 100 mg*h/L</td>
<td>45 (37.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUC0-12h/MIC &gt; 300 mg*h/L n (%)</td>
<td>14 (11.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmin, minimum concentration; Cmax, peak concentration; AUC0-12h, area under the concentration-time curve.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.

Conclusions: A high interindividual PK variability of LNZ was present in the ICU patients. Less than one third of patients were able to achieve an optimal PKPD target, in almost 50% the plasma exposure was suboptimal and in about 30% overexposure. These results suggest that a TDM program may be necessary to individualize LNZ dosage in this population.

09AP08-08 Multidrug resistant bacteria in surgical intensive care units

D. Bandić Pavlović1, B. Bedenić2, V. Vrbanović Mijatović3, Ž. Martinović2, R. Baronić4, D. Tonković4
1School of Medicine, University of Zagreb and University Hospital Centre, Department of Anesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia, 2School of Medicine, University of Zagreb and University Hospital Centre, Department of Clinical and Molecular Microbiology, Zagreb, Croatia, 3Ministry of Labour and Pension System, Ministry of Labour and Pension System, Zagreb, Croatia, 4University Hospital Centre, Department of Anesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Multidrug-resistant bacteria (MDR) are often associated with severe infections. We evaluated the MDR bacteria in surgical intensive care unit (ICU) in patients with hospital infection.

Materials and Methods: Prospective cohort study was conducted in surgical ICU. Samples were routinely collected from the patient with suspected hospital infection. The antibiotic susceptibility testing was performed by disk-diffusion and broth dilution method. Double disk synergy test and inhibitor based test with clavulanic acid were applied to screen for ESBLs. The transferability of resistance determinants was determined by conjugation. The nature of ESBL, carbapenemases, and fluoroquinolone resistance determinants was investigated by PCR. The genes conferring resistance to β-lactams including broad-spectrum and extended-spectrum, class A, class B or metallo-β-lactamases-MLBs, and class D carbapenemases or carbapenem-hydrolysing oxacillinases-CHDL, and to fluoroquinolones were sought in Enterobacteria. In the Acinetobacter (A.) baumannii isolates, genes encoding KPC, MBLs and CHDL were determined by PCR using protocols and conditions as described previously.

Results and Discussion: 30 MDR isolates, were collected in two months period. 17 were male. The mean age of patient was 69.6. Isolated MDR pathogens were: 20 Klebsiella (K.) pneumoniae, one Enterobacter cloacae, four A. baumannii, three Pseudomonas aeruginosa, and one Proteus mirabilis and VRE, respectively. Double disk synergy and combined disk test were positive in all K. pneumoniae isolates except two, indicating production of an ESBL. Hodge test and CIM were positive in all but one strain, consistent with the production of carbapenemase. Erpantem resistance was transferable from 12 isolates positive for OXA-48 carbapenemase.

The resistance determinants to non-beta-lactam antibiotics were not cotransferred alongside with erpantem resistance. Cefotaxime resistance was not transferred from any of the tested strains. OKNV testing and PCR detected OXA-48 carbapenemase in all except two K. pneumoniae isolates and NDM in one. OXA-48 positive K. pneumoniae isolates coharboured ESBLs belonging to CTX-M family. L/M plasmid was found in all OXA-48 producing K. pneumoniae isolates. All A. baumannii isolates were CRAB and positive for OXA-23 carbapenemase.
Conclusion(s): OXA-48 seem to be the dominant resistance trait among our isolates spreading horizontally by L/M plasmid.

09AP08-09
Project 0-100; improving antimicrobial stewardship on ICU

J. Almas1
1Pinderfields General Hospital, Intensive Care Medicine, Wakefield, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Antibiotic resistance is a global health threat. The O’Neill report estimated that without action by 2050, 10 million people every year will die from antimicrobial resistance.1 Keys to using antibiotics appropriately start with antimicrobial stewardship, which has been shown to reduce inappropriate antibiotic administration; particularly in ICU.2 On ICU, decisions regarding antimicrobial treatment plans are often made or reviewed with microbiology input and documentation of these decisions are a key step in antimicrobial stewardship. In our centre, these decisions are rarely documented. This leads to inappropriate antibiotic course lengths and delays in prescribing. This quality improvement project aims to promote antimicrobial stewardship by increasing the documentation of microbiology MDT meeting decisions; with the aim of 100% compliance. This project comprised two PDSA (plan, do, study, act) cycles. Firstly, moving to online documentation and secondly, by nominating a staff member who would be directly responsible for documenting these decisions. Both these interventions were underpinned by an education sessional promoting antimicrobial stewardship.

Materials and Methods: Data was retrospectively collected via patient notes where there is a dedicated section to record whether microbiology reviews have taken place. Data was collected initially to determine a baseline and then 1 week after each intervention.

Results and Discussion: Compliance with documentation improved from 3.0% to 96% over a 3-week period. The most successful intervention was nominating a staff member who would be directly responsible for documenting these decisions.

Conclusion: In conclusion, this project demonstrates that in making change the current culture needs challenging. To make this into a more lasting change simple practical interventions are key. Therefore, in reflecting on the ways to make lasting change via small steps makes this project very transferable to other hospitals.

References:
1. O'Neill J. 2016. Tackling drug-resistant infections globally: final report and recommendations the review on antimicrobial resistance. Available at: https://amr-review.org/Publications

09AP08-10
A protective effect of IgA against SARS-CoV2 in bronchoalveolar lavages in COVID-19 patients, admitted in ICU

A.C. Rizzo1, M. Di Stefano2, J. Ramon Fiore2, G. Faleo2, L. Linoci1, L. Mirabella1

1University of Foggia, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Intensive Care Unit, Foggia, Italy, 2University of Foggia, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Section of Infectious Diseases, Foggia, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: IgA antibodies against SARS-CoV2 have been shown to an earlier and higher neutralizing effect comparing to IgG, probably for their increased flexibility and a longer hinge that could facilitate the interaction with spike trimmer. A prompt and strong response to SARS CoV-2 may also be associated. However pre-existing immunity to the four endemic cold-causing coronavirus in humans (HCoV229E, -NL63, -OC43 and -HKU1) may play a role in infection control and then a milder disease in patients with endemic coronavirus infection. These observations could suggest a possible protective effect of IgA in this contest, although a harmful effect of high titre of IgA on disease progression has been observed.

Material and Methods: We focused on the presence of antibodies of the IgG and IgA isotype in the blood and bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) of a group of patients with severe COVID-19 respiratory failure, requiring invasive mechanical ventilation. We have enrolled in the study critically ill patients, admitted in Intensive Care Unit at the “University Hospital OORR” Foggia (Italy), from January to May 2021. At admission these patients were intubated for critical conditions and underwent to BAL and peripheral blood sampling. For all these, clinical history and course and laboratory data were recorded. Then we measured the presence of IgG and IgA antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 in plasma and BAL samples by using commercially available ELISA assays following manufactures’s instructions.

Results and Discussion: We have enrolled 31 patients (25 were male and 6 female; the mean age was 70 ± 9.88). During ICU stay seven patients (22%) died and 24 (78%) had good prognosis. IgG and IgA antibodies against SARS-CoV2 were detectable in all plasma samples. In BAL samples IgG were regularly detectable, in contrast IgA were observed only in 19 (61%) cases. Interestingly, a statistically significant inverse correlation was found between the mortality rate and the presence of IgA to SARS-CoV2 in BAL. In fact, none of the 19 patients with a positive IgA died, compared to 7 out of 12 patients with a negative IgA-BAL (p: 0,0008).

Conclusion: Although limited in size, this study strongly suggests a significant protective effect of the mucosal immunity in COVID 19 patients, even in advanced stages of the disease.

Reference:
Secondary infections in critically ill patients with COVID-19 ARDS admitted to single center Intensive Care Unit in Croatia: a preliminary report of a retrospective study

S. Došenović1, L. Šarić1, N. Delić1, T. Kljaković Gašpić1, F. Perišić1, S. Stojanović Stipić1
1University Hospital Split, Department of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care Medicine, Split, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Infections acquired during the course of intensive care unit (ICU) stay, i.e. secondary infections, are common in critically ill COVID-19 patients. The aim of this study was to describe the incidence and outcomes of secondary bacterial and fungal infections in critically ill COVID-19 patients treated with invasive mechanical ventilation.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective study was conducted from March 2021 to March 2022 in a single tertiary hospital in Split, Croatia.

Adult patients with COVID-19, admitted to the ICU and mechanically ventilated for at least 48 hours, were included. Secondary infections included ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP), bloodstream infections, and urinary tract infections. Primary outcome was the occurrence of secondary infections. The study protocol was approved by hospital Ethics committee.

Results and Discussion: Of 674 included COVID-19 patients, 468 (69.4 %) acquired at least one secondary bacterial or fungal infection. Our results are comparable to reported rate from a single Belgian ICU (1).

A high incidence of antibiotic usage prior to ICU admission was observed (83%). Patients with secondary infections tended to spend more days on invasive mechanical ventilation, have longer ICU stay, and worse 60-day survival compared to patients without secondary infections (Table 1).

Conclusion: These preliminary results confirm a high rate of secondary infections in patients with COVID-19 admitted to the ICU and requiring invasive mechanical ventilation. Further research is needed into identifying patients at highest risk for the acquisition of secondary infections.

References:

Assessment of left ventricular function in critically ill patients with COVID-19: feasibility and findings

R. Rajendram1,2, A. Hussain3, N. Syed4, M. Bukhamseen5, M. Al Ghamdi3
1King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Cardiac Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 4King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Intensive Care, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Background and Goal of Study: The cardiac sequelae of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) may result in morbidity and mortality. Echocardiography is routinely used to assess cardiac pathology. However, infection control measures made the imaging of patients with COVID-19 challenging and limited the use of echocardiography.

Aim: To assess the quality of the echocardiographic images acquired in critically ill patients with COVID-19 and describe the left ventricular (LV) function in patients with severe COVID-19.

Materials and Methods: The electronic medical records of all patients diagnosed with COVID-19 between 01/05/20 and 31/12/20 who had echocardiography whilst admitted to an intensive care unit at King Abdulaziz Medical City, Riyadh were reviewed.

Results and Discussion: The study included 85 patients (female 24, 28.2%; mean age 64 ± SD 15.7 years; mean body mass index; BMI 30.8 ± SD 7.45). Of the 67 patients (78.8%) who were overweight (BMI > 25 kg/m²); 38 were obese (BMI > 25 kg/m²). Echocardiography was technically difficult in 57 patients (67%). Complete studies were performed in 43 patients (50.6%). Limited echocardiography was performed in 41 patients (48.2%). Images could be obtained in all but one.

The indications for echocardiography included the assessment of patients with stroke (4; 4.7%), acute coronary syndromes (6; 7.1%), raised troponin (3; 3.5%) and suspected endocarditis (8; 10.6%). Two patients did not have the indication for echocardiography recorded. Measurement of LV function (34; 40%) was most commonly requested. However, adequate images to measure LV function could not be obtained in 12 patients. The other 73 patients (85.9%) generally had preserved LV function (Teich ejection fraction (EF) 59.7% ± SD 12.0). Ejection fraction (EF) was over 50% in 59 patients (68.9%). Seven (8.2%) had mildly reduced ejection fraction (EF 40-49%) and another 7 patients had EF < 40%. Diastolic dysfunction was identified in 47 patients (55.3%). Steroids were administered to 80 patients (94.1%) before echocardiography.

Conclusion(s): Requests for echocardiography were reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic to minimize sonographers’ exposure. Imaging critically ill patients is always challenging. Yet, interpretable images were obtained in most cases. Less than 10% of the cohort
had systolic dysfunction. However, diastolic dysfunction was present in more than half of the critically ill patients with COVID-19 in the present cohort.

09AP09-01
Drug screening to improve propofol infusion syndrome (PRIS) using zebrafish model

R. Matsumoto, N. Suzuki, G. Kawahara, M. Nakayashiki, H. Uchino, Y. K Hayashi
Tokyo Medical University, Anesthesiology, Tokyo, Japan
Tokyo Medical University, Pathophysiology, Tokyo, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: PRIS is a rare and fatal multisystem disorder including rhabdomyolysis caused by long-term high-dose administration of propofol. Detailed pathomechanism of PRIS has not yet been elucidated.

Zebrafish is useful animal to study human diseases. Zebrafish larvae is translucent and it is easy to evaluate skeletal muscle structural abnormalities. They have high reproductive capacity and 50~300 eggs are available at a time. That is a great advantage for in vivo drug screening.

The purpose of this study is to create animal model of PRIS using zebrafish and elucidate the pathomechanism of propofol induced skeletal muscle abnormalities. Also, we search for therapeutic agents for propofol induced muscle damage using zebrafish model.

Materials and Methods: Wild-type zebrafish larvae of 4 days post fertilization (4 dpf) were cultured in fish water containing 0, 62, 125, 250 and 500 μM of propofol for 1, 3, 6 and 24 hours. The structure of skeletal muscle was analyzed by birefringence assay and determined the suitable experimental condition as a PRIS model. Drug screening was performed using a chemical library containing 1,280 drugs. Wild-type zebrafish larvae at 4 dpf were treated with 125 μM of propofol together with 10 μM of each drug for 3 hours. After drug treatment, structural change of skeletal muscle was analyzed by birefringence assay.

Results: Treatment with 125 μM of propofol for 3 hours induced structural abnormality of skeletal muscle of zebrafish larvae at 4 dpf by birefringence assay and considered as a good animal model for PRIS (Figure). After screening the drug library, we found 27 candidate drugs to improve muscle structural abnormalities of propofol-treated fish.

Discussion: These results suggested that our zebrafish model of PRIS and the candidate drugs we found will lead to elucidate the pathomechanism of PRIS in skeletal muscle.

09AP09-03
Immuno-modulatory effects of dexamethasone in severe COVID-19 - a Swedish cohort study

S. Asif, R. Frithiof, A. Larsson, S. Franzén, S.B. Anderberg, M. Lipcsey
Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Department of Surgical Sciences, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden
Department of Medical Sciences, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

Introduction: Dexamethasone has received an emerging focus due to its protective effects on mortality in severe COVID-19.

Aims: In the present study we aimed to investigate the physiological as well as immunological effects associated with dexamethasone administration in patients admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) with severe COVID-19.

Methods: A total of 216 adult COVID-19 patients were included, 102 (47%) received dexamethasone 6 mg/day for 10 days and 114 (53%) did not. Standard laboratory parameters, plasma levels of cytokines, endothelial markers, immunoglobulin (Ig) IgA, IgM and IgG against COVID-19 virus were analyzed post ICU admission.

Results: Patients with dexamethasone treatment vs. those without, had higher blood glucose but lower blood lactate, plasma cortisol, IgA, IgM, IgG, D-dimer, cytokines, Syndecan-1 and E-selectin (Figure 1), and received less organ support.

There was an association between dexamethasone treatment and IL-17A, MIP-1α, Syndecan-1 as well as E-selectin in predicting 30-day mortality. In patients who received dexamethasone within 14 days of COVID-19 infection, the crude mortality risk at 30 days was 0.4 (0.2 – 0.9), compared to those who received the treatment later in their disease course (Table 1).

Conclusion: In a cohort of critically ill COVID-19 patients, early administration of dexamethasone was associated with widespread effects on immune and physiologic responses, some of which could mediate effects on mortality.
**Background and Goal of Study:** Vasoplegic syndrome (VS) is a form of vasodilatory shock that can occur in many clinical scenarios, including cardiac surgery. Methylene blue (MB) inhibits nitric oxide synthase and subsequent activation of soluble guanylyl cyclase, and may antagonize the underlying pathophysiology of VS. It may play a role in the management of postoperative VS and vasodilatory shock syndromes. We aimed to review the use of MB in the treatment of perioperative VS and refractory shock at our institution.

**Materials and Methods:** Data of adult patients who received MB for VS at Harefield Hospital (2016-2021) were extracted from the electronic system and analysed retrospectively.

**Results and Discussion:** 125 patients (M 75%, mean age 55±18y) received MB, which was administered in the intensive care unit (ICU) and in the operating theatre in 97 and 28 patients, respectively. The doses used ranged between 50 and 200 mg. MB was given preferentially as a bolus, and 25% of patients received repeated doses. 64 (51.2%) patients received MB to treat cardiac surgery-related VS, while septic shock was the second most common indication (Table 1). As serotonergic antidepressants with MB can precipitate serotonergic syndromes, including cardiac surgery. Methylene blue (MB) inhibits nitric oxide synthase and subsequent activation of soluble guanylyl cyclase, and may antagonize the underlying pathophysiology of VS. It may play a role in the management of postoperative VS and vasodilatory shock syndromes. We aimed to review the use of MB in the treatment of perioperative VS and refractory shock at our institution.

**Table 1. Logistic regression derived odds ratios (OR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) for the association between dexamethasone treatment and mortality at 30 days in COVID-19 patients admitted to the ICU. Sub-analysis among COVID-19 patients who received corticosteroid treatment earlier < 14 days of versus those who received later ≥ 14 days.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30 days mortality risk</th>
<th>All patients</th>
<th>COVID-19 day &lt;14 on admission</th>
<th>COVID-19 day ≥14 on admission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dexamethasone treatment</td>
<td>0.7 (0.4–1.4)</td>
<td>0.4 (0.2–0.9)</td>
<td>3.1 (0.7–14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion:** There is no consensus on technical aspects and benefits of MB for VS. According to our institutional guidelines, MB is the third line off-label therapy after norepinephrine and vasopressin for refractory shock, especially in cardiac surgery. Dosage was within safe limits and most of the patients had no contraindications for its use.

Further studies on timing, dosage regimen and administration practices are needed in order to maximize the role of MB in VS.

**09AP09-04**

An audit of the use of methylene blue for vasoplegic syndrome in cardiac surgery and refractory shock

O. Crescenzi1, A. Verzelloni Sef1, C. Walker1, N. Marczin1, S. Kaul1
1Harefield Hospital, Royal Brompton & Harefield hospitals, Part of Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust, Department of Anaesthesia and Critical Care, London, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Vasoplegic syndrome (VS) is a form of vasodilatory shock that can occur in many clinical scenarios, including cardiac surgery. Methylene blue (MB) inhibits nitric oxide synthase and subsequent activation of soluble guanylyl cyclase, and may antagonize the underlying pathophysiology of VS. It may play a role in the management of postoperative VS and vasodilatory shock syndromes. We aimed to review the use of MB in the treatment of perioperative VS and refractory shock at our institution.

**Materials and Methods:** Data of adult patients who received MB for VS at Harefield Hospital (2016-2021) were extracted from the electronic system and analysed retrospectively.

**Results and Discussion:** 125 patients (M 75%, mean age 55±18y) received MB, which was administered in the intensive care unit (ICU) and in the operating theatre in 97 and 28 patients, respectively. The doses used ranged between 50 and 200 mg. MB was given preferentially as a bolus, and 25% of patients received repeated doses. 64 (51.2%) patients received MB to treat cardiac surgery-related VS, while septic shock was the second most common indication (Table 1). As serotonergic antidepressants with MB can precipitate serotonergic syndromes, including cardiac surgery. Methylene blue (MB) inhibits nitric oxide synthase and subsequent activation of soluble guanylyl cyclase, and may antagonize the underlying pathophysiology of VS. It may play a role in the management of postoperative VS and vasodilatory shock syndromes. We aimed to review the use of MB in the treatment of perioperative VS and refractory shock at our institution.

**Table 1. MB indications**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical scenario</th>
<th>N (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valve surgery ± coronary artery bypass grafting</td>
<td>42 (33.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left ventricular assist device implantation</td>
<td>11 (8.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart transplantation</td>
<td>5 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronary artery bypass grafting</td>
<td>4 (3.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aortic surgery</td>
<td>2 (1.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic shock</td>
<td>26 (20.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung transplantation</td>
<td>14 (11.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-resuscitation syndrome</td>
<td>7 (5.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>14 (11.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion:** There is no consensus on technical aspects and benefits of MB for VS. According to our institutional guidelines, MB is the third line off-label therapy after norepinephrine and vasopressin for refractory shock, especially in cardiac surgery. Dosage was within safe limits and most of the patients had no contraindications for its use.

Further studies on timing, dosage regimen and administration practices are needed in order to maximize the role of MB in VS.
09AP09-08
Short-term esmolol confers persistent cardiac protection after treatment withdrawal

I. Solchaga-Sánchez1, M.J. Delgado-Martos2, A. Amalich-Montiel1, L. Pazó-Sayós1, R. Martín-Oropesa1, B. Quintana-Villamandos1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH) is a strong and independent predictor of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in patients with hypertension. Regression of LVH is associated with a reduction in the incidence of cardiovascular events. Regression of LVH with antihypertensive therapy has been reported, although only after long-term treatment. We have previously proved that short-term treatment with esmolol (48 hours) produces regression of cardiac remodeling (1). However, we do not know yet if this effect is maintained over time once the drug infusion is stopped.

Materials and Methods: Once the study was approved by the Ethics Committee on Animal Investigation (CEEA), we selected spontaneously hypertensive (SHR) male adult rats (14 months old) and randomly divided them into two groups: those who received 300mcg/kg/min iv esmolol infusion for 48h (SHR-E) and those who received iv saline as placebo (SHR). After treatment, each group was randomly divided into three subgroups: those studied just after 48h of treatment withdrawal (SHR-48h y SHR-E-48h), after 7 days (SHR-7d y SHR-E-7d) and after a month (SHR-1m y SHR-E-1m) from stopping the treatment. We studied echocardiographic parameters with M-mode measurements (interventricular septal end diastolic thickness, left ventricular end diastolic diameter and left ventricular posterior wall diastolic thickness) to calculate left ventricular mass index (LVMI). Cross-sectional area (CSA) of cardiomyocytes and collagen volume fraction (CVF) of the left ventricle were determined by optical microscopy and image analysis (H&E 40x and Masson 20x stains, respectively). The groups were compared using an independent t test, considering p < 0.05 as statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: LVMI and CSA values of cardiomyocytes from SHR-E-48h were decreased compared to SHR-E (p < 0.05), and these changes persisted in SHR-E-7d and SHR-E-1m. CVF from SHR-E-7d was decreased compared to SHR-7d (p < 0.05), and these changes persisted in SHR-E-1m.

Conclusion: Esmolol produces early regression of left ventricular hypertrophy, and this effect is maintained over time once drug infusion is stopped.


Acknowledgements: This study was financed by a grant from FIS 16/02069 and FEDER Funding.

09AP09-10
Risk factors for mortality in critically ill patients with septic shock treated with AN69ST (oXiris®) hemofilter: a retrospective observational study in Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital

D. Smirnova1,2, V. Basilajs4, V. Liguts6, O. Sabelnikova6,3
1Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 2Riga Stradiņš University, Doctoral Studies in Health Care, Riga, Latvia, 3Riga Stradins University, Department of Clinical Skills and Medical Technology, Riga, Latvia, 4Riga Stradiņš University, Faculty of Medicine, Riga, Latvia, 5Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 6Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Acute Renal and Liver Replacement Therapy Department, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Although several studies have reported a hemodynamic improvement and lactate clearance benefit for a new adsorptive oXiris® hemofilter, it’s effect on mortality remain controversial. Possible risk factors for poor outcomes need to be analyzed to identify strategies for individual case management and reduce mortality.

Materials and Methods: To identify the risk factors related to the patient’s 28-day mortality, 35 consecutive septic shock cases treated with the oXiris® for at least 24 hours during 2022 were retrospectively analyzed. The demographic, laboratory, continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT) parameters data, Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) and Dynamic Score System (DSS) were collected from patient’s files prior and 24 hours after treatment with oXiris® hemofilter.

Results and Discussion: A mean age was 65 [IQR 47-73] years. Besides standard septic shock therapy, all enrolled patients received CRRT with oXiris® mostly due to the hemodynamic instability (the median dose of norepinephrine (NE) was 0.27μg/kg/min [IQR: 0.13 - 0.39]) or high inflammatory markers (Procalcitonin (PCT; median 26; IQR: 11-71); C-reactive protein (CRP; median 268; IQR: 153 - 299). The median pre-treatment SOFA score was 12 (IQR: 10-33) and DSS score was 8 (IQR: 6-10). The median treatment initiation time was 19 h (IQR: 14-48) and hemofilter duration time was 69.5 h (IQR: 44,5–72).

PCT levels decreased by 0.06 μg/kg/min (25%), 0.5 mmol/l (21%) and these changes persisted in SHR-E-1m. CVF from SHR-E-48h were decreased compared to SHR-48h (p< 0.05), and these changes persisted in SHR-E-7d and SHR-E-1m. The SOFA score was decreased by 1 point (8,3%) after 24 h of treatment. Among the total patients, 28-day mortality was 45,7% [n=16]. In logistic regression analysis only SOFA scale, DSS score and time before treatment (patients were clustered in two group - who received oXiris® ≤ 24 h or >24 h upon ICU admission) were considered as independent risk factors for 28-day mortality (p<0,001).

Conclusion(s): SOFA scale, DSS and time before treatment were indicated to be the risk factors of high mortality rate in septic patients treated with oXiris® hemofilter. Identification of these risk factors can be helpful in the timely intervention of patients at high risk of death for health care providers. Moreover, in this study a comparison of two score systems (DSS and SOFA) was reported to be the first time, that can subsequently simplify the validation of this new DSS score in future.
10AP01-01
Accidental perforation of the right subclavian artery in a 22-year-old female drug abuser. A case report

V. Tsapara¹, F. Sifaki¹, M. Perente¹, P. Sarri-Floridou¹, A. Karamitsou², G. Mitos³
¹Georgios Papanikolaou, General Hospital of Thessaloniki, Department of Anaesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Thessaloniki, Greece, ²Georgios Papanikolaou, General Hospital of Thessaloniki, Department of General Surgery, Thessaloniki, Greece, ³AHEPA, University Hospital of Thessaloniki, Department of Anaesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background: The use of heroin is associated with the more harmful forms of drug abuse because 38% of the cases receive it through direct endovascular injection¹, predisposing to vascular injury². We describe the case of a 22 year old female drug abuser presenting with perforation of her right subclavian artery and the diagnostic and therapeutic approaches that led to a successful outcome. Traumatic injuries of the subclavian artery are related with high morbidity and mortality rates. Thus, timely and effective management is required in order to optimize outcome.

Case report: The patient presented to the emergency department with active hemorrhage in the right subclavicular area, reporting an injection of heroin into a subclavian vessel 10 days ago. She was hemodynamically unstable and was transferred for CT angiography that revealed active extravasation from the right subclavian artery. We made the decision to proceed to endovascular treatment. The patient was intubated and continuous arterial access was gained through her left radial artery. The first arterial blood gas analysis revealed a Hb of 2.4 g/dL and immediately the massive transfusion protocol of our hospital was employed. In the catheterization lab, a stent was introduced via the guide-wire and after an angiography, it was expanded. Angiography after the stent placement revealed good blood flow within the right subclavian artery without any leakage. Artery stenosis or dissection. The patient was transferred to the ICU. After a follow up CT and anterior cervical hematomas drainage by maxillofacial surgeons, she was extubated on the third postoperative day. She was discharged from the hospital on the eighth postoperative day and on her follow up visit, 30 days after the intervention, she was doing well.

Discussion: Subclavian artery injuries, though rare, bear high morbidity. Treatment with minimally invasive techniques and team work ameliorate the prognosis of these patients.

References:
1. European drug report 2022
2. Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg 2006, 32; 389-396

Learning Points: Importance of rapid recognition and management in such a life-threatening injury as subclavian artery perforation. Teamwork between many different medical specialties. Implementation of minimally invasive techniques.

10AP01-02
A fatal case of “Cosmonaut drug” ingestion in Sars-CoV-2 positive patient

J. Domazet Bugarin¹, L. Šarić¹, B. Duplančić¹, D. Ilić¹, N. Delić¹, S. Došenović¹
¹University Hospital Split, Department of Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Intensive Medicine, Split, Croatia

Background: Phenibut (β-phenyl-γ-aminobutyric acid) is a gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) analog and agonist. Created in 1960 in Soviet Union and intended for use by cosmonauts for anxiolysis and cognitive enhancement. Use of phenibut typically exerts anxiolysis and sedation but it can also cause altered mentation, respiratory depression, tonic-clonic seizures, temperature dysregulation and symptoms may mimic serotonin syndrome or neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS).

Case report: 17-year old male was brought around 2 p.m. to Emergency Pediatric Department (EPD) after celebration of his 18-th birthday with consummation of large amounts of energy drinks and “enhancing dietary supplement” bought online later identified as phenibut. Initially he presented with a decreased level of consciousness and was extremely agitated. Vital signs were unremarkable. Laboratory workup showed elevated liver enzymes as well as creatinine phosphokinase and myoglobin highly increased and Sars-Cov-2 positive. He was admitted to Pediatric ward. During the night his body temperature was rising over 40°C. In the morning level of consciousness decreased and lab tests showed increasing levels of creatinine phosphokinase and myoglobin as well as failure of liver and kidney function. NMS was suspected, supportive therapy was initiated and he was transferred to Intensive care unit (ICU). Despite intensive treatment (mechanical ventilation, sedation, CRRT, off label use of Dantrolen) he deteriorated and went into cardiac arrest with fatal outcome.

Discussion: The number of reported cases of phenibut dependence and intoxication is relatively small. Systematic review by Kupats et al presented sixteen patients with acute phenibut intoxication but none of them were fatal. That is in concordance with other case reports that we are aware of, with just one of them presenting possibly fatal outcome. There were no case reports that we found to this date that show possible link between phenibut intoxication and activation of NMS.

References:

Learning Points: Physicians should be aware of phenibut, its misuse and the potential for severe toxicity in adolescents.
10AP01-03
Intraoperative cardiac arrest caused by unexpected vasospastic angina requiring prolonged resuscitation using extracorporeal membrane oxygenation

M. Obata1, S. Sugita1, F.Hasunuma1, K. Sakamoto1, H. Bito1, A. Sakamoto2
1Nippon Medical School Musashikosugi, Anesthesiology, Kawasaki, Japan, 2Nippon Medical School, Anesthesiology, Bunkyo, Japan

Background: Vasospastic angina (VSA), also known as variant angina, usually occurs at rest. Vasospasm during surgery is very rare and necessitates prompt management to prevent its development into ventricular arrhythmia, which may result in cardiac arrest. Although it is difficult to preoperatively assess intraoperative vasospasm, the availability of medical resources may allow better outcomes in the operating room [1].

Case report: We present the case of a 77-year-old hypertensive male, with no history of coronary artery disease, who underwent laparoscopic inguinal hernia surgery under general anesthesia, using sevoflurane-fentanyl-remifentanil. Sudden VSA occurred during surgery, just before closing. ST elevation was observed for 103 seconds, resulting in Ventricular fibrillation. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was immediately attempted, but pulseless electrical activity was observed after defibrillation. Stone heart condition was observed via transesophageal echocardiography, and extracorporeal CPR (ECPR) was performed. Return of spontaneous circulation was obtained 77 minutes after cardiac arrest.

VSA was diagnosed by the patient’s clinical course and the results of his coronary angiography. Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation was removed on the first postoperative day, and the patient was discharged without any sequelae. During the CPR, the patient’s state index (PSI) by SedLine®, which reflects brain function, was preserved.

Discussion: ECPR should be considered based on guidelines. But even if the ECPR is performed, longer low-flow times are associated with poorer neurologic prognosis [2]. In such cases, PSI has been reported to be a possible predictor of neurologic prognosis.

References:
1. Jochen HinKellBein et al
Perioperative cardiac arrest in the operating room environment: a review of the literature
Minerva anestesiologica 2017 Nov;83(11):1190-1198
2. Takayuki Ohtani et al
Low-flow time is associated with a favorable neurological outcome in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients resuscitated with extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation
Journal of Critical Care Volume 2018 Dec;48:15-20

Learning Points: Ventricular arrhythmia caused by VSA could develop too rapidly to manage. ECPR for intraoperative refractory cardiac arrest should be considered to avoid adverse events, such as hemorrhage. PSI may be useful to assess the quality of CPR and to predict the neurological outcome.

10AP01-04
Tranexamic acid and viscoelastic hemostatic assay in severe traumatic brain injury, from evidence to clinical practice

P. Rodriguez Nieto1, J. Silva García1, P.E. Gómez De Castro1
1Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre, Anesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background: Traumatic brain injury (TBI) remains one of the most challenging health and socioeconomic problems of our times. It is a fact that TBI is associated with coagulopathy which results in the need for blood products, organ dysfunction, longer stay in ICU and higher mortality. We aim to underline the importance of early and targeted hemostatic resuscitation by presenting a case report with fatal outcomes.

Case report: 55 year-old man with severe TBI due to a bike accident who was transferred to our center intubated, hemodynamically stable and with reactive and symmetrical pupils. The initial viscoelastic hemostatic assay (VHA) was normal and the cranial CT scan showed a subdural hematoma with midline shift so a decompressive craniectomy was performed urgently. During the surgery, the patient suffered a cardiac arrest, recovered after 15 minutes of advanced cardiac life support and fluid administration, secondary to significant intracranial bleeding.

Another VHA was performed showing data compatible with hypofibrinogenemia and hyperfibrinolysis. Therefore, tranexamic acid (TXA) and fibrinogen concentrate were administered. A new CT scan after surgery showed major brain damage and, on the following day, encephalic death was confirmed.

Discussion: Recent studies have shown that administration of TXA within 3 hour of injury reduces death in mild-to-moderate TBI with no evidence of any increased risk of adverse events. Moreover, VHA-guided management algorithms have proved to reduce mortality in patients with severe TBI. Given the lack of specific TBI management guidelines considering targeted hemostatic resuscitation as a fundamental pillar despite recently published evidence on this subject, we consider it necessary to develop specific and center-individualized management algorithms to guide hemostatic resuscitation in this subgroup of patients.

Reference:
CRASH-3 trial (1); ITACTIC trial (2)

Learning Points: Increased fibrinolysis in often observed in patients with TBI as shown in this case report. While it is true that VHA-guided treatment was done, TXA should probably have been administered empirically in the first 3 hours after the accident.
10AP01-05
Remote real-time supervision of prehospital emergency ultrasound: a case report

A. Allhutter¹, C. Hafner², M. Krammel³, W. Schaumbmayer¹, H. Willschke², D.A. Klaus¹
¹Medical University of Vienna, Department of Anaesthesia, General Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Vienna, Austria, ²Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Health and Patient Safety, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Health and Patient Safety, Vienna, Austria, ³Emergency Medical Service of Vienna, Emergency Medical Service of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Background: Due to the technical progress of portable devices, prehospital emergency ultrasound (PEU) is increasingly used. However, prehospital circumstances can complicate adequate execution and rapid translation of findings. Technical advances offer the opportunity for remote real-time supervision of prehospital ultrasound. Certainly, there is a lack of evidence on the impact of tele-ultrasound on patient outcome.

Within the course of the ongoing study “Live-Stream of prehospital emergency ultrasound in patients with acute dyspnoea” (ClinTrials.gov NCT04817488) remote real-time supervision led to a major change of decision-making for the prehospital emergency physician in a challenging case.

Case report: A prehospital emergency physician was called to a 60-year-old patient due to a sudden onset of acute dyspnoea and chest pain. On arrival, the awake patient showed the following vital signs: open airway, respiratory rate > 20/min, peripheral oxygen saturation of 88%, heart rate 120/min, blood pressure 200/100 mmHg.

The 12-lead ECG showed a new-onset left bundle branch block. For differential between an acute coronary syndrome and an acute aortic syndrome the physician decided to perform PEU.

As depicted in Figure 1, the parasternal long axis view unveiled an approximately 20 x 50 mm mobile, homogenous mass, attached to the basal interatrial septum at a small pedicle, with diastolic prolaps approximately 20 x 50 mm mobile, homogenous mass, attached to the basal interatrial septum at a small pedicle, with diastolic prolaps into the left ventricle.

Due to this finding the prehospital emergency physician decided to use the opportunity of tele-supervision. With remote real-time supervision the diagnosis of a cardiac myxoma was established, which resulted in an alteration of prehospital treatment and choice of admission hospital.

Discussion: Although previous studies demonstrated technical feasibility of prehospital tele-ultrasound, a beneficial impact on patient outcome is rarely reported. In this case remote real-time supervision supported the prehospital emergency physician in decision making during a challenging case.

Learning points: In prehospital circumstances the opportunity of tele-ultrasound can provide expert-opinion at the scene and possibly improve patient outcome.

10AP01-07
Left ventricle rupture. How often in the emergency room?

P Goncalves¹, J. Lusquinhos¹, M. Carvalho²
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário de São João, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Gaia Espinho, Intensive Care, Gaia, Portugal

Background: Ischemic heart disease accounts for 1.8 million deaths annually, accounting for 20% of all deaths in Europe and is the single most common cause of death globally. Mechanical complications of acute coronary syndromes, although rare, are surgical emergencies. Left ventricular free wall rupture (LVFWR) can be caused by trauma or, more commonly, by ischemia. The incidence is estimated at 1%, with extremely high mortality. Early diagnosis is the cornerstone of the patient’s prognosis.

Case report: We present a case report of a 68-year-old female patient with history of hypertension and dyslipidemia. 4 hours after diagnosis of ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) at another clinical institution, she was transported without medical assistance to the emergency room (ER) of a tertiary hospital.

On admission to the ER, she was in cardiac arrest (CA) in pulseless electrical activity with 2 minutes of evolution, in basic life support maneuvers. She returned to spontaneous circulation after 2 cycles of chest compressions. She recovered from CA with a neurological status compatible with no need for airway protection, hemodynamically unstable and with an electrocardiogram showing complete left bundle branch block and ST elevation in the anterolateral leads and reciprocal ST segment depression in the inferior leads.

After immediate post-cardiac arrest care, she underwent chest CT which revealed cardiac tamponade due to LVFWR. Coronary angiography confirmed LV free wall rupture and complete occlusion of the left anterior descending artery. She was transferred to the operating room for emergent coronary revascularization surgery and ventriculoplasty. The postoperative period was uneventful, and the patient was discharged without neurocognitive deficits after 10 days of hospitalization, 7 of which in the intensive care unit.

Discussion: Undiagnosed LV wall rupture rapidly evolves to cardiovascular dysfunction, with cardiac tamponade and hemothorax being the immediate complications. The high clinical suspicion in the post-STEMI patient who evolves into obstructive shock and echocardiography make the diagnosis quicker, allowing progress in the chain of care. Rapid recognition, adequate medical follow-up and medical/surgical treatment allow for a 75% increase in survival.

Learning Points: This case report demonstrates a favorable evolution of a post-infarction tamponade, highlighting the need for a quick diagnosis and its emergent treatment.
**10AP01-08**

**Acute pancreatitis developed Takotsubo cardiomyopathy followed by diabetic ketoacidosis: a case report**

M. Satomoto¹, Y. Adachi²

¹Toho University Omori Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Tokyo, Japan, ²Shizuoka Saiseikai General Hospital, Saiseikai Research Institute of Health Care and Welfare, Department of Emergency Medicine, Shizuoka, Japan

**Background:** Takotsubo cardiomyopathy (TCM) is characterized by temporary ventricular wall abnormality and followed by cardiac dysfunction resulting in heart failure. TCM is induced by physiological and psychiatric stress including pain. There are few case reports describing TCM and pancreatitis. The therapeutic strategies are quite opposite.

**Case report:** A 55-year-old female patient (50.4 kg & 160 cm) complained epigastralgia and dyspnea. She has a history of mammectomy 2 years ago and chemotherapy. Mild diabetes was pointed out and oral medication therapy was continued. Electrocardiography showed abnormality in the ST-segment (Figure), and blood concentration of creatinine kinase (MB fraction) and troponin I were 4.9 ng/ml and 0.58 ng/ml, respectively. Echocardiography revealed hypokinesis of the left ventricular apex (Figure).

**Ejection fraction was 29%. Thus, the final diagnosis of TCM followed by heart failure was made at emergency room. She was admitted to an intensive care unit. Diuretics was intravenously given, and the fluid loading was restricted. On the next morning, tachypnea was observed. The blood gas analysis showed the development of diabetic ketoacidosis (pH: 6.9, PaCO₂: 10.7 mmHg, blood glucose: 393 mg/dl and total ketone body: 17423 μmol/L). Serum concentrations of amylase and lipase were 113 IU/L and 438 IU/L, respectively. Acute pancreatitis-induced TCM was strongly suspected, and hydration and continuous insulin infusion were initiated under repeated evaluations of cardiac function. Recovery from severe ketoacidosis was followed by normalization of cardiac function. She discharged the hospital on the 20th hospital days without any complications.

**Discussion:** Dehydration is one of important strategies for treatment of heart failure. On the other hand, hydration is absolutely recommended against acute pancreatitis. The cause of epigastralgia was overlooked in the case, and initial therapy worsened the diabetes resulting in severe ketoacidosis.

**Reference:**


**Learning Points:** We should take more attention to the original stress that induced TCM.

**10AP01-09**

**Cerebral fat embolism in proximal femur fracture: how long to wait? – Case report**

A. Soares Cruz¹, L. V Maria¹, J. C Barbosa¹, R. Sá¹

¹Hospital de Braga, Anesthesiology, Braga, Portugal

**Background:** Fat Embolism Syndrome (FES) is a rare clinical entity that usually manifests within 12 to 72 hours after long bone fracture, which is the main etiology. The classic manifestations include hypoxemia, neurologic changes, and petechial rash, but none of them is specific of FES.¹³

**Case report:** An 18-year-old female patient, ASA I, was admitted to the Orthopedics unit due to diaphyseal fractures of the left femur and right tibia after a car accident with projection. A surgical correction was scheduled for the 3rd day of hospitalization.

On D2, she complained about visual changes, followed by agitation and worsening of the clinical status with prostration, disorientation, and desaturation. Nevertheless, she remained hemodynamically stable. Pulmonary embolism and acute cerebral events were excluded by tomography.

Upon the suspicion for Cerebral Fat Embolism (CFE), the patient submitted to emergent surgical correction of the femoral fracture under general anesthesia. She was extubated after the procedure and admitted to the Intermediate Care Unit (ICU). The first 3 days, she maintained fluctuations in the state of consciousness and periods of hypoxemia. She underwent a cerebral magnetic resonance imaging, that confirmed the diagnosis of CFE.

The patient remained in the ICU for 6 days, with progressive improvement of neurological and pulmonary status, and complete resolution of the symptoms.

**Discussion:** This case highlights the importance of a quick approach to patients with long bone fractures, due to the risk of FES. The most effective prevention is early correction of these fractures.¹³

Postponing orthopedic surgery has advantages in preoperative optimization and stabilization of patients, as well as management of operating room dynamics. However, this case reinforces the demand to prioritize patients with long bone fractures and the importance of clinical surveillance of these patients.

In most cases there is a complete recovery, symptoms are transient and reversible. However, there are documented cases of persistence of symptoms, and a non-negligible rate of FES-related death.⁵

**References:**

1. Case Rep Orthop 2021, 5585085
2. Chest 159, 1064-1071 (2021)
5. Indian J Crit Care Med 2015; 19:687

**Learning Points:** Avoiding delay in surgical correction and maintaining adequate perioperative surveillance of these patients prevents significant complications and reduces morbimortality.
Bone cement implantation syndrome in hip cement hemiarthroplast: right ventricle failure and intraoperative transthoracic echocardiogram

C. Estrada Costas1, B. Martin Lopez1, P. Gómez de Castro1, P. Nocete Navarro1, S. García Pérez1, M. Cortés Guerrero1
1Hospital 12 de Octubre, Anestesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background: Bone cement implantation syndrome (BCIS) is a cause of morbidity and mortality intra- and postoperative in hip cement hemiarthroplast. It produces hypoxia, loss of consciousness and arrhythmias, which can lead to right ventricle (RV) failure and cardiac arrest.

It is a frequent surgery without definition criteria and not fully understood pathophysiology that can be extremely serious, which is why more studies should be carried out.

Case report: We present a case of an 85-year-old woman undergoing hip cement hemiarthroplast. The patient had multiple comorbidities (hypertension, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension and atrial fibrillation (AF)).

During cementation, the patient presented cardiac arrest. We started advance life support until she returned to spontaneous rhythm. Intraoperative transthoracic echocardiogram (TTE) showed data of severe RV dysfunction due to pulmonary embolism (fulminant SCIB). Patient was transferred to critical care unit intubated, supported with epinephrine, dobutamine and pulmonary vasodilators. During immediate postoperative period, RV function was monitored with TTE. On 3rd postoperative day, she is discharged from the unit stable.

Discussion: The patient had high risk of SCIB (advanced age, ASA III, cardiac pathology, and cemented prosthesis). It would be indicated surgical selection for uncemented prosthesis and invasive monitoring should be considered to minimize morbidity and mortality. Special attention should be paid during cementation and prosthesis insertion.

Intraoperative transthoracic echocardiography is useful to identify SCIB, assess cardiac function, and guide resuscitation.

Its pathophysiology is not well known and its treatment is based on hemodynamic and respiratory support, so more studies must be carried out in order to carry out a specific treatment and prevention.

Reference:

Learning points:
1. More studies are necessary to understand the mechanism of SCIB and to establish a targeted treatment.
2. Patients at high risk of developing SCIB should be identified.
3. TTE is useful in SCIB.

Is the chest compression system that harmless?

I. Faria Capito1, A.S. Fernandes1, Â. Garcia Alves1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

Background: Chest Compression System (Lucas® device) is frequently used in cardio respiratory arrest to improve the compressions and minimize human factors such as fatigue. This device was first applied in 2003 and there is no research about any recorded injuries. It’s proven that there’s no benefit from the use of Lucas® when comparing with manual compressions within the 30-day survival.

Case report: We describe a case of a 67 y/o male patient, with known history of myocardial infarction, who came to the hospital with chest pain, nausea and sweating. He had a cardiac arrest in the waiting room and was quickly assisted by the emergency team. 4 advanced life support cycles were completed with LUCAS® until he recovered spontaneous circulation and after that he was assessed by a cardiologist. In the hemodynamic room no coronary occlusion was found, but the patient started to show hemodynamic instability and distended abdomen. Due to that, the patient underwent an abdominal tomography that revealed massive retroperitoneal hemorrhage from a ruptured aneurysm in the lower pole of the left kidney.

In the operating room (OR), an emergent total nephrectomy and segmental enterectomy were done with class IV hemorrhage and blood product replacement, which included tranexamic acid, erythrocyte concentrate, platelets, fibrinogen concentrate and fresh frozen plasma. The bleeding was stopped but despite all efforts, the patient suffered severe brain injury.

Discussion: In the described case, the patient came to the urgency with chest pain, suggestive of acute myocardial infarction and ended up in the OR with a massive haemorrhage after LUCAS® application for about 10 minutes. Was the haemorrhage already there? Was the compression device properly applied? He had previous cardiac history. Also, he never had presented trauma history and had no bruises in him.

References:
1. Olsen A et al. Severe intra-abdominal injuries following the LUCAS chest compression system being applied for cardiopulmonary resuscitation. April, 2019.

Learning points: Chest compression system does not seem to be so harmless as that. All health care providers must know how to correctly apply the device. More research is needed in order to assess the effects of mechanical compressions.
How thromboelastometry can change our practice: a case report

N. Machado, J. Branquinho, E. Francisco, J.P. Assunção
1Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

Background: Hemorrhagic shock is a medical emergency that often requires a multidisciplinary response in which anesthesiologist is the team leader. Thromboelastometry has been considered an effective tool for bleeding management in critically ill patients. Thromboelastometry can guide transfusion therapy quickly, reducing the need for blood products. We report our experience with a case of hemorrhagic shock, in which bleeding management was guided by thromboelastometry.

Case report: A 61-year-old woman with cardiovascular risk factors under dual antiplatelet therapy was present with 3rd class hemorrhagic shock, 12 hours after percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) by stenosis stent, for exploratory laparotomy. Hemodinamic resuscitation was based on the point of care data of the thromboelastogram with the administration of erythrocyte concentrate and fluids associated with vasopressor support for adequate perfusion. The test showed normal platelet function despite complete adherance to dual antiplatelet therapy. Hemorrhagic focus was controlled, after nephrectomy. She was discharged from the intensive unit after 4 days, with no chest pain.

Discussion: With thromboelastometry, we avoided the administration of platelets, which we thought to have their function inhibited due to dual antiplatelet therapy but the test showed normal platelet function. Thus, the administration of a blood product not necessary was avoided.

References:

Learning points: Thromboelastometry may be considered a useful, feasible and safe tool to monitor and manage patients with hemorrhagic shock. Moreover, it has the potential benefit of allowing rapid diagnosis, goal-directed therapy and thus, avoiding unnecessary blood component transfusion and their risks.

Impact of CoVid19 pandemic on in-hospital cardiac arrest and CPR outcomes on a tertiary university hospital. A retrospective cohorts analysis

T. Ramis Bou, M. Magalda Mendaña, C. Torres Quevedo, J. Fontanals Dotra, E. Carrero, Commission for Care For In-Hospital Cardio-Respiratory Arrests
1Hospital Universitari Son Espases, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Palma, Spain, 2Hospital Cliníc de Barcelona, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Barcelona, Spain, 3University of Barcelona, Facultat de Medicina i Ciències de la Salut, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: During the COVID19 pandemic worse cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) outcomes were reported. These have been attributed to delays in detection and treatment of CA. Preventive measures were introduced in our protocol of in-hospital cardiac arrest (IHCA). Thus, we aimed to determine whether our CPR outcomes had changed since the pandemic and whether they were different in COVID19-infected vs uninfected patients.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study was carried out using a database of all the CPR team activations. It was approved by the ERB of the Hospital Clínic de Barcelona (HCB/2021/1075). “Prepandemic” (2019) vs “pandemic” (2020-21) groups were defined. COVID-infected vs uninfected patients were also compared. Demographics, CPR data, ICU length of stay, mortality, and neurological outcome (good if Glasgow Outcome Scale [GOS] >3 at discharge) were collected. Statistical analysis was performed with IBM SPSS Statistics v27.

Results and Discussion: 308 patients were included in the study. Demographic data did not differ significantly between groups. Main results are shown in tables 1 and 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prepandemic (102)</th>
<th>Pandemic (206)</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac arrest [%]</td>
<td>24 (23.5)</td>
<td>81 (39.3)</td>
<td>0.005*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory arrest [%]</td>
<td>13 (12.9)</td>
<td>25 (12.1)</td>
<td>0.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critically ill non-arrrest [%]</td>
<td>59 (57.8)</td>
<td>89 (43.2)</td>
<td>0.016*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-hospital mortality [%]</td>
<td>27 (26)</td>
<td>84 (43)</td>
<td>0.012*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU LOS [x(std)]</td>
<td>3.48 (5.1)</td>
<td>7.58 (11.1)</td>
<td>0.0045*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOS&gt;3 [%]</td>
<td>64 (96)</td>
<td>89 (82)</td>
<td>0.0049*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>COVID+ (26)</th>
<th>COVID⁻ (180)</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac arrest [%]</td>
<td>8 (31)</td>
<td>73 (40.6)</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory arrest [%]</td>
<td>7 (27)</td>
<td>18 (10)</td>
<td>0.0376*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critically ill non-arrrest [%]</td>
<td>10 (38)</td>
<td>79 (43.9)</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-hospital mortality [%]</td>
<td>11 (42.3)</td>
<td>73 (42.7)</td>
<td>0.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU LOS [x(std)]</td>
<td>19.14 (21.6)</td>
<td>5.91 (7.5)</td>
<td>0.0001*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOS&gt;3 [%]</td>
<td>10 (71.4)</td>
<td>79 (81.4)</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No differences were seen in resuscitation times for CPR nor in the likeliness of ROSC.

Conclusions: Changes in the IHCA protocol during the pandemic, did not alter resuscitation times. A worse prognosis was observed in patients with CA during the pandemic. This could be explained by the relative change in cardiac arrest characteristics. Although COVID+ patients had longer ICU stays, this did not alter their prognosis.
10AP02-03
Permissive hypoventilation equally effective to maintain oxygenation as positive pressure ventilation after porcine class III hemorrhage and whole blood resuscitation

T. Karlsson¹, M. Gellerfors², J. Gustavsson³, M. Günther⁴
¹Karolinska Institutet, Department of Clinical Science and Education Section of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Stockholm, Sweden, ²Karolinska Institutet, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Section of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care and Department of Perioperative Medicine and Intensive Care, Solna, Stockholm, Sweden, ³Karolinska Institutet, Department of Neuroscience, Solna, Stockholm, Sweden, ⁴Karolinska Institutet, Department of Neuroscience and Department of Clinical Science and Education, Section of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Solna, Stockholm, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: Securing airway and ventilation are fundamental in prehospital care to ensure adequate oxygenation. Pre-hospital emergency anesthesia and tracheal intubation may lead to circulatory collapse in severe hemorrhage. It is possible that permissive hypoventilation: refraining from tracheal intubation, positive pressure ventilation and accepting spontaneous ventilation, may lower this risk, and instead allow for immediate whole blood resuscitation. It is not known if oxygen delivery can be maintained with this strategy.

We investigated the feasibility of permissive hypoventilation after class III hemorrhage and subsequent whole blood resuscitation.

Materials and Methods: 19 crossbred swine, mean weight 58.5 kg, were anesthetized with ketamine/midazolam and hemorrhaged to a mean (SD) 1298 (220) mL and randomized to permissive hypoventilation (n=9) or positive pressure ventilation, indexed oxygen delivery (DO2I) decreased to a mean (SD) 1298 (220) mL and mean pressure (ZEEP) 5.7 (1.4) cm H2O were tolerable and did not deteriorate the incidence of resuscitation. DO2I, indexed oxygen consumption (VO2I), and arterial saturation (SaO2) did not differ between groups.

Results and Discussion: In permissive hypoventilation vs positive pressure ventilation, indexed oxygen delivery (DO2I) decreased to a mean (SD) 4.73 (1.06) vs 3.70 (1.13) mL min⁻¹ kg⁻¹ after hemorrhage and increased to 8.62 (2.09) vs 6.70 (1.56) mL min⁻¹ kg⁻¹ at completion of resuscitation. DO2I, indexed oxygen consumption (VO2I), and arterial saturation (SaO2) did not differ between groups.

Conclusion(s): Permissive hypoventilation and positive pressure ventilation were equally effective to maintain oxygen delivery in all three prehospital phases. A respiratory rate of 40 was feasible, showing no signs of respiratory fatigue for 90 minutes, indicating that whole blood resuscitation may be prioritized in select patients with severe hemorrhage and spontaneous breathing.
10AP02-05
Prognostic models for outcome prediction following in-hospital cardiac arrest using pre-arrest factors: a systematic review, meta-analysis and critical appraisal

C. Grandbois van Ravenhorst1, M. Schluep1, H. Endeman2, R.-J. Stolker1, S.E. Hoeks1
1Erasmus Medical Centre, Anaesthesiology, Rotterdam, Netherlands, 2Erasmus Medical Centre, Intensive Care, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Several prediction models of survival after in-hospital cardiac arrest (IHCA) have been published, but no overview of model performance and external validation exists. We performed a systematic review of the available prognostic models for outcome prediction of attempted resuscitation for IHCA using pre-arrest factors to enhance clinical decision-making through improved outcome prediction.

Materials and Methods: This systematic review followed the CHARMS and PRISMA guidelines (Registration: PROSPERO CRD42021269235). Medline, Embase, Web of Science were searched up to October 2021. Studies developing, updating or validating a prediction model with pre-arrest factors for any potential clinical outcome of attempted resuscitation for IHCA were included. Studies were appraised critically according to the PROBAST checklist. A random-effects meta-analysis was performed to pool AUROC values of externally validated models.

Results and Discussion: Out of 2678 initial articles screened, 33 studies were included in this systematic review: 16 model development studies, 5 model updating studies and 12 model validation studies. The most frequently included pre-arrest factors included age, functional status, metastatic malignancy, heart disease, cerebrovascular events, respiratory, renal or hepatic insufficiency, hypotension and sepsis. Only 6 of the developed models have been independently validated in external populations. The GO-FAR score showed the best performance with a pooled AUROC of 0.78 (95% CI 0.69-0.85), versus 0.59 (95% CI 0.50-0.68) for the PAM and 0.62 (95% CI 0.49-0.74) for the PAR.

Conclusion(s): Several prognostic models for clinical outcome after attempted resuscitation for IHCA have been published. Most have a moderate risk of bias and have not been validated externally. The GO-FAR score showed the most acceptable performance. Future research should focus on updating existing models for use in clinical settings, specifically pre-arrest counselling.

Acknowledgements: The authors acknowledge W. Bramer for helping with the systematic literature search.

10AP02-06
Early measurement of cardiac pre- and afterload parameters of severely burned patients on admission to hospital

M. Kruse1, P. Plettig1, D. Josuttis1, M.D. Schmittner1
1BG Klinikum Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Berlin, Germany

Background/Goal of Study: An early and adequate fluid therapy is crucial to maintain organ function after burn trauma. Major burns lead to a systemic response with fluid loss to surrounding tissues and to cardiac dysfunction. Advanced haemodynamic monitoring (AHM) is often used to guide fluid therapy. Decreased cardiac output (CO) and decreased stroke volume (SV) have been shown to be associated with mortality. Whereas parameters of AHM are usually measured after patients have been admitted to the intensive care unit, in this study AHM was implemented already after arrival at hospital, before initial surgical treatment.

Methods: We conducted a monocentre, prospective cohort study with inclusion of 19 severely burned patients ≥ 20% total body surface area (TBSA). AHM with arterial waveform analysis (PulsioFlex-ProAqt®, Getinge) was implemented immediately after admission with measurement of SVV as dynamic preload parameter, CO and systemic vascular resistance to guide resuscitation therapy.

Results and Discussion: Initially increased SVV was associated with mortality after 28d [mean SVV survivors vs. non-survivors 18.92 (±6.37) % vs 27.6 (±5.68) %, p=0.017]. CO, systemic vascular resistance index and prehospitaly applied fluids were no predictors of survival in our cohort.
Small sample size and heterogeneity of burn severity within the study group are limitations to our findings. Reliability of uncalibrated AHM has generally been questioned. Our study suggests usefulness of such devices in the setting of acute burn resuscitation. Whether early measurement and correction of SVV leads to improvement of patient centered outcomes needs further research.

**Conclusion:** We could confirm SVV as a predictor for survival of major burn trauma. The use of uncalibrated arterial waveform analysis enables a very early monitoring of parameters relevant to burn shock survival.

**10AP02-07**

Current practice of sepsis protocols and bundles and further measures for hemodynamic stabilization in European and non-European emergency departments

C. Scheer1, R. Ferrer2, M.L. Malbrain3, E.J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis4, A. Linder5, D. Filipescu6, European Sepsis Care Study Group

1University Medicine Greifswald, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine, Emergency Medicine and Pain Medicine, Greifswald, Germany, 2Hospital Universitari Vall d’Hebron, SODIR, Vall d’Hebron Institut de Recerca, Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, 3Medical University of Lublin, First Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy, Lublin, Poland, 4National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Medical School, 4th Department of Internal Medicine, Athens, Greece, 5Lund University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences Lund, Division of Infection Medicine, Lund, Sweden, 6Prof Dr CC Iliescu, Emergency Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Bucharest, Romania

**Background and Goal of Study:** Sepsis bundles represents the most important key elements for initial sepsis treatment. Since more than one decade they are strongly recommended by international sepsis guideline. Moreover, numerous studies have demonstrated the beneficial impact of using sepsis bundles on mortality.

**Materials and Methods:** A network of leading European societies (ESACIC, ESICM, EUSEM, ESCMID, ESS, ESPNIC, IFA) conducted the European Sepsis Care Survey between 08/2021 and 06/2022. This substudy analysed the reported current practice in emergency department in the European Union (including UK) and in non-European countries. Presence of sepsis bundles and targeted timeframe and practice of further actions for hemodynamic stabilisation was collected.

**Results and Discussion:** The European Sepsis Care Survey collected information of more than 1000 hospitals of all sizes. Participating hospitals were mainly general and community hospitals (51%) and university or teaching hospitals (36%). Information from 928 emergency departments was included in this analysis.

**Conclusion(s):** In this sample, sepsis bundles are only present in the half of the emergency departments. Nevertheless perception is that the single elements of the bundles are on a high level established in emergency departments using bundles. Point of care lactate in a significant proportion of emergency departments is not available.

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**Table 1. Availability of sepsis protocols, pathways or bundles and bundle elements in emergency departments.**

**Figure 1. Hemodynamic elements performed in the emergency departments.**
10AP02-08
Feasibility of quality indicators on prehospital advanced airway management in a physician staffed emergency medical service: a provider point of view

A. Kottmann1,2,4,5, M. Pasquier1, P.-N. Carron1, L. Maudet1, R. Albrecht2, S. J. Sollid2,5
1Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Emergency Department, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2Norwegian Air Ambulance Foundation, Research and Development Department, Oslo, Norway, 3Rega - Swiss Air Ambulance, Department Medicine, Zürich Airport, Switzerland, 4Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Bern, Switzerland, 5University of Stavanger, Faculty of Health Sciences, Stavanger, Norway

Background and Goal of Study: Prehospital Advanced Airway Management (PAAM) requires specific and complex skills to be delivered at a high standard. In 2018 a group of international experts developed 17 quality indicators (QI) covering all steps of PAAM. The main objective of our study was to determine the feasibility of these QI from the provider point of view by means of a survey.

Materials and Methods: In 2019, we introduced the systematic collection of the data required to calculate these 17 QI in two physician staffed emergency medical services (EMS). The QI were collected in a dedicated electronic case report form (CRF).

For the survey, an online questionnaire was developed and sent to all emergency physicians who documented at least one CRF between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2021. The feasibility assessment was based on three criteria: reliability of data collection, relevance and acceptance.

Results and Discussion: Among the 44 physicians who received the questionnaire, 41 (93%) responded. The median number of CRF completed per physician during the study period was 11 (interquartile range 4-17; range 1-48). The median time to complete the CRF was seven minutes (interquartile range 3-16; range 1-25) and was considered reasonable by 95% of physicians. The reliability of data collection was rated as good or excellent for each of the 17 QIs, with the lowest rated for the following three QIs: duration of preoxygenation, duration of laryngoscopy, and occurrence of desaturation during laryngoscopy.

Overall, 75% of physicians assessed the set of QI to be relevant and thus meaningfully measure the quality of PAAM and 74% accepted the set of QI to assess the quality of PAAM. The collection of QI data was considered feasible, relevant and acceptable by the physicians. Technological solutions facilitating automatic collection of vital parameters and timings during the procedure itself could improve the reliability of data collection necessary for certain QI.

Conclusion(s): The collection of QI on PAAM appears feasible. Studies in other EMS are needed to determine the external validity of our results.

References:

10AP03-01
Acetate attenuates brain injury by stimulating astrocyte-neuron lactate shuttle in a mouse model of ischaemic stroke

F Peng1, H. Yu1
1Sichuan University West China Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Chengdu, China

Background and Goal of Study: Ischaemic stroke remains to be a leading cause of death around the world. Acetate exerts extensive pathophysiological effects on the brain; however, whether acetate would attenuate brain injury after ischaemic stroke as well as the underlying mechanisms remain unknown.

Here, using a mouse model of middle cerebral artery occlusion (MCAO), we aimed to demonstrate that acetate stimulates astrocyte-neuron lactate shuttle (ANLS) and attenuates brain injury after MCAO.

Materials and Methods: To expose the brain to accumulated acetate, mice were undergoing a serial gavage with 2mg/g acetate for 28 days. Acss1 astrocyte conditional knockout (Acss1 CKO) mice and Acss2 CKO mice were used. An astrocyte-neuron co-culture system and oxygen glucose deprivation/reperfusion were established in vitro. Carbon 13 (13C) tracing was performed to prove the acetate-dependent increase of ANLS.

Results and Discussion: An elevation of acetate was also observed in Acss1 CKO brain but not in Acss2 CKO brain(A). We demonstrated that acetate accumulation in brain attenuates MCAO-induced brain injury and improves survival(B,C). We showed an acetate accumulation-dependent increase of astrocytic glucose uptake(D,F), secondarily upregulating ANLS(G,H), which then protects neurons from OGD/R injury(E,I).

Our results reveal an unexpected facet to the biology of acetate, which indicate an emerging function of acetate to impact the metabolic crosstalk between astrocytes and neurons.
10AP03-02
The mutual influence of critical hyperglycemia and sepsis in burned patients

V. Filaj¹, L. Dedaj², M. Belba²
¹University of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Tirana, Albania, ²University of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Tirana, Albania

Background and Goal of Study: Control of glucose values with exogenous insulin has been beneficial in the treatment of critically ill as well as in burn patients. Hyperglycemia is frequent in sepsis, even in patients without diabetes or impaired as a consequence of inflammatory response and stress, so its occurrence is related to the severity of the illness. The aim of this study is to evaluate the relationship between sepsis and critical hyperglycemia in adult patients with severe burns.

Materials and Methods: This study is an observational retrospective study in the Service of Burns, University Hospital Center “Mother Teresa”, Tirana, Albania (UHCT). This study observed adult burn patients (≥ 20 years old) hospitalized in the ICU of the Burn Service in UHCT for 5 consecutive years. In order to estimate any possible dependability of the critical hyperglycemia during the disease on any of the variables (Age, BMI, Glucose values on admission, BSA%, depth of burn), we performed a multivariate analysis.

Results and Discussion: Adult patients constituted 346 or 44 % of the total number. The mortality was 14.5 %. Generally, there were 90 patients diagnosed with sepsis and the prevalence of sepsis in adult burn patients for our service is 26%. From the multivariate analysis, we noticed that for every increase of age by one year is increased with 1 % the possibility for critical hyperglycemia. For every increase of BMI by 1 unit are increased with 3 % the possibility of critical hyperglycemia. For every increase of Glucose values on admission with 1mg/dL above the normal range are increased with 1 % the possibility for critical hyperglycemia is. Persons with sepsis have 3.3 times more likely possibilities for critical hyperglycemia than persons without sepsis.

Conclusion(s): The prevalence of critical hyperglycemia in the burned adult population in our center is estimated to be 15.6% on admission and 7% during the disease. 58.3% of patients in the critical hyperglycemia group were diagnosed with sepsis and on the other side patients with sepsis have three times the possibility of hyperglycemia. Our modest opinion is to support the conventional glucose control protocol but with attention to detecting those patients who can profit from tight glycemic control.

10AP03-05
Prediction of fatal outcomes in German general aviation accidents - a new scoring system to facilitate emergency control centres

J. Hinkelbein¹, C. Hippler², F. Liebold³, J. Schmitz², V. Schick², M. Rothschild⁴
¹Johannes Wesling University Hospital and Ruhr University Bochum, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Emergency Medicine, Minden, Germany, ²University Hospital of Cologne, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Cologne, Germany, ³University Hospital Leipzig, Department of Anaesthesiology, Leipzig, Germany, ⁴University Hospital Cologne, Institute of Legal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Cologne, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Numerous accidents occur with General Aviation aircrafts every year. To date, pre-emptive prediction of survival or death is impossible. The current study aims to identify significant factors elementary to predict survival after General Aviation aircraft accidents. The implementation of a scoring system, including these factors, may facilitate emergency control centres.

Materials and Methods: Data of flight accidents over a 20-year period (extracted from the German Federal Bureau of Aircraft Accident Investigation [BFU]) was analysed for fixed-wing motorized small aircrafts below 5,700 kg MTOW. Factors of interest were analysed using Chi²- and Mann-Whitney-U-Tests. Logistic regression was used to establish a score to calculate the probability of a fatal outcome after an aircraft accident.

Results and Discussion: The BFU lists 1,595 aircraft accidents between 2000 and 2019. The factors “third quarter of the year” (p=0.04), “last quarter of the year” (p=0.002), “fire” (p<0.0001), “distance from airport >10 km” (p<0.0001), “landing” (p<0.0001) and “cruise” (p<0.0001), significantly correlated positively or negatively with a fatal outcome.

“Take-off”, “approach”, “month”, “day of the week”, “persons on board above three”, “night-time” and “icing conditions” showed no significant correlation. Using logistic regression “third quarter of the year” and “cruise” were excluded when using the B-STEP method. Including the four significant parameters, the score showed a strong effect with F=0.709.

Conclusions: The analysis of General Aviation aircraft accidents in Germany enabled the identification of relevant factors and establishment of a new scoring system for survival prediction after small aircrafts accidents below 5700 kg MTOW. The implementation of the scoring system in emergency control centres in the context of digital development and artificial intelligence can improve emergency response planning and distribution.
10AP03-06
Acute kidney injury after spinal surgery

A.C. Carpintero Cruz1, U. Rodriguez Rivas1, E. Vila Barriuso2, E.X. Lopez Arguello1, I.A. Hernandez1, M. Garcia Olivera1
1Hospital Parc de Salut Mar, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital Parc de Salut Mar, Anestesiología, Barcelona, Spain

Perioperative acute kidney injury (AKI) is common and increases the risk of morbidity and mortality. The incidence of the perioperative AKI in spine surgery (SS) in the latest studies is around 3.9%. Identify the incidence of AKI perioperative in SS and identify which are the perioperative risk factors for AKI and if the appearance of other postoperative complications was associated with development of AKI.

Methods: Retrospective Observational Study in a tertiary referral centre from to 2019 to 2020. A total of 501 patients underwent SS were included. We performed the measurement of common variables like major spinal surgery (MSS) defined as surgical procedures on three or more intervertebral levels, procedures in which osteotomy is performed, resection of metastasis or primary tumor; level of American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), the preoperative hemoglobin level, pre-existing chronic renal failure, dyselectrolytemia and critical bleeding.

We analysed plasma creatinine (Screa) and glomerular filtration (GF) baseline and AKI defined like absolute increase in levels (Screa) greater than 0.3mg/dl or increase greater than 50% of the baseline or decrease in urinary output (<0.5ml/kg/h) for more than 6h. We performed for continuous variable the Student’s test and for categorical variables, the chi-square.

Results: Of the series of total cases (n 501), (AKI) appeared in 3.39%, 64.7% were men and 35% were women, 76% were scheduled surgery and 23% were emergency surgery, 35% were MSS and 47% had a hospital stay longer.

A statistically significant association between AKI and the SS of more than three levels P(0.048), ASA III P(0.009), preoperative hemoglobin level P(0.003), dyselectrolytemia P(<0.001), critical bleeding P(0.044), and also developed AKI patients with prolonged hospital admission P(<0.001), postoperative anemia P(0.001), and readmission to critical care unit P (0.002).

Although mortality appeared in 5.8%, was not statistically significant association.AKI was not associated with a higher preoperative creatinine, diabetes, hypertension or cardiovascular disease.

Conclusion(s): In our study the incidence of perioperative AKI in patients underwent SS was 3.39%, ASA III patients, SS of more than 3 Levels, dyselectrolyemia and critical bleeding may be at increased risk, the appearance of other postoperative complications with increased morbidity has been associated with development of AKI.

10AP03-08
Leadership in operating room emergencies – searching for the captain?!

R. Eshel1, I. Brzezinski Sinai1, G. Meyerovich2, T. Capua2, R. Shaylor1
1Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2Tel Aviv Medical Center, Department of Surgery, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goals: The operating room (OR) is a dynamic environment requiring a heterogeneous group of professionals to work together in high-stress situations. Teamwork is fundamental, with all members required to understand the other discipline’s importance and contribution. Effective leadership is vital when dealing with OR emergencies, and lack thereof is associated with poor patient outcomes.

We wished to examine interprofessional leadership in the OR by describing how medical disciplines perceive team leader roles during different intraoperative crisis events.

Methods: Cross-sectional survey of health-care workers in the OR of a single large tertiary medical center. An online questionnaire was used to assess perceived leadership roles and responsibilities during crisis management. The survey was sent to all general surgeons (GS), anesthesiologists (AS), and OR nursing staff (ORN) at a single tertiary medical center. The questionnaire covered multiple key OR emergency events.

Results and Discussion: Between 10.2020-12.2021 a total of 143 responses were collected, 6 were excluded as they were incomplete. There was no difference in age or experience between groups. There was a similar number of female professionals in the GS, AS groups but a higher percentage of female professionals in the ORN group.

More than 95% of the participants answered that they had previously participated in the treatment of a medical emergency in the OR. When assessing specific scenarios, there was a wide consensus that malignant hyperthermia, transfusion reactions, and fire in the airway should all be managed by the anesthesiologist.

However, significant inconsistencies were seen between the disciplines for multiple key scenarios. In case of active intraoperative bleeding, the GS and ORN groups reported that the surgeon should function as team leader (93.8%, 61.2%) compared to only 12.3% of the AS group.

For Resuscitation events, 95.9% of AS believed they should lead compared to only 75% of GS (p=0.009). Additionally, there was profound disagreement between all disciplines regarding the identity of the leader in cases of a fire not involving the airway (p<0.001).

Conclusion(s): We found a lack of consensus within multidisciplinary OR teams concerning the identity of the team leader in many life-threatening emergencies. Bridging these gaps is crucial for effective teamwork and should affect the way we simulate and train medical personnel.
Toxicology on intensive care: presentation, epidemiology and outcomes

K.G. Rodgers¹, E. Sandilands², A. Mackay³, F. O’Sullivan³
¹NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Intensive Care, Glasgow, United Kingdom, ²National Poisons Information Service, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, ³NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Intensive Care Unit, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Toxicology forms a significant part of the workload of the intensive care units in the UK. However, there is a lack of an up-to-date understanding of self-poisonings requiring critical care. We reviewed the epidemiology and outcome of patients with self-poisoning admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) at a tertiary teaching hospital in Scotland.

Materials and Methods: All patients admitted to ICU in the period 2015-2021 were reviewed to identify those with a diagnosis of drug overdose or self-poisoning. The records of these patients (n=398) were analysed to obtain details about their presentation, epidemiology and outcome.

Results and Discussion: Median age was 41 years. The male:female ratio was 1.55:1. The substances most commonly involved were: alcohol, opioids, tricyclic antidepressants, benzodiazepines, recreational drugs and paracetamol. The majority of patients (86%) required ventilatory support and 8% received renal replacement therapy. Median length of stay in intensive care was 1.5 days. Thirty patients (7.5%) died in hospital. High mortality was particularly associated with opioid and benzodiazepine toxicity.

Conclusion(s): The patterns of toxicological presentation change over time. Therefore, periodic analysis is required to ensure there is a contemporaneous understanding of the nature of toxicological presentations to intensive care. Our retrospective review demonstrates that toxicology constitutes a significant part of the workload of a general intensive care. Sedative toxidromes are not only common, but have an association with high mortality.
Respiration and Airway Management

11AP01-01
A new score using clinical and ultrasound parameters could predict difficult laryngoscopy

N. De Luis Cabezon1, D. Ly Liu1, P. Renezo Corcóstegui1, R. De Frutos Parra1, E.D. Martinez Hurtado2, M.A. Fernández Vaquero3
1 University Hospital of Basurto, Anaesthesia and Resuscitation, Bilbao, Spain, 2Infanta Leonor University Hospital, Anaesthesia and Resuscitation, Madrid, Spain, 3Clinica Universitaria de Navarra, Anaesthesia and Resuscitation, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The objective of this study was to identify if difficult laryngoscopy (DL) can be predicted by exploring the upper airway using ultrasonography.

Materials and Methods: This prospective, single-center observational study included 102 adult patients requiring general anesthesia for elective surgery at University Hospital of Basurto. Preoperatively, we performed body mass index, cervical circumference, upper lip bite test, sternomental distance, Mallampati-Samsoon grade and the Arné risk index clinical airway assessment and distance between hyoid bone, thyrohyoid membrane, thyroid cartilage and epiglottis-skin ultrasound measurements.

All patients underwent general anaesthesia with tracheal intubation. The Cormack-Lehane classification was established to define the difficulty of direct laryngoscopy. We dichotomized laryngoscopy into easy (C-L grade I and II) and difficult (C-L grade III and IV).

Results and Discussion: We found correlation for cervical circumference and gender (p=0.0024) with DL (p=0.0013); also for ultrasonography distances and DL: thyrohyoid membrane-skin ≥1.60cm (p=0.0018); thyroid cartilage-skin ≥0.78cm (p=0.0272); epiglottis-skin ≥2.10cm (p=0.0012). We created a risk score for DL: distance thyrohyoid membrane-skin ≥1.60cm (2 point), thyroid cartilage-skin ≥0.78cm (3 points) and gender (2 points for male). The score could vary from 0 to 7 points; ≥5 the risk of DL is 34 times higher (p=0.0010) (1).

Conclusion(s): Ultrasonography distance between different laryngeal structures and the skin, are useful tools to predict DL.

Reference:
Background and Goal of Study: Transnasal videoendoscopy (TVE) is standard of care for staging of pharyngolaryngeal lesions. However, it is unknown if difficult videolaryngoscopic intubation can be predicted by TVE.\(^1\)

This study aims to determine if TVE can be used supplementary to the Simplified Airway Risk Index (SARI) in patients with anticipated difficult airway management scheduled for videolaryngoscopy.

Materials and Methods: 374 anasthetics in 320 adults with expected difficult airway management were included in this prospective observational study. Preoperative TVE was performed in 252 cases. The primary outcome was whether the anaesthetist issued a difficult airway alert after Macintosh videolaryngoscopy. SARI, clinical factors and TVE findings were used to fit three multivariable mixed logistic regression models.

Eligible covariables were selected by least absolute shrinkage and selection operator (LASSO) regression. Model performance was assessed by likelihood ratio tests (LRT) and Akaike information criterion (AICc).

Results and Discussion: SARI was a predictor for the primary outcome (odds ratio [OR] 1.33, 95% confidence interval [CI] 1.13 to 1.58). AICc for SARI (327.1) improved when TVE parameters were added (311.0) and LRT for SARI plus TVE parameters was better than for SARI plus clinical factors (\(P < 0.001\)). Vestibular fold lesions (OR 1.82; 95% CI 0.40 to 8.29), epiglottic lesions (OR 3.37; 95% CI 0.73 to 15.54), pharyngeal secretion retention (OR 3.01; 95% CI 1.05 to 8.63), view restrictions on the rima glottidis < 50% (OR 2.13; 95% CI 0.51 to 8.89) and ≥ 50% (OR 2.52; 95% CI 0.44 to 14.56) were concerning.

Conclusions: SARI predicted difficult videolaryngoscopic intubation. TVE improved the prediction of difficult videolaryngoscopy in addition to the SARI and was superior to a simple symptom screening for pharyngolaryngeal lesions.

Reference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>SARI</th>
<th>SARI with clinical factors</th>
<th>SARI with TVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SARI [0-12]</td>
<td>1.33 (1.15-1.58)</td>
<td>1.38 (1.15-1.65)</td>
<td>3.37 (1.08-7.76)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical factors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age [years]</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.02 (0.99-1.04)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height [cm]</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.01 (0.97-1.05)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysphagia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.42 (1.86-5.41)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whistling or ophonia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.06 (1.22-23.74)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry cough</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.54 (0.20-1.47)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVE findings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharyngeal secretion retention</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.01 (1.05-8.63)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.00 (0.01-0.82)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocal cords</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.82 (0.40-0.89)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vestibular folds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.37 (0.73-15.54)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View restrictions on rima glottidis</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.13 (0.51-8.89)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant, &lt; 50% of glottis area</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.13 (0.44-15.46)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covers ≥ 50% of glottis area</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.32 (0.44-15.46)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple unilateral lesions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.52 (0.19-1.33)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AICc</td>
<td>327.1</td>
<td>323.2</td>
<td>311.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood ratio test (compared with SARI)</td>
<td>(P = 0.013)</td>
<td>(P = 0.001)</td>
<td>(P &lt; 0.001)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results and Discussion: A total of 104 patients were included. The videolaryngoscopes used were the C-MAC® (82%) and the Airtraq® (18%). Only five awake videolaryngoscopy intubations were performed with no sedation. The most common sedative technique was combined midazolam and fentanyl (95%). Most operators (92%) had performed videolaryngoscopic intubation more than 20 times previously. First-attempt intubation rate was 69% and overall success rate was 93.3%.

Most frequent complications were secretions (22%), impossibility (6.7%), desaturation (5.7%), over-sedation (3.4%) and need more of 3 attempts (3.4%). Characteristics of the intubations performed with the Airtraq and C-MAC videolaryngoscopes are described and compared in table 1. No significant differences were found between the two videolaryngoscopes.

Conclusion(s): Awake videolaryngoscopy intubations are safe procedures with high success rate in patients with anticipated difficult airway. No differences were found in success rate, grade of difficulty, patient discomfort or complications between the Airtraq and C-MAC videolaryngoscopes.

11AP01-06
Old but (not always) gold. Can videolaryngoscopy overcome copur score?

L. Brugiaferri¹, S. Sorrenti¹, E. Pisello², M. Ciuffreda², D. Galante³, C. Piangatelli²
¹Università Politecnica delle Marche, Anasthesia, Resuscitation, Intensive Care and Pain Management, Ancona, Italy, ²E. Profili Hospital, Anesthesiology, Resuscitation, Intensive Care and Pain Management Unit, Fabriano (AN), Italy, ³G. Tatarella Hospital, Anesthesiology and Resuscitation Unit, Cercignola, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: 30% of anaesthesia-related accidents are caused by difficult airway management and 70% of these accidents result in permanent brain damage or even death. Nowadays, videolaryngoscopy is considered the main technique to facilitate tracheal intubation and reduce its complications as pulmonary inhalation of gastric material.

In the operating block of E. Profili Hospital in Fabriano videolaryngoscopy has been the routine practice for pediatric patients since November 2021. Therefore, goals of the study were:
1. Evaluating the routine use of videolaryngoscopy in reducing clinical risk as pulmonary inhalation of gastric material and consequent inhalation pneumonia.
2. Predicting unexpected difficulties during tracheal intubation in the pediatric surgical setting.
3. Comparing Fremantle Videolaryngoscope Scoring System and Colorado Pediatric Airway Score, a predictive score of difficult intubation in children.

Materials and Methods: Preliminary prospective observational study of 120 pediatric patients (aged from 3 to 16 years of age; 53 female and 67 male) undergoing surgery, assessed through the previously mentioned scores and classifications.

Results and Discussion: First attempt tracheal intubation achieved in 95% of children, without using any additional device. No intubation was impossible, regardless of the difficulties predicted by the Colorado Pediatric Airway Score and the videolaryngoscopic view obtained. All difficult tracheal intubations not predicted by parameters and scores (3.33% in our case series) were successfully performed.

Conclusion(s): Based on our data we can conclude that routinary use of videolaryngoscopy:
- has reduced the time spent in the operating room and the use of additional devices for managing difficult airways;
Background and Goal of Study: Hyperangulated videolaryngoscopy (HA-VL) and direct epiglottis lifting (DEL) with the Macintosh blade are considered rescue techniques for failed Macintosh videolaryngoscopy (MAC-VL). The primary hypothesis of the study was that the improvement of the percentage of glottis opening (POGO) achieved by DEL is non-inferior to conversion to HA-VL in cases of failed MAC-VL.

Materials and Methods: Within 374 anesthetics in 320 adults with expected difficult airway management we identified 129 cases with failed MAC-VL in this prospective observational study in whom rescue maneuvers such as DEL, HA-VL and direct lifting with HA-VL (DEL-HA) were applied. Stored videos were reviewed by at least 3 independent observers who agreed on a consensus vote.

The POGO and glottic view with videolaryngoscopy (6 grades defined by Petzoldt) were assessed for all applied rescue maneuvers. A linear mixed and a linear model were fitted. Estimated marginal means were used to analyze differences between rescue techniques for POGO and glottic view.

Results and Discussion: 163 rescue techniques (77 DEL, 57 HA-VL, 29 DEL-HA) were applied exclusively or sequentially. HA-VL improved POGO (mean; 95%-CI) by +43.7% (34.1-53.3; p<0.0001) and glottic view by +1.9 grades (1.6-2.2; p<0.0001), while DEL improved POGO by +49.7% (41.4-58.0; p<0.0001) and glottic view by +2.2 grades (1.9-2.5; p<0.0001).

With a difference of 6.0% (95%-CI -6.5-18.5%) and a lower bound of the CI above the non-inferiority margin (-10% for POGO) non-inferiority of DEL was confirmed. DEL-HA improved POGO by +75.1% (61.6-88.6; p<0.0001) and glottic view by +3 grades (2.6-3.5; p<0.0001).

Conclusion: Conversion to HA-VL or DEL substantially improved glottic view if MAC-VL failed. Our data show that if MAC-VL fails, lift-ing the epiglottis directly with the Macintosh blade within the same attempt is non-inferior to HA-VL. Our data show a synergistic effect between HA-VL and DEL.

11AP01-08
Training requirements in point of care ultrasonography of the upper airway: a feasibility study

A. Karakosta1, D. Pantazi1, P.N. Margariti2, E. Samara1, K. Souliotis Lytras1, P. Tzimas1
1University of Ioannina, Department of Anesthesiology and Postoperative Intensive Care, University Hospital of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece, 2University of Ioannina, Department of Radiology, Ioannina, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Point-of-care ultrasonography of the upper airway can be a useful supplement to conventional pre-anesthetic clinical evaluations. However, the reliability of such examinations is highly operator-dependent and proper training in sono-anatomy and ultrasound operational skills is required. The objective of this study aims to assess the minimum training requirements for applying a predefined upper airway scanning protocol in healthy volunteers by anesthesia trainees.

Materials and Methods: Twenty-two healthy volunteer members of the Operating Room staff participated in the study. A predefined scanning protocol that included the identification of specific structures (hyoid bone, vocal cords, thyrohyoid membrane/epiglottis/pre-epiglottic space, cricothyroid membrane, and thyroid gland), as well as the performance of specific measurements (distance from the hyoid bone to skin, anterior commissure to skin, epiglottis to skin, and thyroid isthmus to skin) was taught in a single-day training course. The trainees’ competence was assessed after multiple scan-ning repetitions. Mixed effects regression models were applied for the trainee-instructor differences in all ultrasound measurements.

Results and Discussion: Cricothyroid membrane visualization had the lowest success rate (88%), followed by thyrohyoid membrane/epiglottis/pre-epiglottic space (91%) and hyoid bone visualization.
(96%). Visualization of both superficial structures (vocal cords and thyroid gland) had 100% success rate. Trainee-instructor differences were statistically significant for hyoid bone to skin (p<0.001) and for epiglottis to skin distances (p=0.016). Measurement of the distance from the epiglottis to the skin required more scanning repetitions to achieve minimum deviance from the instructor compared to other measurements. However, trainees were able to achieve minimum deviance for all four measurements in ten or less scanning repetitions.

**Conclusion(s):** At least 10 scanning repetitions of a pre-defined upper airway scanning protocol can be used as a minimum standard for training. Identification and interpretation of deeper structures was more challenging. However, further research regarding education in upper airway ultrasound is warranted.

### 11AP01-09

**Use of SuperNO2VA™ for gastrointestinal endoscopy under sedation in patients at risk of hypoxaemia**

C. de Peray Bruel, M. Ubére Lorenzo, M.L. Moreno Vigil, A. García Brau, J. Martínez Ocon, E. Rivas Ferreira

1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Anaesthesiology, Digestive and Metabolic Diseases Section, Barcelona, Spain

**Background:** Most of gastrointestinal endoscopic (GE) procedures are performed under sedation being hypoventilation and hypoxaemia very common (20-50%). Risk factors for hypoxaemia include high ASA physical status, obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA), obesity and prolonged procedural duration. SuperNO2VA™ device (Vyaire Medical, Mettawa, USA) is a nasal mask that delivers a high fraction of inhaled oxygen and allows continuous positive pressure.

We aim to assess the incidence of respiratory events on patients at risk of hypoxaemia undergoing GI endoscopy under sedation with SuperNO2VA™ respiratory support.

**Methods:** Retrospective cohort study of patients having GE procedures under deep sedation with propofol and remifentanil target-controlled infusion during 2022. We included patients at risk of hypoxaemia defined as ASA 3 or 4 with at least one of the following criteria: difficult ventilation criteria, longer and more invasive procedures, and respiratory insufficiency in whom a SuperNO2 VA™ nasal mask was used during the procedure.

The aims of the study were the incidence of hypoxaemia (SpO2 <92%) and the need for rescue manoeuvres to improve ventilation (opening airway and manual ventilation). We also performed a sub-analysis of high-risk patients with body mass index >45kg/m2 and severe OSA or those under domiciliary oxygen therapy.

### Results and Discussion:

A total of 1309 adults patients had GA during the study period were obtained. 45 patients were included. Basal Oxygen saturation was 95±4%. Only 1 patient, suffered hypoxaemia (SpO2<92%); and 4 patients needed airway rescue manoeuvres. The mean lowest saturation during the procedure was 98±3%. In any case the procedure was interrupted. 13 patients were at high risk (Table 1). 1 risk patient suffered hypoxaemia and needed both rescue manoeuvres. 3 patients at risk and 1 high risk patient needed rescue manoeuvres. No high-risk patients had hypoxaemia events.

**Conclusions:** In patients at risk of hypoxaemia, the use of SuperNO2VA™ during GE procedures under deep sedation, is associated with a very low incidence of respiratory events. SuperNO2VA is an easy-to-use and portable device that might be considered to improve safety in patients at risk of hypoxaemia undergoing gastrointestinal endoscopy under sedation.

### 11AP01-10

**An analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on advanced airway device usage and cost**

R. Rajendram, M. Rahman, L. Prempeh, J. Reeves, M. Adam

1King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Aylesbury, United Kingdom, 4Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Department of Operating Theatres, Aylesbury, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** Over 62 days at our institution in 2019, 1110 adults had general anaesthesia (GA; 17.7 cases/day) and 38 advanced airway devices were used (extrapolated to 224 devices/year; cost £7712). Guidance on airway management for patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) suggested that a videolaryngoscope (VL) should be used as the primary device for the tracheal intubation of patients with COVID-19. This may have had an impact on airway management.

**Aim:** To identify changes in the usage of devices designed for the management of difficult airways.

**Materials and Methods:** A prospective evaluation of the usage of all devices available for the management of difficult airways in adults was performed in all the theatre suites of Stoke Mandeville Hospital (SMH), Aylesbury, England over two months (18/11/18 to 17/01/19). The service was re-evaluated at SMH from 17/08/21-27/11/21. The methodology has been described previously. The numbers of each device available were counted at the start of the audit and monthly thereafter. Device usage was calculated by subtracting the number of each device available at the end of each evaluation period from the number of devices available at the start of the audit (taking into account any additional devices delivered during the audit).

The cost of each airway device was obtained from the most recent invoices from the supplier of each device at the end of each service evaluation. The unit cost of each device was calculated by dividing the total cost of the invoice by the number of devices supplied (i.e. replacement cost).

For contextualization, the number of adult patients (aged above 16 years) receiving GA during the study period were obtained.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 1309 adults patients had GA over 102 days in 2021 (12.8 cases/day) and 343 advanced airway devices were used (extrapolated to 1228 devices/year; cost £10,410). This was driven by a large increase in the use of video-laryngoscopy.

### Table 1. Clinical characteristics of patients. Data expressed as mean±SD and n(%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Age (y.o)</th>
<th>Male/ female</th>
<th>BMI (kg/m2)</th>
<th>Difficult mask ventilation</th>
<th>SpO2 Procedure duration, min</th>
<th>Lowest SpO2 during procedure, %</th>
<th>SpO2 &lt;90% Need of opening airway</th>
<th>Need of manual ventilation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-risk</td>
<td>63±14 (61%) 10±10 (41%)</td>
<td>13 28 (88%)</td>
<td>96±4 35±25</td>
<td>96±3 11 (9%) 3 (9%) 1 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (19%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (19%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (19%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (19%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-risk</td>
<td>63 (69%) 10±10 (85%)</td>
<td>11 11 (85%)</td>
<td>93±4 34±30</td>
<td>97±3 0 0 0 1 (8%)</td>
<td>1 (10%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (10%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (10%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
<td>1 (10%) 1 (1%) 1 (1%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Results and Discussion:** A total of 1309 adults patients had GA over 102 days in 2021 (12.8 cases/day) and 343 advanced airway devices were used (extrapolated to 1228 devices/year; cost £10,410). This was driven by a large increase in the use of video-laryngoscopy.
Conclusion(s): Our institution’s change in practice may reflect a fundamental shift in airway management paradigms driven by guidelines for airway management in patients with COVID-19. This has implications for anaesthetists’ training and the cost of airway management.

Reference:

11AP01-11
Effect of pneumoperitoneum and laparoscopy on lung EIT-derived overinflation and collapse in morbidly obese patients

P. Priani1, G. Scaramuzzo1,2, R. Ragazzi1,2, C.A. Volta1,2, T. Maurni2, S. Spadaro1,2
1University of Ferrara, Department of Translational Medicine, Ferrara, Italy, 2Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Di Ferrara, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Ferrara, Italy, 3University of Milan, Department of Pathophysiology and Transplantation, Milan, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Obesity can increase the risk of atelectasis during general anesthesia, especially in laparoscopic surgery [1].

PEEP can counteract the tendency of dorsal lung to collapse, but it needs to be personalized to minimize both the risks of overinflation (OI) and collapse (CO). Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT) can be used to personalize PEEP, but the effect of the surgical phase on the best PEEP provided by EIT has not been explored yet.

Materials and Methods: We enrolled obese (BMI ≥ 30) patients undergoing planned laparoscopic surgery. A 16-electrodes EIT monitoring (Dräger PulmoVista 500, Dräger AG) was used to evaluate the amount of CO and OI during a PEEP titration trial (PEEP 16 cmH2O - PEEP 6 cmH2O; steps of 2 cmH2O). The best PEEP was defined as the crossing point between CO/OI [2].

The assessment was done after anesthesia induction (BPind), during pneumoperitoneum (BPpn) and before extubation (BPext).

Results and Discussion: We enrolled 15 patients, aged 58±16 years with a BMI of 36±5 kg/m2. The overall duration of anesthesia was 216±91 minutes and the duration of the laparoscopic time 116±45 minutes. The median [IQR] values of CO and OI after induction (A), pneumoperitoneum (B) and before extubation (C) are reported in Figure 1.

![Figure 1](image)

Before starting the cystectomy, we inserted the video laryngoscope (McGRATH(r)) to check the intubation tube, which allowed us to observe the EC and to have a larger working space to perform cystectomy compared with the original plan of microscopic surgery. Therefore, the otolaryngologist completed the cystectomy under general anesthesia.
McGRATH's view with the anesthesiologist's support. There was no postoperative cyst recurrence, and the patient underwent scheduled lung cancer surgery with easy intubation of a double-lumen tube two months later.

**Discussion:** Some reports showed the efficiency of the video laryngoscope for difficult intubation under the existence of EC (1,2); however, there are few reports that video laryngoscopy had been helpful in EC cystectomy. We confirmed the usefulness of video laryngoscopy and the perioperative contribution to operative safety by the anesthesiologist’s decisions.

**References:**

**Learning Point:** Anesthesiologists have the potential to contribute to far more effective works by utilizing tools and tactfully participating in surgery.

**11AP02-02**
**Dental alterations: a challenge for the anesthesiologist?**

L. Vieira¹, S. Salvador², F. Sales³, M. Marques⁴, I. Tourais⁴
¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anestesiologia, Viseu, Portugal, ²Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal, ³Unidade Local de Saúde de Matosinhos, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal, ⁴Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

**Background:** Tooth eruption disorders are more frequent in the upper arch (69.9%) and the area of the incisors (51.2%). These disorders lead to changes in oral cavity morphology which in turn can be associated with difficult airway.

**Case report:** We report a case of a 40-year-old man with a total body surface area (TBSA) burned of 20% admitted to a burn intensive care unit (ICU) in Portugal. The burn consisting of deep second and third degree covered the right hemithorax and right upper limb. Despite not having relevant medical history, the patient presented changes in tooth eruption. As a child, due to the presence of his primary teeth, the permanent lateral incisors erupted behind the central incisors. These teeth have no structural function, hamper oral hygiene and should have been extracted in adulthood, but the patient refused. Furthermore, he presented other signs of difficult airway, namely, presence of beard, narrow palate and short thyromental distance. When the patient was proposed for scar excision in the oratory room, an intubation strategy was defined with A to C plans. Considering the good mouth opening and anterior larynx, a videolaryngoscope was used, as well as an armored tube with smaller internal diameter (7.0 mm). A fibroscope, bougie, frova and difficult airway trolley were available. Both intubation and surgery were uneventful.

**Discussion:** Tooth eruption disorders can lead to difficult airways and intubation strategies need to be defined. Considering the predictability of the difficult airway, several strategies of approach the airway were traced. The option for the videolaryngoscope was the most appropriate because it doesn’t interfere with the teeth and palate and it facilitates the visualization of the glottic space and the successful performance of orotracheal intubation.

**Reference:**

**Learning Points:** Tooth eruption disorders can be associated with difficult airway and strategies need to be defined before intubation.
11AP02-03  
**Videolaryngoscope plus flexible fiberoptic bronchoscope as combined access in multinodular goiter with tracheal deviation difficult airway management. A case report**

1Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anestesia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor, Madrid, Spain,  
2Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, Anestesia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Videoptical and fiberoptic systems have resulted in significant advances in difficult airway management. Videolaryngoscopes provide a higher intubation success rate, but intubation may occasionally fail. In these cases, the simultaneous use with a fiberoptic bronchoscope (FOB) (combined access) can be a very interesting option.

**Case report:** We present a 51-year-old obese male (BMI 31 kg-m-2) with OSAS, smoker, and chronic alcoholism. He comes to the hospital because of difficulty in passing air, especially when he is in the supine decubitus position. He does not have dysphagia, nor has he noticed voice alterations. Cervicothoracic CT scan shows a multinodular goiter with tracheal deviation to the right and decreased caliber (10 mm. transverse axis in the narrowest area). He was scheduled for a total thyroidectomy. Preoperative airway assessment included a Mallampati grade 3, khan test class II, macroglossia, and a large uvula contacting the base of tongue.

![Image 1](image1.png)  
![Image 2](image2.png)

Following the application of standard monitors, pre-oxygenation with a facemask, Airtraq was inserted, allowing partial visualization of the glottis. Additional maneuvers were ineffective in optimizing visualization and centering the glottis. Without removing the Airtraq, a fiberoptic bronchoscope was inserted through an endotracheal tube (ETT) mounted in the guiding channel. FOB was used as a guide for intubation, and Airtraq allowed visualization of ETT advancement through the cords.

**Discussion:** No device is perfect in all scenarios, so appropriate measures must be taken to ensure patient oxygenation and have alternative plans to secure the airway. A FOB and rigid video laryngoscope in the same clinical setting may prove to be complementary devices, optimizing those situations where each device would fail separately and facilitating successful tracheal intubation in difficult airway situations.

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11AP02-04  
**Use of cook staged extubation set in a critically ill patient with a difficult airway: a case report**

A. Pastor González, T. Moreno, A.V. Lloret, N. Garrigós, X. Onrubia, J.V. Llau  
1Hospital Dr. Peset, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Valencia, Spain

**Background:** Extubation is unsuccessful in around 0.4-25% of critically ill patients. The use of exchange catheters in patients with suspected difficult airways is part of the protocol to allow for emergent reintubation if necessary.

**Case report:** A 62-year-old woman with a history of hypertension and hypothyroidism, was scheduled for vocal cord polyp excision. Intraoperative bleeding persisted after surgery. Tranexamic acid tamponade was performed, and she was admitted to resuscitation, keeping her intubated. Airway assessments were made with a videolaryngoscope and fiberoptic bronchoscope every 24h until there was no active bleeding and a decrease in glottic edema. A leak test was performed, being positive for bubbling and with a 50% decrease in tidal volume.

Among the possible weaning strategies, staged extubation was chosen, inserting the guide 4 cm beyond the tip of the endotracheal tube to prevent accidental extraction. The guide was maintained for the first hours to facilitate reintubation and oxygen insufflation if necessary. The patient tolerated it, except an isolated coughing episode. Before removing it, we verified that she vocalized the letter “e”.

**Discussion:** Critically ill patients have an extubation failure rate about 20%. This complication increases hospital days, as well as morbidity and mortality.

Literature suggests exchange catheters use for patients with difficult airways extubation, as it increases the success of reintubation on the first attempt.

The Cook extubation set offers greater patient tolerance as a 0.889mm diameter guide is used with a soft end to minimize tracheobronchial injury. In addition, if necessary, a ventilation catheter can be placed for oxygen insufflation by jet ventilation.

**References:**

1. Mort TC. Continuous airway access for the difficult extubation: the efficacy of the airway exchange catheter. Anesthesia and Analgesia 2007; 105: 1357-1362

**Learning Points:** Exchange catheters for critically ill patients with a known difficult airway extubation, reduce morbidity and mortality. The Cook set has a guide with a very soft end that provides greater tolerance by the patient.
11AP02-05
Oropharyngeal injuries related to videolaryngoscopy intubation. A graphic report of a case

A. Recasens¹, P. Masgoret¹
¹Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Videolaryngoscopy (VL) is an important tool for airway management but it has an increased rate of oropharyngeal injuries. We present a report of a pharynx wall lesion during VL and provide practical recommendations to reduce their incidence.

Case report: A 81-year-old woman with a Mallampati class 2 airway was scheduled for shoulder surgery. After standard general anesthesia induction, the first VL showed full glottis and allowed insertion of a 7.5 endotracheal tube (ETT) mounted on a Rigid Stylet™. While removing the VL blade, we detected a perforation of the right tonsillar pillar (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Videolaryngoscopy image showing perforation of approximately 1.5cm of the right tonsillar pillar by the ETT. The arrow points to the soft strip of pillar tissue and mucosa that was injured and caused bleeding on the retropharynx. Other relevant anatomical structures are marked.

After Otorhinolaryngology (ORL) evaluation, surgery proceeded as the bleeding was minimal and the airway secured. After careful extubation under VL vision, minor bleeding from the pillar required a hemostatic stitch. Postoperative care was standard and the patient was discharged home 2 days after surgery.

Discussion: The inherent design of videolaryngoscopes (VLs) and the indirect vision of the oropharynx increase the risk of injuries up to 15 times compared to direct laryngoscopy. Severe injuries like the one reported are rare (incidence of 0.3%) yet relevant given the increasing popularity of VL.

Traumatic laryngoscopy is prevented using a four-step technique that combines direct visualization of the oral cavity and video imaging after the ETT passes the tonsillar pillar. Relying mostly on video can lead to pillar perforation.

Some VLs require a stylet (e.g. Rigid Stylet™) to shape the ETT to match the acutely angled blade. We suggest that a malleable stylet may reduce oropharyngeal trauma without hindering intubation.

In the literature, most patients with this complication were extubated after the lesion was revised by the ORL team. Our experience shows it may be safe to proceed with surgery under favorable conditions (no active bleeding, superficial trauma).

Learning Points: Serious oropharynx injuries related to VL are relatively rare. To reduce their risk, operators should follow the four-step technique and consider using a malleable stylet. ORL should revise these injuries upon detection, and in some cases, surgery can proceed without reintubation.

11AP02-06
Combined use of flexible bronchoscopy and videolaryngoscopy for awake tracheal intubation: a case report

Ö. Özen¹, G. Usta¹, A. Ankay Yilbas¹
¹Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology & Reanimation, Ankara, Turkey

Intubating patients with laryngeal mass which narrows/obstructs the glottic opening might be challenging even for experienced anesthesiologists. Awake tracheal intubation (ATI) has a high success rate and a favourable safety profile for anticipated difficult airway.

We aimed to discuss our case of successful tracheal intubation with combination of fiberoptic bronchoscopy (FB) and videolaryngoscopy (VL) when they both failed individually. 69 year-old male patient was consulted to our clinic for total laryngectomy. In his preoperative evaluation he had shortness of breath, orthopnea and Mallampati Class was 3. Neck CT revealed tumoral mass that infiltrates epiglottis and narrows the glottis.

After routine ASA monitoring and supplemental oxygen delivery, sedation was performed with midazolam and dexmedetomidine. A total dose of 240 mg 10% lidocaine for topicalisation was used through direct spraying and mucosal atomisation device.
1st attempt with FB through nasal route and a 2nd attempt with FB through oral route were unsuccessful. Even though epiglottis could be visualised, glottic opening was not visible due to tumor and arytenoid oedema during both attempts. No desaturation was observed 3rd attempt was made with the combined use of FB and VL. As the patient was not able to lie down, face-to-face approach was used for C-MAC VL. We used VL to elevate epiglottis to reach glottic opening. The FB was inserted through oral airway at the same time. Following visualisation of carina, the tube was inserted. Anesthesia induction was performed after two-point check. After the operation, the patient was extubated and transferred to the ICU.

ATI has been cited as the gold standard for a predicted difficult airway management but it can be unsuccessful in 1–2% of cases. Although multiple attempts increase the risk of airway trauma and obstruction, the use of alternative ATI techniques should be considered to avoid unnecessary FONA and/or high risk general anesthesia. When ATI techniques fail individually, considering combined techniques to overcome difficulties can be beneficial in selected patients

1. Difficult Airway Society guidelines for awake tracheal intubation (ATI) in adults, Ahmad et al.

**11AP02-07**

**Vocal cord lesion: Is the Glidescope really at fault?**

R. De Oliveira1, J. Beirão Rodrigues1, L. Ribeiro2, L. Dias1, S. Alves1
1Centro Hospitalar Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Anaesthesiology, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Otolaryngology, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

**Background:** The introduction of video-laryngoscopes (VL) has revolutionized airway (AW) management. However, iatrogenic injuries associated with VL are increasing in the literature. Nasogastric tubes (NGT) have also been implicated in AW trauma. We report a case of a pseudo laceration of the vocal cord detected during rapid sequence intubation (RSI) with the GlideScope®.

**Case report:** 81-year-old female, admitted with mesenteric ischemia, undergoing urgent revascularization surgery. RSI was performed with the aid of the GlideScope®. After stylet removal, inability to advance the endotracheal tube (ETT) past the vocal cords lead to ETT removal. The stylet was reintroduced in the ETT outside of the patient’s AW and a second attempt with VL was performed with improvement of the glottic view. An image of what seemed to be a laceration of the left vocal cord was observed. The AW was successfully secured and the on-call Otolaryngologist was consulted. Inspection of the larynx revealed a hematoma of the left vocal cord and multiple sub-acute hematomas of the pharyngeal walls. Intubation-induced trauma was suspected, however, due to the sub-acute and extensive appearance that hypothesis was discarded. The patient’s file was re-assessed and records of a recent NGT insertion and removal were found. Further inspection of the vocal cord demonstrated dry blood mimicking a laceration. The patient was transferred to the ICU.

**Discussion:** Although the Rigid Stylet overcame difficulties encountered with ETT handling, AW lesions have been reported with the GlideScope®, including hematomas and vocal cord lacerations. When handling the VL, the trajectory followed by the ETT from the oral cavity to the glottis is “blind”, raising concern for potential AW trauma. NGT-induced AW lesions have been described in the literature. In this particular case, the combination of a traumatic NGT insertion/removal, along with the administration of heparin for the ongoing ischemia and procedure, may have led to the formation of multiple hematomas, endangering the AW.

**Learning points:** Although VL are useful resources, AW injuries are possible. Inspection of the ETT trajectory should be performed following intubation to exclude iatrogenic injuries in blind spots. In acute abdominal disorders and presence of pharyngeal hematomas, the NGT should be considered as a differential diagnosis.

**References:**

**11AP02-09**

**Dilemma in the PACU: airway obstruction in an undiagnosed COVID19-positive adult patient after elective surgery**

K. Cangas1
1Quirino Memorial Medical Center, Department of Health, Anesthesia, Quezon City, Philippines

**Background:** Asymptomatic Covid-19 infection is currently not known to predispose to laryngospasm.

**Case report:** This is the case of a 28-year old asymptomatic male Asian patient with BMI of 25 kg/m2, non-smoker with no comorbidities. Covid19 RT-PCR test 1 day prior was negative. Mallampati score was 3 with normal TMD. Routine induction for elective orthopedic surgery under GA with an LMA was planned. On propofol, snoring was noted, managed by a head tilt chin lift maneuver. LMA was inserted easily. Procedure was uneventful, followed by voluntary smooth expulsion of the LMA by an awake swallowing patient, with adequate suctioning of secretions. He was transferred to the PACU with stable VS and O2 mask support. Ten minutes in the PACU, he was referred for noisy breathing (inspiratory and expiratory) and decreased O2 saturation at 50%. He was unresponsive, and attempts to awaken were done. O2 support was increased to 10 LPM accompanied by head tilt chin lift, jaw thrust, and insertion of a Guedel airway, with slight improvement to 75%. PPV was administered, and saturation improved to 85%.

He was intubated using a videolaryngoscope, noting partially adducted vocal cords. Suctioning of the ETT revealed pink frothy fluid. O2 saturation quickly increased to 100%. After 30 min of PPV with PEEP, the patient was coherent, swallowing and motioning to remove the ETT. He was extubated awake, with clear breath sounds, and monitored closely. The result of an RTPCR done earlier on the day of surgery was revealed to be positive. Non-development of symptoms and consistent normal O2 saturation prompted discharge and home quarantine.

**Discussion:** Negative-pressure pulmonary edema is a rare but life-threatening complication of airway obstruction. Early intervention with 100% oxygen and PPV with PEEP was vital to early resolution. OSA (STOP-Bang score of 3) was initially considered as the sole cause; however, partial laryngospasm was evident. A combination of obesity, OSA and Covid19 was the probable cause. International standards require negative RTPCR within 24-72 hours prior to admission for elective surgery. However, early false-negative results are well-documented.
This case posits that reactive airways even in asymptomatic Covid19 patients could predispose to laryngospasm.

**Learning points:** Asymptomatic Covid-19 infection is still a present threat requiring anesthesiologists, other physicians and hospitals to consistently be prepared for its possible complications.

### 11AP03-01

**Olfactory dysfunction as a measure of poor adaptation to cellular hypoxia: proof of concept**

S. Bojic1, N. Radovanovic2, M. Radovic3, M. Stevic1, I. Soldatovic4, N. Ladjevic1

1Belgrade University, Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia, 2University Clinical Center of Serbia, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Belgrade, Serbia, 3CHC Zemun, Cardiology, Belgrade, Serbia, 4Belgrade University, Faculty of Medicine, Medical Statistics and Informatics, Belgrade, Serbia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Adaptation to cellular hypoxia is a key determinant of the critical illness outcome, but, at this time point, it can not be directly evaluated in everyday clinical practice. However, the effects of cellular hypoxia can be studied through exposure to high altitudes. Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) occurs due to poor adaptation to hypobaric hypoxia found at high altitudes. Studies connecting olfactory dysfunction (OD) with altitude are emerging, but the relationship between AMS and OD is so far unknown. This study aims to explore the association between OD and AMS as a measure of poor adaptation to cellular hypoxia.

**Materials and Methods:** This prospective observational study included mountaineers on two high-altitude expeditions. Every morning after a new altitude gain, Lake Louise AMS score, AMS Clinical Function Score, heart rate, and SpO2 were recorded. At the same time, OD was assessed using a 3-item odor identification test.

**Results and Discussion:** A trend toward increasing Lake Louise AMS scores and AMS Clinical Function Scores and decreasing SpO2 with ascending altitude was observed. With increasing altitude, Lake Louise AMS Score increased, and the number of identified odors decreased.

**Conclusion(s):** Our results suggest an association between OD and AMS. This study provides proof of concept for using qualitative olfactory function tests based on readily available inexpensive items to detect OD related to poor adaptation to cellular hypoxia. The relevance of our findings extends to identifying patients with poor adaptation to cellular hypoxia in real clinical settings, which could provide more efficient phenotype-based risk stratification and hospital resource allocation.

### 11AP03-03

**A new way of ventilation during Electromagnetic Navigation Bronchoscopy (ENB). Evone® (Flow Control Ventilation)**

A. Parera1, M. Argilaga1, V. Pajares2, A. Torrego2, A. Rafecas3, G. Herranz1

1Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona. Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, 2Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona. Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Pneumology and Bronchoscopy Department, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** ENB is gaining popularity amongst bronchoscopists as one of the tools to diagnose pulmonary nodules. During ENB there is a narrowed airway exposure because of the size of the bronroscope. Safe ventilation, good laryngotracheal exposure, and preservation of an adequate surgical working space are very important. This can be achieved by innovative ventilating system with flow-controlled ventilation (FCV), the Evone® (Ventinoa, Eindhoven, The Netherlands).

The aim of our work was to evaluate feasibility and safety of the Evone® (FCV) system during the process of ENB under general anaesthesia. Furthermore, it is important to reduce lung motion and prevent atelectasis during the procedure.

**Materials and Methods:** We perform general anesthesia with propofol and remifentanil TCI mode and rocuronium for neuromuscular blockade. Laryngeal mask was used to intubate the patient. We used VCV with a conventional ventilator for induction. Then we change to the FCV ventilation using the CTA (conventional tube adapter) adapter through the laryngeal mask. To prevent atelectasis and improve visualization we need: FiO2 (0.6-0.8), recruitment maneuvers, high level PEEP (8-10) and perform an inspiratory pause during the biopsy.

**Results and Discussion:** Since 2021 we have performed ENB in 18 patients. Out of 18 we have used Evone®(FCV) in 5 patients. Two men and three women medium age 65.2. Mean ventilation duration was 90 min (range 60-120 min) Mean biopsy + cryobiopsy time duration was 60 min (mean minimal Sat O2 was 96 (range 96-100) mean peak pCO2 was 39 (range 38-40). Mean Compliance was 45 (range 57-40). No high pressures were detected.

No anesthesia- or biopsy-related complications, adverse events or intra-operative difficulties were reported. In all cases, compared to conventional ventilation (VCV), Evone (FVC) allowed better protective ventilation. All biopsies were positive “in situ” for lung cancer.

**Conclusion(s):** The Evone FCV ventilation system provides excellent conditions in patients undergoing ENB, as it combines excellent accessibility and visibility of the operation site with safe, stable and protective ventilation.

**References:**

11AP03-04
Effects of flow-controlled ventilation with negative versus positive end-expiratory pressure on haemodynamics, gas exchange, and lung mechanics in an experimental model of haemorrhagic shock in pigs

M. Schafenberg¹, J. Wittenstein¹, M. Staevie¹, X. Yang¹, R. Huhle¹, M. Gama de Abreu¹,²,³
¹University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus at Technische Universität Dresden, Dept. of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Dresden, Germany, ²Cleveland Clinic, Anesthesiology Institute, Department of Intensive Care and Resuscitation, Cleveland, United States, ³Cleveland Clinic, Anesthesiology Institute, Department of Outcomes Research, Cleveland, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Mechanical ventilation (MV) with negative compared to positive end-expiratory pressure (NEEP vs. PEEP) may improve cardiac output (CO) in haemorrhagic shock (HS).¹ We hypothesised that NEEP as compared to PEEP improves haemodynamics but temporarily impairs lung mechanics and gas exchange.

Materials and Methods: After approval (25-5131/522/53), 18 anaesthetised pigs (41±10 kg) with HS (blood volume -30%) underwent 4h of flow-controlled ventilation (FCV; Evone®, Ventinova) with tidal volume (VT) 7ml/kg, oxygen fraction 0.5, respiratory rate (RR) titrated to normocapnia, and randomly either PEEP (5 cmH₂O) or NEEP (-10 cmH₂O). Then, euvalaemia was restituted and PEEP and NEEP 5 cmH₂O resumed in both groups for 30 min. Haemodynamic and respiratory data were reported as mean±standard deviation and analysed using paired t-test, 1-way ANOVA, and general linear model (significance level 5%).

Results and Discussion: HS significantly reduced mean arterial pressure (MAP), pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP), central venous pressure (CVP), global end-diastolic volume index (GEDVI), CO, stroke volume (SV), and haemoglobin concentration (no group difference at randomisation). While MAP was 50±8 mmHg directly after HS induction, 1h after randomisation MAP was 59±6 under PEEP and 70±5 mmHg under NEEP. Relative to the pre-randomisation difference at randomisation). While MAP was 50±8 mmHg directly after HS induction, 1h after randomisation MAP was 59±6 under PEEP and 70±5 mmHg under NEEP. Relative to the pre-randomisation time, NEEP (mean end-expiratory pressure -11±1 cmH₂O) as compared with PEEP (5±0 cmH₂O) significantly increased MAP (P=0.002), CO (P=0.030), cardiac index (P=0.008), SV (P=0.004), and SV index (P=0.018), but reduced PCWP (P=0.003) and CVP (P<0.001). Peak airway pressure, VT, RR, mean pulmonary-arterial pressure, GEDVI, arterial partial pressure of CO₂, and pH did not differ between groups. However, arterial partial pressure of O₂ (32±1 vs. 23±1 kPa, P<0.001) and compliance (27±1 vs. 11±1 ml/mbar, P<0.001) were lower and resistance (P<0.001) was higher during NEEP. Thirty minutes after intervention time, MAP, CO, CVP, SV, PCWP, and oxygenation no longer differed between groups, while compliance (29±6 vs. 21±6 ml/mbar, P=0.035) was still lower after NEEP ventilation.

Conclusion(s): In this model of haemorrhagic shock in pigs, FCV with NEEP, as compared to PEEP, improved haemodynamics and only temporarily impaired oxygenation, while compliance was still reduced after NEEP ventilation.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: We thank Ventinova Medical for providing the ventilator.

11AP03-05
Pleural pressure during positive and negative pressure ventilation: a theoretical analysis

J. van Egmond¹,², J. Mulier³, M. Gama de Abreu⁴,⁵, C. Speight⁶
¹Radboud University Medical Centre, Anaesthesiology, Nijmegen, Netherlands, ²Radboud University, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Nijmegen, Netherlands, ³Academic Hospital Sint Jan, Anaesthesiology, Brugge, Belgium, ⁴Anaesthesiology Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Department of Intensive Care and Resuscitation, Cleveland, United States, ⁵Anaesthesiology Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Department of Outcomes Research, Cleveland, United States, ⁶Western General Hospital, Lothian Unscheduled Care Service, Edinburgh Scotland, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Since the introduction of positive pressure ventilation (PPV) it has been assumed that there is no difference in lung ventilation between PPV and negative pressure ventilation (NPV), for the same driving pressure[1,2].

Materials and Methods: The compliance C in the linear part of the inspiratory Pressure Volume relation of the respiratory system allows calculation of the pleural pressure Pₚₚl.

Results and Discussion: The respiratory system can be considered to consist of one balloon (the lungs) inside a second balloon (thoracic cavity), as depicted in figure 1. For both balloons the relation between volume V and transmural pressure P is described by V(P) = V(0) + C.P. If pleural pressure (the pressure between the balloons) is Pₚₚl, airway pressure is Pₐw and extra-thoracic pressure is Pₜ, the transmural pressure for thorax cavity is Pₚₚl = Pₚₚl - Pₜ and for the lung Pₚₚl - Pₜ.

Solving these two relations for the thorax cavity and the lungs, and denoting lung compliance by Cₗ and thorax wall compliance by Cₜ, results in ΔPₚₚl = ΔPₚₚl Cₗ/(Cₚₚl+Cₗ) for NPV and ΔPₚₚl = ΔPₚₚl Cₚₚl/(Cₚₚl+Cₗ) for PPV. Hence any increase in airway pressure, which occurs in PPV, will increase pleural pressure proportionally. This is in much the same way as increased pressure from the outside, such as excessive abdominal weight against the diaphragm does. Conversely, it stands to reason that decreased extra-thoracic pressure, as occurs during NPV, will always lower pleural pressure. Restriction must be made that the alveoli are openly connected with the airway (then Pₚₚl is alveolar pressure).

Figure 1. Lung enclosed by thorax cavity.

Conclusion(s): Application of negative extra-thoracic pressure will always result in the pleural pressure going down, whereas increased positive airway pressure will always result in an increase...
in pleural pressure. This is a fundamental difference between PPV and NPV, and can be expected to have significant consequences for both ventilation and perfusion, as well the risk of pneumothorax.

References:

11AP03-06
Using Carestation™ Insights demonstrates in-house lung protective ventilation performance, stimulating behavioural change

J. Mulier1,2,3
1AZ Sintjan Brugge, Anesthesiology, Brugge, Belgium, 2UGent, Anesthesiology, Gent, Belgium, 3KULeuven, Cardiovasculaire Wetenschappen, Leuven, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Anesthesiologists are obviously aware of the need and the advantages of keeping the lungs open, and will say that they already manage the lung protective ventilation (LPV) guidelines for each patient as necessary, yet they hardly act as such each time.

The LPV guidelines state that low tidal volume is needed in most patients getting positive pressure ventilation (PPV) while a lung recruitment manoeuvre (LRM) and post end expiratory pressure (PEEP) are valuable when total respiratory compliance (Crs) is low.

We all think that our own performance is good, and follow common recommendations until we are forced to see that, in reality, our own behaviour is far from ideal on every single occasion.

Materials and Methods: The Carestation Insights LPV application offers a way of automatically monitoring the Crs-mode of ventilation, PEEP level, and when LRM is performed during PPV.

Carestation Insights LPV application shows these parameters for each connected operating room, both aggregated for the anaesthesia department and as a case-by-case view that can help to identify outliers. Mann-Whitney test analyses differences between using LRM or not.

Results and Discussion: When we started to use Carestation Insights LPV application, we discovered that our staff was not following all aspects of LPV to the same extent.

We analysed the anonymous data from April till July 2022 in 1441 patients (53 missing data). While PEEP settings of minimum 5 PEEP at the end of the procedure were quite well respected in 73 %, LRM was performed less often.

Adults getting PPV with a case duration >50 min and having a Crs <40 at end of surgery got a LRM in only 15 % of the cases. The patients with a Crs >40 at the end got a LRM in 20 % of the cases.

The patients with a Crs after induction <40 changed their Crs from a mean of 29+/−1.3 to 32+/−1.9 before extubation when no LRM was done (p=0.126) and from 29+/−2.9 to 42+/−5.3 when at least one LRM was done. (p=0.001)

When the Crs after induction was more >40 their Crs dropped from 62+/−0.8 to 55+/−0.9 when no LRM was done and from 59+/−1.9 to 57+/−2.7 when a LRM was done. (Mann-Whitney p=0.182)

The patients with a starting Crs <40 and getting a LRM had a lower TV (430+/−10 vs 395+/−10) (p=0.005), a higher et CO2 (38+/−0.7 vs 35+/−0.4) (p<0.001), a higher PEEP at the end (9.1+/−0.4 vs 5.3+/−0.1) (p<0.001) and a lower driving pressure (12.0+/−0.6 vs 12.8+/−0.3) (p=0.023) than those getting no LRM.

Conclusion(s): The LPV dashboard acts as a reminder of how we are performing in terms of LPV in our daily practice and might help to improve following guidelines.

References:
Acknowledgements: Anesthesiologists Bruges

11AP03-07
Filling the gaping hole in the middle: a new definition of ideal alveolar gas

P. Peyton1
1Austin Health, Anaesthesia, Melbourne, Australia

Background and Goal of Study: Ventilation-perfusion heterogeneity (“VA/Q scatter”) is substantial under general anaesthesia in most patients. In the 3-compartment model of VA/Q scatter (alveolar deadspace, shunt and central “ideal” compartments), Bohr deadspace and shunt calculations require the gas content of the “ideal” compartment.

However, no valid means exists for calculating this value. The alveolar gas equation for O2 and the Bohr-Enghoff equation for CO2 assume partial pressures which combine the ideal with the alveolar deadspace and shunt compartments respectively.

A novel “modal” definition is proposed, solution at the VA/Q ratio in a lung where gas exchange (VO2 and VCO2) is maximal (modal). On either side of this point, increasing or decreasing VA/Q ratio reduces gas exchange efficiency for that gas (Figure). The location of this point depends on blood solubility of the gas.1

Materials and Methods: A computer model of gas exchange in physiological, unimodal log normal distributions of VA and Q was used to identify modal ideal alveolar O2 and CO2 partial pressures (modal ideal PAO2 and PACO2), and find equations to estimate these in a wide range of VA/Q scatter (log SD VA 0.25–1.75), overall VA/Q (0.4–1.6) and FIO2 (0.18–1).

Figure. Typical distributions of VA/Q, VO2 and VCO2 in anaesthetised ventilated patients, and points of modal ideal PAO2 and PACO2.

Results and Discussion: Modal ideal PAO2 was accurately (r=0.999) described by substitution in the alveolar gas equation of the respiratory exchange ratio R with the term R−(1−PeICO2/PaCO2), so that:

$$PAO_2 = \frac{O_2}{R - (1 - PeICO_2/PaCO_2)}$$

...
Modal ideal \( \text{PAO}_2 = \text{FIO}_2 \cdot \text{PB} - \text{PaCO}_2/(R - (1 - \text{PEICO}_2/\text{PaCO}_2)) \)

Modal ideal \( \text{PaCO}_2 = (\text{PEICO}_2 + \text{PaCO}_2)/2 \)

This also holds true for inert gases, to calculate the unique alveolar deadspace for any anaesthetic gas, as well as for \( \text{CO}_2 \).

**Conclusion:** The modal ideal definition is a physiologically realistic and internally coherent concept of ideal alveolar gas, and can be calculated from readily measured clinical variables.

**References:**

**11AP03-08**

**Should peripheral airway closure be named “dysfunction”?**

J. van Egmond, J. Muller, P. Pelosi, C. Speight

1. Radboud University Medical Centre, Anesthesiology, Nijmegen, Netherlands, 2. Radboud University, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Nijmegen, Netherlands, 3. Academic Hospital Sint Jan, Anesthesiology, Brugge, Belgium, 4. San Martino Policlinico Hospital, University of Genoa, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Genoa, Italy, 5. Western General Hospital, Lothian Unscheduled Care Service, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** When the transpulmonary pressure (alveolar pressure minus pleural pressure) decreases, airways tend to close. This was first observed by Laennec[1] and demonstrated by Dollfuss[2] and Hedenstierna[3] in ventilated patients. The proportion of the lung that is closed is named closing capacity, and this is known to increase with age and due to obesity.

Airway closure due to rising pleural pressure is a natural behaviour and protects the alveoli against full collapse. Airway closure therefore is to be expected in all occasions that raise pleural pressure such as increased positive airway pressure during positive pressure ventilation.

**Materials and Methods:** Description of the respiratory system by standard physics modelling.

**Results and Discussion:** The respiratory system is commonly described as a balloon (the lungs) enclosed by a balloon (thorax cavity). For both balloons the relation between volume \( V \) and transmural pressure \( P \) is described by \( V(P) = V(0) + C \cdot P \), in which \( C \) denotes the compliance. If pleural pressure (the pressure between the balloons) is designed as \( P_{\text{Ppl}} \), airway pressure by \( P_{\text{aw}} \) and extra-thoracic pressure by \( P_{\text{ext}} \), the transmural pressure for thorax cavity is \( P_{\text{aw}} - P_{\text{ext}} \) and for the lung \( P_{\text{aw}} - P_{\text{ext}} \). Pleural pressures will change by increasing airway pressure as well as decreasing extra-thoracic pressure. Solving these two situations for thorax cavity and lungs and denoting lung compliance by \( C \) and thorax wall compliance as \( C \), results in

\[
\Delta P_{\text{aw}} = \Delta P_{\text{aw}} - C/(C+C) \\
\Delta P_{\text{ext}} = \Delta P_{\text{ext}} - C/(C+C) \\
\]

for positive airway pressure: any increase in airway pressure will increase pleural pressure proportionally, but decreased extra-thoracic pressure lowers pleural pressure.

**Conclusion(s):** Negative extra-thoracic pressure results in a reduction in pleural pressure which will help small peripheral airways to open up. Positive airway pressure increases pleural pressure and therefore induces airway closure. Many problems during positive airway pressure mechanical ventilation, atelectasis, pneumonitis, pulmonary emphysema, pneumothorax and other air leaks are related to raised pleural pressure[4]. Negative extra-thoracic pressure ventilation is expected to avoid many of these problems.

**References:**

**11AP03-09**

**The technique of conduct of general anesthesia with preserved spontaneous breathing**

A. Novikov, K. Pervak, V. Shumatov

1. Vladimed. Primorsky Regional Clinical Hospital No. 1, Department of Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 2. Vladimed, Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 3. Pacific Medical University, Department of Anesthesiology and Resuscitation, Vladivostok, Russian Federation

**Background and Goal of Study:** The immediacy of the problem of patient safety motivates anesthesiologists to focus on conduct of anesthesia with preserved spontaneous breathing. The objective of our study is to evaluate the efficacy of the technique of general anesthesia with preserved spontaneous breathing, which permits to increase safety and efficacy of anesthesia through elimination of myorelaxants, reduction in dose of general anesthetics and use of an endotracheal tube with irrigation port.

**Materials and Methods:** Prospective randomized controlled clinical trial of patients was approved by the clinic’s Ethics Committee. All patients were divided into two groups. Patients from control group (n-64) were given general anesthesia with the use of myorelaxants, artificial lung ventilation in the Pressure Control Ventilation mode, sevoflurane and fentanyl. Patients from basic group (n-62) were given monoinduction with sevoflurane using an endotracheal tube with irrigation port for administration of medicines, trachea mucosal anesthesia with 40–60 mg of 2% lidocaine, ventilation in the Pressure Support mode, and performed sevoflurane inhalation and fentanyl infusion. The groups were homogeneous in terms of gender, comorbidity, type and duration of surgery. The estimated factors included systemic hemodynamic values, duration of early postoperative recovery and economic efficiency. The obtained data were processed using Microsoft Excel-2003 and Statistica for Windows v. 6.0 software.

**Results and Discussion:** Hemodynamic profiles were of the same nature in both groups but a significant difference between the two groups was also registered in hemodynamic values, which in average were higher in the control group by 12.2–19.8% (p<0.05). Average HR values in the basic group were significantly lower (p<0.05) as compared to control group by 10.5–18.4%. Tracheal extubation of the patients from the basic group was performed earlier by 23.3–28.6%. This made it possible to reduce the duration of early postoperative recovery by a factor of 1.4 over the control group (p<0.05). The costs per anesthesia in the basic group were 15–18% less than in the control group (p<0.05).

**Conclusion(s):** The results of the trial showed the possibility of safe and efficient use of the unassisted breathing mode with pressure support and an endotracheal tube with irrigation port resulting in reduced duration of early postoperative recovery.
**11AP03-10**

Effects of driving pressure-guided positive end-expiratory pressure on postoperative pulmonary complications in patients undergoing laparoscopic or robotic surgery: a randomized controlled trial

T. Kim¹, H.-C. Lee¹, C.-W. Jung², H.-K. Yoon¹
¹Seoul National University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

**Background and Goal of Study:** Individualized positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) improves respiratory mechanics. However, its impact on postoperative pulmonary complications remains inconclusive. Therefore, this study aimed to evaluate the effects of driving pressure-guided individualized PEEP on postoperative pulmonary complications in surgical patients. The authors hypothesized that driving pressure-guided individualized PEEP during surgery would decrease the incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications more than fixed PEEP.

**Materials and Methods:** This randomized controlled trial enrolled 364 patients with moderate-to-high risk for postoperative pulmonary complications scheduled to undergo laparoscopic or robotic lower abdominal surgery. The individualized group (n = 178) received fixed PEEP of 5 cmH2O during surgery. Both groups received tidal volume of 8 mL/kg ideal body weight. The primary outcome was the incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications within seven postoperative days.

**Results and Discussion:** The mean PEEP in the individualized group was 13.9 (95% CI, 12.7 to 14.9) cmH2O. The incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications was significantly lower in the individualized group than that in the standard group (78/178 [43.8%] vs. 110/186 [59.1%], risk ratio [95% CI], 0.741 [0.573 to 0.915]; p = 0.044). In the post hoc multivariable logistic regression analyses, driving pressure-guided PEEP was significantly associated with postoperative pulmonary complications (odds ratio [95% CI], 0.590 [0.379 to 0.918]; p = 0.020).

**Conclusion(s):** Driving pressure-guided individualized PEEP decreased the incidence of postoperative pulmonary complications within seven postoperative days in moderate-to-high-risk patients undergoing laparoscopic or robotic lower abdominal surgery. These patients may benefit from intraoperative PEEP based on driving pressure.

**References:**

**11AP03-11**

Efficacy of face mask ventilation with 45-degree head rotation in anesthetized obese patients: a preliminary analysis

B. Mraovic¹, N. Timko¹, M. Kemerling¹, T. Šimurina²
¹University of Missouri, School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Columbia, United States, ²University of Zadar, Department of Anaesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care Medicine, Zadar, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Rotating the head to 45-degrees during mask ventilation (MV) is sometimes used by anesthesia providers to improve ventilation on induction. A study showed that head rotation improved ventilation in patients with BMI<35 kg/m². But it is unknown if it helps when it really matters, in morbidly obese patients and those with obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). We assessed if 45-degree head rotation during MV would increase ventilation efficacy measured by expiratory tidal volumes (TV) in morbidly obese patients.

**Methods:** All patients with BMI≥35 kg/m² were included. Patients without OSA were screened using the STOP-BANG and then randomized by starting head-position to a crossover-controlled sequence: (1) neutral-rotated-neutral, or (2) rotated-neutral-rotated. Each head position was 1-minute. MV was with pressure control ventilation: pressure 20 cmH2O, rate 16 breaths/min, no PEEP TV for each breath was recorded.

**Results and Discussion:** The patients’ demographic characteristics were not different between two groups (Table). Head rotation (rotated vs neutral position) did not improve ventilation: TV (369.1±163.5 vs 387.2±196.7 mL; P=0.82), SPO2 (98±2.5 vs. 97.7±3.2%; P=0.79), ETCO2 (23.3±9.9 vs. 22±11.4 mmHg; P=0.78). But low-risk patients for OSA by STOP-BANG had higher TV (545.9±196.7 mL) than those with intermediate-risk (279±102.7 mL), high-risk (400.9±173.9 mL) or diagnosed OSA (374.4±195.9 mL).

**Conclusions:** 45-degree head rotation did not clinically improve MV efficacy in anesthetized, apneic, morbidly obese adults. Preoperative STOP-BANG risk stratification could be a useful predictor for MV efficacy in morbidly obese surgical patients.

**Reference:**
11AP03-12
Helmet for oxygen therapy – from concept to patient treatment in COVID-19 pandemic
L. Wroblewski, P. Platek, P. Sieminski, M. Makowski, B. Sadownik, P. Andruszkiewicz
’Medical University of Warsaw, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Warsaw, Poland, ’Military University of Technology, Wydzial Mechatroniki, Uzbrojenia i Lotnictwa, Warsaw, Poland, ”Warsaw University of Technology, Faculty of Automotive and Construction Machinery Engineering, Warsaw, Poland

Background and Goal: The global coronavirus pandemic led to a deep crisis in the healthcare systems mainly because of limited access to devices for hypoxemic respiratory failure treatment. This forced engineers and researchers to undertake work to enable the production of safe and effective devices dedicated to high-flow oxygenation as well as non-invasive positive pressure ventilation. The main aim of this study is to present the preliminary results of their work in the development of methods enabling production of helmets for oxygen therapy with devices generating pressure (CPAP, oxygen high-flow blender) and protocols for safe use of them.

Results: First step was to design optimal helmet parameters (size, ports locations) using computational fluid dynamics simulations with defined gas exchange and different pressures and flows. O2 and CO2 concentration changes as well as humidity and temperature distribution were analyzed (Picture 1).

Figure 1. An example visualization of the distribution of O2 and CO2 and relative humidity inside helmet.

Based on those results selected polyurethane helmets were produced. Parallel manufacturing process of the connectors and PEEP valves with the use of a 3D printing technique with PET-G filaments was adopted.

In the next step helmets were tested on 3D-printed heads with measurement of O2, CO2, temperature, humidity and noise with different values of pressure (5-20cm H2O) and flow (15-60lpm) and with different air dispersals. Finally helmet which allowed to keep CO2 concentration below 2% with 30l/min flow was chosen. Proposed protocols of its use were prepared based on ARDS network.

Conclusions: The designed prototype of helmet for oxygen therapy seems to be a good alternative in the absence of access to commercial solutions. A study with aim to demonstrate the effectiveness of those helmets and protocols in patients with moderate respiratory failure is currently underway.

11AP04-02
Muscle activity of anesthesiologists during bag-mask ventilation and tracheal intubation – comparison between tasks performance in humans and intubation in a manikin
S. Woloch, H. Berkenstadt, Y. Levanon, S. Portnoy
’Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, affiliated to Tel Aviv University Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology, Ramat Gan, Israel, ”Sheba Medical Center, Tel Hashomer, affiliated to Tel Aviv University Faculty of Medicine, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Ramat Gan, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: The aim of the present study was to compare orotracheal intubation performed by anesthesiologists on a manikin and on patients using electromyographic assessment of muscles involved in tasks performance.

Materials and Methods: Eleven experienced anesthesiologists participated in the study. Participants performed intubation on a manikin and on easy to intubate patients undergoing general anesthesia, during which, muscle activity of twelve muscles was recorded using a wireless EMG System. Activity of each muscle presented as percent of maximal muscle voluntary contraction amplitude (in millivolts) (MV%).

Results and Discussion: All anesthesiologists participating in the study found intubation on manikin to be different or totally different from intubation on patients (3 and 4 on a 1-7 Likert’s scale). The activity of all twelve muscles assessed in this study, was low in both hands and in both tasks (performing intubation on a manikin and on patients). Mean MV% values ranged from 0.72 to 3.24% and median MV% values of 0.46% to 2.46%.

No statistically significant differences were found between muscles activity during intubation performance on manikin and on patients (Lt. biceps p=0.27, Rt. biceps p=0.65, Lt. deltoid p=0.76, Rt. deltoid p=0.91, Lt. trapezius p=0.25, Rt. trapezius p=0.94, Lt. brachioradialis p=0.82, Rt. brachioradialis p=1.00, Lt. wrist flexor p=0.74, Rt. wrist flexor p=0.84, Lt. wrist extensor p=0.94, Rt. wrist extensor p=0.94).

Conclusion(s): In contradiction to participants subjective comments no difference was found between muscles MV% between manikin and patients orotracheal intubation. The results may be attributed to low sensitivity of the measuring system in view of the low muscle activity.

11AP04-03
Re-consideration for preventing unrecognized esophageal intubation: a review analysis
Y. Adachi, M. Satomoto
’Shizuoka Saiseikai General Hospital, Saiseikai Research Institute of Health Care and Welfare, Department of Emergency Medicine, Shizuoka, Japan, ”Toho University Omori Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Tokyo, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Tracheal intubation is one of the most important procedures for acute care. Despite of progress and development of devices and monitors, esophageal intubation (EI) is not completely prevented and some of cases are mortal. Recognition technique of EI was reviewed in a literature.
Material and Methods: Two independent assessors searched MEDLINE (PubMed) in November 2022 to identify the reports involving detection of EI and comparison of techniques in clinical settings. The identification techniques were divided into three ways, auscultation (Au), esophageal detector device (EDD) and end-tidal carbon dioxide detection (ETCO2). All intubation and identification were summarized, and total values were calculated.

Results and Discussion: From 100 screened titles, 9 reports were met for the criteria (Table 1).

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<th>Table 1. The results of each study.</th>
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<td>Totally 1995 cases of intubation were completed, and 491 cases were EI including intentional and experimental procedures. The sensitivity and positive predictive value (PPV) of identifying EI by Au, EDD and ETCO2 were 87% (0.43), 99% (0.875) and 100% (0.621), respectively (Table 2).</td>
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<th>Table 2. The results of the total numbers of both esophageal and tracheal intubation, and the calculated values.</th>
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<td>The cases of the current review included the patient under cardio-pulmonary arrest. ETCO2 monitoring is believed as the most reliable technique for detecting EI. But cessation of circulation reduces production of carbon dioxide, and the overall value of specificity was higher using EDD than using ETCO2. Moreover, a few case reports pointed out a possibility where a detection of inappropriate capnography waveform was misleading even in the recent circumstances.</td>
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| Conclusion: Appropriate and prompt identification of EI might be sometimes difficult even in recent medical systems. Multifaceted and continuous evaluation is absolutely required. |


11AP04-04 Emergency consultation of anesthesiologists for tracheal intubation at a university hospital

Y.-C. Yu1, C.-H. Fu2, C.-T. Chiu1, A. Chao1
1National Taiwan University Hospital, Anesthesiology, Taipei, Taiwan, 2Fu Jen Catholic University Hospital, Anesthesiology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

Background and Goal of Study: Emergency tracheal intubation (ETI) is associated with high morbidities and complications. Airway management is thus an integral part of training for all doctors in our hospital. Despite vigorous training, anesthesiologists receive consultations to rescue failed ETI every month. We conducted a retrospective survey to study the performance of consultation for ETI in a tertiary hospital.

Materials and Methods: We retrieved data from electronic medical records and ETI registry in our department from September 2016 to December 2019. Patients aged 20 years or older were included.

Results and Discussion: 338 consultations were included. The average age was 64 years old. 66% of patients were male. ETIs were performed in general ward 49%, intensive care unit 35% and emergency department 16%. Indications were respiratory failure 75%, cardiopulmonary resuscitation 11%, shock 4%, gastrointestinal bleeding or hemoptysis 3% and others 7%. Anesthesiologists' successful rate was 98.5%. Five patients underwent emergent tracheostomy. Major complications occurred in five patients. Comparisons of both doctors' performance were listed in table 1. Causes of difficult airways and definite management were concluded in figure 1.

<table>
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<th>Table 1. The results of tracheal intubations</th>
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<td>Primary care doctors' performance</td>
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<td>Anesthesiologists' performance</td>
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<td>Intubation tools</td>
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<td>Muscle relaxants</td>
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<th>Table 1. Details of tracheal intubations</th>
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<td>Emergency consultation for tracheal intubation</td>
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<td>Directed laryngoscope</td>
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<td>Video laryngoscope</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiberoptic intubation</td>
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<td>No attempts</td>
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<td>1 time</td>
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<td>2 times</td>
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<td>3 times or more</td>
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| Figure 1. Airway management techniques and causes for emergency consultations of tracheal intubations. |

| Conclusion: ETI is challenging both for primary doctors and anesthesiologists. Nearly 50% of the consultations were due to poor skills, lack of confidence or inadequate patient sedation or paralyzed. The information can provide feedback to airway management programs. Videolaryngoscopy facilitates first-attempt intubation success. Therefore, videolaryngoscopy training should be emphasized. |
11AP04-05
A pre-airway management decision-making tool for video-assisted and awake tracheal intubation – a two-stage development and confirmatory diagnostic accuracy study (Expect-it trial)

Z. Popal1, H. Sieg1, L. Müller-Wiegand1, L. Krause2, C. Zöllner1, M. Petzoldt1
1University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Department of Anesthesiology, Centre of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Hamburg, Germany, 2University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Institute of Medical Biometry and Epidemiology, Hamburg, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Pre-airway management decision-making tools might be more accurate for planning anesthesia management than airway risk prediction tests. This study aimed to develop and implement the Expect-it decision-making tool and to compare if its ability to predict post-intubation recommendations for direct laryngoscopy (DLREC), videolaryngoscopy (VLREC), or awake tracheal intubation (ATIREC) is superior or at least non-inferior to the current clinical standard (experience-based decision-making).

Materials and Methods: This single-center prospective model development and confirmatory diagnostic accuracy study with a before-after design (development and confirmation cohort) included 1282 anesthetics in patients undergoing tracheal intubation in ear, nose and throat or oral and maxillofacial surgery. Regularized regression was used for variable selection. The decision-making tool relies on two multivariable regression models comprising 15 variables from four categories (previous tracheal intubation, physical examination, pharynx anomalies and nasendoscopy). Sensitivity and specificity (co-primary endpoints) of the Expect-it tool (confirmation cohort) for the prediction of DLREC, VLREC, and ATIREC were compared with the clinical standard (development cohort).

Results and Discussion: The Expect-it tool achieved good discrimination for video-assisted (area under the ROC curve [AUC] 0.86; 95%-CI 0.81–0.90) and awake (AUC 0.97; 95%-CI 0.96–0.99) tracheal intubation recommendations. For ATIREC sensitivity of the Expect-it tool was superior and specificity non-inferior, for DLREC sensitivity was non-inferior and specificity superior and for VLREC sensitivity was superior and specificity non-inferior to the clinical standard; hence the null hypothesis was rejected. Difficult laryngoscopy (1.9% versus 6.5%), failed DL (1.5% versus 7.5%) and airway-related adverse events (4.6% versus 11.3%) decreased after implementation of Expect-it (p<0.001 each).

Conclusions: The Expect-it decision-making tool predicted the recommended tracheal intubation technique more accurately than a non-algorithm based approach and hereby reduced adverse events.

11AP04-06
Comparison of fiberoptic bronchoscopic intubation using silicone and polyvinyl chloride double-lumen tubes

S. Kang1, Y.J. Chae1, D.G. Han1, J.Y. Yoo1
1Ajou University School of Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Suwon, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: Direct insertion of a double-lumen tube (DLT) using a flexible fiberoptic bronchoscope (FOB) is an option for DLT intubation. The different properties of polyvinyl chloride and silicone DLTs may affect railroading differently, which is the difficult process of fiberoptic intubation. Therefore, we aimed to compare intubation using polyvinyl chloride and silicone DLTs over an FOB.

Materials and Methods: Patients aged 19–75 years who required one-lung ventilation under general anesthesia were enrolled in this study. After induction of anesthesia, the anesthesiologist intubated the DLT using FOB. The primary outcome was the difficulty of railroading over the flexible FOB scaled into five grades (I, II-1, II-2, III, and IV). Additionally, the intubation time and mucosal damage were recorded.

Table. Patient characteristics and airway assessment results. Data are presented as mean [standard deviation], median [interquartile range], or number. Polyvinyl Group: tracheal intubation over fiberoptic bronchoscope using a polyvinyl chloride double-lumen tube; Silicone Group: tracheal intubation over fiberoptic bronchoscope using a silicone double-lumen tube; C-L grade: modified Cormack-Lehane grade.

Figure 1.

Recommendations: ≥ 3 pts. ’with camera’
≥ 7 pts. ’awake’ **
Results and Discussion: A total of 46 patients participated in this study, 23 each in the silicone and polyvinyl groups. The difficulty of railroading over the FOB was significantly different between the two groups (P < 0.001). In the silicone group, the grades of difficulty in railroading were limited to I and II-1; 20 patients (87%) presented no difficulty in advancing the tube. In contrast, in the polyvinyl group, 13 patients (57%) had scores of II-2 and III. Both the intubation time and mucosal damage were significantly better in the silicone group than in the polyvinyl group.

Conclusion(s): Intubation using a silicone DLT over an FOB was easier and faster than that with a polyvinyl chloride DLT with lesser trauma around the glottis.

11AP04-07
Pediatric DSE (distance from skin to epiglottis) evaluation in airway management: is it worth the effort?

M. Ciuffreda1, E. Pisello1, J. Silvestri2, V. Biscaccianti2, D. Galante3, C. Piangatelli3
1E. Profili Hospital, Anaesthesia, Resuscitation, Intensive Care and Pain Management Unit, Fabriano (AN), Italy, 2Università Politecnica delle Marche, Anaesthesia, Resuscitation, Intensive Care and Pain Management, Ancona, Italy, 3G. Tarella Hospital, Anaesthesia and Resuscitation Unit, Cerignola, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Direct laryngoscopy in pediatric patients can be unexpectedly difficult, leading to serious complications in airway management. Preoperative scores predicting difficult intubation have often shown their limitations in terms of sensitivity and specificity. Recently, an ultrasound examination of the early airway, measuring the distance in centimeters from the epidermis to the epiglottis (DSE, Distance from Skin to Epiglottis), has been proposed as a possible preoperative predictor of difficult intubation in adults, whereas in pediatric field limited or no data is available. The aim of our preliminary study is to evaluate how routine videolaryngoscopy, while optimizing the view of the vocal cords and facilitating tracheal intubation, lowers the maneuver related clinical risk surpassing, both in terms of effectiveness and efficiency, the DSE evaluation.

Results and Discussion:
- The distribution of DSE values in our sample followed a Gaussian curve, with the most frequent one found between 1.6 and 2 cm.
- A directly proportional relationship between DSE and neck circumference was only found from a DSE value greater than 2.5 cm.
- Relating DSE values to videolaryngoscopic view, we found a complete vision in 99.02% of cases regardless of DSE values.
- Videolaryngoscopy allowed tracheal intubation in every patient regardless of DSE value, and that was performed as a first attempt in 96% of cases.
- No surgery was postponed due to impossible intubation and no intubation led to perioperative complications.

Conclusion(s): Although being performed by an experienced team, DSE evaluation remains an ultrasound-based operator-dependent technique that requires a constant prompt availability of an ultrasound device and prolongs preoperative evaluation time of the non-always-cooperating pediatric patient. Routine videolaryngoscopy, while optimizing the view of the vocal cords and facilitating tracheal intubation, lowers the maneuver related clinical risk surpassing, both in terms of effectiveness and efficiency, the DSE evaluation.

11AP04-08
Tracheostomy care: an E-learning module

M. Foale1, E. Scarth2, D. Salter2, K. Large3
1Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthesia, Torquay, United Kingdom, 2Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Post Anaesthesia Care Unit, Theatres, Torquay, United Kingdom, 3Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Education Directorate, Horizon Centre, Torquay, United Kingdom

Background: Within the cohort of patients that pass through a district general hospital’s post anaesthesia recovery unit (PACU), patients with tracheostomies are seldom seen. PACU staff can easily become de-skilled and therefore under-confident when managing these patients. This was reflected in a questionnaire of staff within Torbay Hospital’s PACU & theatre complex staff. We received 72 responses, covering 13 questions from the National Tracheostomy Safety Project1. Across all questions, for all staff members, the average score was 35%. These results demonstrated the issue and therefore our aim was to improve staff competence when managing this patient group.

Methods: After identifying the issue, senior theatre and PACU staff members met up to organise a solution to help train PACU staff in this area of care. Clinical staff wrote the script for the e-learning module and in conjunction with the hospital Learning Technology Team, filming and audio recordings were added. This was then edited together to combine pictorial, video and audio segments along with assessments at the beginning and at the end of the module to achieve certification.

Results: The module finished production and was then added to the e-learning database, ‘The Hive’ for all PACU and theatre staff to complete. A short list of multiple-choice questions were added to the module at the beginning and at the end, to gain an insight into the current levels of knowledge of the staff, but also to show the knowledge gained from completing the module. At the current time, 44 staff members have accessed the module, with 26 completing the pre-module quiz and 12, the post-module quiz. The average pre-module quiz result was 48.7% and the average post-module quiz result was 94.4%.
Conclusion: Overall the e-learning module has provided PACU staff with an online teaching platform to improve their understanding of tracheostomy care. Uptake has been moderate so far, but has shown a clear improvement to staffs' knowledge and we therefore hope this translates to patient care going forward. Overcoming of minor IT issues, including ensuring compulsory completion of the pre & post-module quizzes, to enable recurrence of a completion certificate, will yield more outcome data. We also hope to explore the possibility for this module to be used in other hospital trusts within the South-West region.

Reference:

11AP04-09
Predictive signs of difficult airways affecting airway management strategy in favour to awake fiberoptic tracheal intubation
A. Berzins1,2, I. Vanags2,3, A. Ozolina1,2
1Riga East Clinical University Hospital, Anaesthesiology Department, Riga, Latvia, 2Riga Stradins University, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia, 3Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Riga, Latvia

Background and Goal of Study: Airway management is the cornerstone of anaesthesia as the consequences of failure of airway management are devastating. Prediction of difficult airways can be challenging, and high accessibility of video assisted tracheal intubation has made most of the laryngoscopy and tracheal intubations easy. Aim of the study is to identify predictive signs of difficult airways when airway management strategy was changed in favour to awake fiberoptic tracheal intubation.

Materials and Methods: We conducted retrospective observational study and looked for General Anaesthesia (GA) cases with intubation where Awake Fiberoptic tracheal intubation was performed. Predictive signs for difficult airways were identified according to planned or urgently performed Awake Fiberoptic tracheal intubation. We also analysed adverse events like airway trauma, dislocation of endotracheal tube, oesophageal intubation and following ventilation issues after intubation. Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS, p < 0.05).

Results and Discussion: In the period of 2018-2021 we identified 135 cases where Awake Fiberoptic tracheal intubation was performed out of 50 186 cases with GA in our institution. The incidence of Fiberoptic intubation was 6.7 cases on every 10 000 GA annually. From 135 cases 102 (75.6%) were anticipated and awake. Patients mean age was 59.8 ± 14.08. Slightly more were males 54 vs. 48 with mean Body Mass index of 29.39 ± 6.5. Majority of cases were elective 90 (88.2%) vs 12 (11.8%). The most common predictive factors that were identified were previously known tracheal pathologies like, tracheal stenosis (n=32, 31%), tracheal dislocation (n=31, 30%), small mouth opening (< 30-35mm) (n=8, 7%) and Mallampati 2.7 ± 1.2. We did not identify any major adverse effects.

Conclusion(s): Estimated incidence of Awake Fiberoptic tracheal intubation in our institution is very low. The most common difficult airway predictive signs in favour to Awake Fiberoptic tracheal intubation were previously known tracheal pathologies, small mouth opening and relatively high Mallampati score.

11AP04-10
The accuracy of the data on endotracheal intubation in the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey
R. Rajendram1,2
1King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Background and Goal of Study: The National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) is a large sample of emergency department (ED) visits to hospitals throughout the United States of America. The accuracy and validity of these data on healthcare delivery have been questioned. An investigation of ED visits reported to have received endotracheal intubation (ETI) in the NHAMCS revealed errors in the recording of the performance of ETI and patient disposition. From 2000 to 2009 ETI was recorded in 875 of the 348,367 ED visits abstracted in the NHAMCS data.[2] However, 234 (26.7%) had dispositions which were incompatible with ETI. As the NHAMCS data provides unique insights it is important to determine whether its accuracy has improved.

Aim: This study investigates the frequency of apparent NHAMCS disposition discrepancies for visits with endotracheal intubation (ETI).

Materials and Methods: The NHAMCS data from 2014-2018 (101,376 ED visits) were reviewed to determine whether the ED visits for which ETI was reported to have been performed were associated with dispositions that were consistent with this (i.e. admission to a critical care unit, transfer to another non-psychiatric hospital or death).

Results and Discussion: Of 244 ED visits recorded as having ETI performed, 40 (16.4%) also required cardiopulmonary resuscitation, 1 was dead on arrival, 31 (12.7%) died in the ED. Thirty six (14.8%) were transferred to another non-psychiatric hospital. A total of 124 (50.8%) were admitted to critical care, operating rooms or cardiac catheter laboratories. The disposition of 192 visits (78.7%) was consistent with ETI. Review of the reasons for visit and the diagnoses of these visits were also consistent with the need for ETI. However, the dispositions of 52 visits (21.3%) were not consistent with ED ETI. These 52 visits included 9 for which the unit of admission of was recorded as unknown. Cross-reference with reasons for visit and diagnoses indicated errors in coding of both ETI and admission.

Conclusion(s): The ED disposition of one fifth of NHAMCS ED visits with ETI are inconsistent with this procedure. Concerns about coding remain. In view of the value of the NHAMCS data it is important to overcome these limitations.

Reference:
11AP04-11
A fluoroscopic comparison between videolaryngoscope and macintosh laryngoscope for assessment of cervical spine mobility during tracheal intubation
H. Hemlata1, M. Nagarathinam1, M. Kohli1, R. Verma1, A. Shukla1, C. Srivastavaa2
1King Georges Medical University, Anaesthesiology, Lucknow, India, 2King Georges Medical University, Neurosurgery, Lucknow, India

Background and Goal of Study: Laryngoscopy & tracheal intubation (LTI) requires extension of head and flexion of cervical joints, which can cause new onset neurological deficits in patients with cervical spine instability. The Video-laryngoscope is potentially more effective in reducing the cervical spine motion.

The primary objective of this study is to compare the degree of cervical spine motion fluoroscopically between Video-laryngoscope and Macintosh laryngoscope at three different time points during tracheal intubation.

Materials and Methods: After approval from IEC, 38 adult patients planned for elective surgery without any cervical spine pathology were randomized into two groups – Group VDL (Video-laryngoscopy) and Group MLS (Macintosh Laryngoscopy). The cervical spine movement during intubation was assessed by measuring angles - α (for movement at C1/C2) and β (for movement at C3) by lateral fluoroscopic images at T1 – Before intubation, T2 – during laryngoscopy at proper visualisation of vocal cords, T3 – post intubation. Additionally, intubation difficulty score (IDS), time taken for intubation and haemodynamic responses were also compared between the groups.

Results and Discussion: Both the groups were comparable with respect to patient demographics and airway characteristics. At T1, the mean alpha angles (84.05±0.80 vs 84.51±0.95; p=0.121) and beta angles (94.61±1.25 vs 94.82±1.31; p=0.617) were comparable between the groups. The cervical spine motion was significantly lesser in Group VDL than Group MLS at both the time points T2 and T3, maximum movement being noted at T2 (10.37±1.61 degrees;12.28%). The alpha angles at T2 were 78.08±0.67 vs 74.13±1.09 (p<0.001) and at T3 79.39±0.77 vs 76.51±1.06 (p<0.001). The beta angles at T2 were 92.55±1.10 vs 89.68±1.56 (p<0.001) and at T3 93.26±1.18 vs 91.74±1.15 (p<0.001).

Mean IDS was significantly lesser in Group VDL than Group MLS (1 vs 2.68; p<0.001). However, mean time taken for intubation was significantly more with VDL group (53.47±4.72seconds vs 43.89±3.35 seconds ;p< 0.001). Both the groups remained haemodynamically stable.

Conclusion(s): Compared with conventional Macintosh laryngoscopy, video-laryngoscopy results in significantly lesser degree of cervical spine movement and more ease of laryngoscopy and intubation, however time taken for intubation was more and both the groups remained haemodynamically stable.

11AP05-01
Successful use of transnasal humidified rapid-insufflation ventilatory exchange in a case of subglottic stenosis
A. Sá1, C. Roma1, L. Lemos1, C. Mexêdo1, R. Frada1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário Porto, Dept of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care, Porto, Portugal

Background: Shared airway management in microlaryngeal surgery is challenging. Multiple airway management techniques have been described, but no gold standard exists. Transnasal Humidified Rapid Insufflation Ventilatory Exchange (THRIVE) during apnea is raising interest, but its use is limited by the length of the apnea time as published data report safety techniques of around 20 minutes. We report our technique to achieve a successful apneic oxygenation during a 55-minute procedure.

Case report: A 60-year-old female, ASA II (hypothyroidism and anxious syndrome), was proposed for dilation of a subglottic stenosis. Pre-oxygenation was performed with the Optiflow™ MR810 during spontaneous breathing via nasal cannula (FiO2 1.0) with a flow rate of 20 L/min for 3 min in a 45° head elevated position and increased to 40 L/min for 3 more minutes. Anesthesia was induced and then maintained with propofol, remifentanil and rocuronium. After loss of consciousness, jaw thrust with minimal mouth opening was applied to ensure a patent airway, and the high-flow nasal oxygen flow rate was increased to 60 L/min, and maintained throughout the apnea. Degree of inclination of head was reduced and the patient was ventilated via facemask to confirm it was easy.

The surgeon had difficulties during the laryngoscopy, which prolonged a procedure initially expected to be brief, and in between the attempts we ventilated the patient via facemask. After surgery, the facemask was used to assist ventilation to wash out carbon dioxide. SpO2 remained above 98%, the highest PaCO2 value was 76.8 mmHg, highest lactate value was 0.6 mmol/L and lowest PH was 7.18.

After cessation of anesthetic infusion, the patient regained consciousness and was sent to the post-anesthesia care unit. The post-operative period was uneventful.

Discussion: In our case, THRIVE was effective in providing prolonged apneic oxygenation and tubeless anesthesia. Different from other reports, our patient was intentionally ventilated via facemask in three specific moments, allowing the prolongation of apneic oxygenation through 55 minutes without deleterious rise of carbon dioxide.

Reference:

Learning Points: THRIVE may still be an answer for longer/compli cated surgeries if brief ventilation via facemask is feasible during the procedure.
11AP05-02
Tracheal obstruction by nasal packing: one step short of extracorporeal resuscitation

J. Domenech de la Lastra1, J. Perdomo1, A. Carramiñana1, E.M. López2, E. Sandoval3, M. Boada4
1Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Anesthesiology and Reanimation, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Thoracic Reanimation, Barcelona, Spain, 3Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Cardiovascular Surgery, Barcelona, Spain, 4Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Otorhinolaryngology, Barcelona, Spain

Discussion:
Since the patient was admitted to ICU for controlled weaning, he pre-sented no neurological damage and he was discharged after 48 h.

The use of a flexible endoscope confirmed a lower tracheal obstruction due to NP. A rigid bronchoscopy was immediately attempted but failed to progress inside the glottis. Furthermore, new otracheal intubation couldn’t be performed due to laryngeal edema and pulse oximetry was eventually lost. Advanced CPR and emergent cricothyrotomy were initiated while femoral vascular access was obtained in case ECMO was needed. A 5 mm tube was inserted through cricothyrotomy and ventilation successfully started. Pulse was recovered and oxygenation rapidly improved to 100%. New rigid bronchoscopy showed the NP in the subglottic space, from where it was easily removed.

We proceeded orotracheal intubation with the Tritube®, a narrow endotracheal tube with an external diameter of 4.4 mm. The anesthesiologist sets flow (F), end-expiratory pressure (PEEP), peak inspiratory pressure (PIP) and fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO₂) whereas respiratory rate (RR) and tidal volumes (VT) are calculated by the device according to the compliance of the respiratory system.

Unlike volume-controlled ventilation (VCV), expiration is actively performed, producing a linear decrease in the pulmonary airway pressure. We present a case in which this ventilation technique was successfully used.

Case report: 26-year-old woman affected by subglottic papillomatosis conditioning an 80% obstruction of the upper airway scheduled for partial laryngectomy using minimally invasive endoscopic surgery. Under standard monitoring and high-flow nasal oxygenation, we performed conscious sedation and applied topic lidocaine on the oropharynx.

We proceeded otracheal intubation with the Tritube® under spontaneous ventilation using a videolaryngoscope. Induction and maintenance of general anaesthesia were achieved with TIVA. Ventilation parameters were: F 12 L/min, FiO₂ 0.3, PIP 14 cmH₂O, PEEP 6 cmH₂O, VT 430 mL, RR 14 breaths/minute. Normocapnia and a pulmonary-protective ventilatory approach were assured throughout the procedure. Anaesthetic emergence was performed immediately after surgery. There were no post-operative complications and discharge was produced after 24 hours.

Discussion: FCV with the Evone® ventilator can be an alternative option to temporary tracheostomy when managing high-grade obstructions of the upper airway. Further research is needed in order to assess whether this technique results in a better outcome compared to current practice.

Reference:

11AP05-03
Case report: use of flow-controlled ventilation with the Evone® ventilator in minimally invasive surgery of laryngeal papillomatosis conditioning an 80% obstruction of the upper airway

J. Vallverdú Martínez1, M. Sangrà Puig1, L. Gómez López2, J. Domenech de la Lastra1, R. Berge Ramos1, Á. Barranco de Santiago1
1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Anestesiologia, Reanimació i Terapèutica del Dolor, Barcelona, Spain

Background:
The surgical management of laryngeal tumours is a challenge for Anaesthesiologists since they can lead to a difficult airway. When laryngeal tumours condition a high-grade obstruction of the upper airway it is often preferred to perform the surgery under tracheostomy, which can develop a negative impact on the patient. Flow-controlled ventilation (FCV) using the Evone® ventilator is a novel technique that enables an optimal ventilation of the patient through the Tritube®, a narrow endotracheal tube with an external diameter of 4.4 mm. The anaesthesiologist sets flow (F), end-expiratory pressure (PEEP), peak inspiratory pressure (PIP) and fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO₂) whereas respiratory rate (RR) and tidal volumes (VT) are calculated by the device according to the compliance of the respiratory system.

Unlike volume-controlled ventilation (VCV), expiration is actively performed, producing a linear decrease in the pulmonary airway pressure. We present a case in which this ventilation technique was successfully used.

Case report: 26-year-old woman affected by subglottic papillomato-sis conditioning an 80% obstruction of the upper airway scheduled for partial laryngectomy using minimally invasive endoscopic surgery. Under standard monitoring and high-flow nasal oxygenation, we performed conscious sedation and applied topic lidocaine on the oropharynx.

We proceeded otracheal intubation with the Tritube® under spontaneous ventilation using a videolaryngoscope. Induction and maintenance of general anaesthesia were achieved with TIVA. Ventilation parameters were: F 12 L/min, FiO₂ 0.3, PIP 14 cmH₂O, PEEP 6 cmH₂O, VT 430 mL, RR 14 breaths/minute. Normocapnia and a pulmonary-protective ventilatory approach were assured throughout the procedure. Anaesthetic emergence was performed immediately after surgery. There were no post-operative complications and discharge was produced after 24 hours.

Discussion: FCV with the Evone® ventilator can be an alternative option to temporary tracheostomy when managing high-grade obstructions of the upper airway. Further research is needed in order to assess whether this technique results in a better outcome compared to current practice.

Reference:
11AP05-04
Does COVID19 exacerbate postextubation negative pressure pulmonary edema?

S. Debbağ¹, G. Usta¹, F. Sancaoğlu¹, A. Ankay Yiğbas¹
¹Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology & Reanimation, Ankara, Turkey

Negative pressure pulmonary edema (NPPE) occurs by increased intrathoracic negative pressure following inspiration against closed glottis or obstructed upper airway.¹ Postanesthetic laryngospasm is reported to be the reason in more than half of the cases.² While both NPPE following general anesthesia and COVID-19 cause hypoxemia and respiratory distress, they can be easily misdiagnosed.

We aimed to discuss here a 17 year-old patient developed postanesthetic NPPE who had COVID19 infection history.

17 year-old male patient diagnosed with right hand phalanx fracture was scheduled for operative reduction. In his preoperative evaluation he has no comorbidities. Routine ASA monitoring was performed. After uneventful IV induction and adequate depth of anesthesia patient’s trachea was intubated in the first attempt. Anesthesia was maintained with Sevoflurane and remifentanyl infusion. The surgery lasted approximately 1 hour with stable vital parameters and 750ml crystalloid infusion. After surgery was completed neuromuscular block was reversed and patient was extubated.

After that he developed laryngospasm accompanied by cough, stridor and red frothy sputum afterwards, caused severe decrease in SpO2 down to 60%. Although positive pressure mask ventilation was performed, SpO2 could be increased up to 85%. He was transferred to recovery room with 10L/min oxygen and 85% SpO2. Nebulized adrenaline and salbutamol, 40mg IV furosemide administered to patient. Patient was transferred to pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) with 8L/min oxygen mask, SpO2 %90. He was weaned off from oxygen 24 hours later and transferred to inpatient care. He was discharged from hospital in his 3rd preoperative day.

NPPE is a highly underestimated in its incidence (0.01%).² There has been only a few cases in literature and most of them are young ASA1 patients undergoing minor operations.² Anesthesiologists should recognize it immediately to prevent major complications which may lead to cardiopulmonary arrest.

Furthermore, prolonged hypoxia is a well-known cause of a NPPE.¹ So COVID19 infections’ itself may exacerbate NPPE. Our patient also had a COVID19 infection with mild symptoms two months earlier than surgery. We recommend that anesthesiologists should be more careful about NPPE with patients who had COVID19 infection history.

References:
2. Holmes Postoperative Pulmonary Edema in Young Athletic Adults AmJSportsMed 1991

11AP05-05
Airway management in a patient with massive oral venous malformation: a case report

FA Iglesias¹, FE. Bolla¹
¹Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background: Vascular anomalies are classified in tumors or malformations. Head and neck anomalies are rare and might predict airway compromise.

Case report: A 44 year-old woman with a history of multiple vascular malformations (VMs) is scheduled for catheter embolisation of multiple VMs in the dorsum. The patient reported snoring and difficulties swallowing, and physical examination showed two VMs at the tongue. A computed tomography scan and a fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation showed the presence of a VM at the base of the tongue, located in a central position, falling into the vallecula. As a prone position was required by the surgical team, general anaesthesia with endotracheal intubation was planned. We induced the patient with propofol, remifentanil and rocuronium. Face mask ventilation was performed successfully and the patient was intubated with a 7.5 mm endotracheal tube with spiral reinforcement using a video laryngoscope with hyperangulated blade. The procedure went uneventful, the patient was extubated and discharged 6 hours later.

Fig. 1: VM visualised during videolaryngoscopy.

Discussion: Airway management should be planned thoroughly not only because these VMs may interfere with face mask ventilation and laryngoscopy, but because even minor manipulation might result in major bleeding.¹ Nowadays, with the upcoming development of videolaryngoscopy, the question is whether to perform awake fiberoptic intubation or to proceed with rapid sequence induction (RSI). If RSI is intended, supraglottic airway devices and surgical airway kit should be available in case of ventilation or intubation infeasibility. The use of a combination of videolaryngoscope and fiberoptic device during RSI or awake intubation has also been described and might have been an excellent choice for this case.²

References:

Learning Points: Airway assessment and management should be carefully planned in patients with a history of head and neck VMs, especially with oral lesions. Guidelines for airway management should be followed and adjusted to our daily case practice.
11AP05-06
Prolonged use of High-Frequency Jet Ventilation (HFJV) provides adequate gas exchange during general anaesthesia both in supine and prone position

A. Dos Santos Rocha1,2, M. Rohrer2, A. Ricoeur3, A.-S. Eichenberger2
1University of Geneva, Unit for Anaesthesiological Investigations - Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Emergency, Geneva, Switzerland, 2University Hospitals of Geneva, Anaesthesiology Division, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Emergency, Geneva, Switzerland, 3University Hospitals of Geneva, Radiology Division, Geneva, Switzerland

Background: High-frequency Jet Ventilation (HFJV) has gained renewed interest in recent years for its ability to provide near-motionless conditions for ablation interventions. HFJV uses high respiratory frequency and low driving pressures via a thin cannula. A 73-year-old woman was treated with CT-guided radiofrequency tumour ablations in supine and prone positions in patients with respiratory comorbidities. Hereewith, we present two cases of prolonged use of HFJV during CT-guided tumour ablations in supine and prone positions in patients with respiratory comorbidities.

Case report: A 58-year-old man with BMI 31.2 kg/m² was treated with CT-guided cryoablation under general anaesthesia in the prone position for a 32-mm renal tumour. Its size and location required CO₂ dissection and laborious placement of ablation needles. After 3 h of continuous HFJV in prone position, partial pressures of arterial O₂ and CO₂ were satisfactory (PaO₂ 33.9 kPa, PaCO₂ 5.4 kPa, SaO₂ 99.8%, FiO₂ 60%).

A 73-year-old woman was treated with CT-guided radiofrequency under general anaesthesia in the supine position for a 19-mm hepatic tumour. Despite moderate persistent asthma and a previous lung resection (inferior left lobectomy), blood gas analysis was adequate after 115 minutes of HFJV (PaO₂ 11.3 kPa, PaCO₂ 5.4 kPa, SaO₂ 97.4%, FiO₂ 50%).

The recovery room surveillance was eventless for both patients.

Discussion: Several interventions requiring immobility under general anaesthesia may benefit from the motionless breathing conveyed by HFVJ. Patients with respiratory comorbidities are often not candidates for HFJV because of concerns about barotrauma, air trapping or hypercarbia, which are mostly related to the potential obstruction of the expiratory flow. Moreover, anaesthetists are sometimes prompted to switch from HFJV to conventional ventilation in published cohorts because of insufficient oxygenation or CO₂ clearance (1).

In our cases, HFJV did provide adequate gas exchange, despite prolonged administration (3h), patient position (supine and prone), obesity, previous lung surgery and asthma.

Reference:

Learning Points: HFJV is feasible and very useful for percutaneous interventions. It can be safely provided even in patients with respiratory comorbidities both in supine and prone positions.

Patient’s Consent: Written consent was obtained.

Conflicts of Interest: Nothing to declare

11AP05-07
Anticipated difficult intubation in a patient diagnosed with amyloidosis and cardiac involvement who was listed for urgent heart transplantation: a case report

FA. Iglesias1, G. Domenech1, J.C. Bianco1, M.E. García Guzzo1
1Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background: Cardiac involvement is a common clinical presentation in patients with immunoglobulin light chain (AL) amyloidosis. Deposition of extracellular amyloid aggregates can compromise airway tissues as well, especially in the larynx.

Case report: A 44-year-old male patient with AL cardiac amyloidosis was admitted with class III heart failure due to restrictive cardiomyopathy. After a regular response following diuretic treatment, the patient was considered for heart transplant (HT). During preoperative airway assessment the patient reported limited mouth opening; physical examination revealed a thyromental distance >5 cm, neck circumference <40 cm, and preserved cervical spine mobility. The main finding was an inter-incisor gap of 8 mm. Mallampati score and tongue size could not be evaluated.

We decided to perform awake nasal fiberoptic intubation and a percutaneous tracheostomy before performing the HT. We applied 2% lidocaine using the spray-as-you-go technique with a fiberoptic bronchoscope. After intubation was achieved, we induced general anaesthesia with a bolus of propofol and rocuronium.

General anaesthesia was maintained with propofol and remifentanil target controlled infusions. Percutaneous tracheostomy was performed by the surgical team safely and effectively. The patient required norepinephrine inotropic support during the procedure. The patient underwent an 18-day stay in the intensive care unit (ICU) on spontaneous ventilation through the tracheostomy cannula before HT occurred. Airway management during surgery was uneventful.

Discussion: Our main hypothesis was that amyloid deposits in the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) were the origin of mouth opening limitation. After neuromuscular blockade, mouth opening did not improve, which confirmed our hypothesis. Preoperative airway assessment predicted difficult face mask or supraglottic device ventilation as well as difficult intubation with either direct or videolaryngoscopy.

Flexible scope intubation is the gold standard for TMJ ankylosis. Performing a tracheostomy on the same day as the HT was avoided due to the high bleeding risk during extracorporal circulation.

References:

Learning points: Preoperative airway assessments are crucial in patients with cardiac amyloidosis. Anticipated surgical airways are a suitable option in scenarios like HT.
**11AP05-09**
Subglottic stenosis: an airway management case report

T.M. Cardoso¹, J.M. Mendonça¹, I. Madeira¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal

**Background:** Subglottic stenosis (SS) consists of a narrowing of the airway diameter below the vocal folds and is a rare but life-threatening condition that could be congenital or acquired. The most common cause of acquired SS is prolonged intubation and commonly occurs at the cuff of the tube. The recognition and management of these patients can pose a challenge for the anesthesiologist.

**Case Report:** A 26-year-old female patient was admitted for an urgent laparoscopic appendectomy. Her past medical history was significant for hypothyroidism and an esophageal atresia with elective admission to the intensive care unit of unknown duration. Furthermore, the patient also referred a tendency for recurrent respiratory infections since very young. The pre-anesthetic evaluation revealed no apparent difficult airway stigmas.

After rapid sequence induction of anesthesia, an attempt at tracheal intubation was performed under direct laryngoscopy. A Cormack-Lehane grade I laryngoscopy was observed, and a 7.0mm endotracheal tube (ET) was attempted with difficulty in the progression below the vocal cords. Subsequent attempts were made with different operator and a 5.5mm ET but were not successful. At this point, an AuraGain™ laryngeal mask (LM) was inserted without difficulty and a fibroscopy was performed through the LM with evidence of a SS.

Due to the nature of the surgery, we decided to proceed. The LM provided a good seal and allowed for controlled ventilation with acceptable peak pressures throughout the operation, including during pneumoperitoneum.

The procedure was uneventful, the patient made a full recovery and was referred to otorhinolaryngology.

**Discussion:** Despite being a rare entity, a SS presents a challenge for the anesthesiologist, especially if it is unknown, as in this case. The fact that this patient had an intensive care unit admission of unknown duration allied with the respiratory history were subtle clues of this finding. Therefore, taking a detailed medical history is essential.

Depending on the severity and location of the stenosis and the type of surgical procedure, there are a variety of choices for the perioperative airway management. In this case, placing a LM seemed to us the best option, due to the urgency of the surgery and the impossibility to pass an ET through the glottis.

**Learning Points:**
- Subtle findings with major impact in anesthesia management;
- Careful approach to specific and rare entities.

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**11AP05-10**
High-flow nasal oxygen therapy: oxygenation proposal for sedation of patients suffering from advanced stage Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

T. da Silva Carvalho¹, M. Flor de Lima¹, F. Moura¹
¹Centro Hospitalar do Tâmega e Sousa, Anesthesiology, Penafiel, Portugal

**Background:** Sedation of patients suffering from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) can be quite challenging. Dyspnea and dysphagia can result in hypoxemia and/or choking. Choosing the best strategy in order to maintain an appropriate oxygenation is crucial for performing supportive treatments such as Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG). To the best of our knowledge this is the first case report of placement of PEG in ALS patient under High-Flow Nasal Oxygen (HFNO) therapy.

**Case report:** A 29-year-old female, ASA III, diagnosed with ALS 5 years ago, presenting with dysarthria and dysphagia besides quadriaparesis was proposed for placement of PEG. Propofol and ketamine (total of 120 mg and 50 mg, respectively) was used for sedation and supplemental oxygenation was provided via nasal cannula (15L/min). Due to abundant accumulation of oral secretions and severe hypoxia (75%), the procedure was suspended. On the second try, 7 days later, we decided to preoxygenate and maintain the patient under HFNO (60L/min, FiO₂ 93%). We sedated the patient with propofol and ketamine (total of 150mg, each) and SpO₂ was kept between 84-91% during the entire procedure. PEG was placed and weaning of HFNO was uneventful.

**Discussion:** Understanding the physiological changes and the risks of sedation of ALS patients is essential to choose the better strategy in order to avoid complications. We found case reports of placement of PEG in ALS patients under low flow oxygen therapy and non-invasive ventilation, but not under HFNO. HFNO improves oxygenation and prolongs safe apnea time when compared with facemask oxygenation [1]. Also, HFNO is believed to decrease dead space and, due to high flow, it creates positive nasopharyngeal pressure leading to an increase lung volume or recruit collapsed alveoli. The warm and humidified air prevents bronchoconstriction and improves mucociliary function, clearance of secretions and is associated with less atelectasis [2]. These features are especially important in ALS patients, since their ability to swallow and to cough is impaired and mucociliary clearance is weak.

**References:**
1. Song et al. BMC Anesthesiology (2022) 22:100

**Learning points:** HFNO should be seen as a good alternative to other conventional methods. Given the rarity and lack of recommendations or scientific evidence on how to proceed in these cases, we present a successful method, highlighting the HFNO as the great ally.
11AP06-02
Total left lung collapse and urgent laparotomy: preventing additional atelectasis during general anesthesia – a case report

J. Cabral¹, J. Moreira¹, R. Castro Fernandes¹, P. Santos¹
¹Centro Hospitalar e Universitário São João, E.R.E., Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Central airway malignancy can lead to atelectasis and lobar collapse. Inducing general anesthesia (GA) in such patients can be challenging, as it increases atelectasis. This case report describes the anesthetic approach of a patient with left lung collapse who presented for urgent laparotomy.

Case report: A 69-year-old female patient, with no known past medical history, presented to the ED with an incarcerated right crural hernia. CT scans confirmed the diagnosis and revealed total left lung collapse by a solid mass of suspicious malignancy in the left main bronchus. Urgent laparotomy, with a xiphopubic incision, segmental enterectomy and herniorrhaphy were proposed. ARISCAT Score predicted high risk (42.1%) for postoperative pulmonary complications (PPC). Standard ASA, anesthetic depth, and neuromuscular block (NMB) monitoring were applied. To avoid further atelectasis, intubation was performed during an ‘awake’ laryngoscopy. For this, bolus of a 20 mg/mL Ketamine and 20 mcg/mL Dexmedetomidine mixture was administered, until Video Laryngoscope tolerance. After topicalization of the larynx with 2% lidocaine, an orotracheal tube was placed, for opioid-sparing analgesia. A lower thoracic epidural catheter was introduced and GA induced. A lower thoracic epidural analgesia regimen present a valid alternative when urgent laparotomy is unavoidable in high-risk patients such as this one.

Discussion: PPCs are common after laparotomy and increase mortality. Atelectasis develops with intravenous and inhalational anesthesia.¹ Ketamine may prevent it, mainly, due to chest wall muscle tone maintenance.² Other strategies include reducing peroperative opioids, appropriate use of NMB agents, postoperative NIV, and thoracic epidural analgesia. Strategies to reduce atelectasis during GA can modify prognosis and need to be addressed in high-risk patients such as this one.

Reference:

Learning Points: Ketamine and dexmedetomidine during GA induction along with a thoracic epidural analgesia regimen present a valid alternative when urgent laparotomy is unavoidable in high-risk patients for PPC.

11AP06-03
Tritube endotracheal tube in management of the patient with predictors of difficult airway who is scheduled for removal of a long-standing foreign body. A case report

E.D. Martinez-Hurtado¹, N. Aracil Escoda¹, M. Sanchez-Merchantie², N. De Luis Cabezon³, M.A. Fernandez-Vaquero⁴, A. Abad Gurumeta¹, GEMVA, GVAH, FIDIVA
¹Hospital Universitario Infantia Leonor, Anestesia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor, Madrid, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario Fundación Alcorcón, Anestesia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor, Alcorcón, Spain, ³Hospital Universitario de Basurto, Anestesia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor, Bilbao, Spain, ⁴Clinica Universidad de Navarra, Department of Anesthesiology, Madrid, Spain

Background: Foreign body aspiration is rare in adults, and usually involves elderly patients with impaired airway protection mechanisms. Foreign body aspiration use to be the consequence of a lack of airway protective reflex due to contraction of the ventricular bands, with significant morbidity and mortality. Endoscopic treatment is the procedure of choice although some advocate surgery as a therapeutic method in chronic cases.

Case report: We present the case of a 56-year-old man who came to the emergency department with a sensation of hearing loss in the right ear. Examination revealed synchia and a foreign body in the subglottis. CT scan showed a linear hyperattenuated linear subglottic image contacting the anterior and posterior margin of approximately 2 cm with a small lower pseudonodular component with no malignancy criteria. Predictors of difficulty: obese, COPD, OSAHS with CPAP, Mallampati 4, teeth in poor condition, poor neck mobilization, beard.

The patient was scheduled for surgery under general anaesthesia. Intubation was performed with Airtraq and Tritube placed under direct vision to the left of the foreign body, placing the balloon under it to avoid risks derived from bleeding during surgery or the piece falling into the carina or bronchi. Verification that the balloon was below the foreign body was performed by fibroscopy. The surgery was performed without incident.

Discussion: Due to the lack of specificity in the clinical presentation, foreign body are often evaluated with alternative diagnoses, which leads to a delay in treatment because they do not remember the history of aspiration. When there is no history of bronchoaspiration, a chest CT scan may help to detect. Foreign body removal is often difficult due to the presence of firm adhesions or granulomas, with
the added risk of impaction in the carina or bronchi, which can lead to asphyxia. Erosion of the tracheal or bronchial mucosa can lead to bleeding and even pneumomediatinum.

The Tritube is an endotracheal tube with an external diameter of 4.4 mm and cuff. Its small calibre and ventinova technology can be used for intubation and ventilation during surgical removal of the foreign body.

**11AP06-04**

**Acute hypercapnic respiratory failure following the administration of palonosetron**

K. Kim¹, J. Yun¹, H. Cho¹, D. Kim¹
¹Dongguk University Ilsan Hospital, Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Goyang-si, Korea, Republic of

**Background:** Palonosetron, the 5-hydroxytryptamine 3 (5-HT3) antagonist, is commonly used antiemetics for both prophylaxis and rescue treatment for postoperative (PONV).

We present a case involving hypercapnia after palonosetron injection.

**Case report:** A 86-year-old man with hypertension was proposed for reversal of ileostomy. He was a nonsmoker with no history of pulmonary disease, but currently taking anti-tuberculosis medication. Anesthesia lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes. After extubation, he was transferred to the ICU, during which the patient cooperated with breathing commands and arrived fully awake. Upon arrival to the ICU, oxygen is supplied via a face mask at flow rate of 6 L/min and arterial blood gas (ABG) sample is obtained. 0.075 mg of palonosetron was administered to prevent PONV, followed by 2 g of propacetamol for headache.

Over the next 30 minutes, the patient’s consciousness deteriorated and he did not respond to verbal commands with an oxygen saturation of 98% by pulse oximeter. A repeat ABG showed hypercapnia with normal PaO2 and he was placed on noninvasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV). Arterial CO2 tension dropped from over 94 to 33 mmHg within a 2-hour span from the start of NIPPV with concomitant improvement of pleural pressure (Ppl) or its surrogate, oesophageal pressure (Pes) 2, which can be obtained with an air-filled tube connected to a pressure transducer 3. Pitp (cor) & Petp (cor) changed during LRM with stepwise decrease of PEEP.

**Table 1. Arterial blood gas measures and ventilation mode.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elapsed time from palonosetron administration</th>
<th>Upon admit before administration</th>
<th>1 hours</th>
<th>3 hours</th>
<th>8 hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>7.29</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>7.37</td>
<td>7.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>PaCO₂ (mmHg)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PaO₂ (mmHg)</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCO₃ (mEq/L)</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consciousness</td>
<td>Fully awake</td>
<td>Non-responsive</td>
<td>Fully awake</td>
<td>Fully awake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventilation mode</td>
<td>Facial mask 6L/min</td>
<td>Facial mask 6L/min</td>
<td>NIPPV (PS: 5 cmH₂O, PEEP: 5 cmH₂O, F:02:60/70)</td>
<td>Facial mask 6L/min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NIPPV: noninvasive positive pressure ventilation, PS: pressure support, PEEP: peak end-expiratory pressure

**Discussion:** There is evidence that 5-HT neurons are central respiratory chemoreceptors and the hypercapnic ventilatory response is reduced in mice with 5-HT neuron loss.¹

In the present case, palonosetron was the drug most likely to cause hypoventilation due to the correspondence between the timing of its administration and the onset of symptoms.

**Reference:**


**Learning points:** Despite normal anesthetic recovery, respiratory depression may occur for various reasons. Therefore, vigilance is always required.

**11AP06-05**

**Negative transpulmonary pressure during positive pressure ventilation might be caused by airway closure instead of atelectasis – a case report**

J. Mulier¹, ², J. Castedo⁴, P. Pelosi⁵, M. Gama de Abreu⁶,⁷, J. van Egmond⁸,⁹
¹AZ Sint Jan Brugge, Anesthesiology, Brugge, Belgium, ²UGent, Anesthesiology, Gent, Belgium, ³KULeuven, Cardiovasculaire Wetenschappen, Leuven, Belgium, ⁴Unidade Local de Saúde de Matosinhos, Dep of Anesthesia, Matosinhos, Portugal, ⁵San Martino Policlinico Hospital, University of Genoa, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Genoa, Italy, ⁶Anesthesiology Institute, Cleveland Clinic, dep of Intensive Care and Resuscitation, Cleveland OH, United States, ⁷Anesthesiology Institute, Cleveland Clinic, dep of Outcomes Research, Cleveland, United States, ⁸Radboud University Medical Centre of Nijmegen, Dep of Anesthesiologie, Nijmegen, Netherlands, ⁹Radboud University Medical Centre of Nijmegen, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Nijmegen, Netherlands

**Background:** Several targets can be used to titrate positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP) after lung recruitment manoeuvres (LRM), including driving pressure, respiratory system compliance, lower inflection point of the volume vs. pressure curve, and also transpulmonary pressure (Ptp). It is usually assumed that a positive Ptp avoids atelectasis, whereas a negative Ptp occurs when alveolar pressure remains higher than airway pressure. Conceptually, a negative Ptp is associated with collapse of peripheral airways or airway closure. The measurement of Ptp requires assessment of pleural pressure (Ppl) or its surrogate, oesophageal pressure (Pes) 2, which can be obtained with an air-filled tube connected to a pressure transducer 3. Pitp (cor) at end inspiration (Ptp (cor)) = airway plateau pressure minus Pes. Ptp (cor) at end expiration (Ptp (cor)) = PEEP minus Pes. Comparison between positive pressure ventilation (PPV) and spontaneous breathing (SB) opens the discussion on the existence of airway closure during PPV.

**Case report & discussion:** We report on a patient with obesity undergoing a pneumoperitoneum (PP) of 15 mmHg in beach chair position. Volume controlled ventilation with I/E = 1:2 and a tidal volume of 6 ml/kg LBW was used. A LRM was performed during tidal PPV by stepwise increase of PEEP from 0 to 20 cmH₂O, followed by stepwise decrease of PEEP.

The Pitp (cor) during LRM were compared with SB before awakening. The Ptp (cor) is usually 4 to 7 cmH₂O higher than Ptp (cor). Therefore we deducted 7 cmH₂O to avoid overdosing the PEEP and named this Ptp (cor). During PPV and PP the Ptp (cor) & Ptp (cor) changed during LRM with a PEEP of 0; 5; 10; 15; 20; 15; 10; 5; 0 from -10 &-23 to -9 &-18; -5 &-10; 1 &-3; 3 & 6; 8 & 2; 1 &-2; &-8 &-14 and -10 &-17 respectively. A PEEP of 15 was sufficient after a LRM with a PEEP of 20. During PPV with 10 PEEP after PP it was 8 & 4 and during SB with 5 PEEP 13 & 8, zero PEEP 9 & 7 and ETTP open 10 & 3.
During SB, $P_e$ was rather positive, suggesting that negative pressure ventilation might be useful to prevent airway closure. A PP during PPV required relatively high PEEP levels to achieve positive $P_e$, which was more difficult during expiration than during inspiration, indicating airway closure instead of atelectasis.

References:

Learning points:
Airway closure and not atelectasis might be the problem of PPV during PP

11AP06-06
When regional anaesthesia fails in a predictable difficult airway

B. Carvalho Gonçalves1, A.C. Fernandes de Freitas1, T.M. Gouveia Azvedo1, R. Rodrigues1, L. Fernandes1, D. Costa1
1Hospital Dr. Nélio Mendonça, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Funchal, Portugal

Background: Rheumatologic diseases (RMDs), such as juvenile idiopathic arthritis, can lead to important anatomical changes associated with difficulty in approaching the airway.1

Case report: A 36-year-old female, with juvenile idiopathic arthritis and obstructive sleep apnea syndrome, was proposed for osteosynthesis of a tibial fracture under neuraxial anesthesia. The patient had a predictable difficult airway due to retrognathism, class 4 malampati, limited mouth opening and reduced cervical mobility. Twenty minutes after performing the spinal block, the patient maintained little tolerance to the surgical incision and an incomplete neuraxial anaesthesia was assumed. Sedaonalgnesia was tried as a complement to the previous technique. After administration of fractionated bolus of propofol, ketamine and fentanyl, the patient experienced respiratory arrest. Face mask ventilation was ineffective. The initial step was to approach the airway with direct laryngoscopy, which was unsuccessful. Other ineffective efforts were made with a videolaryngoscope, showing a grade 4 Cormack classification. Between attempts, patient position was optimized. The use of a supraglottic device was not feasible, with an inadequate fit due to her anatomical conformation. The patient became hemodynamically unstable. The emergency team and the otorhinolaryngologist were paged. A last blind attempt was made by a second anesthesiologist, using a McCoy blade and a frova before the surgical approach of the airway, with success.

Discussion: Knowledge of a difficult airway algorithm and its early recognition allows us to create a structured plan and have solutions for possible complications.2 A thorough preoperative assessment with a complete physical examination of the patients with RMDs is crucial to evaluate the severity of the disease and its implications in the airway management.

References:
1. Klinkhardt, C., Tanaka, P., & Adriano, A. Anesthesia for Patients with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis Current Practice: A Review. The Open Orthopaedics Journal, 14(1);

Learning Points: Prompt declaration of a “Can’t Intubate, Can’t Oxygenate” status is mandatory when the best effort to approach an airway has been unsuccessful and can dictate the survival of a patient.

11AP06-07
Airway and ventilation anesthesia concerns in Escobar syndrome

M. Machado1, D. Sousa1, J. Dias1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Escobar syndrome (ES) is a rare autosomal recessive disorder, characterized by cervical pterygium and craniofacial dysmorphism. Other problems such as kyphoscoliosis, limited cervical movement, pectus excavatum and pulmonary hypoplasia make anesthetic care a challenge. As a result of airway, pulmonary and chest deformities, airway management and ventilation become progressively more difficult with increasing age.

Case report: 15-year boy, 29 kg, ES, was admitted for definitive surgical correction of scoliosis. Previously performed 3 surgeries (bars placement and lengthening), without anesthetic complications. X-rays showed 12 levels thoracic scoliosis. Preoperative evaluation was unremarkable.

On airway assessment: restricted mouth opening, Mallampati II, upper lip bite test I and no cervical mobility limitations. After ASA standard monitorization and anesthesia induction, we proceed to airway management with videolaryngoscopy (VL).

We faced a difficult airway: limited mouth opening and complete structures left deviation, Cormack-Lehane III, with BURP maneuver, was optimized for Cormack-Lehane IIb and we achieved orotracheal intubation.

After that, he has an event of desaturation with difficulty in ventilation associated with important hemodynamic instability. Immediately was asked help, increased FiO2 and flows. Pulmonary auscultation showed bilateral wheezes, so we administered corticosteroid and bronchodilator therapy.

After clinical stabilization, considering this complication and surgical complexity that required a prone position, was decided not to proceed with surgery. He was transferred to Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

On a 2-month follow-up: he has the same functional capacity as before without respiratory symptoms. We plan a preoperative anesthetic evaluation to optimize care to be successful in next intervention.

Discussion: ES characteristics should be considered for safe and effective anesthetic management and anticipate the risk of difficult airway management and ventilation, regardless of anesthetic history. In this clinical scenario, we used VL in airway management. After intubation, due to severe bronchospasm and surgery complexity was decided to defer surgery.

Learning Points: When anesthesiologists faced rare diseases, like ES, should consider that airway deformities intensify with age. Preoperative evaluation is essential in anticipating possible difficulties and is an opportunity to implement strategies to manage airway and ventilation.
11AP06-08  Head and neck arteriovenous malformations and surgical treatment: airway management evolution

E. Benito Anguita1, B. Tapia Salinas1, T. González Otero2, C. Losada de la Rosa1, R. Uña Orejón1, J.L. Cebrían Carretero2
1Hospital General Universitario La Paz, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario La Paz, Cirugía Oral y Maxilofacial, Madrid, Spain

Background: Proper airway (AW) management in head and neck surgeries is one of the main concerns of the anesthesiologist. Surgical treatment of arteriovenous malformation (AVM) appears to be effective, but has a high rate of complications and second look surgeries. Bleeding and AW viability are the most feared complications for anesthesiologists1. The paradigm shift based on our experience could be an example.

Case report: A total of fifteen patients with AVM have been treated with surgery for eight years. All the patients reviewed were treated with embolization before the surgery. Initially, five of the patients were operated with orotracheal or nasal tube. A surgical tracheotomy was made in the other ten patients before surgery. In the first group, when a second surgical procedure was required, an emergency surgical tracheotomy was performed because of bleeding or AW edema, which took place to a critical situation. Meanwhile, when a tracheostomized patient in the second group had complications like bleeding or required second surgical treatments, the AW management was not an issue at all. For this reason, in our daily practice, we have protocolized tracheostomy previous AVM surgery or embolization.

Discussion: Prior studies to our review demonstrated that embolization 48-72 hours before surgery decreased bleeding during or after surgery2. However, there are not standards regarding the possibility of surgical tracheotomy in order to prevent the risk of AW compromise or reintubation due to the need of second surgeries. Thanks to AVM embolization and tracheostomy prior to surgical intervention, we have obtained better results and less length of hospital and critic units stay, although a detailed statistical study has not been done.

References:

Learning points: High index of airway complications like bleeding or edema occurs after AVM surgery. Surgical tracheotomy before the surgery had reduced that and had improved airway management in second-look surgeries.

11AP06-09  Respiratory Failure in PACU due to residual neuromuscular blockade

A. Eliseu1, A. Aguilar1, P. Silva1, A. Lares1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Algarve, Hospital de Faro, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Faro, Portugal

Background: Neuromuscular blockade is associated with improved airway conditions for intubation and superior conditions for surgical interventions1. Residual neuromuscular blockade is defined by a TOF-ratio <0.9 using quantitative neuromuscular monitoring and has an incidence of up to 26% in Portugal (2013)2.

Case report: A 75-year-old woman underwent laparoscopic left colectomy due to colorectal cancer. She had hypertension, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, obesity grade 2 (105kg) and hypothyroidism. Laboratory studies, thyroid and renal function were normal. Anaesthesia was induced with propofol, rocuronium and fentanyl, and maintained with desflurane. A perfusion of rocuronium at rate 13ml/h (2mg/ml) was maintained until 30 minutes before surgery ended.

At the end of the surgery qualitative neuromuscular monitoring was TOF-2 (Train-Of-Four 2 twitch) and 200mg sugammadex was given. She was extubated without complications. For post-operative analgesia was administered paracetamol 1000mg, parecoxib 40mg, metamizol 2000mg and tramadol 100mg. After 1 hour at PACU, the anesthesiologist was called by the PACU nurse because of a change in her behavior and difficulty breathing.

At arrival, the patient wasn’t breathing and did not respond to painful stimuli. Reintubation decision was made, and the patient was ventilated. After reviewing the patient history, 200mg of sugammadex was administered and after waiting 1 minute the patient was following orders and bucking the endotracheal tube.

After explaining the situation to the patient, the endotracheal tube was removed and the patient was able to breathe normally. She was transferred to the intermediate care unit for follow-up. After 3 days at the intermediate care unit, the patient was transferred to the surgery ward and after 5 days was discharged to home.

Discussion: Residual neuromuscular blockade is an important factor for critical respiratory events during PACU stay. This case clearly shows the need for using quantitative monitoring as a daily practice while using non depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agents despite the use of sugammadex.

References:
1. Murphy, G. S. et al. (2022) doi:10.1097/ALN.0000000000004044
2. Esteves, Simão et al. (2013), doi:10.1097/EJA.0b013e32835dcd7

Learning points: In this clinical case we report the importance of use quantitative neuromuscular monitoring even in cases where sugammadex is used. Qualitative neuromuscular monitoring is not recommended to guide sugammadex dose.
**11AP06-10**
The unexpected difficulties of an airway approach – a case report

L. Guariento¹, A. Ladeira¹, D. Albuquerque¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Anesthesiology, Lisbon, Portugal

**Background:** Pregnancy poses a challenge for airway management because of its anatomical and physiological changes and association with higher rates of failed intubation. Adequate planning is the cornerstone to avoid morbidity and mortality. It includes ensuring the availability of the portable storage unit for difficult airway management.

**Case Report:** A 37-year-old pregnant patient was admitted to the labor ward with the diagnosis of placental abruption with fetal death and disseminated intravascular coagulation. An urgent cesarean delivery was proposed for hemorrhage control. No stigma of difficult airway were found during evaluation so rapid sequence induction of general anesthesia was performed and proceeded by an intubation attempt. Direct laryngoscopy with a Macintosh blade identified a Comarck-Lehane grade 3, as only the epiglottis was visible. At this point, the difficult airway algorithm was initiated and help from the most experienced anesthesiology was asked. Patient’s positioning was improved and a second and third failed attempts were performed with a videolaryngoscope and different blades. A frova was requested from the portable storage unit for difficult airway and was unavailable. Between each attempt ventilation and oxygenation were maintained resorting to a face mask and a supraglottic device. The patient then regurgitated, so it was decided to wake her up and successful awake intubation with bronchofibroscopy was performed. The remaining procedure and extubation was uneventful.

**Discussion:** Obstetric patients present an increased potential for unpredictable difficulty airway, aggravated by a lower tolerance to apnea and an increased risk of gastric regurgitation. Creating a plan for a safe airway management and ensuring that all equipment is immediately available in the portable storage unit is mandatory. Recognizing the situation, asking for specialized help and knowing when to interrupt the procedure are key points to minimize undesirable outcomes.

**References:**
1. https://doi.org/10.1111/anae.13260;
2. https://doi.org/10.1097/ALN.0000000000004002

**Learning Points:**
- Planning an airway management should consider the possibility of an unexpected difficult airway and the plan should be discussed with the obstetric team.
- The difficult airway algorithm as well as the portable storage unit for difficult airway should be reviewed frequently.

**11AP06-11**
The bleeding upper airway: a multidisciplinary approach to bleeding of unknown origin

M. Afonso¹, J. Beirão Rodrigues¹, R. Oliveira¹, A.I. Pereira¹
¹Centro Hospitalar de Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Anesthesiology, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

**Background:** Airway management in cases of severe bleeding in the upper airway may be challenging, and its failure is a relevant cause of airway-related death.¹ This report describes a case of suspected airway bleeding, highlighting the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in decision making regarding airway management.

**Case report:** A 51-year-old man was admitted to our emergency room presenting cough with severe oral bleeding of no identified source, dysphagia, and dysphonia. He had a personal history of arterial hypertension, cigarette smoking, and alcohol-associated liver disease with portal hypertension and esophageal varices. He was coughing up bright red blood and there were doubts whether its source was from his respiratory or gastrointestinal tract. In order to secure the airway, awake orotracheal intubation was urgently done under bronchoscopy. Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy showed no alterations. Evaluation by otorhinolaryngology was not conclusive and gauze packing was performed to achieve hemostasis. A CT scan of the neck and thorax was performed and showed a neoplastic mass in the base of the tongue causing partial obstruction of the airway, as well as imagiological findings of aspiration pneumonia. He was then admitted in the intensive care unit.

**Discussion:** Establishing a definitive airway must be a priority when bleeding in the airway is suspected. It can be proven difficult because of impeded vision, and multiple strategies must be previously outlined, as traditional airway management may be impossible. Awake flexible videoguided intubation was the chosen technique, as airway assessment suggested that intubation after rapid sequence induction (RSI) might fail, mostly because of profuse upper airway bleeding. An experienced anesthesiologist, intensivist, and otorhinolaryngologist should be part of the team managing and securing the bleeding upper airway.

**References:**

**Learning points:** Securing emergent airway can help in preventing aspiration and asphyxiation. Despite its limitations, airway evaluation is critical to decide whether an awake technique, rather than a RSI, would be a safer approach. A stepwise approach to secure the airway should be followed, as well as a multidisciplinary discussion to manage intra and postoperative care.
Transfusion, Haemostasis and Thrombosis

12AP01-01
Thromboelastometry analysis of the heparin-like effect in the intra-operative period of orthotopic liver transplantation: an observational clinical trial

M.B.C. Fernandes¹, J.C.R. Nascimento¹, G.P. Medeiros¹, Fd.L. Cabral Junior¹, S.L.F. Cavalcante¹, N.M. Guanabara Teixeira Reis¹
¹Hospital Geral de Fortaleza, Anesthesiology, Fortaleza, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Orthotopic liver transplant (OLT) can be followed by significant coagulopathy and the heparin-like effect (HLE). However, as the HLE may lead to important changes in blood coagulation, the objective of this study was to assess the prevalence of HLE in a cohort of patients undergoing liver transplantation.

Materials and Methods: This was a observational study including 50 patients ≥ 18 years of age who were submitted to OLT and monitored using ROTEM® delta, including 36 patients with altered INTEM coagulation time (CT) and 14 patients with normal INTEM CT. Samples were collected during the procedure to analyse the HLE.

Results and Discussion: Mild to moderate HLE was observed in 34% (17/50) of patients during surgery. Severe HLE was observed 5% (5/50) during surgery. Total 1-year survival was 80% (40/50) and mortality, 20% (10/50) and with mild/moderate HLE in at NP; 5.9% (1/17) with mild/moderate HLE in OS and in at NP, respectively, and in 11.8% (2/17) at AP, died 1-month postoperative. The transfusion of patients with severe HLE was (median [IQR]: red blood cells 3 [0.5-9.2] units), and those with mild/moderate HLE was (median [IQR]: red blood cells 1 [0.0-2.0] and cryoprecipitate 10 [9.0-15.0] units). In the INTEM CT analysis, the average neohepatic phase (327.9 ± 161.1 s) was significantly prolonged when compared to OS (266.5 ± 134.4 s) and AP (253.02 ± 75.4 s); P = 0.013, respectively.

Conclusion(s): The prevalence of HLE was considerable in neohepatic phase. In severe HLE, a high risk of mortality was identified in the neohepatic phase and a higher frequency of transfusion of red blood cells regardless of the surgical phase.

References:

12AP01-02
Prophylactic correction of fibrinolysis with epsilon aminocaproic acid diagnosed by thromboelastometry during orthotrophic liver transplantation

M.B.C. Fernandes¹, J.C.R. Nascimento¹, G.P. Medeiros¹, Fd.L. Cabral Junior¹, R.L.D. Perdigão¹, S.L.F. Cavalcante¹
¹Hospital Geral de Fortaleza, Anesthesiology, Fortaleza, Brazil, ²Universidade da Integração da Lusofonia Brasileira, Instituto de Ciencias da Saude, Redenção, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Orthotrophic liver transplantation is a highly complex procedure, with may also be difficult to control intraoperatively in patients with coagulopathies. The present study aimed to evaluate the correction of hyperfibrinolysis with epsilon aminocaproic acid and coagulation management through thromboelastometry (ROTEM) during orthotrophic liver transplantation.

Materials and Methods: Patients were randomized into 2 groups: one group received aminocaproic acid (20 mg/kg/h) before surgical incision until the end of orthotrophic liver transplantation, and a control group received a similar volume of 0.9% saline solution. Blood was collected for fibrinolysis analysis and coagulation shock using the ROTEM assays (EXTEM and FIBTEM).

Results and Discussion: Twenty-four patients received aminocaproic acid and twenty-six received saline. In the analysis of the fibrinolytic and hemostatic coagulation profile by ROTEM. hyperfibrinolysis was significantly less frequent in the group of patients treated with aminocaproic acid (P<0.001) when compared to those in the control group. In the other EXTEM and FIBTEM analyses, there was no significant difference.

Conclusion(s): Although the administration of aminocaproic acid did not reduce the transfusion of blood products and/or synthetic products administration, this drug effectively treated hyperfibrinolysis and no complications related to this use were observed.

References:
12AP01-03
Burn induced coagulopathy in severely burned patients - Croatian national burn center report
A. Mesic1, A. Škunca1, M. Ciglar1, G. Sabo1, M. Dobric1, T. Magdic Turkovic1
1Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Acute hyperinflammatory state after severe burn injuries affects clot formation and may lead to burn induced coagulopathy (BIC). According to some studies, BIC is associated with increased morbidity and mortality, but the incidence, prognostic value and clinical significance of BIC remain unclear due to different criteria and study designs in previous studies. This retrospective study was designed to document blood coagulation alterations of severely burned patients.

Materials and Methods: Patients eligible for this study were adults (18 years and older), with total body surface area (TBSA) burned 20% or higher who were admitted to the Burn intensive care unit (BICU) from 1 Jan 2016 to 1 Sep 2022. Exclusion criteria were first-degree burns, electrical injuries, use of anticoagulants prior to burn injury and missing data of coagulation tests <12 hours after the injury.

Out of 193 patients admitted to the BICU, 50 patients were included in the study. The following BIC diagnostic criteria were applied: an international normalized ratio (INR) > 1.5 [or prothrombin time (PT) < 60%], activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT) > 45 seconds, platelets < 100x10^9/L or fibrinogen < 1 g/L on admission. Results are expressed as mean and standard deviation.

Results and Discussion: Patients were divided into three groups due to the extent of TBSA burned. Out of 50 patients included in the study, 5 patients (10%) met our criteria for BIC; 4 patients had an elevated PT and 1 had an elevated APTT. None of them had elevation of both parameters. All 50 patients had normal fibrinogen and platelet levels. Results are shown in Table 1.

Similar studies presented opposing results, Sherren et al demonstrated that 39.3% of severely burned patients met criteria for coagulopathy on admission. On the other hand, Lu et al concluded that major burn injury was not associated with BIC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TBSA (%)</th>
<th>PT (%)</th>
<th>INR</th>
<th>APTT (sec)</th>
<th>Thrombocytes (G/L)</th>
<th>Fibrinogen (g/L)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-40% TBSA (N=28)</td>
<td>87.57 ± 14.97</td>
<td>1.08 ± 0.1</td>
<td>24.64 ± 2.73</td>
<td>262 ± 98</td>
<td>2.83 ± 0.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-60% TBSA (N=11)</td>
<td>91.45 ± 12.68</td>
<td>1.05 ± 0.07</td>
<td>24.99 ± 2.85</td>
<td>325 ± 183</td>
<td>2.99 ± 1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;60% TBSA (N=11)</td>
<td>78.73 ± 13.87</td>
<td>1.13 ± 0.11</td>
<td>27.93 ± 6.16</td>
<td>349 ± 154</td>
<td>2.73 ± 0.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.

Conclusion: Our study showed that severe coagulation alterations are not common in severely burned patients. Due to insufficient understanding of the pathophysiology and opposing study results, consensus on how best to diagnose BIC is still lacking. Further research using newer technologies such as Thrombin generation assay and Rotational thromboelastometry is highly recommended.

12AP01-04
Haemostasis patterns in patients with acute-on-chronic liver failure and acute decomposition of cirrhosis including thromboelastometric tests with and without the addition of protac: a pilot study
J. Vidal1, A. Calvo2,3, M.Á. Torrente4, K. Görlinger5, A. Blas2,6, J.C. Reverter4,7
1Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, 3Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care Department, Barcelona, Spain, 4University of Barcelona, Institut d’Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi-Sunyer (IDIBAPS, Barcelona, Spain, 5Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Haematology Department, Barcelona, Spain, 6University of Duisburg-Essen, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Essen, Germany, 7University of Barcelona, Institut d’Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi-Sunyer (IDIBAPS) & Ciber de Enfermedades Hepáticas y Digestivas (CIBEREHD), Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Thromboelastometry is considered the best method to assess haemostasis in liver disease, but its diagnostic performance could be improved by adding protein C activators such as thrombomodulin or Protac®. We assess the changes in ROTEM parameters after the addition of Protac® in patients with acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF), acute decomposition (AD), and healthy individuals (HI), to define a different haemostasis pattern, considering standard and velocity ROTEM parameters, and to assess whether Protac® can improve this pattern definition.

Materials and Methods: In a pre-test, we investigated whether diluted EXTEM reagent improves the effect of Protac® on clotting time (CT)-ratio with and without Protac®. Consistently 10 ACLF, 20 AD patients and 21 HI were included in the main study. Comparison between groups were conducted with either the Fisher Exact test or the Mann-Whitney test. ROC curve analyses were performed to differentiate patients with liver disease from healthy subjects.

Results and Discussion: Standard EXTEM was used in the main study. INTEM CFT, INTEM A5 (inverse), and INTEM TPI (inverse) were the best parameters to differentiate liver disease from HI (ROC AUC, 0.921, 0.906, and 0.928, respectively; all P-values < 0.001). Combining INTEM CFT with EXTEM LI60-ratio only slightly improved the diagnostic performance (ROC AUC, 0.948; P<0.001). EXTEM LI60 and INTEM maxV-t were the best parameters to differentiate between ACLF and AD patients (ROC AUC, 0.743, P=0.033; and 0.723, P=0.050; respectively). Combining EXTEM LI60 + INTEM maxV-I moderately improved the diagnostic performance, (ROC AUC, 0.81, P<0.001).

Conclusion(s): ROTEM velocity, fibrinolysis parameters and calculated indices improve the diagnostic in combination with standard parameters (e.g., CFT and A5). Ratios calculated with and without Protac® (e.g., EXTEM LI60-ratio) only slightly increased the diagnostic performance to discriminate haemostasis patterns.

References:
12AP01-06
Monitoring the impact of splenectomy on coagulation and platelet function in adult liver transplantation recipients with rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM Delta and Platelet). An observational study

E. Hegazy1, K. Abo Elenin2, E. Refaat3, A. Aiad3, H. Abdallah4, K. Yassen2,5
1Menoufia University / National Liver Institute, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 2Menoufia University / College of Medicine, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 3Menoufia University / Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 4Menoufia University / National Liver Institute, Clinical Pathology, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 5King Faisal University / College of Medicine, Anesthesia Unit, Surgery, Hofuf, Saudi Arabia

Background and Goal of Study: Splenectomy during living donor liver transplant increase portal vein flow and reduce small for size graft syndrome. Primary aim was to assess splenectomy effect on platelets functions by the rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM Delta and Platelet).

Methods: PACTR201908864897857. Splenectomy (n=20) vs. no splenectomy (n=20). Platelets numbers and ROTEM platelet function parameters as area under the curve (AUC) for ARATEM, ADPTEM and TRAPTEM (Ohm.min) were monitored, as well as ROTEM MCF (mm) for EXTEM and INTEM. Times: perioperative and postoperative days (POD) 1, 3, 7, 14 and 21. Heparin infused for 2 PODs at 60-180 U/kg/day. LMWH sc (40 mg/24h) POD 3-21. Oral Acetyl salicylic acid (ASA) if platelets >50 (x10³ μL).

Results and Discussion: Platelet count and functions were low pre-operative, but significantly increase by POD 14 and 21, particularly following splenectomy. Platelet count correlated with AUC ARATEM, ADPTEM and TRAPTEM (p<0.001), and with MCF EXTEM and INTEM (p<0.001). ASA effect was only observed among ARATEM but not with ADPTEM and TRAPTEM. In splenectomy gp one recipient suffered from portal vein thrombosis and another from hepatic artery thrombosis. No platelets were infused at any time.

Conclusion(s): Platelet count and function recovers fully in two weeks and this increase was significant following splenectomy This happens prior to hospital discharge when recipients are least monitored.

Acknowledgements: Eman Awad, Anesthesia, Menoufia University, Egypt. Klaus Goerlinger, Medical Director TEM Innovations, Munich, Germany

12AP01-07
The antiplatelet effect of oral acetyl salicylic acid as monitored by rotational thromboelastometry following transplantation with and without splenectomy. An observational study

K. Yassen1,2, E. Awad2, E. Refaat3, K. Abo Elenin2, E. Hegazy2, K. Goerlinger4
1King Faisal University / College of Medicine, Anesthesia Unit, Surgery, Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, 2Menoufia University / National Liver Institute, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 3Menoufia University / Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesia, Shebeen El Kom, Egypt, 4TEM Innovations GmbH, Medical Director, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Splenectomy results in thrombocytosis. Primary aim was to assess the postoperative effect of oral acetyl salicylic acid (ASA) as monitored by rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM Delta and Platelet) among recipient with and without splenectomy.

Methods: PACTR201908864897857. 40 consecutive recipients: Splenectomy (n=20) vs. No splenectomy (n=20). Platelet function was monitored with the area under the curve (AUC in Ohm.min) of ARATEM (activation with archidonic acid), ADPTEM (adenosine di-phosphate) and TRAPTEM. Oral ASA was administered postoperative whenever platelet count were >50 (x10³ μL).

Results: ASA administered earlier in splenectomy group 8/20 on POD 3 vs. 0/20 in no splenectomy gp. On POD 7 14/20 in Splenectomy gp required ASA while only 10/20 in non-splenectomy gp.
On POD14 and 21 20/20 in each gp. ASA reduced the increase in AUC of ARATEM between POD 7 and 21, but exerted no effect on ADAPTEM and TRAPTEM as in figures. No postoperative platelet or blood were transfused.

Conclusions: Splenectomy significantly increased platelet count and functions on POD 3, but not before. This postoperative period need to be monitored to avoid excessive increases. ASA depressive effect was only expressed by ARATEM, while other platelet activation pathways as ADPTEM and TRAPTEM were least affected. Few individual recipients demonstrated platelet hyperactivity.

Acknowledgements: Alaa Aiad Anesthesia and Heba Abdallah Clinical Pathology, Menoufia University, Egypt

12AP01-08

High volume colloid infusion and restrictive fibrinogen substitution are risk factors for intraoperative allogeneic blood transfusion in pediatric and adolescent scoliosis surgery

S. Schnitzler^1, J. Bick^1, A.-K. Hell^2, H. Lorenz^2, A. Bräuer^1, N. Kunze-Szikszay^1

^1Universitätsmedizin Göttingen, Department of Anesthesiology, Göttingen, Germany, ^2Universitätsmedizin Göttingen, Department of Trauma, Orthopedics and Plastic Surgery, Göttingen, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Corrective procedures in pediatric and adolescent scoliosis surgery (PASS) are associated with a high risk of allogeneic transfusions, which have multiple adverse effects on patient outcome. We aimed to identify modifiable risk factors for allogeneic transfusion in PASS patients.

Materials and Methods: We retrospectively analyzed all long-distance PASS procedures performed at our institution from 07/2018-06/2020. Descriptive statistics were reported as median (IQR, min-max). 35 potential risk factors were investigated using simple logistic regression. Parameters showing significant association (p<0.05) with the need for allogeneic transfusion were analyzed using multiple logistic regression to investigate their role as independent risk factors.

Results and Discussion: We analyzed 124 patients (incl. 22 patients with Duchenne muscular dystrophy and 20 with spinal muscular atrophy) of whom 72 received intraoperative allogeneic transfusion with a volume of 12.1 (11.85-4.26-60) mL/kg. Four patients received fresh frozen plasma and in one patient thrombocytes were transfused. 106 patients received autotransfusion using intraoperative blood salvage (IBS) of whom 68 also received allogeneic blood. Patients with and without allogeneic transfusion did not significantly differ in preoperative standard laboratory results (hemoglobin, platelet count, INR, pTT, fibrinogen, factor XIIa activity). Table 1 shows selected results.

Table 1.

We identified the following independent risk factors (AUC-ROC curve 0.9188):
1. Duration of surgery
2. Colloid infusion >33mL/kg
3. Ratio of red blood cell volume (allogeneic + IBS) to fibrinogen substitution (mL/g)

Because of its retrospective design conclusions should be drawn carefully.

Conclusion(s): Our results support a liberal fibrinogen substitution regimen in PASS patients and underline the problems that come with the infusion of large colloid volumes. Duration of surgery depends on the degree of deformity and is modifiable only to a certain degree.
12AP01-09
Perioperative direct oral anticoagulants monitoring: monACOD survey

J. Igualada1, R. Ferrandis Comes1, J.V. Llau2, F. Hidalgo3, C. Cassinello4, A. Gómez-Luque5
1Hospital Universitari i Politécnic La Fe, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Valencia, Spain, 2Hospital Doctor Peset, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Valencia, Spain, 3Clínica Universitaria de Navarra, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Navarra, Spain, 4Hospital Universitario Infantia Sofia, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Málaga, Spain, 5Hospital Universitario Virgen de la Victoria, Anaesthesiology and Critical Care, Málaga, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Nowadays both vitamin K antagonist and direct oral anticoagulants (DOAC) are used for chronic oral anticoagulation. Lack of routinely monitoring is one of the main benefits offered by DOAC. Nevertheless, some circumstances may require DOAC monitoring by a specific test. Thus, the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC) and the European Society of Regional Anaesthesia & Pain Therapy (ESRA) recommend measure the DOAC plasmatic level before performing a deep block or a neuraxial anaesthesia in patients with renal dysfunction.

Nevertheless, the knowledge and the availability of these test is unknown. Then, we aimed to establish the chance of perioperative DOAC monitoring in real life.

Materials and Methods: We designed a transversal and observational study based on a survey that we sent to the Spanish Anaesthesiologist by means of the Sociedad Española de Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor. We performed a descriptive analysis with Excel program (Microsoft, Redwood, Mississippi, USA).

Results and Discussion: Between the 4th of May and 23rd of July 2022, 149 questionnaires were fulfilled, the 67% of them about a public hospital with more than 300 beds. A method for DOAC monitoring was available only in 21% of cases, being the viscoelastic test the most common test (18%). It should be pointed out that 48% of hospitals didn’t have any method for DOAC monitoring. Besides, 31% of Anaesthesiologist who answered were unaware about these test availability in their own hospital.

When asking by group of drugs, anti-Xa DOAC (rivaroxaban, edoxaban, apixaban) plasmatic levels may be measured with specific antiXa test in 39% of hospitals, but only 18% were 24x7 available. In addition, 49% of Anaesthesiologist couldn’t give this information. Somewhat worse is the situation with dabigatran, that can be monitored only in 21% of cases and 7x24 in 8%.

This survey reflects how difficult can be implementing ESAIC/ESRA recommendations in Spain due both to the low availability of specific test and to the lack of awareness between our colleagues. Then, there is high need of training and promotion about how and when DOAC plasmatic levels should be assessed.

Conclusion(s): This survey shows not only the little availability, but also the scarce knowledge, about the ACOD monitoring among anaesthesiologists.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: To our colleagues who has answered the survey.

12AP01-10
Prothrombin complex concentrates use and blood product transfusions in liver transplantation: a systematic review and meta-analysis

G. Punzo1, V. Di Franco1, V. Perilli1, T. Sacco1, L. Sollazzi1, P. Aceto1
1Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Roma, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: Prothrombin complex concentrates (PCCs), which are a heterogeneous group of plasma-derived products with partly purified vitamin k-dependant clotting factors, are increasingly used to correct coagulation defects. Using PCCs over fresh frozen plasma (FFP) offers several advantages, including a low infusion volume, immediate availability, and lack of blood group specificity. The utility of PCCs is unclear in patients with end-stage liver disease. The main aim of this systematic review was to assess the effectiveness of PCCs in reducing transfusion requirements in patients undergoing LT.

Materials and Methods: This systematic review of non-randomized trials was performed according to PRISMA guidelines. We systematically searched CENTRAL, PubMed/MEDLINE, Embase, Scopus and grey literature up to 5th August 2022. The primary outcome was the mean number of transfused units for each blood product, including red blood cells (RBCs), FFP, platelets (PLTs), and cryoprecipitate in patients who received PCCs compared to patients who did not receive PCCs. Secondary outcomes included incidence of thrombosis, acute kidney injury (AKI) and haemodialysis, hospital and intensive care unit (ICU) length of stay (LOS). The risk of bias was assessed through the Newcastle-Ottawa scale, and random effect meta-analysis was used in the analyses.

Results and Discussion: Five cohort studies comprising 663 patients were included in this review. PCCs use, compared to no PCCs, did not affect transfusions of RBCs (MD:0.27, 95%CI:-1.88,2.42;p=0.81;I²=93%), FFP (MD:-1.53, 95%CI:-3.78,0.71;p=0.18;I²=87%), and cryoprecipitate (MD:0.13, 95%CI:-0.54,0.80;p=0.71;I²=0%) units. A greater amount of PLTs was administered in the PCCs group (MD:0.88, 95%CI:0.26,1.49;p=0.005;I²=0%).

One study showed the incidence of haemodialysis was reduced in the PCCs group (3.8%vs 35.6%). No significant difference in AKI incidence, thrombosis, hospital and ICU LOS between the two groups was detected.

Conclusion(s): Currently, we only have preliminary observational studies on the use of PCCs showing no efficacy in reducing RBCs, FFP and cryoprecipitate transfusions during LT. The greater requirements of PLTs in the PPCs groups should be interpreted with caution, as the quality of the evidence is limited by selection bias. Randomised controlled trials (RCTs) on PCCs use in this setting are needed to establish the optimal composition, dose and timing for effective administration and safety.
12AP01-11
Procoagulation status and coagulation factor levels in patients experiencing thromboembolic events in a randomised, controlled Phase 2 study of fibrinogen concentrate and cryoprecipitate for treatment of bleeding in patients undergoing major cytoreductive surgery

A. Roy1, S. Stanford1, C. Solomon2, S. Knaub3, F. Mohamed1
1Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, Peritoneal Malignancy Institute, Basingstoke, United Kingdom, 2Octapharma AG, Octapharma, Lachen, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: The prospective, randomised, controlled Phase 2 FORMA-05 study compared efficacy and safety of human fibrinogen concentrate (HFC) versus cryoprecipitate for maintaining haemostasis in bleeding patients undergoing cytoreductive surgery for pseudomyxoma peritonei. In this post-hoc analysis we assessed coagulation status and coagulation factor levels in patients who developed thromboembolic events (TEEs) during the study.

Materials and Methods: Patients undergoing PMP surgery with predicted blood loss ≥2 L were randomised to HFC (4 g) or cryoprecipitate (2 pools of 5 units), as needed. Assays EXTEM A20 and FIbTEM A20; plasma fibrinogen, coagulation factor and von Willebrand Factor (VWF) levels; and platelet count were measured perioperatively.

Results: Patients received cryoprecipitate (N=23) or HFC (N=21). No patients in the HFC group developed TEEs. In the cryoprecipitate group, 2 patients experienced deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and 5 patients experienced pulmonary embolism (PE). The DVT patients appeared to have a preoperative procoagulant status, indicated by FIbTEM A20 (Figure 1), higher preoperative plasma fibrinogen (80.4% vs. 60.7%), and platelet count (65.4% vs. 59.7%) compared with patients who did not experience TEEs. The five patients who developed PE showed a disproportionate increase in VWF measured by ristocetin cofactor intraoperatively (post-administration) which was retained postoperatively (Figure 2).

Conclusion(s): No major differences in fibrinogen concentrate or coagulation parameters were seen in patients treated with HFC versus cryoprecipitate. However, patients who developed DVT appeared to have a more procoagulatory status prior to surgery, and patients developing PE had higher VWF cofactor levels after surgery start. Further research may allow pre-operative identification of these patients to minimise TEE risk.

12AP01-12
Analysis of intraoperative consumption of blood components and blood products in orthotopic liver transplantation (OLT) during the introduction of rotational thromboelastometry monitoring with ROTEM™ in a medical center: retrospective cohort

F. Mileo1, A. Adrover1, E. Kataife1, L. Alvarez Calzarella1
1Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Anesthesiology, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background and Goal of Study: In 2015, we incorporated ROTEM™ delta (Tem International, GmbH, Germany) at our institution for the monitoring of OLT patients. Our goal is to determine whether there was a reduction in blood component consumption in the intraoperative period since this approach was taken.

Materials and Methods: Single center retrospective cohort study including all adult patients (≥18 years old) who underwent OLT between January 2014 and December 2019. Medical records were reviewed collecting date of surgery, laboratories values, number of intraoperative blood products transfused (packed Red blood cells (pRBC), plasma (FFP), platelets (PLT) cryoprecipitate (CRY), fibrinogen concentrate (FC), prothrombin complex concentrates (PCC), ROTEM™ monitoring and 30-day mortality. Median and interquartile range (IQR) were established for each variable. To analyse the ROTEM™ monitoring effect, Multivariate Nonparametric Analysis of Variance for multiple outcome variables and multiple linear regression with quadratic transformation of the independent variable time were used to model the consumption of blood components over time. A p-value > 0.05 was considered significant (Stata 14.1 (Stata-Corp, Texas, USA) and R software (The R Foundation)).

Results and Discussion: We included 176 adult patients who underwent OLT. A significant reduction in blood components units is shown in Table 1. In the multivariate analysis, the use of ROTEM™ showed a significant effect for the reduction of blood products transfused during the intraoperative period (p=0.0001) (Figure 1). Post-hoc tests showed statistically significant differences between groups with and without ROTEM™. 30-day mortality showed no significant differences (p=0.240).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blood products</th>
<th>2014 (n=27)</th>
<th>2015 (n=23)</th>
<th>2016 (n=29)</th>
<th>2017 (n=36)</th>
<th>2018 (n=26)</th>
<th>2019 (n=35)</th>
<th>p value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hemocomp. (UI) median (IQR)</td>
<td>38 (16-58)</td>
<td>38 (20-43)</td>
<td>18 (7-23)</td>
<td>6.5 (1-18)</td>
<td>4.5 (0-15)</td>
<td>2 (1-7)</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pRBC</td>
<td>5 (2-8)</td>
<td>6 (3-8)</td>
<td>2 (0-4)</td>
<td>2 (0-4)</td>
<td>1.5 (0-5)</td>
<td>2 (1-4)</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFP</td>
<td>14 (8-21)</td>
<td>12 (8-17)</td>
<td>6 (2-8)</td>
<td>1 (0-5,5)</td>
<td>0 (0-4)</td>
<td>0 (0-2)</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLT</td>
<td>9 (6-16)</td>
<td>6 (8-14)</td>
<td>7 (4-12)</td>
<td>0 (0-7)</td>
<td>0 (0-4)</td>
<td>0 (0-0)</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRY</td>
<td>7 (0-15)</td>
<td>5 (0-10)</td>
<td>0 (0-7)</td>
<td>0 (0-0)</td>
<td>0 (0-0)</td>
<td>0 (0-0)</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC (g) median (IQR)</td>
<td>0 (0-2)</td>
<td>2 (0-2)</td>
<td>2 (0-3)</td>
<td>2 (0-5-4)</td>
<td>1.5 (0-4)</td>
<td>2 (1-4)</td>
<td>0.0062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPC (x10^11 UI) median (IQR)</td>
<td>0 (0-1,5)</td>
<td>0 (0-1,2)</td>
<td>0.5 (0-1)</td>
<td>1 (0-1,5)</td>
<td>0.75 (0-2)</td>
<td>1 (0-1)</td>
<td>0.6887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.

Conclusion: Our study showed a significant reduction in total and individual intraoperative consumption of blood components in patients undergoing OLT with the introduction of ROTEM™ as a haemostatic monitoring method.

Figure 1.
12AP02-02
Transfusion-associated circulatory overload prior to deceased donor kidney transplantation: is there a role for POCUS?

L.A. Cortes Bogniotti¹, R. Ribeiro Alves¹, J.L. Castelo Rodrigues², R. Priante Kayano¹, E.A. Rocha¹, N. Pietroski dos Santos¹
¹Hospital das Clínicas da Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo, Departamento de Anestesiologia, São Paulo, Brazil, ²Universidade Federal do Oeste da Bahia, Centro das Ciências Biológicas e da Saúde, Barreiras, Brazil

Background: Blood transfusions are often necessary for surgical patients and pose a risk for serious adverse events. Amongst them, transfusion-associated circulatory overload (TACO) and transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) are the leading causes of morbidity. In both scenarios, early diagnosis is mandatory to improve outcomes. In the operating theatre (OT), where diagnostic tools may be limited, point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) could prove essential.

Case report: A 66-year-old male with membranous glomerulonephritis and chronic kidney disease (CKD) on peritoneal dialysis was admitted for kidney transplantation from a deceased donor. Anticoagulation with warfarin due to chronic pulmonary embolism was reversed with 10ml/kg of fresh frozen plasma. On admission to the OT, the patient presented orthopnoea, tachypnoea, hypoxemia, tachycardia, and hypertension. Auscultation revealed diffuse rales and crackles. POCUS showed B-lines and preserved cardiac contractility. Treatment with diuretics, vasodilators and non-invasive ventilation was unsuccessful. He was intubated and underwent haemodialysis in the OT, removing 3L of fluids. TACO was confirmed with the improvement of respiratory function and changes to POCUS pattern, which showed A-lines predominantly. Transplant surgery was carried out uneventfully. At ICU, continuous dialysis and mechanical ventilation were maintained for 72 hours, and discharge occurred on the seventh postoperative day.

Discussion: POCUS might be essential during emergencies in the OT, where transfers for imaging in other facilities may be unfeasible. For this patient, delays could compromise the kidney transplant’s success. Also, TACO and TRALI are life-threatening complications with challenging differential diagnoses, and the transplant should be suspended in the case of TRALI. Moreover, clinical aspects that define TACO, such as rapid improvement after diuretic administration, may be of limited use in CKD patients. Although radiographs remain the suggested approach in the literature, POCUS hastened diagnosis and treatment in this case, making it possible to proceed with the transplant and favourably impact patient outcome.

References:

Learning Points: Although not a part of current protocols, POCUS may accelerate diagnosis and guide the treatment of selected transfusion reactions.

12AP02-03
Generalized tonic-clonic seizure after tranexamic acid (TXA) therapy in elective orthopedic surgery

M.T. Ribeiro Gomes Boneco¹, R. Lopes Tavares de Pina¹, M.R. Ferreira Maia Barbosa¹, J.F. Fernandes Santos Alves¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Antifibrinolytic drugs, such as tranexamic acid (TXA), have been increasingly used to reduce the risk of bleeding. However, its use is associated with a higher incidence of postoperative seizures. This case report aims to highlight a possible adverse effect of TXA and emphasize the importance of its recognition to avoid subsequent adverse outcomes.

Case report: We present a 72-year-old male patient with hypertension and iatrogenic hypothyroidism, no neurological history, with gonarthrosis proposed for Total Knee Arthroplasty under neuroaxis blockade by sequential technique, with 12.5mg hyperbaric bupivacaine and 0.0025mg sufentanil for the subarachnoid block and subsequent administration of 67.5mg epidural ropivacaine. During the surgical procedure, a single dose of 1.5g intravenous TXA was administered. Antibiotic prophylaxis was performed with cefazolin (3g). 1g paracetamol was also administered. The surgery was uneventful. No intercurrences occurred for the first 7 hours, when the patient presented with a 5-min tonic-clonic seizure of spontaneous resolution. In the following 48h no new neurological episodes were detected and the patient was discharged. To date no new neurological episodes have occurred.

Discussion: TXA is associated with an increased risk of postoperative seizures, which typically occur within the first 5 to 8h after administration, are usually tonic-clonic and persist for a few minutes. Risk factors include high doses of TXA, female gender, and age over 70. Nevertheless, low doses of TXA are also associated with an increased risk of seizures. In this case, tranexamic acid was probably the most likely cause of this seizure. Thus, we present this case to alert to the possibility of seizures after low doses of TXA administration, in patients with few risk factors.

References:

Learning Points: Antifibrinolytic drugs remain an important and effective intervention in reducing blood loss. However, they have some side effects, such as seizures, and it’s important to quickly recognize them to act and prevent further occurrences.
**12AP02-04**

**Not everything is what it seems: rebalanced hemostasis in hepatic transplantation**

G. Carreira1, M. Pascoal1, M.-L. Coutinho1, P. Franco Santos1, L. Pereira1, C. Ferreira1

1Centro Hospitalar Universitário de Coimbra, Anestesia, Coimbra, Portugal

**Background:** Patients with liver disease acquire a complex disorder of hemostasis. Routine coagulation tests are frequently abnormal and point to a hypocoagulable state, leading to unnecessary blood products transfusions. It has been shown that changes in both pro and antihemostatic pathways are present, known as a hemostatic rebalance, which explains both hemorrhagic and thrombotic state1.

We described a case of emergent hepatic transplantation in a patient with severe alteration of coagulation times in whose case viscoelastic tests proved otherwise.

**Case report:** A 45-year-old male, without previous medical history, in severe acute liver failure after wild mushroom consumption. Analyses showed a severe prolongation of coagulations tests without active hemorrhage. The patient proceeded to urgent liver transplantation where viscoelastic tests played a key role. Thromboelastogram results contradicted the laboratory findings supporting the decision to proceed with the proposed procedure without prophylactic correction of the coagulation abnormalities with no complications throughout.

**Discussion:** The prophylactic correction of hemostatic abnormalities before invasive procedures is a common conduct that may not be supported by viscoelastic tests1. Viscoelastic testing is widely accepted for hepatic transplantation and in which conventional coagulation tests are not useful2. Their usage alters the course of action, guiding transfusions throughout the different phases of the transplant2.

This case points out the true value of viscoelastic testing in a patient that conventional coagulation tests pointed erratically to a pro-bleeding state.

**References:**


**Learning points:** Rebalance hemostasis is a concept that plays an important role in patients with severe liver disease. Point-of-care viscoelastic testing is a vital tool in the management of these patients that stand in a fine balance between hemorrhagic and thrombotic complications allowing precise corrections in the hemostasis process, aiming for a patient-tailored transfusion strategy.

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**12AP02-07**

**Perioperative management of IgA deficient patients**

D. Vajcs1, L. Koc2, A. Hesse3, J. Burkhart4, E. Strasser1, I. Pekruś1

1LMU University Hospital, Dpt. of Transfusion Medicine, Cell Therapeutics and Haemostaseology, Munich, Germany, 2LMU University Hospital, Dpt. of Anaesthesiology, Munich, Germany, 3LMU University Hospital, Dpt. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Munich, Germany, 4Bavarian Red Cross, Blood Service, Munich, Germany

**Background:** Patient blood management reduces blood product (BP) consumption in the periop setting. However, high bleeding risk interventions require the availability of BPs. Patients with selective IgA deficiency (SlgAd) are susceptible to allergic reactions (AR). Severe IgA-related anaphylactic transfusion reactions (ATR) have been published for SlgAd patients with anti-IgA antibodies; here IgA deficient BPs are indicated.

**Case Report:** A 39-year-old pregnant patient (G2P1) presented with a medical history of several ARs following the intake of non-NSAIDs. The allergological work-up showed a SlgAd. The PBM was decided on an interdisciplinary basis; the diagnostic and treatment plan (DTP) was aligned accordingly (flow chart not shown due to space). Laboratory re-evaluation of the IgA levels confirmed prior findings (IgA*<0.01g/L). Due to persistent breast presentation of the fetus, a caesarean section (CS) was indicated and scheduled for the 38 week of pregnancy. Washed RBCs were provided as we assumed a potential clinical benefit in a multi-allergic, pregnant SlgAd patient. Anaesthesia induction and the course of CS were uneventful. Carbetocin (1mg/kg) and tranexamic acid (10mg/kg) were administered prophylactically. However, the patient developed a grade II AR following the administration of 0.05mg/kg piritramide, which was effectively treated.

**Discussion:** SlgAd is the most common immunodeficiency disease, but little is known about the causality between the presence of anti-IgA antibodies as a trigger of ATRs. [1,2] Finally, no BPs were required and one could debate whether the time and effort invested in the DTP was worthwhile, especially since the patient had neither an ATR nor an immunisation risk. The patient’s multiple ARs determined the decision for the extended diagnostics and made it reasonable to us to choose the safest treatment pathway.

This decision was made in the knowledge that two RBCs would be discarded well before their shelf life expired - given the shortage of products, this is a point that should also be included in the risk-benefit analysis. The patient had an AR associated with a pain medication. In patients susceptible to ARs, any administration of medication must be followed with increased attention.

**References:**


- Indication for washed RBCs -Co-morbidities associated with slgAd relevant for anaesthesia
12AP02-08
Evaluation of the treatment of preoperative anemia in orthopedic surgery during 2022

A. Font Gual¹, G. Azparren Cabezon², M.d.M. Felipe Correoso¹, M. Rodriguez Prieto¹, P. Paniagua Iglesias¹, S. Sabaté Tenas¹
¹Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Anaesthesia, Reanimation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative anaemia is common in the surgical patient. Orthopedic surgery is responsible for a high consumption of blood products. As preoperative hemoglobin (Hb) is the main independent predictor of blood transfusion, treatment of anemia before surgery is essential. We decided to audit the results during ongoing 2022, once conditioning due to Covid-19 has ended.

Materials and Methods: All patients scheduled for orthopedic surgery are screened for anemia. We audited patients undergoing hip and knee arthroplasty as these are the most common procedures. Given the evidence that Hb is an independent predictor of transfusion as well as postoperative morbidity, it seems reasonable to consider a Hb value lower than 13 g/dl as inappropriate. We therefore treat anaemic patients depending on the type of anaemia with EPO, iv iron or other nutrients. In our audit we checked preoperative Hb value, Hb value after treatment, minimum postoperative Hb and need for transfusion.

Results and Discussion: 14 patients scheduled for primary hip or knee arthroplasty were found anemic. Mean preoperative Hb was 11.8 g/dl. After treatment mean Hb value raised up to 12.5 g/dl. For organizational reasons, not all patients could be treated at the appropriate time. If we set a cut-off point at 20 days of treatment before surgery, we observe that mean Hb increase was of 1.5 g/dl, while if treatment started later mean increase was of just 0.1 g/dl. Hb globally dropped to a mean of 10.3 g/dl. None of the treated patients were transfused, but 23% of our treated patients avoided transfusion due to preoperative anemia treatment and following increase of Hb value.

Conclusion(s): Treatment of preoperative anemia is a key point in saving allogeneic blood. Thanks to a multimodal approach, transfusion rate has been gradually decreasing in recent years. Despite having a small number of patients, we note that not only treatment is important, but it is also important to do it in advance, setting a cut-off of minimum 3 weeks before surgery. We believe it will be useful in the future to determine the impact of preoperative anemia treatment on an accelerated functional recovery in these patients, as well as well as continuing to audit our work in order to be able to confirm what these preliminary figures indicate.

Reference:

12AP02-09
Preoperative anemia and long term outcomes after colorectal surgery in a well-established enhanced recovery after surgery program

J. Ripolles-Melchor¹, J. De Ramón-Suárez¹, P. Chaib-Gutierrez¹, A. Ruiz-Escobar¹, C. Moreno-de-Alborán¹, A. Abad-Gurumeta¹
¹Infanta Leonor University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative anemia is common in patients with colorectal cancer (CRC) and is increasingly optimized before surgery. Our goal was to evaluate the prevalence and short- or long-term effects of preoperative anemia in patients undergoing CRC surgery in the context of a well-established enhanced recovery after surgery (ERSA) program (1).

Materials and Methods: Patient demographic data, operative details, and postoperative outcomes were recorded. Overall survival calculated with the Kaplan-Meier log rank method and Cox proportional hazard regression based on anemia preoperative anemia.

Results and Discussion: A total of 750 patients with a mean age of 70± 12.6 years were included. The mean preoperative Hb was 12.6±2 g/dl. 368 Patients were preoperatively anemic, more patients with preoperative anemia received intraoperative and postoperative RBC transfusion. Anemic patients did not have more postoperative complications but had a shorter hospital stay compared to anemic patients. (6 (IQR 5-11) vs 7 (IQR 5-13)). Anemic patients at the time of surgery had lower OS at 5 years (53.9% vs. 44%, p < 0.05). median survival time was 5 [IQR 0.8-5] years in non-anemic patients and 3.42 [IQR 0.5-5] years in patients with preoperative anemia. Although modifiable, preoperative anemia is still common, despite the introduction of patient blood management programs and recognition in ERAS guidelines as a key treatable perioperative element, its optimization is not yet well established. The results of this study show the importance of recognizing and treating preparative anemia with long-term oncologic outcomes.

Reference:
12AP02-10  
**Long-term effects of anemia at discharge after colorectal surgery in the context of a well-established enhanced recovery after surgery program**

J. Ripelles-Melchor¹, P. Gil-Nagel-Rodriguez¹, C. Marquez-Guemez¹, A. Blanco-Barron¹, P. Fernandez-Valdes-Bango¹, A. Abaad-Gurumeta¹  
¹Infanta Leonor University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Little attention is given to the prevalence and consequences of postoperative anemia. We aimed to evaluate the prevalence and short- or long-term effects of anemia at discharge after colorectal surgery in the context of a well-established enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) program.

**Materials and Methods:** Patient demographic data, operative details, and postoperative outcomes were recorded. Overall survival was calculated with the Kaplan-Meier log rank method and Cox proportional hazard regression based on anemia at discharge.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 750 patients with a mean age of 70±12.6 years were included. The mean Hb at discharge was 11.6±1.8 g/dL. 9.2% patients received perioperative RBC transfusion.

Anemic patients at discharge did not have more postoperative complications but had a longer hospital stay compared to anemic patients. (7 [IQR 5-13] vs 6 [IQR 5-11]). Anemic patients at discharge had lower overall survival (HR 95 CI 2.663 [1.619-4.379] p < 0.001). Median survival time was 5 [IQR 1.1-5] years in patients without anemia at discharge and 4.2 [IQR 0.6-5] years in those patients with anemia at discharge. These results imply that ERAS programs should rethink the approach to anemia, not only focusing on the management of preoperative anemia, but also on the management of postoperative anemia, since its presence reduces the probability of survival at 5 years.

**Conclusion(s):** Anemia at the time of discharge after elective colorectal cancer surgery within an ERAS pathway is common and has a negative impact on long-term overall survival.

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12AP02-11  
**Investigation and management of preoperative anaemia in an international cohort of patients undergoing major abdominal surgery**

A. Abad-Motos¹², C. Wells³, K. Macphero¹¹, G. Pellino⁶, J.A. Garcia-Erce⁹, T. Postventt Study Collaborative⁸  
¹Hospital Universitario Donostia, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, San Sebastian, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain, ³University of Auckland, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Auckland, New Zealand, ⁴University of Western Australia, Medical School, Perth, Australia, ⁵Hospital Universitario Vall d’Hebron, Surgery, Barcelona, Spain, ⁶Università degli Studi della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Department of Advanced Medical and Surgical Sciences, Napoli, Italy, ⁷Servicio Navarro de Salud-Osansubidea, Blood and Tissue Bank, Pamplona, Spain, ⁸Clinical Trials Network Australia New Zealand (CTANZ), Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Melbourne, Australia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Preoperative anaemia is frequent in surgical patients and it is associated with poor outcomes. International guidelines recommend detection and treatment of preoperative anaemia before elective surgery. Adoption of these guidelines may vary between centres and countries.

The aim of this analysis was to assess adherence to preoperative management of anaemia and the association with postoperative outcomes in an international cohort of patients undergoing major abdominal surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** POSTVenTT was a prospective, multicentre, international observational cohort study, including adult patients undergoing major emergency or elective abdominal surgery with two 2-week recruitment periods in 2021, and 30 day follow-up after discharge. The primary outcome was the proportions of patients managed according to Australian National Blood Authority patient blood management guidelines. Secondary outcomes included anaemia prevalence, post-operative complications, length of hospital stay, re-admission within 30 days of discharge. Anaemia was defined using the World Health Organisation criteria.

**Results and Discussion:** Overall, 5182 patients underwent major abdominal surgery at 98 centres across 10 countries (Australia, Egypt, Finland, Italy, Jordan, Libya, New Zealand, Spain, Syria, and Yemen). Mean age was 56 (SD 16.9); 3009 (58.1%) were female and 3492 (67.4%) underwent elective surgery. Across the total cohort, 1405 (29.1%) had preoperative anaemia, ranging from 22.0% (Finland) to 56.1% (Syria), and differed significantly between countries (p<0.001). Overall 3654 (70.7%) patients were investigated and managed according to published guidelines, ranging from 43.3% to 79.4% between countries (p<0.001). The percentage of patients with identified preoperative anaemia that were investigated with iron studies ranged from 0% to 31.8% (p<0.001). The proportion of patients with identified preoperative anaemia that was treated with IV iron ranged from 0% to 20.0% (p<0.001). Adherence to the guidelines for the investigation and management of anaemia was associated with a lower rate of intraoperative transfusion (3.1 vs. 10.7%, p<0.001), postoperative transfusion (4.6 vs. 15.8%, p<0.001), and postoperative complications (18.4 vs. 26.2%, p<0.001).

**Conclusion:** Adherence to the guidelines for the investigation and management of anaemia varied between countries and may be a driver of differences in outcomes.
12AP02-12
Bleeding and transfusion outcomes in a double-blind randomised comparison of two four-factor prothrombin complex concentrates for vitamin K antagonist reversal before urgent surgery with significant bleeding risk (LEX-209)
R. Sarode1, J. Goldstein2, G. Simonian3, T. Milling Jr4
1UT Southwestern, Pathology Internal Medicine, Dallas, Texas, United States, 2Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Department of Emergency Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 3Heart and Vascular Hospital, Hackensack University Medical Center, Division of Vascular Surgery, Hackensack, New Jersey, United States, 4Seton Dell Medical School Stroke Institute, Dell Medical School, University of Texas, Departments of Neurology and Surgery and Perioperative Care, Austin, Texas, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Four-factor prothrombin complex concentrates (4F-PCCs) are effective for reversal of vitamin K antagonist (VKA) anticoagulation. The Phase 3 LEX-209 study compared investigational 4F-PCC (Octaplex, Octapharma) to control 4F-PCC (Beriplex, CSL Behring) for urgent VKA reversal before surgery.

Materials and Methods: Patients were ≥18 years, on VKA, had International Normalised Ratio (INR) ≥2.0 and needed urgent surgery with significant bleeding risk (≥50 mL). A single 4F-PCC dose of 25, 35 or 50 international units (IU)/kg was given for baseline INR of 2–<4, 4–6 or ≥6. Primary endpoint was hemostatic efficacy at surgery end, objectively assessed by a blinded independent adjudication board. Additional endpoints included intraoperative red blood cells (RBC), plasma and platelet transfusions, and blood loss.

Results and Discussion: Patients were randomised to investigational (N=105) or control (N=103) 4F-PCC. Baseline characteristics were similar between groups. Median dose was 25 IU/kg; median (range) infusion time 12 (8–50) minutes for investigational 4F-PCC, 13 (7–30) minutes for control. Intravenous infusion rate was 0.12 mL/kg/minute (~3 IU/kg/minute), up to a maximum of 8.4 mL/minute (~210 IU/minute) for both 4F-PCC. Median (range) time from infusion start to surgery start was 1.42 (0.25–15.25) hrs in investigational and 1.50 (0.42–18.50) hrs in control group. Most common surgery type was gastrointestinal. Investigational 4F-PCC was non-inferior to control for effective hemostasis (94.3% vs. 94.2%, proportion difference 0.001, 95% confidence interval [CI] −0.080, 0.082, p<0.001). Low proportions of patients in investigational 4F-PCC (4.3%) and control group (3.29%) received RBC during surgery (proportion difference 0.009, 95% CI −0.068, 0.086), all of whom had expected maximum blood loss ≥200 mL and received concomitant vitamin K. Mean RBC volume given during surgery was similar (5.99 vs. 5.76 mL/kg), and no patients received plasma or platelets. Mean (95% CI) intraoperative blood loss was 195.5 (164.5, 226.4) mL for investigational 4F-PCC and 173.9 (147.4, 200.3) mL for control. Few patients had unexpected intraoperative blood loss: 4 (3.8%) in investigational group (1 due to surgical complications), and none in the control.

Conclusion(s): Investigational 4F-PCC for urgent VKA reversal was hemostatically non-inferior to control 4F-PCC, with low transfusions in patients undergoing urgent surgery with significant bleeding risk.

12AP02-13
Alternative blood transfusion triggers: O2ER, ScvO2, what else?
A. Arnyov1, D. Kaidarova2, V. Chursin1
1Kazakh Institute of Oncology and Radiology, Dept of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2Kazakh Institute of Oncology and Radiology, Head of Kazakh Institute of Oncology and Radiology, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Background and Goal of Study: Liberal and restrictive transfusion strategies have benefits and disadvantages in different patient groups. Herewith, the main trigger for blood transfusion is the level of hemoglobin.

The aim of study: to evaluate the effectiveness of using alternative blood transfusion triggers: venoarterial carbon dioxide gradient (ΔCO2), oxygen extraction ratio (O2ER), central venous oxygen saturation (ScvO2), arterial lactate (Lac).

Materials and Methods: A prospective observational study that included 103 oncological patients with anemia in the ICU over 18 years of age (64 (62.14%) women, 39 (37.86%) men). Patients on Mechanical ventilation, receiving vasopressor and/or inotropic support, shocks of any etiology, childhood, and pregnancy were excluded from the study. Median age was 57 [45.5; 64]. All patients received RBC transfusion, the trigger was the hemoglobin level (Hb). ScvO2, Lac, O2ER, ΔCO2, ΩER ((CaO2 – Cvo2)/(CaO2)*100%), ΔCO2, ΩER, Hb were measured before and one hour after transfusion. Based on the level of ΔCO2 patients were divided into 2 groups: I <6 (34 patients (33%)) and II ≥6 (69 patients (67%)).

Results and Discussion: Initial ΔCO2 in group I were 4.2±1.2, in group II - 8.5±2.3; positive dynamics in decreasing of Δ CO2 was in the II group (8.5 to 6.8 at p<0.015), while I group showed a "negative" trend- increasing of Δ CO2 (4.2 to 5.5 units at p<0.001). O2ER in group II was significantly higher (38.1±8.8) compared to group I (32.2±7.5), however in both groups there was a significant positive trend after transfusion (II-27.6±5.4, 4%, II-31.5±7.9, p<0.05). ScvO2 initially significantly differed between the groups and was higher in I group (I-65.4±8.1, II-60.3±8.5; p=0.033), after transfusion there was a significant positive dynamics in both groups (I- 72.6±6.2, II-70.5±4.4, p<0.05). Lac did not differ between groups both before transfusion (I-1.2±0.8, II-1.4±0.9; p>0.05) and after (I-1±0.7, II-1.3±0.8, p>0.05), the Lac level did not show significant changes after transfusion (p>0.05).

It is important that the level of Hb before blood transfusion did not differ in patients in both groups (I-67.2±12.3, II-71.4±10.2, p=0.520), while alternative triggers were ΔCO2, ScvO2, O2ER- initially significantly differed between groups, and their dynamics after transfusion was positive in O2ER and ScvO2 in both groups, while ΔCO2 showed a positive response to transfusion only in the group with a score ≥6.

Conclusion(s): The level of Hb remains the main, but at the same time imperfect trigger of RBC transfusion. Various alternative triggers may play a role in the decision to transfuse, but as our study has shown, the use of these indicators together gives the best result.
12AP03-01
Preoperative states and hemodilution: factors affecting hemostasis in cardiac perioperative period

Y. Hirasa1, K. Yoshinaga2, M. Kuroda1
1Saiseikai Utsunomiya Hospital, Anesthesia, Utsunomiya, Japan, 2Jichi Medical University Saitama Medical Center, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Saitama, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Coagulopathy is a serious complication in the cardiac perioperative period, which is associated with postoperative morbidity and mortality. Multiple factors are deemed responsible for its development although which of these factors is the most responsible remains unknown. Furthermore, no available methodology allows for a pre-estimation of coagulation profiles after cardiopulmonary bypass.

We developed and tested the reproducibility of a regression model using hemodilution ratio to estimate the plasma fibrinogen level (Fbg) and platelet counts (Plt) after cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB).

Materials and Methods: Our study was approved by the institutional review board and comprises two parts.

In part 1, 131 patients (Group 1) who underwent cardiovascular surgery requiring CPB were included.

In this period, blood work including hemoglobin (Hb), Plt, and Fbg levels, was performed on the immediate preoperative day (pre) and after protamine administration post CPB (post) as a routine procedure at our hospital.

Hemodilution ratio (D) was calculated as the ratio of the lowest Hb during CPB to its preoperative value. The estimated Fbg and Plt values post CPB were calculated by multiplying D with the preoperative values. Regression analysis was performed between the estimated and measured values to obtain the regression formula.

In part 2, 112 other patients (Group 2) were included. Fbg and Plt after CPB were estimated using the formula obtained in part 1. Bland-Altman analysis was performed between the estimated and measured values for each parameter.

Results and Discussion: In part 1, the mean hemodilution ratio (D) was 0.6±0.08 and the following regression formula were obtained:

\[ \text{[Fbg]}_{\text{post}} = 0.74\times D\times[\text{Fbg]}_{\text{pre}} + 9, R^2=0.78 \]

\[ \text{[Plt]}_{\text{post}} = 0.63\times D\times[\text{Plt]}_{\text{pre}} + 2.3, R^2=0.60 \]

The receiver-operator characteristic curve demonstrated that the preoperative cutoff value for Fbg<150 and Plt<50 post CPB was 314 (mg/dL) and 150 (x10^9/L), respectively.

In part 2, the mean bias (estimated minus measured value) and limit of agreement for Fbg and Plt was -7.8±78.2 (mg/dL) and -2.3±52.4 (x10^9/L), respectively.

Conclusion(s): Our results suggest that preoperative status and hemodilution are the major factors affecting hemostasis during cardiac perioperative period. Our estimation method may facilitate preoperative risk stratification for coagulopathy, early planning, and commencement of hemostatic interventions.

12AP03-02
Reduction of transfusion requirements and length of hospital stay in patients undergoing major planned surgery after the implementation of Patient Blood Management (PBM) in Spain

E. Méndez1, M. Barquero1, M.J. Colomina1,2, A. Ramirez3, N. Morin3
1Bellvitge University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, L’Hospitalet de Llobregat, Spain, 2Barcelona University, Medicine, Barcelona, Spain, 3CSL Vifor, Global HEOR Lead Iron Deficiency, Glattbrugg, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Red blood cell (RBC) transfusion represents the mainstay to correct anemia, however, it is also an overused procedure (1). Patient blood management (PBM) is a proactive, patient-centered, and multidisciplinary approach to manage anemia, optimize hemostasis, minimize iatrogenic blood loss, implement strategies of pre-habilitation and a restrictive transfusion policy to improve patient outcomes and preserving his own blood (2).

Materials and Methods: This is an observational retrospective study including adult patients who underwent major planned surgeries (hip or knee replacement, major abdominal surgery, and cardiac valve) in two Spanish hospitals (Bellvitge University Hospital, Barcelona, and Valladolid University Clinical Hospital).

Two separate cohorts: pre-PBM cohort (surgeries performed during the 3 years period before PBM program use) and post-PBM cohort (surgeries performed during the 3 years period after PBM implementation).

For all surgeries included in the study, patient’s demographics, surgery details, iron deficiency anemia, treatments received, RBC transfusions, LOHS and other clinical outcomes were collected. Logistic regression models were performed to assess the impact of PBM program and LOHS was compared between study cohorts using the Student t test.

Results and Discussion: Data from 8,080 surgeries were included (3,780 surgeries included in the pre-PBM cohort and 4,300 in the post-PBM. RBC transfusion rate after the surgery was 35.3% (n=1,336) for pre-PBM cohort, decreasing to 30.1% (n=1,296) for post-PBM cohort (p<0.0001).

The logistic regression model showed that PBM implementation was associated with a lower need for RBC transfusions (OR 0.854, CI 95%: 0.754-0.966). LOHS was reduced after PBM implementation from a mean SD of 13.6 to 11.6 days (p<0.0001). Intravenous iron was used in a higher percentage of patients in the post-PBM cohort compared with pre-PBM cohort.

Conclusion(s): The current study showed how implementation of the PBM program for major elective surgeries was associated with a reduction of post-surgery RBC transfusion rate and of the LOHS, resulting in the improvement of safety and quality, and in the reduction of healthcare costs.

References:
12AP03-03
Positive impact of implementing a patient blood management program in a neurosurgical department in France

C. Bertolotto

1Université Côte d’Azur, Medical University, Nice, France

Background and Goal of Study: Morbidity and mortality of surgical patients increase with the severity of anemia and the number of blood transfusions. Patient blood management (PBM) programs have been developed to preserve patient blood, for detection and management of anemia and iron deficiency, minimization of blood loss and optimization of physiological tolerance of anemia. The objective of the PERIOPES study was to review the management of anemia, iron deficiency and blood transfusions in patients undergoing scheduled surgery. We report here the data obtained in a neurosurgery department from a university hospital.

Materials and Methods: This was a cross-sectional study. Data of consecutive surgical patients were retrieved from their chart before (January 2017–October 2019; n=124) and after (January 2020–July 2022; n=95) implementation of the PBM program.

Results and Discussion: At preoperative anesthesia visit, Hb level was assessed in all patients while iron assessment was reported in only 26% of patients before and 73% after PBM implementation (Table 1). Treatment of iron deficiency with intravenous iron increased from 0% to 23%. Transfusion rate decreased from 23% to 10% (single-unit red blood cell transfusion increased from 25% to 71%). The length of stay decreased from 7 to 6 days.

Conclusion(s): Our observational study showed that iron deficiency, which is its main cause of anemia, was often not assessed and few patients were properly treated. After PBM implementation, there was an increase of iron deficiency assessment and preoperative IV iron treatment. Transfusion rate decreased with an increase of single-unit transfusion.

Acknowledgements: Chantal Du Manoir, Koffi Cobbold, Samia Belarbia, Gilles Rezzadori

12AP03-04
Tranexamic acid & hip fracture in a PBM program: 4 years of experience in one center

G. Puig1, D. Álvarez-Villegas1, E. Mendez1, J. Bellafont1, M. Barquero1, M.J. Colomina1,2

1Bellvitge Universitary Hospital, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, L’Hospitalet de Llobregat, Spain, 2Barcelona University, Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

Introduction: Acid Tranexamic use has been demonstrated in term of reducing perioperative bleeding, postoperative blood loss and red blood cell transfusion in hip fracture with no higher rate of complications (1)(2).

So, its use has been become a strategy of PBM (Patient Blood Management) program. We wanted to know how antifibrinolytics were being used in our centre and which were the impact in transfusion, mortality, and length of stay of these patients.

Material and Methods: An observational, non-interventional study for the follow-up of the PBM program in our centre. The study was approved by the ethical committee of the Research Foundation. We used data collected of all patients with hip fracture under surgery over 65 years old from 2017 to 2020. Statistical analysis was only descriptive.

Results:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>N</td>
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<td>Treatment with antifibrinolytics (%)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfusion rate (%)</td>
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<td>44.3</td>
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<td>Only unity transfusion (%)</td>
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<td>73</td>
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<td>3.3</td>
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<td>Readmission (%)</td>
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</table>

799 patients were collected in 4 years. The use of antifibrinolytics was constant around 15% with an increase in 2020 to 20%. Transfusion rates have no significant changes as well as the transfusion index. It is observed a tendency of less compication and less length of stay. Mortality was similar every year.

Conclusion: Despite the evidence about the antifibrinolytics use in these patients, its use is not very extended in our centre. There is not apparently association in worse mortality with TXA and there is a clear tendency of less length of stay.

References:
12AP03-05
Assessment of the knowledge level of the professional as regards Patient Blood Management in Parc Taulí Hospital. The MAPBM project

S. Garrido Ondoño¹, M. Juárez Pomes¹, L. Blasco Torres¹, M.J. Laso Morales¹, M. De la Rosa-Estadella¹, A. Gasulla Rodríguez¹
¹Hospital Universitari Parc Taulí, Dept of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Sabadell, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The MAPBM project (Maturity Assessment Patient Blood Management) involves the use of a matrix that evaluates the maturity of the centre as regards blood transfusion practice. This tool includes a questionnaire to be completed by physicians to determine their level of knowledge of patient blood management strategies in their centre. The aim of the present study was to determine if the knowledge of the PBM practice in our hospital, was increasing during the evaluated years. Materials and Methods: The results of the survey carried out in our hospital between the year 2016 and 2020, were considered. Four of the ten questions included were selected and these were about: 1. being aware of the existence of a blood saving program in the hospital; 2. the existence of a protocol for optimising preoperative anaemia; 3. the blood transfusion protocol used in our centre; 4. taking into account other data in addition to haemoglobin when deciding to transfuse. Results and Discussion: Overall, 358 questionnaires were completed between 2016 and 2020: 29.1% by anaesthesiologists, 25.7% by surgeons, 43% by other medical specialists and 2.2% by haematologists. The knowledge of the bloodsaving program in our hospital increased during the five studied years among the medical specialists and the surgeons group, being anaesthesiology the specialty with the highest rate. The anesthesia service showed high knowledge rates in relation with the protocol for preoperative anaemia, every evaluated year (90-100%). An increase in knowledge was shown among the surgeons, whereas only 65-80% of the medical specialists admitted being familiar with the protocol. The report about knowing the transfusion protocol showed variable percentages during the 5 years. Most physicians considered other factors besides the haemoglobin value for the decision to transfuse. Conclusions: The results showed good knowledge of the PBM practice in our center and are satisfactory in comparison with the results of a national study conducted in 2019 (1). However, our results show considerable room for improvement and it is necessary the dissemination of information and of knowledge of the PBM program regularly and to establish training for the new members. Reference: 1. Colomina MJ, Olmedilla L, Villanueva MÁ, Bisbe E. Valoración del grado de conocimiento de los profesionales sobre el Patient Blood Management en su organización. Rev Esp Anestesiol Rean 2019; 66(6):315-323.

12AP03-06
Effect of hyperbilirubinemia on the accuracy of continuous non-invasive haemoglobin measurements: a retrospective cohort study

S.B. Yoon¹, C.-W. Jung¹, H.-C. Lee¹
¹Seoul National University College of Medicine, Department of Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Background and Goal of Study: In this retrospective cohort study, we investigated the effect of hyperbilirubinemia on the accuracy of non-invasive haemoglobin concentration (SpHb) in liver transplantation recipients. Materials and Methods: Data from 299 liver transplantation patients were analysed between 2018 and 2022. SpHb measurements were classified into groups according to the latest serum bilirubin levels: normal (<1.2 mg/dL), mild-to-moderate hyperbilirubinemia (1.2–3.0 mg/dL), and severe hyperbilirubinemia (>3.0 mg/dL). Results and Discussion: A total of 1,609 pairs of SpHb and laboratory haemoglobin data were analysed. The Bland-Altman analysis showed a bias of 0.34 (95% confidence interval, -2.56, 3.24) g/dL, 0.70 (-1.94, 3.33) g/dL, and 1.32 (-1.02, 3.66) g/dL for the normal, mild-to-moderate, and severe hyperbilirubinemia groups, respectively. The four-quadrant plot indicated reliable trending ability for SpHb regardless of bilirubin levels with high concordance rates (94%, 96%, and 92% for the normal, mild-to-moderate, and severe hyperbilirubinemia groups, respectively). In the error grid analysis, the major error was more frequent in the severe hyperbilirubinemia group (49%) than in the normal (25%) and mild-to-moderate hyperbilirubinemia (29%) groups (P<0.001). False positive transfusion triggers were less than 1% in all groups, although the false negatives were 18/18 (100%), 45/50 (90%), and 71/90 (79%) in the normal, mild-to-moderate, and severe hyperbilirubinemia groups, respectively (P=0.035). Conclusion(s): SpHb monitoring was acceptable for measuring and tracking Hb levels in the normal and mild-to-moderate hyperbilirubinemia groups. However, inaccuracies were observed in the severe hyperbilirubinemia group, except for trending ability. The high false negative rates of transfusion triggered by SpHb in all groups require caution. Reference: Vos JJ, et al. Accuracy of non-invasive measurement of haemoglobin concentration by pulse co-oximetry during steady-state and dynamic conditions in liver surgery. Br J Anaesth 2012; 109: 522-8. Nanashima et al. Predictors of intraoperative blood loss in patients undergoing hepatectomy. Surg Today 2013; 43: 485-93 Acknowledgements: This work was supported by the Ministry of Health & Welfare, Republic of Korea (grant number: H21C1074) and by the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Korea, under the Information Technology Research Centre (ITRC) support program (IITP-2018-0-01833) supervised by the Institute for Information & communications Technology Promotion (IITP).
12AP03-07
Coagulopathy and bleeding prevention in patients with acute aortic dissection

T. Li1, A. Kuanystshbek1, I. Vakhruhev1, S. Tulegenov1, O. Musali1
1National Research Cardiac Surgery Center, Intensive Care Unit, Astana, Kazakhstan

Background and Goal of Study: Acute aortic dissection is one of the most complex pathology in cardiac thoracic surgery. It may cause life threatening conditions and even death. Surgically managed patients are at high risk of poor outcomes, with mortality rates up to 30% in the first 24 h. Despite improvements in patient diagnosis and surgical techniques, aortic repair is still associated with high morbidity and mortality. Among all complications of aortic surgery, postoperative bleeding is one of the most dangerous. Besides coagulopathy due to aortic pathology, large doses of heparin, hemodilution, surgical trauma, prolonged contact of blood with a cardiopulmonary bypass circuit may exacerbate coagulopathy after surgery. Postoperative disorders of the hemostasis lead to prolonged hospitalization in intensive care units and increased mortality. We would like to share with our experience of management of coagulopathy bleeding after aortic surgery.

Materials and Methods: Seventeen patients with aortic dissection, who received prothrombin complex concentrate (PCC group) (1500 IU) preventively in the intraoperative period just after heparin reversion were compared with control group (n=15, data of medical retrospective analysis). All patients had same pathology and underwent aortic surgery. Anesthesia management was traditional in both groups.

Results and Discussion: Initial level of coagulation screens parameters was comparable. Significant difference was detected in the immediate postop period in international normalized ratio, in the PCC group (1.17 [1.12-1.3] vs 1.07 [0.88-1.02]; p = 0.003) and fibrinogen level (3.34 [2.6-3.84] g/L vs 2.75 [2.2-3.0] g/l; p = 0.002). Intraoperative bleeding volumes in PCC group and control: 637 [284-1307] ml vs 712 [417-1420] ml (p = 0.07), volume of postoperative bleeding in the PCC group was smaller (488.58 [280-630] ml vs 643 [457-1324] ml; p = 0.013). Blood transfusions in the postoperative period (PCC group vs control group): Plasma 6 U vs 13 U, Red blood cells 2 U vs 8 U [LA1] (p<0.05).

PCC group TEG in the immediate postoperative period was in the normal range. In the control group signs of hypocoagululation was detected in 33% (5 patients).

Conclusion(s): Preventive administration of PCC in the intraoperative period volume of bleeding and blood products transfused in patients with acute aortic dissection.
12AP03-09
Coagulation management during liver transplantation in adults

T. Kuandykov1, V. Mutagirov1
1National Scientific Center of Surgery, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Background and Goal of Study: Liver cirrhosis is associated with severe coagulation disorders, and optimal coagulation management remains one of the greatest challenges in liver transplantation. Some patients during liver transplantation require active replacement of coagulation factors to control bleeding. The aim of the study was to specify conditions when fresh frozen plasma (FFP), cryoprecipitate, platelets transfusion, and coagulation factors concentrates are used in adult patients during liver transplantation.

Materials and Methods: We studied retrospectively 226 adult patients with liver cirrhosis operated in our Center. We studied activated partial prothrombin time (APPT), prothrombin index (PI), international normalized ratio (INR), level of serum fibrinogen A (FGA), platelets count (PLT), thromboelastography (K; R; α angle; MA; LY30), the volume of FFP, cryoprecipitate, platelets transfused, and coagulation factors concentrates used intraoperatively.

Results and Discussion: Patients were aged 42.6±9.4 (24-67) yo, and weight 64.0±9.8 (48-82) kg. BMI was 23.3±2.9, and MELD score was 17.1±4.4. 154 (68.1%) of patients had severe coagulopathy and active bleeding, all these patients were transfused FFP, cryoprecipitate, platelets, and concentrates of coagulation factors. Triggers for coagulation management were significant coagulopathy and bleeding. The mean volume of bleeding was 3312±2345.7 ml (1500-5500). Trigger for FFP transfusion was blood loss over 1500 ml and coagulopathy with APPT 87.8±35.8 sec; PI 28.5±13.0%; INR 3.17±0.91; R 14.4±7.9 min; K 5.1±2.6 min.

The trigger for cryoprecipitate transfusion was active bleeding over 1320 ml with a level of FGA lower than 0.56±0.74 g/l and α angle lower than 44.0±14.2 degrees.

The trigger for platelets transfusion was active bleeding over 1850 ml with PLT lower than 24.3±12.2×10^9/ml and decreased MA 24.6±10.8 mm.

Trigger for concentrates of coagulation factors use were bleeding over 4720 ml and coagulopathy with APPT 98.7±45.2 sec; PI 18.4±19.8 %; INR 5.69±3.75; FGA 1.1±2.7 g/l; R 14.4±7.9 min; K 12.4±8.3 min; α angle 25.0±26.9 degree.

Conclusion(s): 68% of adult patients who underwent liver transplantation require coagulation factors replacement to control bleeding during surgery.

Reference:

12AP03-10
Thrombotic events after CRS with HIPEC in a prospective cohort of patients: extended thromboprophylaxis is highly recommended

O. Manterola Lasa1, C. Barreiros1, J. Sanahuja Blasco1, J. Martínez Ocon1, A. Blasi Ibañez2, G. Martínez Palli1
1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Department of Anaesthesiology, Resuscitation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Cytoreductive surgery (CRS) and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) is an aggressive procedure associated with alterations in the haemostatic system leading to perioperative transfusion. Patients have increased risk of thrombotic and haemorrhagic complications due to advanced stage cancer, extensive surgery, chemotherapy, long hospitalization and low mobilization. The incidence of thrombosis with thromboprophylaxis ranges 0.2% to 13.6%.

We aimed to assess the incidence of thrombotic complications in patients undergoing CRS with HIPEC receiving pharmacological thromboprophylaxis during 4 weeks after discharge.

Materials and Methods: All patients undergoing CRS-HIPEC from 2019/03 to 2022/04 in our centre were prospectively included. Thromboelastometry (ROTEM) was performed at the end of procedure. Intraoperative compression stockings were used. Thromboprophylaxis was started the day before and continued 8 hours after surgery until 4 weeks after discharge. Thrombotic complications like deep vein thrombosis, thromboembolism and catheter related complications were recorded. Patients were followed-up to 90 days after surgery; at that time, computerized axial tomography was performed and assessed for incidental thrombosis.

Results and Discussion: A total of 99 patients were included, mean age of 63 (27-85), 63% were female, 85% ASA II. Follow-up of 30 days after discharge was completed in 88 patients and in 74 patients for 90 days. All of them completed thromboprophylaxis treatment 4 weeks after discharge. Thromboelastometry values show high maximum clot firmness (MCF)-extem 65 (18-75) and MCF-fibtem 14 (5-29). Despite this prothrombotic profile, only 1 patient experienced deep vein thrombosis (1%). Notwithstanding early introduction of pharmacological thromboprophylaxis, there were no other haemorrhagic-related events.

Conclusions: Although, patients having large and aggressive CRS with HIPEC showed a prothrombotic state proven by viscoelastic tests, the incidence of thrombotic events is very low. Intraoperative compression stocking followed by an early start of thromboprophylaxis maintained for 30 days after discharge might be a good strategy to prevent thrombotic events.

Reference:
Int J Colorectal Dis. 2022 Jan;37(1):17-33
12AP03-11
Postoperative bleeding in patients undergoing cytoreductive surgery with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy: a single center prospective study

C. Barreiros1, O. Manterola1, J. Sanahuja1, M. Ubré1, J. Martínez-Ocón1, E. Rivas1
1Hospital Clinic de Barcelona, Clinical Institute of Digestive and Metabolic Diseases - Anesthesiology, Reanimation and Pain Therapy, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Cytoreductive Surgery (CRS) and Hyperthermic intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) has been classically associated with coagulation disorders with a 4% incidence of life-threatening postoperative bleeding. (1,2,3) The aim of this study is to assess the incidence of postoperative bleeding complication and the association with thromboelastometry (ROTEM) parameters after surgery.

Materials and Methods: Prospective study in patients undergoing CRS and HIPEC at Hospital Clinic of Barcelona from 2019 to 2022. Hemoglobin (Hb) levels before and after surgery and at discharge, and ROTEM parameters after surgery were recorded. Packed Red blood cells (PRBC) transfusion and clinically meaningful bleeding complications up to 3 months after surgery were assessed. We also compared the clinical, demographic and ROTEM characteristics in patients with and without bleeding events. Data expressed in mean±SD and n(%).

Results and Discussion: 99 patients were included. 63% were women, mean age of 64±14 years, and most of them ASA II (86%). Hb level dropped after CRS from 13.1± 1.7 g/dl to 12.4±1.6 g/dl, but only 6 patients (6%) required intraoperative RBC transfusion. Viscoelastic parameters at the end of surgery suggested a prothrombotic profile with a high maximum clot firmness (MCF)-extem 65±7 and MCF-fibtem 14±5. 10 patients (10%) had postoperative bleeding complications, 1 required transfusion of > 2 RBC and 3 had organ dysfunction associated. The overall Hb at discharge was 12.4±1.6 g/dl. There were no clinical or thromboelastometric significant differences between patients with or without bleeding complications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>Hb before surgery (g/L)</th>
<th>MCF EXTREM (mm)</th>
<th>MCF FIBTEM (mm)</th>
<th>Hb end Surgery (g/dL)</th>
<th>Hb at discharge (g/dL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No bleeding (89)</td>
<td>64±14</td>
<td>13.2±1.8</td>
<td>64.9±8.82</td>
<td>14.4±0.5</td>
<td>12.3±0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleeding (10)</td>
<td>65±12</td>
<td>12.2±0.6</td>
<td>67.2±1.3</td>
<td>14.7±2.1</td>
<td>12.4±0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p value</td>
<td>p = 0.882</td>
<td>p = 0.136</td>
<td>p = 0.164</td>
<td>p = 0.886</td>
<td>p = 0.950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): In adult patients having CRS-HIPEC, we observed an important incidence of postoperative bleeding, despite the thromboelastometric prothrombotic profile after surgery. There were no significant differences between patients who bled and did not. Other factors different from coagulopathy might be related to postoperative complications.

References:
3. Lundbech M. International Journal of Colorectal Disease (2022) 37:17–33

12AP03-12
Iron deficiency in sepsis patients based on reticulocyte hemoglobin and hepcidin concentration

A. Wiórek1, P. Czempik1
1Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Katowice, Poland

Background and Goal of Study: Satisfactory levels of iron are necessary for adequate immune function and hemoglobin (Hb) synthesis, crucially important in sepsis. Anemia that develops in sepsis patients is categorized as anemia of inflammation (AI); however, sepsis patients may also suffer from mixed types of anemia, especially AI combined with iron deficiency anemia (IDA). Diagnosis of iron deficiency (ID) is complicated in sepsis patients because iron markers are affected by systemic inflammation.

The study aimed to determine the prevalence of ID/IDA in sepsis patients based on reticulocyte (Ret) Hb equivalent (Ret-He) and hepcidin concentration.

Materials and Methods: This prospective clinical study was conducted in a 10-bed mixed medical-surgical ICU in a tertiary care teaching hospital between September 2021 and August 2022. We enrolled consecutive patients diagnosed with sepsis or septic shock and increased procalcitonin concentration (>0.5 ng/mL). The initial diagnosis of ID/IDA was based on Ret-He and Hb concentration, whereas hepcidin was determined retrospectively. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland (PCN/CBN/0022/KB1/06/II/20/21).

Results and Discussion: We analyzed data from 90 study subjects. The median age in the study group was 65 (IQR 51–72) years. The prevalence of ID and IDA was approximately 7 and 47%, respectively. Median Ret-He in the study subjects with and without ID/IDA was 26.5 and 33.4 pg, respectively (p < 0.01). Significant differences between these two groups were also shown in Hb, hematocrit, mean cell volume, mean cell Hb (MCH), and number of Rets. The most accurate in prediction of ID/IDA was Rets numbers (AUROC 0.69, 95%CI 0.58 – 0.78, p < 0.01) with cut-off ≤ 0.07 10^6/μL, whereas AUROC for hepcidin was 0.62 (95%CI 0.51–0.72, p = 0.049) with cut-off ≤ 493 pg/mL.

The logistic regression model, adjusting for factors having a potential impact on hepcidin production and elimination, showed very good diagnostic accuracy for the prediction of ID/IDA (AUROC=0.84, 95%CI 0.74–0.91, p < 0.01) and was based on RBC (p<0.01), Rets percentage (p<0.01), and MCH (p=0.05).

Conclusions: Based on Ret-He, more than half of sepsis patients hospitalized in the ICU may have either ID or IDA. A number of Rets may be used to diagnose ID and IDA when Ret-He is unavailable. Hepcidin concentration seems to be a poor predictor of IDA in sepsis patients.
Iron deficiency in sepsis patients managed with divided doses of iron dextran

P.F. Czempik¹, A. Wiórek¹
¹Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Katowice, Poland

Background and Goal of Study: Hospital-acquired anemia (HAA) in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is mainly due to blood withdrawal for laboratory diagnostics. If the amount of stored iron is inadequate, iatrogenic blood loss may lead to iron deficiency (ID) or iron deficiency anemia (IDA). Iron deficiency impairs hemoglobin (Hb) synthesis and immune function, which are crucial for sepsis patients. We aimed to assess the impact of iron dextran on reticulocyte (Ret) Hb equivalent (Ret-He) and Ret subpopulations indices in patients with sepsis or septic shock hospitalized in the ICU.

Materials and Methods: This prospective clinical study was carried out in a mixed medical-surgical ICU in a tertiary care hospital between September 2021 and August 2022. We enrolled patients with sepsis or septic shock with procalcitonin concentration >0.5 ng/mL diagnosed with ID or IDA based on Ret-He and Hb concentration. Study subjects received divided doses (0.2g) of iron dextran (three times a week) until normalization of Ret-He, which was determined every 3-5 days. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland (PCN/CBN/0022/KB1/06/II/20/21).

Results and Discussion: The study population included 35 subjects. The median increase in Ret-He after 2 doses of iron dextran was 3.0 (IQR 1.9–6.1) pg (p<0.01). The median time to normalization of Ret-He was 4 (IQR 3–5) days. All other Ret indices changed significantly after two doses of iron dextran (p for all <0.01). However, neither percentage of Rets [Me 1.51 (IQR 1.15–2.09) % vs. Me 1.42 (IQR 1.06–2.37) %, p=0.39], nor their number [Me 0.05 (IQR 0.04–0.07) 10⁶/μL, p=0.88], varied significantly following iron supplementation.

Conclusions: Iron supplementation with divided doses of iron dextran in iron-deficient sepsis patients relatively quickly normalizes Ret-He and stimulates the replenishment of reticulocyte subpopulations. Further research is needed to explore the risk-benefit profile of intravenous iron in this clinical setting.
13AP01-01
Cold Agglutinin disease – the importance of optimal perioperative temperature management

M.L. Coutinho1, P. Santos1, M. Azenha1, A. Postiga1, R. Silva1, G. Carreira1
1Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Dept of Anaesthesiology, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Cold agglutinin disease (CAD) is a rare form of autoimmune hemolytic anemia caused by cold-reactive immunoglobulins. It results in red cell agglutination at reduced temperature leading to hemolysis. Patients with CAD need optimal perioperative temperature management to avoid exacerbations of the disease.

Case report: A 87 year-old female was proposed to a femoral intra-medullary nailing for a femoral shaft fracture. The patient was diagnosed with CAD ten years ago and had regular hematology follow-up. She had stable hemoglobin (Hb) levels around 7-8g/dL and was medicated with chlorambucil. The preoperative results showed a Hb of 6.9g/dL, with no other significant changes.

Perioperative efforts were made to maintain normothermia. Tympanic temperature was checked before transporting the patient to the OR. The patient was transported covered with warm blankets to the operating room (OR) that was prewarmed at 27°C. Two forced-air convective warming blankets were placed under and over the patient’s body for prewarming and active warming during the surgery. Intravenous fluids were continuously warmed at 39°C. Upon arrival at the OR, following the recommendations of immunohemotherapy, the patient received one unit of red blood cells warmed to 39°C.

After induction of general anesthesia, central temperature was monitored continuously with an esophageal temperature probe and was maintained between 36.5-37.2°C during the procedure. Surgery lasted an hour and a half and was uneventful. At the end of the surgery, the patient was transferred to the postanesthetic care unit covered with warm blankets, where she remained for 3 hours with active warming and regular temperature monitoring. On the 2nd postoperative day, the patient had a Hb level of 6.0 g/dL and 2 units of red blood cells were administered. She was discharged from the hospital 9 days after the surgery with a Hb level of 9.5g/dL.

Discussion: Patients with CAD may present with mild anemia and circulatory symptoms. Under exposure to cold environments, the disease can be exacerbated. Anesthetized surgical patients are particularly at risk for hypothermia. The perioperative approach should include every effort to maintain the peripheral and core temperatures above the thermal threshold to prevent hemagglutination and hemolysis.

Reference:
Korean J Anesthesiol. 2021Aug1;74(4):358

Learning Points: Patients with CAD need multidisciplinary perioperative management to avoid exacerbations of the disease.

13AP01-02
De novo Takotsubo cardiomyopathy in the postoperative period - case report

R.L. Silva1, R. Santos1, I. Ferraz1, M.J. Tarroso1, A. Gomes1
1Centro Hospitalar Tâmega e Sousa, Anaesthesiology, Penafiel, Portugal

Background: Takotsubo cardiomyopathy (TTSC) is characterized by an acute and transient myocardial ischemia and left ventricular (LV) dysfunction caused by increased sympathetic stimulation. TTSC occurs in about 2-9/100,000 people in the general population annually and in up to 1/6,700 cases in the perioperative period. We report a case of a postoperative diagnosis of TTSC in a patient submitted to urgent orthopedic surgery.

Case report: A 62-year-old female patient, ASA II, with a history of diabetes, hypertension and local anesthetics (LA) allergy, was proposed for surgical correction of a foot fracture. On admission, the patient was asymptomatic and all preoperative exams were normal. General anesthesia with tracheal intubation was performed given the patient's history of LA allergy which precluded a loco-regional technique. Multimodal analgesia with paracetamol, tramadol, ketamine and ketorolac was implemented. The surgery was uneventful and the patient was successfully extubated. In the PACU, the asymptomatic patient began to show low SpO2, inverted T waves on the V2-V6 derivations and prolonged QTc with no ST-T segment alterations on the EKG. An emergent chest angio-CT revealed pulmonary edema with no signs of a thrombotic event. Serum cardiac enzymes rose. An emergent echocardiogram showed apical and LV mid-segments hypokinesia with moderate to severe depression of LV function. A presumed diagnosis of TTSC was made by the cardiology team on call. The patient was transferred to the ICU and in the following days was weaned of oxygen and the cardiac enzymes normalized. A coronary angiography was performed and showed no signs of obstructive coronary artery disease. A follow-up echocardiogram 5 days later showed full recovery of LV function. The patient was later discharged home.

Discussion: Many risk factors associated with the development of TTSC have been reported in the literature. In our case, the patient's female gender, the use of ketamine and the absence of a loco-regional technique for better postoperative pain control could have contributed to the development of TTSC. Still, the prompt approach by the anesthesiology team allowed for rapid referral and treatment of the patient.

Reference:

Learning Points: Anesthesiologists should have a high index of suspicion for TTSC in the postoperative period.
Anesthetic management in severe hemodynamic instability in pheochromocytoma resection, with intra-aortic balloon and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation: a case report

A. Jimenez Koyama1, F. Gomes Torres1, D.M. Hatanaka1, A. Teruya1, C. Baeta Neves Duarte Ferreira1

1Hospital Moriah, Anesthesiology, São Paulo, Brazil

Pheochromocytomas are catecholamine-secreting tumors. Optimal perioperative management is essential: hormonal status assessment and preparation, careful conduction of anesthesia, and intensive postoperative care1. In this report, a patient with pheochromocytoma developed severe hemodynamic changes requiring IAB and ECMO support.

Male, 47 yo, ASA III, laparoscopic adrenalectomy. Preoperative alpha adrenergic blockade (doxazosin) followed by beta (metoprolol) were initiated. In the OR, monitoring: cardioscope, oximeter, BIS, thermometer, invasive blood pressure and cardiac output; large caliber peripheral venous access and central venous vein. Total intravenous general anesthesia: remifentanyl, fentanyl, lidocaine, propofol and rocuronium. After performing the NMB: hypertension (300x180 mmHg), tachycardia (180-140 bpm) and bilateral mydriasis. Intubation was postponed; nitroprussiate and esmolol were started. After BP decrease, OTI was performed. Desaturation and increased peak pressure on mechanical ventilation were detected, with diffuse crackles on auscultation. Pulmonary aspiration of 500 ml and furosemide was administered. The case was cancelled and the patient was referred to the ICU after hemodynamic stabilization. Heart failure was confirmed (Takotsubo syndrome) and EF 28%. Therefore, IAB was installed. The patient evolved with multiple system failure and 7-minute PCR. The team chose for ECMO support. Meanwhile, metyrosine was started, associated with alpha and beta adrenergic blockade. After two weeks, the surgery was rescheduled. In the operating room, previously OTI, standard monitoring + BIS, IAB and TEE. Cisatracurium was used. Despite maintenance of intraoperative pressure lability, it was controlled without difficulties. Rocuronium was probable trigger for the condition, there is one report with a similar description2. Metyrosine (inhibits tyrosine hydroxylase) was used as an alternative preparation, limiting the rate of catecholamine formation. In this scenario, ECMO and IAB proved to be effective in cardiac recovery allowing adrenergic blockade before tumor resection.

References:

Learning Points: The importance of preoperative care when dealing with pheochromocytoma.

Reverse takotsubo cardiomyopathy induced by epinephrine-contained irrigation solution during shoulder arthroscopy: a case report

K. Azem1,2, O. Kaplan1,2, B. Zribi1,2, E. Mangoubi1,2, S. Fein1,2

1Rabin Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology, Petah Tikva, Israel, 2Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background: Takotsubo cardiomyopathy (TCM) is characterized by significant but often reversible systolic dysfunction mainly triggered by intense emotional or physical stress. Epinephrine use has been implicated in inducing TCM in various circumstances, of which only one described fatal TCM during arthroscopy1.

Case report: A 62-year-old healthy male was admitted for an elective arthroscopic repair of a rotator cuff tear using an epinephrine-contained irrigation solution. Forty-five minutes into the surgery, the patient developed ventricular arrhythmias accompanied by hemodynamic instability requiring intensive vasopressor support (Figure 1). A bedside TTE revealed moderate to severe LV dysfunction, significant basal and middle LV wall motion abnormalities, and apical sparing (Figure 2C). Emergent coronary angiography demonstrated normal coronaries (Figure 2A) and findings corresponding to a reverse variant of TCM (Figure 2B).

Sedated, ventilated, and hemodynamically supported, the patient was transferred to ICCU. Concurrent with hemodynamic stabilization under conventional supportive treatment, the patient was weaned from vasopressors and mechanical ventilation.

References:

Learning Points: The importance of preoperative care when dealing with pheochromocytoma.
**Learning Points:** The growing body of evidence makes awareness of this potential complication crucial and raises safety concerns regarding the risk-benefit of this practice.

**13AP01-05**

**From preoperative chest radiography to Castleman’s disease: a case report**

G.S. Sousa¹, B. Alves¹, S. Valente¹, C. Pereira¹, J.P. Assunção¹

¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anaesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

**Background:** Castleman’s disease is a rare disorder of unknown cause. The hyaline-vascular variant of the disease is generally asymptomatic and diagnosed incidentally.¹

**Case report:** A 23-yo man, ASA II due to smoking and hashish abuse was proposed for surgical treatment of humerus diaphysis fracture. There was no previous anesthetic history and functional capacity was greater than 4 METs. Physical examination and preoperative blood sample analysis were normal. On the preoperative chest radiography a hypotransparency on the left side was noticed (fig.1). There was doubt about the possibility of bronchial lumen invasion of the mass, so the case was discussed with a radiologist. Together with the surgical team it was decided to postpone the surgery and perform a chest CT. The CT scan showed a rounded left perihilar mass of 45x40mm with no lumen or vascular invasion (fig.1).

The surgery was then performed under balanced general anesthesia without incidents intra and postoperative. Posteriorly the patient was evaluated by thoracic surgery and in the suspicion of a neuroendocrine tumour, the decision was to perform a left pneumectomy. No complications were found during the surgical act nor the postoperative period. The surgical sample’s anatomopathological examination revealed Castleman’s disease hyaline-vascular variant.

**Discussion:** In smoking individuals the incident of abnormalities on chest X-rays may be higher than general population. Just in rare cases the preoperative chest X-rays influenced the anesthetic management². However, it can still be an occurrence as described in this case.

**References:**

1. Ehsan N, Zahra F. Castleman Disease. [Updated 2022 Sep 23]. In: StatPearls;

**Learning points:** We highlight the importance of preoperative evaluation and the thoughtful analysis of chest X-rays. Anesthesiologists may profit from multidisciplinary team discussion when abnormalities are found. In this case, the description of the pulmonary mass prior to surgery allowed to ensure patient’s safety and provide the best care.

**13AP01-06**

**Thymectomy in a patient with Miastenia Gravis – a case report**

R. Calaia¹, B. Alves¹, L. Borges Paulo¹, C. Pereira¹, J.P. Assunção¹

¹Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Anaesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

**Background:** Myasthenia gravis (MG) is an autoimmune disease of the postsynaptic neuromuscular junction. Perioperative management need to focus on interactions with the disease and anesthetic medications, mainly neuromuscular agents (NMBAs). Thymectomy is part of MG therapy in selected patients.¹

**Case report:** A 44-yo man, ASA IV due to MG with double vision, previous episodes of dysphagia and moderate dyspnea was proposed for thymectomy, scheduled first in the morning. The patient medication included pyridostigmine 30mg (4/day), prednisolone 80mg (1/day), azathioprine 100mg (2/day) and iv immune globulin (1/3 weeks). Prior to surgery, plasmapheresis was performed. There was no history of aspiration, myasthenic crisis or endotracheal intubation. Standard ASA monitoring plus bispectral index, invasive arterial pressure and neuromuscular monitoring were established. TCI (propofol and remifentanil) was used for induction and maintenance of general anesthesia and intubation was achieved without the use of NMBAs. However, during the procedure, due to difficult surgical conditions, neuromuscular block was required – total of rocuronium 60mg. The surgery lasted for 2h30min, the patient remained hemodynamic stable through the procedure and was then transferred to the intensive care unit (ICU) on invasive ventilation. At ICU, extubation was achieved after 24h once confirmation of reversal of NMBAs was obtained, there were no incidents to report.

**Discussion:** Providing anesthesia for patients with MG is a challenge to the anesthesiologist and the perioperative period should be managed with a multidisciplinary team. As performed in this case, preoperative optimization can include plasmapheresis in an effort...
to reduce the risk of postoperative myasthenic crisis. When surgical paralysis is required, a reduced dose of nondepolarizing NMBAs is generally administered. Postoperatively admission to the ICU was decided due to patient characteristics and type of surgery. The decision should be made case by case.

References:

Learning Points: The perioperative period should be managed in an effort to avoid myasthenic or cholinergic crisis. NMBAs should be avoided but when used it is crucial to ensure that there is no residual curarization before extubation.

13AP01-07
Undiagnosis Wolff Parkinson white preanesthetic asessement. What now?

A. Gallo Carrasco1, E. Monge Cid1, T. Sagredo Sánchez1, F. Sánchez Rodríguez1, C. Corbella Giménez1, M. Zaballos García1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain

Background: Pre-anaesthetic assessment is essential to optimize and evaluate specific anaesthetic risks according to each patient. For this purpose, medical history (MH) is examined, and tests such as electrocardiogram (EKG) are carried out, to detect any potential heart pathologies. Wolff Parkinson White (WPW) is a cardiac conduction disorder consisting of an accessory pathway that’s able to conduct electrical impulses and is associated with supraventricular arrhythmias with rapid ventricular rates.

The existence of an algorithm to manage the preoperative diagnosis of this type of pathology is essential in order to avoid delaying oncological interventions.

Case Report: 26 years old male scheduled for partial glossectomy for squamous cell carcinoma of the tongue attended pre-anaesthesia assessment. MH of childhood leukaemia in remission and bronchiolitis obliterans with bronchodilator treatment and chronic domiciliary oxygen. He was heart asymptomatic (NYHA I). EKG showed alterations suggestive of a pre-excited pattern(delta wave, short PR) and cardiology assessment was requested as a priority. Considering patient was asymptomatic the cardiologist didn’t request additional tests, only giving recommendations on how to manage tachycardias if they occurred. Procedure was not delayed and was completed without incident.

Discussion: Anaesthesiologists are qualified to suspect and diagnose pathologies previously unknown. The prevalence of pattern suggestive of WPW is estimated to 0.13-0.25% in general population, of which only 2% show symptoms (WPW syndrome). It’s common to find incidental EKGs with pre-excitation data in patients without symptoms. These patients present a low risk of tachycardymias and cardiac arrest.

However, the perioperative context carries a risk for these patients to manifest symptoms (sympathetic stimulus reactive to stress, pain, surgical aggression, sympathomimetic drugs), so patients with co-morbidities are susceptible to develop tachycardymias and they would be candidates for assessment by cardiology.

Reference:
13AP01-09

Perioperative stroke in non-cardiac, non-neurologic and non-vascular surgery

A. Prezado Santos¹, F Nogueira Machado², C. Madeira³
¹Hospital do Espírito Santo de Évora, Anesthesiology, Évora, Portugal, ²Hospital Central do Funchal, Anesthesiology, Funchal, Portugal, ³Instituto Português de Oncologia de Lisboa, Anesthesiology, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Perioperative stroke (PS) has an incidence of 0.1–1.9% in non-cardiac, non-neurologic, and non-vascular surgeries and approximately 50% occur in the first 24 hours.

Case report: A 65-year-old man, ASA-PS III, planned for total laryngectomy, bilateral lymph node dissection and hemithyroidectomy, due to a carcinoma of the piriform sinus. His medical history was significant for diabetes mellitus II, dyslipidaemia, arterial hypertension, peripheral arterial disease, and smoking. He had a previous myocardial infarction and stroke. Pre-operative tests showed: right bundle branch heart block on ECG, normal ventricular ejection fraction on echocardiogram (echo) and left vertebral artery occlusion on carotid doppler (CD). A total intravenous general anaesthesia was performed with target-controlled-infusion of propofol and remifentanil. During surgery, the patient remained hemodynamically stable. The procedure lasted approximately 4 hours, with no complications reported. The patient woke up perspiring profusely. The following day, he presented with disorientation, right hemiparesis, and tonic-clonic seizures. Brain CT showed ischemia with no signs of haemorrhage. Once it took place only few hours after surgery, decision was made not to perform thrombolysis, so the patient was kept on aspirin and prophylactic enoxaparin. Brain MRI revealed multiple infarcts in the left hemisphere. Echo, CD and Holter didn’t show de novo alterations.

Discussion: The risk of PS can vary with patient risk factors, type of surgery, and intraoperative hypotension or hypoxia. This case reports an aggressive surgery close to noble vessels, with several neck positionings, in which controlled hypotension was used to facilitate surgical technique, in a patient with cardiovascular risk factors. Although cerebral hypoperfusion could be a cause, thromboembolic stroke is more common and is the most suggested diagnosis by test results, as the lesions are spread over multiple territories. Stroke recognition is often delayed in the perioperative. In this case, the inexplicable excessive perspiration could have been a clue, but the patient’s inability to speak may has contributed to this worse outcome.

Reference:

Learning points: The risk assessment is an important message to convey with patients. PS is a detrimental outcome and both anaesthesiologists and surgeons should be aware of its possibility.

13AP01-10

Monomorphic ventricular tachycardia (VT) in a patient with hip prosthesis infection – Wait or proceed?

S. Morgado¹, A. Windels¹, L. Reis¹, P. Fernandes¹
¹Hospital do Espírito Santo de Évora, Anesthesiology, Évora, Portugal

Background: The pre-operative medical assessment is part of an interdisciplinary review of the medical conditions that a patient present in the context of their functional status. Ventricular arrhythmias are among the most common cardiac rhythm disturbances encountered in clinical practice.¹

Case report: A 71-year-old male, ASA III, with smoking and alcoholic habits, medical history of obesity, hypertension, type 2 DM, dyslipidaemia and status after right total hip arthroplasty was admitted with acute bacterial prosthesis infection. The patient was proposed for an urgent revision of prosthesis.

In the OR, monitoring revealed frequent monomorphic VT (HR 140bpm), with a MAP of 60mmHg, without changes of conscious level, chest pain or dyspnoea. Blood gas analysis revealed hypokalaemia of 3,1mmol/L, which was corrected.

Magnesium sulphate 2g, paddle monitoring and amiodarone 300mg were started.

A multidisciplinary discussion took place and an electrical cardioversion with rhythm control to HR 70bpm was achieved. Echocardiogram didn’t reveal significant structural heart disease or left ventricular systolic dysfunction.

The next day, he underwent surgery without complications. Methicillin-resistant S. aureus was isolated. 3 months of IV antibiotic was concluded.

Discussion: Monomorphic TV generally carries an excellent prognosis, sudden death is rare.¹ Metabolic derangement or drug toxicity can cause this condition and should be addressed.²

Sympathectomy and hypotension subsequent to subarachnoid blockade and adrenergic discharge associated with surgical manipulation could trigger a malignant arrhythmia.

Despite the need for infectious focus control, as the initial VT had haemodynamic repercussion and could evolve to a malignant arrhythmia, even after cardioversion to sinus rhythm, stabilization of the patient in the ICU was prioritized.

References:

Learning points:
VT in structurally normal hearts are typically monomorphic.¹² There are reversible causes that can result in monomorphic VT.² A multidisciplinary approach is essential to weigh risks and benefits of the possible interventions and determine the best management course for the patient.
Spinal cord ischemia after TEVAR procedure - the role of the anesthesiologist

M. Ferreira Neves1, M. Gutierres1, M. Pacheco1, R. Castro1, C. Pinho1, S. Fonseca1
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Anesthesiology Department, Porto, Portugal

Background: Spinal cord ischemia (SCI) is a rare and devastating complication after thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR). Clinical presentation is paraplegia reversible but it can progress to permanent. High clinical suspicion is needed for prompt diagnosis with MRI-imaging1.

High-risk patients for medullary ischemia should be identified so that prophylactic measures can be implemented2.

Case report: We present a case of a 77-year-old male patient, personal history of arterial hypertension, dyslipidemia, smoking, ischemic stroke without sequels and abdominal aortic aneurysm admitted in the post-anesthetic care unit (PACU) after TEVAR procedure, under general anesthesia.

At day one postoperative, he complained about decreased muscle strength and a slight drop of right (R) leg was observed in straight leg raise test. As soon as SCI was suspected, urgent neurology evaluation was performed by a neurology team. Physical examination showed grade 3Left (L)/2R in leg flexion, grade 3L/3R in foot dorsiflexion, plant reflex in flexion/L and indifferent/R hypoesthesia of lower limbs bilaterally up to the inguinal region, without any other neurological deficits. A thoracolumbar MRI was requested and confirmed medullary ischemia at T12 level. Thus, a L3-L4 lumbar catheter was placed for cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) drainage (goal: CSF pressures 8-12mmH2O) and median arterial pressure (MAP) was maintained in 90-100 mmHg.

At day two the patient had significant improvement of neurological deficits under lumbar drainage and the catheter was clamped in 48-hours. He stayed in PACU for four days until he was transferred to the surgical ward with completely full motor and sensorial function. Lumbar drain was removed five days after the diagnosis without complications. A follow-up appointment was performed two weeks after hospital discharge and the patient was performing physical re-habilitation program to improve his physical status.

Discussion: SCI is a major complication after TEVAR and has a serious impact on patients’ life quality. Anesthesiologists have an important role in diagnosis and management of this complication. A high clinical suspicion is required and an early diagnosis is essential to implement therapeutic strategies to improve medullary perfusion pressure, such as blood pressure support and reduction of spinal cord canal pressure with lumbar drain.

References:
1. doi: 10.21037/jtd.2018.10.99
2. doi: https://dx.doi.org/10.25751/rspa.14906

Post-operative management of tracheal laceration in a Rett syndrome patient

J. Borba1, A. Santos2, C. Granja2
1Hospital do Divino Espírito Santo de Ponta Delgada, Anesthesiology, Ponta Delgada, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar Universitário de São João, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Rett syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disease, characterized by progressive central nervous system deterioration manifesting with intellectual disability, seizure and movement disorders, respiratory (abnormal breathing pattern) and other organ dysfunctions.1,2

Case report: A totally dependent 40-year-old patient with Rett Syndrome underwent dental destartarization under general anesthesia with sevoflurane and orotracheal intubation, with no apparent complications. At PACU admission she developed marked right hemifacial edema and subcutaneous emphysema extending to the thoracic region and upper limbs but was otherwise stable. A CT-scan showed pneumomediastinum in relation to an image suggestive of posterior tracheal laceration, extending 3 cm upwards of the carina.

The patient was nasotracheally intubated with bronchofibroscopy which confirmed the diagnosis. After multidisciplinary discussion it was decided to selectively intubate the right bronchus and place bilateral pleural drains. Surgery was deemed not feasible. Admission to ICU was denied and it was decided to provide conservative treatment at PACU. Selective intubation was maintained, with weekly bronchofibroscopy, to evaluate progress and ventilate the contralateral lung.

After 7 days the lesion was no longer observed. Intubation was maintained for another week to allow consolidation. After 19 days the patient was extubated. Initially, she experienced respiratory difficulty due to pulmonary secretions and disuse myopathy. Nonetheless, after 11 days of respiratory kinesiotherapy and BiPAP support, she was discharged home with nocturnal non-invasive ventilation and cough assist.

Discussion: A patient with severe comorbidities was admitted for a minor procedure and developed a major anesthesia related airway injury. Our hospital’s differentiated PACU allowed us to provide specialized care. We theorize that ICU environment eviction may have benefited this patient by decreasing the risk of respiratory infection. During treatment, the patient exhibited various abnormal respiratory patterns, which we learned to interpret as part of the underlying syndrome and to allow some deviation from what would be considered normal.

References:

Learning points:
Even minor procedures may be associated with major complications. Differentiated PACUs may allow for the treatment of perioperative complications outside of the ICU.
13AP01-13
Disseminated intravascular coagulation induced by junctional tachycardia and hypotension during ureterocutaneostomy: a case report

S.M. Jung¹, J. Baek¹, S. Chun¹
¹Yeungnam University Hospital, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Daegu, Korea, Republic of

Background: Junctional tachycardia (JT) is a rare form of narrow QRS complex tachycardia in adults, secondary to enhanced automaticity or triggered activity. We reported an elderly patient with JT poorly responsive to drug therapy, severe hypotension and hemorrhage during surgery, eventually lead to comatant hemorrhage and disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (DIC).

Case report: A 74-year-old female with previous abdominal surgery associated urinary obstruction and chronic kidney disease had a sudden onset of JT without exhibition of P wave ranging from 130 to 140 beats/min and hypotension (SBP 50-80 mmHg) during ureterocutaneostomy under general anesthesia. Unresponsive to beta blocker and vasopressor, JT and hypotension was sustained except extremely temporary restoration of sinus rhythm (99 bpm) and increase in blood pressure (SBP 100 mmHg) with administration of adenosine. In addition, hemorrhage due to adhesion of previous surgical site was overlapped and consequently, lead to DIC and death.

Discussion: Classicly benign in the young adult, proper diagnosis and management of JT during surgery is challenging because of poor responsiveness to drug therapy in the elderly without suspected cardiac disease.


Learning points: This case highlights the need for accurate interpretation and comprehensive understanding of best management of patients with spontaneously occurred arrhythmia during surgery. We know that obtaining informed consent from patients is a requirement. However, since the patient in the case has already died, the reason for exemption from patient consent received from the Research Ethics Committee is attached. Unfortunately, this notice has not been translated into English.

13AP02-01
Preoperative anaemia among elderly undergoing major abdominal surgery (PANAMA) is associated with higher postoperative morbidity and complications

P.S. Au Yong¹, K. Yuhe¹, E. Kok¹, B. Tan², H. Abdul Kadir³, H.R. Abdullah¹
¹Singapore General Hospital, Division of Anaesthesiology, Singapore, Singapore, ²Singapore General Hospital, Perioperative Service, Singapore, Singapore, ³Singapore General Hospital, Health Services Research Unit, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Preoperative anaemia is associated with poor postoperative outcomes and is a modifiable risk factor that can be managed perioperatively. This study aims to determine the association of anaemia severity with presence of morbidity at the 5th postoperative day using postoperative morbidity survey (POMS) score. The secondary aim is to determine association of anaemia with trend of complications within 30 postoperative days as defined by POMS, Clavien Dindo Classification (CDC) system and Comprehensive Complication Index, perioperative transfusion requirements, length of hospital stay, 6-month mortality, 6-month readmission rates, and Days alive and out of Hospital (DaOH) at 30 days, 3 months and 6 months.

Methods: Ethics approval was obtained from SingHealth Centralised Institutional Review Board. This prospective, observational study was conducted in the preoperative anaesthesia clinic (PAC) of a tertiary hospital in Singapore over a 12-month period. The study protocol has been previously published.

Results & Discussion: 499 patients were recruited, of which 3 did not meet inclusion criteria. Of the 496 patients analysed, 176 (37.5%) were anaemic. The baseline Hb was 11.3g/dL for anaemic and 13.8g/dL for non-anaemic group. Iron deficiency is the most common cause. Majority had mild anaemia (61.4%) while 4 patients were severely anaemic (2.3%). The anaemic group is associated with older age, higher age-adjusted CCI score (p<0.001), higher incidence of diabetes mellitus (p<0.001) and had a higher proportion of patients with ASA status 3/4 (p<0.001). Anaemic group had a higher proportion of patients present with any POMS complications up to postoperative day 14/15 (p<0.05).

The total number of complications as well as morbidity was significantly higher in the anaemic group than non-anaemic group (both p<0.001). Perioperative transfusion requirement was also significantly higher. The anaemic group had a significantly longer length of stay (p=0.013), lesser DaOH at 30 days, 3 months and 6 months (p<0.001), and twice the proportion of readmission within 6 months (p<0.002). This was not translated into higher mortality within 30 days or 6 months.

Conclusion: There is a higher incidence of anaemia in elderly patients going for abdominal surgery than for general non-cardiac surgery. Preoperative anaemia, even to a mild degree, increases morbidity and surgical complications, as well as length of stay and shorter DaOH.

13AP02-02
Use of a new modified preoperative risk-stratification tool for virtual versus in-person preanaesthesia-evaluation discrimination in adult patients undergoing elective non-ambulatory surgery: preliminary study

E. Moret¹, I. Simón¹, I. Aguilera¹, B. Tauste¹, M. Cano¹, M.J. Gallo¹
¹University Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol/UAB, Anaesthesiology, Postoperative ICU and Pain Treatment, Badalona/Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative risk factor identification and optimisation are widely accepted as the gold standard of care for elective surgery and are essential for reducing morbidity and mortality. Based on the successful implementation of telemedicine and its feasibility in the preoperative context, we aimed to develop, implement and assess a new risk-stratification tool for discrimination between virtual and in-person preanaesthesia evaluation.

Materials and Methods: We adapted the UCLA risk stratification scale to our setting and anaesthesiologists’ risk score consensus was achieved. They trained anaesthesiast nurses for correct tool man-
agreement: nurses were asked to review clinical criteria to create a tier of eligible patients for virtual versus in-person preanaesthesia evaluation based on surgical risk scores (type of surgery (range from 1-5)) and patient risk scores (comorbidities (range 1-5)). Scores ≥ 7 were planned for face to face (by anaesthesiologist) and scores > 7 for virtual (nurse) attendance. Additionally, preoperative testing (EKG, chest x-ray, laboratory testing, etc.) was decided according to guidelines. Nurse stratification took place under faculty supervision. Preliminary data are presented as absolute numbers ± SD or percentages.

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Results and Discussion: We report our experience of the first 504 adult patients during one month scheduled for elective non-ambulatory surgery (all surgical specialties were included). 326 patients (64.68%) and 178 (35.32%) were planned for in-person versus virtual attendance respectively. Mean nurse stratification time/patient was 9.6 ± 5.1 min. Most doubts asked by the nurses were related to new surgeries, specific morbidities and/or medications and preoperative testing needs.

Conclusion(s): The use of this new preoperative risk-stratification tool by trained anaesthesia nurses was feasible and easy to perform; it allowed us objectively to discriminate between virtual vs in-person attendance according to surgery and patient risk score. It should be adapted to each specific setting and be always performed under anaesthesiologist’s supervision.

13AP02-04
Preoperative prevalence of chronic kidney disease in a cohort of noncardiac surgery in Brazil

P Correa da Silva Neto¹, S. Cavalcante Passos¹, A. Stahlschmidt², I. Spido Sirtoli², C. Mendanha², L. Cadore Stefani³
¹Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Graduate Program in Medicine, Medical Sciences, Porto Alegre, Brazil, ²Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Anaesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine Department, Porto Alegre, Brazil, ³Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Surgical Department, Porto Alegre, Brazil

Background and Goal of Study: Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) (Glomerular Filtration Rate -GFR- < 60ml/min/1.73m² or albuminuria) affects 10% of the population worldwide and in Brazil.(1) Preoperative CKD is associated with Acute Kidney Injury and postoperative worsening of CKD. Therefore, identifying patients before surgery may improve perioperative care. The Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) defines CKD in five categories for GFR in ml/min/1.73m² (G1 - Normal or high, ≥ 90; G2 - Mildly decreased, 60-89; G3a - Mild to moderately decreased, 45-59; G3b - Moderately to severely decreased, 30-44; G4 - Severely decreased, 15-29; G5 - Kidney failure, <15). We describe the prevalence of preoperative CKD and assess its association with postoperative in-hospital mortality.

Materials and Methods: Between 2015 and 2019, 62,223 patients underwent 106,587 surgeries in a tertiary hospital in Brazil. We analysed a retrospective cohort of 36,747 noncardiac surgeries. We developed a logistic regression model to assess the association of CKD with postoperative in-hospital mortality, controlled by age, surgery severity, the urgency of the procedure and ASA-PS.

Results and Discussion: A preoperative GFR measure was available in 25,303 (68.8%) patients. The mean age of the sample was 52.4 years (SD 17); 41.15% were male; 21.5% were ASA-PS I, 57% ASA-PS II, 18.7% ASA-PS III, 2.5% ASA-PS IV and 0.35% ASA-PS V; 80.5% had an elective procedure. Major surgeries accounted for 21.7% of the sample. Only 12.2% of patients had preoperative CKD (G3a 5.62%, G3b 3.06%, G4 1.6% and G5 1.95%). In-hospital postoperative mortality by CKD categories was 1.94% for G1, 2.88% for G2, 6.48% for G3a, 9.87% for G3b, 20.2% for G4, and 12.41% for G5.

In a logistic regression model, preoperative CKD was independently associated with postoperative in-hospital mortality. The poor recovery was defined as the QoR-15 score < 90. The DFS was defined as alive with the 12-item WHODAS <16%. The association of postoperative poor recovery with DFS was assessed by the Fisher’s exact test. The odds ratios of poor recovery on POD 2 to DFS was investigated by a multiple logistic regression analysis with adjusting prominent factors (age, preoperative frailty, preoperative DFS, surgical duration, and intraoperative blood loss volume).

Conclusion(s): Patients with poor recovery on POD 2 were more likely to be non-DFS at 3 months after abdominal surgery.
associated with increased in-hospital mortality (OR 1.75, CI 95% 1.5-2.05, p<0.001). When analysing by categories, only KDIGO G4 (OR 2.48, CI95% 1.91-3.22, p<0.001) and G5 (OR 1.54, CI95% 1.17-1.54, p= 0.002) were associated with increased mortality.

Conclusion(s): Preoperative prevalence of CKD in noncardiac surgical patients mirrors the general population. However, preoperative CKD is independently associated with increased in-hospital mortality. Further studies are necessary to understand how CKD increases mortality and what measures reduce patient risk in this context.

Reference:

13AP02-05
Machine-learning guided prediction of the need for intensified postoperative care in elderly patients

B. T rautwein1, F. Scheffenbichler1, B. Ulm2, B. Jungwirth1, S. Kagerbauer1-2, M. Graeßner1
1University Hospital Ulm, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Ulm, Germany, 2Technical University of Munich, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Early detection of postoperative complications is crucial to reduce surgical morbidity and mortality [1]. Due to limited capacities and increasing economic pressure, an appropriate allocation of patients requiring a monitoring bed is necessary to ensure best individual patient care. We aimed to predict the need for intensified postoperative care (IPC) in a postanaesthesia care unit (PACU) in patients ≥ 65 years using a machine learning algorithm.

Materials and Methods: We used premedication and administration data from non-cardiac surgeries in patients ≥ 65 years between May 2014 and March 2020 to build a prediction model using extreme gradient boosting. The primary outcome was IPC, defined as stay in a PACU > 4 hours. The dataset was divided into a training (n=22963), testing (n=7656) and validation cohort (n=7656). Model development included a Bayesian hyperparameter search through triple cross-validation. Model performance was presented using receiver operating characteristic (ROC) and precision-recall (PR) curves.

Results and Discussion: 38275 surgeries were included, of which 8046 experienced IPC (21.0%). The model included 684 variables and showed high accuracy (validation AUROC 0.89 [95% confidence interval (CI) 0.88 to 0.90], AUPR 0.74 [95% CI 0.73 to 0.75]). The most important characteristic was number of ordered packed red blood cells, which contributed 23.2% to the prediction of IPC. The ten main contributing characteristics of IPC are shown in the importance plot (Figure 1).

Conclusion(s): The developed machine learning model is able to predict the need for IPC of patients ≥ 65 years based on individual preoperative data with high accuracy. Most of the identified characteristics are related to the underlying disease or planned surgical procedure, and are therefore not amenable to preoperative modifications. However, the algorithm may be used as a decision support to improve clinical workflows and to adjust clinical capacities.

Reference:

Figure 1. Determining factors of intensified postoperative care.

13AP02-06
Long-term mortality following acute abdominal surgery; result from the Swedish SMASH study (standardised perioperative management of patients operated with acute abdominal surgery in a high-risk and emergency setting)

T. Jansson Timan1,2, O. Karlsson1, N. Sernert1,3, M. Prytz1,4
1University of Gothenburg, Sahlgrenska Academy, The Institute of Clinical Scienses, Gothenburg, Sweden, 2NU-Hospital Group, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Trollhättan, Sweden, 3NU-Hospital Group, Department of Research and Development, Trollhättan, Sweden, 4NU-Hospital Group, Department of Surgery, Trollhättan, Sweden

Background and Goal of Study: Individuals with severe abdominal pathology resulting in need of acute high-risk abdominal surgery are common in all emergency hospitals settings. The dominating surgical intervention is an emergency laparotomy. The typical patient is often critically ill and outcome associated with serious complications. The Swedish SMASH study investigates if a standardised management for patients undergoing emergency laparotomy can reduce complications.

The study has earlier shown a decrease in complications including short-term mortality, need of intensive care, length of stay in hospital and surgical complications. This abstract presents the long-term mortality for patients in the SMASH-study.

Materials and Methods: This controlled prospective intervention study included all adult patients undergoing an emergency laparotomy over a period of 42 months (2018-2021). Perioperative management for the intervention patients was carried out using an activated standardised clinical protocol including standardisation regarding antibiotics, communication, time to first incision, competence in theatre, level of recovery care and the use and early warning score. The Long term- mortality was analysed at 90 and 365 days after surgery.

The outcomes were then compared with a retrospective control group operated on in the same hospital, the years prior to the intervention.

Results and Discussion: A total of 1,344 patients were included. In the intervention group (n=681), 90-day mortality of 14.1% was seen and, in the control group (n=663), the corresponding figure was 20.8% (P=0.0016). The mortality seen after 365 days was 19.7% for the intervention group and 27.7% for controls (P=0.0005). Adjusted analyses showed a significant reduction in long-term mortality following acute high-risk abdominal surgery. We can observe a tendency to continuously reduced mortality several months after surgery (see figure).
Conclusion: The SMASH study suggests that standardised management may improve the postoperative mortality after emergency laparotomy for a long time after surgery.

13AP02-07
Implementation and evaluation of TelePACE - a telemedicine service for preoperative screening and counselling in a tertiary institution in Singapore

W.Y. Chan1, Y. Zhang2
1Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care and Pain Medicine (AICPM), Singapore, Singapore, 2Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Pre-Admission Counselling and Evaluation (PACE), Singapore, Singapore

Background: Telemedicine’s role in perioperative medicine is evolving. In Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore, all patients scheduled elective surgery are seen in the PACE clinic (Pre-admission Counselling and Evaluation). During the COVID-19 pandemic, we piloted TelePACE, a videoconferencing (VC) service that provides nurse-led preoperative screening and counselling while maintaining physical distancing.

Objective: We share our experience in TelePACE, which is conducted via the VC platform Zoom®. We reviewed the rejection rate and reasons to assess patients’ perception and barriers. We evaluated patient satisfaction and day-of-surgery cancellation rate to assess TelePACE’s utility and efficacy.

Methods: We reviewed TelePACE data between October 2021 to May 2022. The conduct of TelePACE screening is similar to in-person PACE screening. Medical records and investigations are reviewed, preoperative screening is done and anaesthesia information is explained. On the day of surgery, the anaesthetist will examine the patient and complete the assessment. Patients who undergo TelePACE are given an online survey in which they are asked to feedback on delivery of information, patient experience and satisfaction. We also reviewed the day-of-surgery cancellation rate to assess the efficacy of TelePACE in providing adequate preoperative preparation.

Results and Discussion: Between October 2021 to May 2022, 281 patients underwent TelePACE. A major obstacle is patients’ perception: 55% of those who declined stated that they preferred a conventional clinic, while 24% quoted unfamiliarity with VC. A high rejection rate limits the service’s efficiency. We are working towards upstream patient education by providing VC information and technical support at surgical clinics using pamphlets to increase patients’ confidence in VC. The average patient satisfaction score was 9.352 (scale of 10); 99.2% experienced clear information delivery, 96.8% had a positive experience. Our day-of-surgery cancellation rate for this period for TelePACE patients was <1%, none a direct result of VC, supporting the evidence that preoperative telemedicine is reliable.

Conclusion: TelePACE screening is effective and should be continued beyond the pandemic. VC has its limitations due to the needs of preoperative assessment, and patient selection is vital for success. Improving patient education and technical support are crucial steps ahead for better efficiency, patient acceptance and satisfaction.

13AP02-08
Incidence and severity of postoperative hypotension in patients treated on general wards after non-cardiac surgery: a prospective observational study

P. Hoppe1, Y. Chang1, T. Schwarz1, L. Krause2, B. Saugel1
1University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Department of Anesthesiology, Center of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Hamburg, Germany, 2University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Institute for Medical Biometry and Epidemiology, Hamburg, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Intraoperative hypotension is common in patients having non-cardiac surgery and it is associated with organ injury and death. However, hypotension is not restricted to the intraoperative period, but also occurs after surgery.1 The incidence and severity of postoperative hypotension remains largely unknown. The aim of this study was to quantify the incidence, duration, and severity of postoperative hypotension during the remaining day of surgery and the first night and day after surgery in patients treated on general wards after non-cardiac surgery.

Materials and Methods: We performed a prospective observational study in patients treated on general wards after non-cardiac surgery with general anaesthesia. Blood pressure was measured using an automated oscillometric blood pressure monitoring device (OnTrak, Spacelabs Healthcare, Snoqualmie, USA) during the remaining day of surgery and the first night and day after surgery. To quantify hypotension we calculated the incidence of postoperative hypotension – defined as at least one mean arterial pressure (MAP) below 65 mmHg. In patients with postoperative hypotension, we calculated the median (25th percentile, 75th percentile) number as well as the median duration of episodes with a MAP below 65 mmHg, the median absolute maximum decline below a MAP of 65 mmHg, the median area under a MAP of 65 mmHg, and the median time-weighted average MAP less than 65 mmHg.

Results and Discussion: 253 patients with a mean (range) age of 70 (43–91) years were included in the final analysis. Patients were predominantly classified as ASA II (140 [55%]) or III (98 [39%]). 102 of 252 patients (40%) had postoperative hypotension defined as at least one MAP below 65 mmHg. In these patients, the median number of episodes with a MAP below 65 mmHg was 2 (1, 3) – with a median duration of 90 (30, 210) minutes. The median absolute maxi-
mum decline below a MAP of 65 mmHg was 6 (2, 10) mmHg, the median area under a MAP of 65 mmHg was 345 (72, 1082) mmHg x min, and the median time-weighted average MAP less than 65 mmHg was 0.21 (0.05, 0.68) mmHg.

**Conclusion:** Postoperative hypotension is common and profound in patients treated on general wards after non-cardiac surgery.

**Reference:**

### 13AP02-09

**Impact of preoperative uni- or multimodal prehabilitation on postoperative morbidity: a systematic review and meta-analysis**

A. Cambriel1, B. Choisy2, J. Hedou2, M.-P. Bonnet4, B. Gaudilliere2, F. Verdonk1

1, Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris - Hopital Saint Antoine, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Paris, France, 2Stanford University, Anesthesiology, Stanford, United States, 3Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Paris, France

**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative complications occur in up to 43% of cases, resulting in increased morbidity and economic burden (1). Prehabilitation (prehab) could increase patients’ pre-operative health and improve postoperative outcomes. However, reported results of prehab are contradictory (2,3). The objectives of this systematic review are to evaluate the effects of prehab on postoperative outcomes in patients undergoing elective surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials published between January 2006 and January 2021 comparing prehab programs lasting ≥14 days to “standard of care” (SOC) and measuring postoperative complications. Database searches were conducted in four databases: PubMed, CINAHL, EMBASE, PsyCINFO. The primary outcome was the effect of uni and multi-modal prehab on 30-day complications, secondary outcomes were length of stay (LOS) and pain.

**Results and Discussion:** Twenty-four studies (including 1984 patients randomized in a 1:1 ratio) met the inclusion criteria. The average methodological study quality was moderate. There was no difference between prehab and SOC groups for postoperative complications (OR 0.98; 95%CI [0.82; 1.17]; p =0.09; I²=36%) (Figure 1), total hospital LOS (MD -0.13 days; 95%CI [-0.56; 0.28]; p =0.53; I²=46%), or postoperative pain.

The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) LOS was significantly shorter in the prehab group (MD -0.57 days; 95%CI [-1.10; -0.04]; p =0.03; I²=46%) (Figure 2). Separate comparison of uni- and multi-modal prehab showed no difference in complications or hospital LOS.

**Conclusion(s):** Prehab reduces ICU LOS compared with SOC in elective surgery patients but has no effect on overall complications or total LOS, regardless of modality. Prehab programs should be more homogeneous and targeted to those patients most likely to benefit.

**References:**

### 13AP02-10

**Intraoperative ketamine for prevention of postoperative neurocognitive disorders after major orthopedic surgery in elderly patients: a prospective multicenter randomized blinded placebo-controlled trial – the POCK study**

F. Verdonk1, P. Lambert2, C. Gakuba3, T. Sharshar4, R. Gaillard5, S. Molliex6

1Franck VERDONK, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Paris, France, 2Saint Etienne, Anesthesiology, Saint Etienne, France, 3CHU Caen, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Caen, France, 4Sainte Anne Hospital, Critical Care, Paris, France, 5Saint Anne Hospital, Psychiatry, Paris, France

**Background and Goal of Study:** Preventive anesthetic impact on the high rates of postoperative cognitive disorders in elderly patients is debated (1,2,3). The Prevention of postOperative Cognitive dysf-unction by Ketamine (POCK) study aimed to assess the effect of ketamine on delayed neurocognitive recovery post-surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** This is a multicenter, randomized, quadruple-blind, prospective study. Patients ≥60 years undergoing major orthopedic surgery were randomly assigned in a 1:1 ratio to receive preoperative ketamine (0.5mg/kg) or placebo in random blocks of size 2 and 4 stratified according to study site, preoperative cognitive status and age. The primary outcome was the proportion of delayed cognitive recovery defined as a decline of one or more standard deviations in neuropsychological assessment according to the DSM-5 on postoperative day 7. Secondary outcomes included the incidence of postoperative neuropsychological disorders and the incidence of delirium, anxiety, and depression three months after surgery. Statistical analyses were performed on an intention-to-treat basis using a logistic regression for binary outcomes.

**Results and Discussion:** Among 301 patients included, 292 (97%) completed the trial. Delayed neurocognitive recovery occurred in 50 (38.8%) patients in the ketamine group and 54 (40.9%) patients in the placebo group (OR [95% CI] 0.92 [0.56;1.51], p =0.73). The incidence of postoperative neurocognitive disorders 3 months after surgery did not differ significantly between the two groups nor did the incidence of delirium, anxiety, apathy, and fatigue 7 days and 3 months after surgery. Depression was less frequent in the ketamine group three months after surgery (OR [95%CI] 0.34 [0.13-0.86]).

**Conclusion(s):** A single bolus of intravenous ketamine does not prevent delayed neurocognitive recovery but may reduce postoperative depression in elderly patients scheduled for major orthopedic surgery.

**References:**
Can self-reported functional capacity predict perioperative outcomes in patients undergoing noncardiac surgery? A systematic review and meta-analysis

K. Takahashi1, K. Yoshida1, A. Honda1, K. Yoshinaga1, Y. Iizuka1
1Jichi Medical University Saitama Medical Center, Anesthesia and Critical Care Medicine, Saitama, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Assessment of functional capacity is pivotal for patients’ risk stratification and subsequent perioperative management. Self-reported functional capacity is less labor-intensive compared to exercise testing. However, its predictability on perioperative outcomes has not been established. This study aims to clarify the predictability of self-reported functional capacity in the context of perioperative risk assessment.

Materials and Methods: In this systematic review and meta-analysis, we searched EMBASE and MEDLINE from the database inception to August 31, 2022. We included original research articles describing the association between self-reported functional capacity and perioperative outcomes in adults undergoing noncardiac surgery. For comparability, we only collected studies where functional capacity was expressed in metabolic equivalents (METs). The primary outcome was postoperative major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) including mortality. The secondary outcome was any serious postoperative complications.

We estimated the odds ratio (OR) of the outcomes in patients with poor functional capacity (<4 METs) compared to good functional capacity (≥4 METs or higher).

Results and Discussion: The literature search identified 4057 articles. After screening and full-text review, 8 studies (4 prospective and 4 retrospective cohorts) involving 12,823 individuals were included in the systematic review and meta-analysis. Evaluation methods of functional capacity were questionnaires (N=4), subjectively assessed METs (N=2), and specific questions (N=2). The incidence of postoperative MACE was significantly higher in patients with a poor functional capacity [12.8% vs 3.1%, OR 2.19, 95% CI 2.08-3.21] with moderate heterogeneity (I²=31%) across studies. Patients with poor functional capacity also had postoperative serious complications more frequently [15.1% vs 5.6%, OR 2.41 95% CI 1.35-2.80] whereas heterogeneity was high (I²=74%). These findings support the current stratification strategy provided in the guidelines for patient perioperative assessment.

Conclusion: Self-reported functional capacity of less than 4 METs was associated with postoperative complications including cardiovascular events and other serious outcomes. The result needs to be interpreted with caution due to diverse measures to assess subjective functional capacity.
13AP03-02
Impact of peri operative factors on Postoperative Mechanical Ventilation (POMV) of patients undergoing hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC): a retrospective analysis

S. Barman1, J. Goswami1, N. Desai1, S. Jha1
1Tata Medical Center, Onco-Anaesthesia and Critical Care, Newtown, India

Background and Goal of Study: Cytoreductive surgery (CRS) and Heated Intra-peritoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) has improved survival rates in patients with peritoneal carcinomatosis. The aim of this study is to analyse the peri-operative factors associated with prolong postoperative ventilation over a ten year period at our tertiary care centre in India.

Materials and Methods: 102 patients who underwent CRS and HIPEC in ten years (2011-2021) at Tata Medical Center, Kolkata were analysed for the primary outcome of extubation on table (n=59) vs elective postoperative ventilation (n=43) and secondary outcome of Clavien-Dindo (CD) classification and length of ICU stay. Statistical analysis was carried out using SPSS version 17.0.

Results and Discussion: Higher peritoneal carcinoma index (PCI) (P < 0.05), longer duration of surgery (P < 0.05), higher intra-operative fluid administration (P=0.002), higher requirement of blood products including PRBC and FFP (P< 0.05), requirement of diaphragmatic resection and ICD insertion (P < 0.05), were associated with failure of on table extubation. These factors were also associated with longer ICU stay. Though age, urine output, number of anastomosis, intra-operative total fluid requirement, higher delta temperature and CD classification does not have statistically significant effect on elective postoperative mechanical ventilation. On table extubation was more prevalent in gastrointestinal malignancies compared to the gynaecological ones.

Conclusion(s): Higher PCI, longer duration of surgery, higher intra-operative blood and blood product requirement, diaphragmatic resection, ICD insertion were associated with failure of on table extubation as well as prolong ICU stay.

13AP03-04
Effect of preoperative warming on intraoperative hypothermia and postoperative functional recovery in total hip arthroplasty: a randomized clinical trial

M. Carella1,2, F. Beck1,3, N. Piette1,2, J.-P. Lecoq1,2, V. Bonhomme1,3
1Liege University Hospital, Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Liège, Belgium, 2Liege University, Inflammation and Enhanced Rehabilitation Laboratory (Regional Anesthesia and Analgesia), GIGA-I3 Thematic Unit, GIGA-Research, Liège, Belgium, 3Liege University, Anesthesia and Perioperative Neuroscience Laboratory, GIGA-Consciousness Thematic Unit, GIGA-Research, Liège, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Intraoperative hypothermia (IH) increases postoperative morbidity and impairs postoperative recovery. Anterior-approached total hip arthroplasty (ATHA) can be associated with significant IH, partly because of the exposed body surface area in the operative field. This trial was conducted to assess the interest of preoperative air-forced warming on IH and postoperative functional recovery.

Materials and Methods: Between February 5th, 2022, and October 23rd, 2022, 40 patients scheduled for ATHA were enrolled for this randomized, prospective, controlled trial. Patients were randomly divided into two groups of 20 patients each and received general anaesthesia. Group W received 30 minutes 43°C air-forced warming prior to anaesthesia induction. Group C did not receive any pre-induction warming. A blind observer noted the evolution of body temperature, measured by an oesophageal probe at the induction time and at fixed time points, i.e., every 5 minutes during the first hour. Impact on patient perceived thermal comfort and functional recovery (QoR-15) were assessed in the post-anaesthesia care unit (PACU), and 24, 48 and 72 hours after surgery. Intraoperative bleeding was also noted. Data were analyzed using Mann Whitney or generalized linear mixed model tests as appropriate.

Results and Discussion: Intraoperative body temperature loss (Figure 1A) was faster and greater in group C than in group W, with a significant main effect for group (p = 0.022) and interaction between group and time (p < 0.001). The postoperative QoR-15 (Figure 1B) and TC (Figure 1C) evolutions were significantly better in the group W than in the group C, with a significant main effect for interaction between group and time (p < 0.001 and p < 0.001 for QoR-15 and TC, respectively) and less intraoperative bleeding [mL; median (IQR): Group W 445 (425 - 470) and Group C 615 (517.5 - 695) mL. p < 0.001].

Conclusion(s): In ATHA, 30-minutes preoperative warming reduces intraoperative body temperature drop during the first hour of surgery, and enhances postoperative recovery and patients’ comfort during the first postoperative 3 days, with less intraoperative bleeding.
13AP03-05
The impact of local anaesthetics on NETosis of PMNs isolated by gelafundin-sedimentation

S. Sixt1, M. Gruber1, D. Bitzinger1
1Universitätsklinikum Regensburg, Department of Anesthesiology, Regensburg, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Commonly used isolation methods for neutrophils (PMNs) influence the cell functions (1). The aim of the present study was to investigate the impact of local anaesthetics (LAs) on the extracellular trap formation (NETosis) of gently isolated PMNs.

Materials and Methods: PMNs were isolated from whole blood from healthy human subjects (vote: 12-101-0192) through 1g sedimentation with 10% gelafundin. 14 PMN-samples were incubated with different concentrations of bupivacaine (0.0-3.0mM), levobupivacaine (0.0-3.0mM) or lidocaine (0.0-13.0mM). Subsequently, NETosis was examined via live cell imaging for up to 22 h. Two parameters, first, the times for half-maximal NETosis (ET₅₀NETosis) at certain LA concentrations and second, the concentration to reach the half-maximal reduction of ET₅₀NETosis for each LA (EC₅₀NETosis) were measured. For that goal LAs were categorized into two groups of concentration (low < EC₅₀NETosis ≤ high) and statistical analysis was performed using Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of Gauss-distribution, followed by Mann-Whitney-U testing.

Results and Discussion: The ET₅₀NETosis showed a dose-dependent reduction from the low to the high groups of concentration, being significant for bupivacaine and lidocaine, but not for levobupivacaine (figure 1). The median of ET₅₀NETosis of PMNs treated with LAs ranged from 353.9-1096.2min (bupivacaine), 812.2-1013.7min (levobupivacaine) and 429.1-746.13min (lidocaine).

Figure 1: Effects of LAs on the half-maximal NETosis (ET₅₀NETosis)

In comparison to previous examinations (2), where PMNs were isolated with hypotonic lysis, EC₅₀NETosis-values are in the same range for lidocaine and bupivacaine, in contrast ET₅₀NETosis without LAs reached a distinct lower median (320.4min) with hypotonic lysis, results not shown.

Conclusion: We observed a negative sigmoidal correlation between ET₅₀NETosis and LA concentrations and a longer time until NETosis with the gelafundin-sedimentation isolation technique avoiding any centrifugation steps.

References:
**Incidence and clinical relevance of perioperative elevation of N-Terminal Pro-Brain natriuretic peptide in patients undergoing lung resection**

M. Alonso Alonso¹,², E. Popova³, M. de Miguel¹, A. Martin Grande⁴, Á. García Osuna³, M. de Nadal¹,²
¹Hospital Vall d’Hebron, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, ²Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Department of Surgery, Barcelona, Spain, ³IIB SANT PAU, Institut d’Investigació Biomèdica Sant Pau, Barcelona, Spain, ⁴Hospital Ramón y Cajal, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Madrid, Spain, ⁵Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Barcelona, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative (POP) natriuretic peptides elevation has been associated with adverse cardiovascular complications and even increased mortality in patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery. B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) and its inactive cleavage product, N-terminal fragment (NT-proBNP), are produced by ventricular myocytes in response to ventricular wall stretching, myocardial ischemia and endocrine modulation. Our study aimed to evaluate the incidence and magnitude of perioperative NT-proBNP elevation and its relationship with the occurrence of major cardiovascular events in patients undergoing lung resection.

**Materials and Methods:** Prospective multicentre, observational cohort study at three University Hospitals including 187 patients, aged ≥45 years old and scheduled for elective thoracic surgery. Patients with severe heart failure, ventricular ejection fraction <30%, sepsis or undergoing urgent procedures were excluded. All patients provided written informed consent. NT-proBNP was measured preoperatively and at POP days 1 and 2. Elevation was defined as ≥300 ng/L. NT-proBNP elevation was analyzed using a Student’s t-test or the Mann-Whitney U test, and Chi-square or Fisher exact test for qualitative variables.

**Results and Discussion:** In our cohort 34 (18.2%, 95%CI:12.9%-24.5%) showed a preoperative NT-proBNP value ≥300 ng/L. In contrast to previous studies, more than half (57.2%, 95%CI:49.8%-64.4%) of our patients showed POP NT-proBNP elevation, which was more frequent in patients undergoing thoracoscopy (61%) than open procedures (30.6%) (p=0.01). Four patients (3.7%) with NT-proBNP elevation presented new-onset postoperative atrial fibrillation vs one patient (1.2%) without NT-proBNP elevation (p=0.3). No association was found between NT-proBNP elevation and 30-day mortality.

**Conclusions:** Our findings suggest that NT-proBNP elevations after lung resection may be related with surgical approach and not with 30-day mortality. Preoperative NT-proBNP levels would be useful to identify patients at increased risk of cardiovascular complications. Nevertheless, large studies are still needed for better understanding the incidence of NT-pro-BNP elevation in thoracic surgery.

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**An immune signature of Surgical Site Infections (SSI), a retrospective study with a novel machine learning pipeline for biomarker identification**

J. Hedou¹, G. Bellan², J. Einhaus¹, A. Bonham¹, F. Verdonk³, B. Gaudilliere¹
¹Stanford School of Medicine, Anesthesia, Palo Alto, United States, ²SurgeCare, SAS, R&D, Paris, France, ³AP-HP, Saint Antoine, Anesthesie-Reanimation, Paris, France

**Background:** Surgical Site Infections are some of the most devastating, costly, and common surgical complications after surgery. The ability to accurately predict SSI is critical as it will guide high-quality surgical decision-making, including optimizing preoperative interventions and timing of surgery. However, existing risk prediction tools for the prediction of SSI perform poorly. In a prospective study of 43 patients, our group previously identified strong immune correlates of SSI in blood samples collected after surgery. Here, we performed a retrospective study in 96 patients undergoing abdominal surgery to identify pre-operative immune responses predictive of SSI from the analysis of peripheral blood samples collected before surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** Blood samples collected before surgery were analyzed using a combined single-cell (mass cytometry) and plasma proteomic (SomaScan) approach. Samples were selected from a larger cohort using a frequency-matching procedure to minimize the effect of confounders on identified immunological biomarkers. The analysis combines two omics datasets, a plasma proteomic dataset and a mass cytometry dataset containing four omics sub-layers. STABL, a novel machine learning analysis for omics data, is applied to obtain a unique set of predictive features.

**Results:** STABL identifies a model of SSI with good predictive performance (AUC = 0.74), improving current clinical scales performance. Notably, patients at risk for SSI showed increased MyD88 signaling in response to LPS in myeloid cell subsets such as granulocytes. This resonates with the proteomic dataset features, including increased levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-1b and CCL3 or the stress response protein HSPH1. While IL-1b and HSPH1 represent classic mediators of acute response to inflammation and are released, among others, by activated neutrophils, CCL3 mediates initial recruitment of neutrophils to sites of inflammation.

**Conclusion:** These new findings emphasize the potential of STABL to discover predictive biomarkers that link multiple omics data layers with high biological plausibility and provide an avenue for efficient diagnostic and therapeutic development. Informative features of the SSI classification are readily interpretable biologically and the model points at coordinated bulk and single-cell proteomic features that are consistent with previously unrecognized innate immune system mechanisms, conducive to infection after surgery.
13AP03-09
The Neutrophil-Leukocyte Ratio (NLR) as a marker of 6-month mortality in emergency non-cardiac surgery

F. Maldonado Caniulao, C. Díaz-Papapietro, I. Enríquez Toledo, C. Espinoza Lizama, M. Albornoz Miranda, B. Ramos Bascuñan
1Hospital Clínico de la Universidad de Chile, Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Santiago, Chile

Background and Goal of Study: Neutrophil-Leukocyte Ratio (NLR) has been associated with cardiovascular disease and overall mortality, yet its role in emergency surgery is not elucidated. Our goal is to evaluate NLR as a predictor of mortality in patients admitted for emergency surgery.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval, we conducted a retrospective analysis between December 2021 to April 2022 of patients who underwent emergency surgery at the Hospital Clínico de la Universidad de Chile. Age, comorbidities, and preoperative blood count information were obtained. Using the national registry database, patients deceased within 6 months were identified. A subgroup analysis was performed in patients over and under 65 years. Results were described as median with a 95% confidence interval (CI) and compared using the Mann-Whitney test with α=0.05.

The predictive capacity of NLR for mortality was described using Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves. A final analysis was performed using multivariate logistic regression and Kaplan-Meier curves.

Results and Discussion: We identified 351 patients who underwent emergency surgery. 33 (10.3%) patients died at six months. We observed a significant difference between the median NLR (5.4, 95% CI 4.8 – 6.3) in survivors and deceased (7.8, 95% CI 5.0-10.9) (p=0.0142). This was not observed in the subgroup over 65 years (p-Value=0.8595) but was maintained under 65 years (p-Value<0.001) (Fig 1 B-C). ROC curves of the NLR showed an AUC of 0.64 (p-Value=0.0147). When analyzed by age, NLR does not behave as a good predictor in people over 65 years (AUC 0.51, p-Value=0.8573) but improves its utility in people under 65 years of age (AUC 0.8537, p-Value=0.0002) (Fig 1 D-F). A mortality logistic regression model with NLR and age as a cofactor shows an AUC of 0.7593 (p-Value<0.0001) (Fig 1 G). Kaplan-Meier curves show differences in 30 days and six-month mortality (Threshold NLR of 3, Fig 1 H-I).

Conclusion(s): NLR predicts mortality in surgical emergency patients, although further study on Age-related performance is needed.

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13AP03-10
Infection markers in perioperative medicine

O. Hrazdilova, H. Spáčilová
1CKTCH, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 2CKTCH, Hematology Department, Brno, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: The prediction of infection remains difficult and long-lasting (microbial cultures) in perioperative and intensive medicine. Intensive care infection score (ICIS), derived from five blood-count parameters, characterize the immune response in routine blood samples.

In diagnostics of infection we routinely use evaluation of clinical status of the patient, biomarkers of infection like white blood cell count (WBC), C-reactive protein (CRP), procalcitonin (PCT), ICIS levels and microbial cultures. ICIS acquire values 0-20. The cut-off ICIS level is 5. ICIS value 7-12 confirm diagnosis of sepsis. The important difference between patients with sepsis and SIRS has been seen in 48 hours from the first symptoms.

Materials and Methods: The goal was to verify, that ICIS as a biomarker differentiates infection from SIRS after surgery. ICIS contains five items:

1. Signal fluorescence intensity (SFL) was used to separate cells according to the DNA/RNA content and determine the immaturity of the examined cells.
2. Difference of the amount of hemoglobin in mature/immature erytrocytes (Delta He).
3. Count of mature neutrophiles (NEA).
5. The count of immature granulocytes (IGA).

We have enrolled 291 cardiac surgery patients in this prospective study. The cohort was divided into infected and non-infected patient groups for evaluation.

Results and Discussion: Elevated level of ICIS had been proved in patients with positive microbial cultures in contrast to patients with postoperative SIRS (elevated CRP and negative microbial screening) after surgery. Except after the surgery CRP, PCT and ICIS values are in correlation (p=0.001). We confirmed the cut-off ICIS level 5. CRP is not predictive for infection after the surgery.

Conclusion(s): ICIS helps us differentiate between infection and SIRS in critically ill patients. In contrast to CRP and PCT, the ICIS score can be obtained routinely without extra blood sampling and with lower costs, yielding results very fast. ICIS helps to avoid antibiotics overuse.
References:
Van der Geest RJ. The intensive care infection score -a marker for the prediction of infection and its severity. Critical Care 2016, 20:180

13AP03-11
Analysis of infectious complications in fusion prostate biopsies by magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasound: can we improve?

A.M. Tapia Herrero1, P. Rodríguez Cañal2, M.D.L. Gómez Martínez2, C. Barbosa Martín2, M. Vegas Pavesio2, G.C. Fernández Pérez2
1Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Rio Hortega, Valladolid, Spain, 2Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Anestesiology, Valladolid, Spain

Background: Prostate biopsy using magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasound (fusion prostate biopsy) is a highly accurate and efficient diagnostic procedure for prostate cancer in which adequate preparation of the patient is necessary for its correct performance, as well as for the prevention of subsequent complications, infection and sepsis being the most feared complications.

This study analyzes the infectious complications that patients in our hospital have presented and relates them to variables based on the characteristics of the patients. Results were compared with others published in different centers, with the aim of being able to establish criteria to reduce infections derived from this procedure.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective descriptive analysis of 121 patients who underwent transperineal prostate fusion biopsy (May 2018 to August 2022). Study variables: age, previous biopsies, PIRADS score of the main lesion to be biopsied in magnetic resonance imaging, ASA classification, anesthesia, samples taken, previous urine culture, complications, classification of complications (Dindo-Clavien scale).

Results: Of the 121 patients, the average age was 66.36 (+/-6.238SD), 117 patients with previous biopsies (96.7%), PIRADS 24 (19.8%), 70 (57.9%) PIRADS4 and 26 (21.5%) PIRADS 5.ASA I classification, 74 patients (61.2%) laryngeal mask was used in 74 patients (61.2%), spinal anesthesia in 33 patients (27.3%), and sedation with local anesthesia in 14 patients (11.6%). The average number of samples taken was 28.63 (+/-4.420SD), being 16 the minimum number of cylinders collected and 40 the maximum. Urine culture was taken before the biopsy in 113 cases, being positive in 1 patient. In relation to complications, none of the patients in the sample analyzed suffered microbiologically confirmed clinical urine infection after the test, so they did not require neither home treatment or admission in the critical care unit at any time. On the contrary, a total of 5 patients (Dindo-Clavien 1-2) presented acute urinary retention after the biopsy, 4 of whom underwent general anesthesia and 1 under spinal anesthesia.

Conclusion: Compared with other series described, the infection rate found is similar or lower, and may be related to a smaller sample size or to the application of an adequate selection of patients and optimal management of antibiotic prophylaxis. Transperineal fusion prostate biopsy of MRI and ultrasound is a safe procedure for the diagnosis of prostate cancer.

13AP03-12
Kinetics of urinary biomarkers after living donor kidney transplantation and their predictive value on early and long term graft function

J. Huisman1, N. Sprakman1, J. Koomen1, H. Leuvenink2,2, M. Struys2, G. Nieuwenhuijs-Moeke1
1Univeristy Medical Centre Groningen, Anesthesiology, Groningen, Netherlands, 2University Medical Centre Groningen, Surgery, Groningen, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Early assessment of graft function post transplantation is imperative since interventions might prevent further deterioration. Urinary biomarkers, like kidney injury molecule-1 (KIM-1), heart-type fatty acid binding protein (H-FABP), N-acetyl-β-D-glucosaminidase (NAG) and neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin (NGAL), may be helpful in detecting and/or predicting inferior graft function.

The aim of this study is to analyse the dynamics and performance of biomarkers levels post-transplantation in predicting graft function in recipients of living donor kidneys (LDK).

Materials and Methods: Biomarkers were measured at standardized time points in urine of 57 recipients participating in the VAPOR-1 trial. Urinary samples were taken at various timepoints till day 9 post transplantation. Dynamics and predictive functions were tested using linear mixed modelling and regression analyses.

Results and Discussion: Univariate prediction models showed that KIM-1 at day 1 and 6 post transplantation were significant positive predictors for glomerular filtration rate (GFR) at month 6, 12 and 24 (day 1: B=0.288, P=0.038; B=0.382, P=0.005; B=0.291, P=0.039 respectively and day 6: B=0.345, P=0.017; B=0.299, P=0.041; B=0.296, P=0.046 respectively). H-FABP measured in the first urine upon reperfusion was a significant negative predictor for GFR at month 6 (B=-0.284, P=0.039). NAG and NGAL at day 1 were significant negative predictors for GFR 1 month (B=-0.383, P=0.005 and B=-0.371, P=0.007 respectively). However, no significant prediction remained after multiple testing correction.

Conclusion(s): We observed distinct dynamics of biomarkers in the post transplantation period. Urinary biomarkers were predictive for graft outcomes, which demonstrates the importance of timing and biomarker selection for indirect measurement of graft function in LDK recipients.

13AP04-01
Simplified risk assessment and preoperative management to prevent postoperative delirium: a retrospective study

E. Mizuno1, Y. Aoyama1, A. Motooka1, T. Nikai2, K. Endo3, Y. Saito1
1Shimane University Faculty of Medicine, Anesthesiology, Izumo, Japan, 2Shimane University Faculty of Medicine, Intensive Care Unit, Izumo, Japan, 3Shimane University Faculty of Medicine, Nursing Department, Izumo, Japan

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative delirium (POD) is a concern especially for elderly patients, because it is associated with postoperative mortality, complications, and cognitive decline. Several risk factors have been shown to increase the incidence of POD and several strategies have been established to prevent POD. Development of simple screening for risk of postoperative delirium...
are expected in perioperative management. However, there is presently no gold standard. In this study, we retrospectively evaluated our risk assessment and perioperative management to prevent POD for patients undergoing major hepato-biliary-pancreatic surgeries.

**Materials and Methods:** With IRB approval, we conducted a retrospective analysis of data of adult patients undergoing major hepato-biliary-pancreatic surgeries in our hospital from February 2020 to June 2022. Patients underwent our simplified risk assessment of POD several days before surgery. The assessment included several factors (dementia, past histories of delirium, brain stroke, brain injury, and heavy alcohol consumption) and we considered patients to be at high-risk of POD when they had at least one of these factors.

The high-risk patients were preoperatively counseled by psychiatrists and adjusted for psychiatric and/or hypnotic medications, and for heavy alcohol consumption if needed. POD was defined by confusion assessment method for the intensive care unit (CAM-ICU), 3-minute diagnostic interview for delirium using the confusion assessment method (3D-CAM) and/or symptoms. We evaluated the incidence of POD, sensitivity and specificity of the assessment, and other perioperative factors with POD.

**Results and Discussion:** Of the 171 patients evaluated, 31 patients (18.1%) were assessed to be at high-risk of POD and 52 patients (30.4%) experienced POD. The sensitivity of the assessment was 25.0% and the specificity was 84.9%. The incidence of POD was associated with age, comorbidity index, surgical time, intraoperative bleeding, and postoperative complications.

**Conclusion(s):** High specificity of our simplified preoperative assessment to predict POD showed that patients at risk for POD properly received preoperative management to prevent POD. However, POD can occur also for patients assessed as low-risk, and attention is needed especially when they undergo extensive surgical stress and postoperative complications.

**13AP04-02**

**Unexplained myocardial injury after non-cardiac surgery**

E. van Schaik¹, Y. Haddou¹, L. Vernooij², R. Grobben², W. van Klei³, J. van Waes⁴

¹UMC Utrecht, Anaesthesiology, Utrecht, Netherlands, ²UMC Utrecht, Cardiology, Utrecht, Netherlands, ³UHN, Anaesthesiology, Toronto, Canada

**Background and Goal of Study:** Postoperative myocardial injury (PMI) is associated with mortality after non-cardiac surgery. The underlying aetiology of PMI is multifactorial and usually subdivided into ischaemic (type 1 and 2), other cardiac and extra-cardiac disease. Often, the aetiology is unexplained.¹,² It is unknown whether patients with unexplained PMI may benefit from further cardiac evaluation. Future studies should focus on diagnostic and treatment strategies in these patients specifically.

**Table 1. Classification of most likely causes of PMI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of PMI</th>
<th>Total &lt;n=823&gt;</th>
<th>Cardiac &lt;n=115&gt;</th>
<th>Extra-cardiac &lt;n=304&gt;</th>
<th>Haemodynamic &lt;n=280&gt;</th>
<th>Unknown &lt;n=34&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No cardiac cause</td>
<td>422 (51.5%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>122 (60%)</td>
<td>189 (68%)</td>
<td>111 (37.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac consolidation</td>
<td>225 (27.5%)</td>
<td>158 (136)</td>
<td>32 (10)</td>
<td>52 (38)</td>
<td>14 (4.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ischaemic disease</td>
<td>233 (28.4%)</td>
<td>155 (122)</td>
<td>76 (25)</td>
<td>21 (15)</td>
<td>16 (5.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart failure</td>
<td>40 (4.9%)</td>
<td>22 (19)</td>
<td>3 (1)</td>
<td>7 (5)</td>
<td>3 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myocarditis</td>
<td>237 (29.1%)</td>
<td>13 (11)</td>
<td>11 (7)</td>
<td>7 (5)</td>
<td>3 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other disease (e.g., VD)</td>
<td>60 (7.3%)</td>
<td>38 (32)</td>
<td>3 (2)</td>
<td>7 (5)</td>
<td>3 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than one cause</td>
<td>239 (29.2%)</td>
<td>123 (107)</td>
<td>62 (21)</td>
<td>20 (15)</td>
<td>34 (10.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak level: postoperative troponin (troponin I - levels)</td>
<td>82 (10-20)</td>
<td>78 (15-198)</td>
<td>34 (60-460)</td>
<td>72 (20-153)</td>
<td>74 (20-173)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1. Classification of most likely causes of PMI**

**References:**


**13AP04-03**

**Service evaluation of blood pressure monitoring alarm presets in adult patients undergoing anaesthesia**

N. Brooks¹, S. Richards², S. Howell³

¹University of Leeds, School of Medicine, Leeds, United Kingdom, ²Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Department of Anaesthesia, Leeds, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** The arterial blood pressure (ABP) alarm limits of anaesthetic monitors are often left unadjusted, rather than taking into account comorbid disease and perioperative blood pressure. We conducted a study to elucidate the frequency with which anaesthetists adjusted ABP alarm limits and what informed their decision.

**Materials and Methods:** This study was approved as a service evaluation and conducted at Leeds General Infirmary. Trauma and orthopaedic cases were studied.
A member of the study team visited the theatre and recorded the default and (if used) customised systolic (SAP) and diastolic pressure (DAP) alarm limits.

**Results and Discussion:** Data were collected from 50 patients (66% male), median (range) 54.5 (18-89) years. Custom ABP limits (Group C) were set in 16 (32%) of cases. Custom ABP limits were systematically lower than default values (Figure 1). There were no significant differences between patients in Groups C and D. 69% of patients in Group C were male vs. 65% in Group D. The median (range) age was 57.5 (22-79) in Group C and 51.5 (18-89) in Group D (p=0.77). 25% of patients in Group C and 21% in Group D had a history of hypertension (p=0.54). 31% of patients in Group C were ASA grade III or IV compared with 44% in Group D (p>0.99).

Anaesthetists were more aware of SAP alarm limit values; 98% provided these vs. just 20% for DAP. This is surprising given the importance of diastolic pressure in determining mean arterial pressure (MAP) and organ perfusion. The median (range) MAP for the custom limits was 56.7 (51.7-56.7) mmHg, whereas the MAP for the default limits was calculated as 63.3 (56.7-63.3) mmHg, which is above the suggested MAP necessary to mitigate against damage during non-cardiac surgery[1].

**Conclusion:** ABP alarm limits were inconsistently set, particularly for DAP. Since diastolic hypotension is potentially hazardous, our next step is a piece of quality improvement work to support the consistent use of DAP alarm limits.

**Reference:**
13AP04-05
Guideline for a non-pharmacological delirium prevention programme within a perioperative setting

E. Camenzind1, B. Albiez2, A. Braun1, T. Ries Gisler3, L. Vetter1, K. Bosshart1
1Swiss Federation of Nurse Anesthetists (SIGA-FSIA), Anaesthesia, Sursee, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Delirium is an acute cerebral dysfunction and is characterised by a disorder of attention, perception and/or consciousness. An acute start and a fluctuating progression are typical (1). Post-operative delirium (POD) is an adverse post-operative complication that can occur in patients of all ages (2). POD is associated with complications such as prolonged hospitalisation, increased mortality, monetary costs, and long-term adverse effects (3). The overall incidence of POD is at 24%, however, it varies by age and is strongly influenced by specific risk factors (2,4). Preventive measures have the potential of reducing the incidence of POD by 35%. The identification of risk factors and early implementation of preventive interventions play a fundamental role in avoiding POD and preventing complications (2,5).

Aim: To raise awareness of interprofessional anaesthesia teams and to identify POD in perioperative management at an early stage by implementing the “Poketcard Delir” guideline. The consistent implementation of non-pharmacological procedures supports anaesthesia teams in managing existing institutional delirium concepts and promotes the reduction of PODs.

Materials and Methods: At an interprofessional workshop in 2019, non-pharmacological methods for the prevention of the development of POD in a perioperative setting were discussed and consolidated. Current literature and expert opinions were summarised in a multi-staged process based on the existing “ASPECT” framework (2,6). Prior to publication, the guideline was reviewed and submitted by members of both the Swiss Society for Anaesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine and nurse anaesthetists of the SIGA-FSIA.

Results and Discussion: The recommended guideline “Poketcard Delir” contains evidence-based- and practice-relevant measures for the assessment of various risk factors of POD, including recommendations for the prevention of POD.

Conclusion(s): The now available national literature-based guideline “Poketcard Delir” raises awareness and highlights appropriate non-pharmacological approaches for preventing possible delirium in a perioperative setting. In combination with institutional delirium concepts, it is an important addition in reducing the occurrence of POD.

References:

13AP04-06
Preoperative impaired executive functions but not memory are associated with postoperative delirium in cardiac surgery: a secondary analysis of a prospective observational study

T. Bidoul1, V. Dehon2, M. Momeni1, C. Khalifa
1Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Anaesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium, 2Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Neurology, Brussels, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative delirium (POD) is a frequent complication after cardiac surgery. Cognitive impairment is a leading predisposing factor for POD. However, performing a complete preoperative neuropsychological testing is challenging. The aim of this analysis is to determine whether targeting a specific cognitive domain would predict POD and ease preoperative screening.

Materials and Methods: This is a secondary analysis of a research project (NCT03706989). A battery of preoperative neuropsychological tests was performed in 220 adult patients undergoing elective cardiac surgery. We extracted tests assessing either memory or executive functions (Fig.1) to calculate two domain-specific Z-scores. CAM-ICU, CAM and a chart review were used for POD screening. Comparisons between groups were analyzed using a Mann Whitney-U test for continuous variables and a Chi-square test for categorical variables. A binary regression analysis was used to evaluate the influence of domain-specific Z-scores on the occurrence of POD.

Figure 1. Memory and executive functions tests.

Results and Discussion: POD incidence was 29.5%. Patients’ characteristics are shown in Table 1. POD(+) patients were significantly older and had higher EuroSCORE II scores. Both Z-score “memory” (Z-score M) and Z-score “executive functions” (Z-score EF) were lower in delirious patients. However, in multivariate analysis, only a low Z-score EF increased the risk of POD (adj. OR [95% CI] = 0.63 [0.42-0.95]) and not Z-score M (adj. OR [95% CI] = 0.74 [0.48-1.15]).

![Table 1](https://example.com/table1.png)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POD(-) (n=155)</th>
<th>POD(+) (n=65)</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age, years</td>
<td>67 (59-74)</td>
<td>74 (64-70)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EuroSCORE II, %</td>
<td>1.5 (0.9-2.5)</td>
<td>2.4 (1.3-4.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z-score memory</td>
<td>0.18 ± 0.77</td>
<td>-0.41 ± 1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z-score executive functions</td>
<td>0.18 ± 0.86</td>
<td>-0.46 ± 1.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical time, min</td>
<td>226 ± 57</td>
<td>238 ± 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiopulmonary bypass time, min</td>
<td>99 ± 33</td>
<td>112 ± 40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: In contrast to memory tests, poor performances on tests of executive functions are associated with the occurrence of POD in cardiac surgery. Focusing preoperative evaluation on executive functions might ease cognitive assessment of patients in routine practice.

Reference:
13AP04-07
Predictive analytics of intraoperative hypotension in patients undergoing elective surgery: a prospective ultrasound study

M. Grynovska1, M. Granell Gil2, I. Vakaliuk3, V. Protas4
1Ivano-Frankivtsk National Medical University, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, 2Consorcio Hospital General de Valencia, Valencia, Spain, 3Ivano-Frankivska National Medical University, Internal Medicine, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, 4Ivano-Frankivs Regional Clinical Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

Background and Goal of Study: Prevention of an undesired hypotensive event has a key role in providing patient safety (1). Every minute of hypotension in the operating room can increase 1-year mortality (2). Induction of general anesthesia is often associated with hypotension (3). Although intraoperative hypotension (IOH) has no universal definition, it can have a serious impact on postoperative complications (4,5). Therefore, accurate prediction of IOH is essential to improving patient outcomes. Recent data suggests that pre-induction volume status can have effect on postinduction hypotension (6), which is also consistent with results of our previous study. The role of inferior vena cava (IVC) in hemodynamic monitoring is treated with caution due to a number of limitations (7), while data on the use of subclavian vein (SCV) in perioperative setting is scarce. Our study sought to investigate the diagnostic accuracy of IVC and SCV in prediction of IOH.

Materials and Methods: Patients (n=50) undergoing abdominal surgery were included in the study. Pre-anesthesia ultrasound evaluation of IVC and SCV was performed with portable Logic e ultrasound. Significant IOH was defined as a decrease of more than 30% in MAP from the baseline level, or any absolute value of MAP less than 65 mmHg. collapsibility index (CI) was calculated using a mathematical formula. Multivariate linear regression was used to assess the predictive ability. ROC curve analysis was done for IVC-CI and SCV-CI to calculate sensitivity and specificity.

Results and Discussion: IOH was observed in 23 patients (46%). Patients who developed IOH had a higher IVC-CI and SCV-CI (P = 0.002). The IVC-CI (cutoff: 38%) showed sensitivity 91% and specificity 82 %, while SCV-CI (cutoff – 34%) had sensitivity of 94% and specificity of 84%. After adjusting for confounders, IVC-CI was not a predictor of IOH (P = 0.115), whereas SCV-CI was a significant predictor of IOH (P < 0.001).

Conclusion(s): To conclude, this study has demonstrated that SCV-CI is a significant predictor of IOH and has a superior diagnostic accuracy over IVC-CI. Further studies are needed to confirm our findings, before it can be recommended for clinical use as a surrogate.

References:
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13AP04-08
Effect of heart rate control with ivabradine on myocardial injury after non-cardiac surgery: a single centre, randomized controlled, double-blind feasibility pilot trial (PROTECTIN Pilot - NCT04436016)

M. White1, B. Bollen Pinto1, B. Walder1
1Geneva University Hospitals, Anesthesiology, Geneva, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: Perioperative myocardial injury (PMI) after non-cardiac surgery (NCS) is associated with post-operative mortality. Heart rate (HR) is an independent risk factor for PMI. Ivabradine (IVA) is a negative chronotropic agent. In this pilot study we tested the feasibility of a complex perioperative HR-targeted intervention (adherence to the protocol). Primary outcomes were appropriate dosage rate and blinding success rate. Secondary objectives were to assess the feasibility of recruitment, enrolment and resources.

Materials and Methods: This was a single centre, randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, parallel group, feasibility pilot trial conducted at Geneva University Hospitals from October 2020 to January 2022. We included patients over 75 years old or over 45 years old with cardio-vascular risk factors planned for intermediate or high-risk NCS. Patients were randomized to receive IVA or placebo twice daily, from the morning of surgery until post-operative day two, with an individualized regimen adapted to HR: HR≤70 bpm (Pill A: placebo), HR 71-85 bpm (Pill B: IVA 2.5mg or placebo), HR 86-100 bpm (Pill C: IVA 5mg or placebo) and HR> 101 (Pill D: IVA 7.5mg or placebo).

Results and Discussion: We screened 1136 patients, identified 549 eligible and approach 246 patients. 93 patients agreed to participate (38% of approached) and 78 were randomised (recruitment rate of 1.3 patients/week). 439 of 444 study drug administrations were correctly performed according to the patient’s HR (98% appropriate dosage rate). The blinding success rate was 100%. Pill A was administered in 41% of pre-operative visits and between 16% and 36% of post-operative visits. The median duration of study visits varied between 15 min [IQR,10-15min] (30-day follow-up) and 45 min [IQR,40-60min] (evening of surgery). There were 13 protocol deviations mainly due to compliance issues linked to difficulties with oral intake post-operatively. The number of bradycardia was similar in both groups (8 in the placebo and 9 in the ivabradine group). Overall, 10.3% patients had a troponin elevation from baseline ≥14 ng/L independent of randomisation group.

Conclusion: Future RCTs testing individualized IVA dosage adapted to HR are feasible. Sample size and inclusion criteria should be adapted to the small proportion of patients with troponin elevation and the fact that about 30% of drugs administered may be inactive. Significant human resources are also required.
High blood pressure on hospital admission in patients scheduled for elective surgical procedures: risk factors, intraoperative low blood pressure and postoperative morbidity

D. Costa Marques¹, A.L. Vieira², Â. Moreira da Silva³, H. Machado¹, C. Cavaleiro¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal, ²Instituto Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar, Mestrado Integrado em Medicina, Porto, Portugal, ³Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Serviço de Cuidados Intensivos, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: Data on the prevalence of high blood pressure (HBP) on hospital admission (HA) in patients scheduled for elective surgery and its impact on postoperative outcomes is scarce. The authors aim to evaluate the prevalence of HBP, to identify risk factors and postoperative outcomes.

Materials and Methods: An observational longitudinal study, in a tertiary hospital in Portugal, included adult inpatients undergoing elective, non-cardiac, non-obstetric surgery between October-December 2019. Data collected prior to admission to surgical wards included: sociodemographic characteristics, known hypertension, antihypertensive medications, risk factors (smoking, alcohol consumption, dyslipidemia, diabetes, obstructive sleep apnea syndrome), surgical intervention, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, heart rate and body mass index. HBP was present if systolic blood pressure ≥ 140 mmHg and/or diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90 mmHg. Outcomes data were collected on intraoperative period, at the time of hospital discharge and one year after.

Results and Discussion: Of 402 patients, 57% were male and the median age was 60 years old. HBP values were present in 40% of the patients on HA, 49% had a previous diagnosis of HBP and despite ongoing treatment, approximately half of them presented HBP (48%, n=95). Age (OR = 1.02; 95% CI 1.1-1.04), dyslipidemia (OR = 1.61; 95% CI 1.07-2.42), alcohol consumption (OR = 1.73;95% CI 1.15-2.59) and diabetes (OR = 1.73; 95% CI 1.02-2.94) were predictors to preoperative HBP. Post-operative mortality after 1 year was 2% (8 patients; 1 in-hospital), 3 patients presented HBP on HA (intraoperative hypotension observed in 5 patients). Regarding 1 year’s outcome, 10% (20 HBP diagnosis) presented poor outcome: 18 (43%) patients with HBP on HA and intraoperative hypotension in 29 (69%).

Conclusion(s): A significant proportion (40%) of patients admitted pre-surgical setting presented HBP values. Despite ongoing HBP treatment, approximately half presented HBP values at HA. This study identified modifiable HBP predictors such as the non-optimization of hypertension treatment. All patients who died during 1 year’s follow-up had HBP and presented intraoperative hypotension. About half of the patients with poor outcomes presented HBP on HA and the majority had intraoperative hypotension. HBP rehabilitation programs are important to optimize the intraoperative period and adverse outcomes.

Association of MACE and mortality with the guideline-adherent use of preoperative TTE - a comparison of the current and old guidelines for preoperative cardiac evaluation

A. Stroda¹, S. Roth¹, R. M’Pembele¹, T. Tenge¹, R. Huhn², G. Lurati Buse¹, MET-REPAIR Study Group
¹University Hospital Düsseldorf, Department of Anesthesiology, Düsseldorf, Germany, ²Kerckhoff-Klinik, Department of Anaesthesiology, Bad Nauheim, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Cardiac risk evaluation prior to noncardiac surgery is fundamental to tailor perioperative management to patient’s estimated risk. In August 2022, the “European Society of Cardiology” (ESC) published updated guidelines for preoperative cardiac evaluation.

The aims of this study were:
1. To compare the recommendations of the old and new guidelines regarding preoperative echocardiography (TTE),
2. To analyze whether the patient’s outcome is affected by guideline-adherent use.

Materials and Methods: Secondary analysis of a multicenter, international, prospective cohort study (ethics: 5859R); Primary endpoints were level of recommendation for preoperative TTE, mortality and major adverse cardiac events (MACE) after one month. Exposures were overuse (conduction despite level III recommendation) and underuse (non-conduction despite level I recommendation) of TTE according to the old and current guidelines, respectively. The association of guideline-adherent use of TTE with mortality and MACE was analyzed using multivariate logistic regression with forced entry of predefined covariates.

Results and Discussion: Of 15,899 patients, 15,529 were analyzed (61% male, mean age 72±8 years). Table 1 shows the comparison and distribution of recommendation for preoperative TTE of both guidelines. The regression analysis showed that neither overuse nor underuse of TTE according to the old guidelines was associated with mortality [OR over: 1.1; 95% CI (0.8-1.5); OR under: 1.1; 95% CI: (0.7-1.7)], nor with MACE [OR over: 1.2; 95% CI (0.8-1.6); OR under: 1.0; 95% CI: 0.7-1.6].

Based on the current guidelines, the OR for overuse and mortality was 0.8 [95% CI: (0.5-1.3)], and for underuse and mortality 1.1 [95% CI: 0.8-1.5]. The OR for overuse and MACE was 0.9 [95% CI: 0.6-1.4] and 1.1 [95% CI: 0.8-1.6] for underuse and MACE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022 level III</th>
<th>2022 level IIb</th>
<th>2022 level I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 level III</td>
<td>8344</td>
<td>4322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 level IIb</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 level I</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 Crosstab comparing recommendation grades according to 2014 and 2022 guidelines.

Conclusion(s): Based on a broad multicenter cohort, the number of level I recommendations has not changed significantly in the current guidelines, whereas the number of level IIb recommendations has increased. Neither under- nor overuse of preoperative TTE according to both guidelines was independently associated with postoperative MACE or 1-year mortality.
13AP04-12
Staff-directed breathing exercises in the postextubation period reduce postoperative atelectasis in patients undergoing major abdominal surgery: a randomised controlled trial

C. Huang¹, Y. Xiao¹, W. Luo¹, X. Zhao¹, X. Feng¹
¹The First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, Department of Anaesthesiology, Guangzhou, China

Background and Goal of Study: Atelectasis occurs in most anaesthetized patients and may persist after surgery, potentially contributing to the development of postoperative pulmonary complications. Breathing exercises may re-expand collapsed lung tissue and reverse atelectasis. However, breathing exercises are commonly initiated on the first postoperative day, which has a significant lag compared with the time of developing atelectasis. The postextubation period has been largely ignored in previous studies. We aimed to evaluate the effect of staff-directed breathing exercises after extubation on postoperative atelectasis in patients undergoing major abdominal surgery.

Materials and Methods: In this assessor-blinded, randomised controlled study, patients aged ≥50 years with ASA I–Ⅲ, scheduled for elective open upper abdominal surgery were randomised to perform breathing exercises after extubation under the supervision of the anaesthesia team (intervention group) or receive usual care (control group) during the postanaesthesia care unit (PACU). Standard anaesthetic management was applied in both groups.

The primary outcome was atelectasis detected on computed tomography or chest radiograph within the first 7 postoperative days. Secondary outcomes included lung ultrasound scores (LUS) and the arterial partial pressure of oxygen (PaO₂) at PACU discharge.

Results and Discussion: Baseline characteristics were similar between groups. Atelectasis within the first 7 postoperative days occurred in 24% (17/71) of patients in the intervention group compared with 42% (29/69) in the control group (difference, -18% [95%CI, -33% to -2%]; risk ratio, 0.57 [95%CI, 0.35 to 0.94]; P=0.023).

Compared with the control group, the intervention group had significantly lower LUS (median, 2 vs 8; difference, -6 [95%CI, -10 to -3]; P<0.001) and higher PaO₂ (median, 74 vs 70 mmHg; estimated median difference, 5 mmHg [95% CI, 0 to 9]; P=0.038) at PACU discharge, indicating better lung aeration and oxygenation.

Our results suggest that the postextubation period may be the critical timing for reversing atelectasis and breathing exercises during this period significantly reduce postoperative atelectasis.

Conclusion(s): Among patients undergoing open upper abdominal surgery, staff-directed breathing exercises in the postextubation period decreased the incidence of postoperative atelectasis. We recommend the addition of postextubation breathing exercises to the current standard of care.

13AP04-13
The impact of routine anaesthesia visits on postoperative pain until one year after surgery in Dutch medium to high-risk surgical patients: a secondary analysis of the TRACE study

V. Smit-Fun¹, T. Damen¹, D. de Korte¹, W. Buhre², TRACE Study Group
¹Maastricht University Medical Centre +, Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine, Maastricht, Netherlands, ²University Medical Centre Utrecht, Anaesthesia, Utrecht, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: TRACE studied the impact of routine standardised postoperative anaesthesia visits in the ward on clinical, quality of recovery, and quality of life outcome measures until one year after surgery. Postoperative pain, one of the outcome measures, was evaluated in medium to high-risk patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery.

Materials and Methods: TRACE was a prospective, multicentre, stepped-wedge cluster randomised interventional study in nine hospitals in the Netherlands. Pain scores (numeric rating scale – NRS in rest and during movement) were collected during ward visits (postoperative day (POD) 1 and 3), and by questionnaire (pre-operatively, POD 7, 30, and 365). Pain scores were compared between study groups using multilevel linear regression models.

Results and Discussion: Secondary analyses in 5190 patients (control 2490, intervention 2700) are ongoing. Analyses include the severity and course of pain across nine types of surgery until one year, and the association of severity of pain with 30-day complications, hospital length of stay, recovery from surgery, ability to perform activities of daily living, and quality of life.

Preliminary results showed overall low average pain scores (NRS for control and intervention group at baseline, postoperative days 1, 3, 7, 30 and 365 consecutively: 2.3 vs 2.3, 2.3 vs 2.2, 2.1 vs 2.1, 3.0 vs 2.9, 2.1 vs 2.0, 1.6 vs 1.5), reaching a maximum at POD 7. Patients undergoing orthopaedic, thoracic, and transplant and renal surgery showed the highest pain scores. Pain scores were not significantly different between groups at any timepoint.

The overall low scores could be the result of mandatory embedded practice of anaesthesia pain services in hospitals in the Netherlands. For the explanation of the higher pain scores at POD 7 further analyses are currently performed.

Conclusion(s): In a Dutch cohort of non-cardiac surgical patients overall postoperative pain scores until one year after surgery are low, with a maximum at POD 7. Postoperative anaesthesia visits did not significantly reduce pain scores. Further analyses are currently in progress.

References:
Smit-Fun VM, et al. Trials 2018;19
Background and Aim: The global COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive impact on health care. Perioperative care has been affected with decreased surgical capacity due to forced relocation of resources. The decision to conduct surgical procedures has also been limited by the increased risk of complications among SARS-CoV-2 positive patients as demonstrated by the COVIDSurg Collaborative.

This study aimed to describe potential differences in postoperative mortality rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Methods: The study included all adult patients (≥18 years) who underwent any surgical procedure in Sweden during two inclusion periods; 6 March 2019–31 Dec 2019 (pre-pandemic) and the corresponding dates for 2020 (pandemic). This group was treated as one cohort, including admission period as an independent exposure variable.

Primary outcome measures were mortalities at 30 days and one year. Logistic regression models were created with adjustment for age, gender, ASA-score, hospital type, acute/elective surgery and BMI.

Results and Discussion: 441 858 patients were available for analysis, 247 457 from the pre-pandemic and 194 401 from the pandemic period. Baseline characteristics did not differ between the two periods. Crude mortality rates were somewhat higher during the pandemic, 1.61% vs. 1.24% (95% CI 0.31-0.45, p<0.001) for 30 days and 5.50% vs. 4.79% (95% CI 0.58-0.84, p<0.001) for one year. In multivariable analyses, surgery during the pandemic was associated with a lower risk of mortality with aOR 0.27 for 30 day (95% CI 0.58-0.84, p<0.001) for one year. Logistic regression models were created with adjustment for age, gender, ASA-score, hospital type, acute/elective surgery and BMI.

Conclusion: Surgery during the pandemic was independently associated with a lower risk of death. Further detailed analyses are required to understand the reasons for this apparently beneficial outcome.


Conclusion: We demonstrated that the surgical productivity had fully recovered to the pre-pandemic level by 2022 in Japan.


Acknowledgement: This study was supported by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science KAKENHI Grant Number 22K10475.
**13AP05-03**

**Pre-operative assessment after the COVID-19 pandemic - are we doing this too late in the patient care pathway?**

I. Mactier¹, P. McConnell¹

¹Royal Alexandra Hospital, Anaesthetic Department, Paisley, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Audit:** Pre-operative assessment should be performed in all patients receiving elective surgery. Timely assessment is required for optimisation of health conditions and behaviours. This may reduce the risk of late cancellation or postoperative complications. Royal College of Anaesthetists guidelines recommend initial assessment occurs as close as possible to point of booking for surgery - ideally at least 2 weeks before surgery [1]. We audited the timing of initial pre-operative assessment at our hospital against these national guidelines.

**Materials and Methods:** This was a retrospective audit of all elective surgery at the Royal Alexandra Hospital (Paisley, Scotland) in May 2022. A patient list and date of surgery was obtained from the theatre management system. Basic demographic information, date of booking for surgery and initial pre-operative assessment was sought in the patient medical records. All data were anonymised and stored securely. Data are presented as median values (Q1-Q3).

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 222 patients received elective surgery from 1st to 31st May (157 female, 66 male). Median age at time of surgery was 63 years (46-73). Initial pre-operative assessment was performed in 215 patients (96%). When performed, it was less than 2 weeks before surgery in 124 patients (58%). Timing of initial pre-operative assessment in the patient care pathway - when applicable - is detailed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speciality</th>
<th>Number of patients</th>
<th>Days from booking to surgery</th>
<th>Days from booking to initial pre-assessment</th>
<th>Days from initial pre-assessment to surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gynaecology</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>75 (29-113)</td>
<td>39 (14-65)</td>
<td>10 (2-61)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>38 (16-114)</td>
<td>20 (12-45)</td>
<td>8 (4-27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urology</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>77 (41-131)</td>
<td>45 (29-90)</td>
<td>8 (5-42)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19 (13-28)</td>
<td>7 (2-12)</td>
<td>9 (6-20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENT</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>212 (141-351)</td>
<td>162 (52-292)</td>
<td>8 (6-112)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All specialties</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>57 (20-120)</td>
<td>28 (12-68)</td>
<td>8 (5-35)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion:** The majority of patients underwent initial pre-operative assessment, but a considerable number were assessed less than 2 weeks before surgery despite adequate time since booking. National guidelines were not consistently met, suggesting services were inadequately resourced to handle the COVID-19 backlog. We are implementing changes so that initial assessment occurs early in the care pathway for all elective patients. The audit will be repeated in due course.

**Reference:**

13AP05-06
Peri-operative fasting – a drop in the ocean?
An audit to review current practice within a multi-surgical specialty district general hospital

D. Garner1, F. Preston1, L.J. Erunlu1, C. Currie1
1University Hospital Monklands, Department of Anaesthesia & Critical Care, Airdrie, United Kingdom

Background: There is a growing body of evidence that traditional 6-4-2 fasting rules are outdated and can lead to harm1. These were developed from work done seven decades ago to prevent against the equally rare and feared anaesthetic complication of pulmonary aspiration2. The consensus for clear fluid fasting for children has been updated to allow clear fluids up to 1 hour prior to general anaesthetic3 and this practice is growing within the adult population.

Our aim was to investigate views on fasting from key stakeholders and quantify current practice.

Methods: A survey was distributed to staff involved in perioperative care within the surgical directorate. We sought to establish familiarity with current guidelines and how comfortable staff felt with patients sipping on different fluids. This was rated on a scale (1=not comfortable to 5=very comfortable) with the option of free text to expand on this. The data was collated and presented locally.

Results: There were 43 replies; 21 anaesthetists, 15 surgeons, 6 nurses and 1 FY1. 56% were aware of current guidelines. The majority (72%) were comfortable allowing sips of water until sent for with reducing support for what was perceived as more particulate matter; diluting juice (40%), fruit juice (33%) and tea/coffee with milk (16%). Within the free text recurring themes of cancellation by the anaesthetist for not being fasted and risk of pulmonary aspiration were raised. Fasting times for elective patients were calculated from perioperative records across two separate weeks which showed a mean fasting time of 6 hours and 59 minutes with a range of 1 hour to 18 hours.

Conclusion: This demonstrates that similar to national data, our patients are being over fasted with the current fasting rules. The majority of respondents would be happy to adopt a more liberal clear fluid policy and are keen to update current practice. Consequently, we have begun to implement a Sip to Send policy within the surgical directorate with the aim of improving our fasting times and reducing patient discomfort and harm from dehydration. We plan to re-audit this in the future.

References:
3. APA consensus statement on updated fluid fasting guidelines APAGBI

13AP05-07
Intelligent operating room: a dream is becoming a reality

V. Bellini1, M. Craca1, M. Panizzi1, C. Compagnone1, E. Bottani2, E. Bignami3
1Università di Parma, Anesthesiology, Critical Care and Pain Medicine Division, Department of Medicine and Surgery, University of Parma, Parma, Italy, 2Università di Parma, Department of Engineering and Architecture, Parma, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: The Perioperative medicine has many facets. Optimizing the general organization from the earliest stages would mean having a better and more accurate management of the resources available. With this study we want to highlight how it is feasible to use AI (artificial intelligence) models capable of tracing the patient along his entire perioperative care path, with the aim of leading to a more targeted organization of the OR (Operating Room), ultimately creating an integrated technological-organizational model1. 

Materials and Methods: An innovative tracking system is used. The architecture provides for an internal localization of BLE (Bluetooth low energy) tags through a Raspberry Pi v4. Once informed consent is obtained from the patient, a Tag is applied to him. Once worn, the Tag is hooked to the internal system and patients are assigned a progressive number. In addition, the use of a tablet in the Recovery Room (RR) allows you to monitor in real time the movements in and out of the patient. This architecture therefore allows you to create a solid database, which with the use of AI allows you to accurately predict the perioperative times, in particular those of occupation of the OR and therefore to create an adequate scheduling system early on, optimizing resources.

Results and Discussion: The analysis of the first data is promising. First of all, it is possible to monitor the patient in all the perioperative phases. It immediately emerged that the times recorded in these phases are much more precise and in real time than those present in the computerized system of the SB (operating block).

The time difference expressed in mean % varies from 6.90% (19.3 min) for patients present in the SB, to 11.10% (17.1 min) for the stay in the OR and even 27.80% (24.5 min) in RR. The AI can easily predict the timing of the intervention based on some variables including: the operator’s skills, the complexity of the surgery, the patient’s ASA score and the type of anesthesia performed.

Conclusion(s): It is therefore possible, right from the start, to optimize the organization times of the OR and, more generally, of the OS, thus improving scheduling. Ultimately, it is essential to create a database that is able to implement the technological-organizational system already.

Reference:
13AP05-08
Historical patient measurements used for elective surgical referrals - do we need to do better?

C. Hartel, C. McCallum, P. McConnell
Royal Alexandra Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Paisley, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Controlling hypertension and anaesthetic planning for obese patients prior to surgery avoids unnecessary postponement. Patients referred by their general practitioner (GP) for elective surgery should have a height, weight and blood pressure (BP) recorded within the past 12 months to aid in pre-operative management. Unfortunately, referrals often include historical measurements.

The aim of this audit was to firstly identify the time period elapsed between the GP clinical assessment of height, weight and BP and subsequent surgical referral.

Our secondary aim was to ascertain if there was any disparity between the measurements documented on the referral and measurements taken at the pre-operative assessment clinic.

Materials and Methods: This was a retrospective audit involving 131 patients undergoing elective surgery between June and July 2022. Patients were selected based on having a complete data set of height, weight and BP measurements recorded on the initial referral and at pre-operative assessment.

Results and Discussion: The average length of time between referral for surgery and the last recorded measurement of height, weight and BP was 6.5 years, 4.7 years and 2.1 years respectively. 47% of patients did not have a recent BP and 66% did not have a recent weight recorded in the year preceding referral.

The average difference between height on referral and at pre-operative assessment was 2.4cm (9cm to +47cm), between weight on referral and at pre-operative assessment was 5.9kg (20kg to +65kg), between systolic BP on referral and at pre-operative assessment was 15mmHg (31mmHg to +73mmHg).

It is evident that patients referred for elective surgery often do not have recent measurements of height, weight or BP recorded. Although regular recording of height is of less importance after 18 years of age.

Conclusion: All patients in this cohort had their elective operation. However, patients with uncontrolled hypertension and/or obesity discovered at pre-operative assessment have the potential for being more complex in their anaesthetic and surgical management, which can cause unnecessary delays to surgery.

Going forward, we look to collaborate with our primary care colleagues to recognise areas where these patient details could be collected prior to referral. There will also be a focus on updating the referral platform, to prompt for recent patient information prior to referral submission.

13AP05-09
Cost-effectiveness of a perioperative quality improvement care bundle for high-risk surgical patients in Brazil

C. Pando, A.P. Etges, M. Marcolino, A. Stahlschmidt, S. Passos, L. Stefani
Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Serviço de Anestesiologia e Medicina Perioperatória, Porto Alegre, Brazil, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Médicas, Porto Alegre, Brazil

Background: High surgical risk patients are responsible for most postoperative complications and deaths. Improving perioperative care has the potential to reduce preventable deaths. We designed a 48-hour postoperative care pathway for high-risk surgical patients (‘high-risk surgical bundle’) who did not meet criteria for elective intensive care admission. The pathway includes risk identification and communication; specific checklist for discharge from the post-anesthesia care unit; immediate nursing admission to the ward; intensified monitoring of vital signs; troponin measurement and immediate access to medical support if needed.

We compared the cost-effectiveness of high-risk patients undergoing major abdominal surgery allocated to the new High-Risk Surgical bundle with patients of the same profile undergoing usual care.

Methods: A retrospective cohort evaluated data from 130 high-risk postoperative patients undergoing the new High-Risk Surgical Bundle (intervention group). The activity and time-based costing method was used to assess cost at the individual level per patient based on care flow mapping. Mean costs of high-risk surgical patients undergoing usual postoperative care were also descriptively compared for 188 patients.

One-year survival was assessed with Kaplan-Meier survival curves. We tested a Cox proportional hazards model, with group as exposure, adjusted for risk class based on the Ex-care model, to analyze the hazard ratio for the primary outcome.

Results and Discussion: The average cost per patient in the intervention group was $2,316.01, 46% higher than in the usual care group, with emphasis on medication consumption, which was 249% higher in the intervention group. Comparison of median costs using the Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon Test (intervention X usual care) did not show statistical significance p = 0.3766. The Kaplan-Meier curve for one-year mortality showed that the groups were significantly different, p = 0.002.

According to the model, the new care strategy resulted in an increment of 0.12 LYG (Life Year Gained) at an incremental cost of $150.12. The projected ICER for one year of life gained was $1,217.66; this proves the cost-effectiveness of the new high-risk surgical bundle.

Conclusion: We demonstrated that adopting a new care bundle to high-risk surgical patients is cost-effective even in a middle-low income country. This work may contribute to new strategies that improve the postoperative outcomes of high-risk surgical patients.
**13AP05-10**

Cancellation of orthopaedic procedures – incidence and causes

D. Pereira1, I. Dinis1, D. Catré1, T. Ferreira1, J.P. Assunção1  
1Centro Hospitalar Tondela-Viseu, Anaesthesiology, Viseu, Portugal

**Background and Goal of Study:** Beyond the obvious negative impact on patients, both physically and psychologically, cancellation of orthopaedic surgeries has financial and logistical implications for the institution. Knowing the reality of our hospital through identification and correction of these faults, is a major step to prioritize areas of improvement and increase its efficiency. Despite the lack of literature about this thematic it seems that this issue is extended to other hospitals.

The main objectives of this audit were to evaluate and describe the incidence and reasons for cancellation of orthopaedic surgeries both emergent and elective, at our central operating room (OR).

Secondary outcomes included timing of cancellation, perioperative mortality rate, length of hospital stay - total and after surgery and pre-anaesthetic evaluation at the ward.

**Material and Methods:** Cancellation records of all surgeries scheduled between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021, were retrospectively reviewed. Data were collected through consultation of OR listings and clinical records.

**Results and Discussion:** Of all 2132 patients scheduled for urgent or elective surgery, 137 (6.4%) were cancelled. The most common reason was lack of anaesthetic / surgical conditions (51%), mainly due to infectious processes such as upper respiratory or urinary tract infection and cardiac causes. Lack of OR time (16%) and lack of ward vacancies (12%) were other substantial causes.

Most of these cancellations occurred on the day before surgery (63%) and the remaining 37% on the surgery day. An important percentage of total cancelled surgeries (10%) still occur at the OR.

**Conclusion:** In this study, 6.4% of patients had their surgical procedure cancelled at least once. Our data suggest that most cancellations occur because of lack of anaesthetic / surgical conditions or structural processes, many of them potentially preventable. It appears that by targeting these processes and developing strategies to correct them, it should be possible to eliminate many of these cancellations thereby improving economic efficiency and possibly patient outcomes.

Suggestions were made, like timely anaesthetic evaluation in consultation, when possible, minimisation of surgeries overbooking by taking medical staff, patient and facility factors including ward vacancies available into account and reduction of room turnover time. Future research and strategic measures to overcome these reasons should take priority.

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**13AP05-11**

Perioperative acute respiratory failure linked to COVID-19 history in elective cardiac surgery patients - a prospective cohort observational study

C.-E. Predoi1,2, S. Andrei3, A. Vlad1, M. Stefan1, N. Iordache3,4, D. Filipescu2  
1Institute of Emergency for Cardiovascular Diseases, Prof. Dr. CC Iliescu, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care II, Bucharest, Romania, 2University of Medicine and Pharmacy Carol Davila, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Bucharest, Romania, 3University of Medicine and Pharmacy Carol Davila, Surgery, Bucharest, Romania, 4Emergency Clinical Hospital Saint John, Surgery, Bucharest, Romania

**Background and Goal of Study:** In the last 2 years about 10% of the world population has been infected with Sars-CoV 2 virus, creating a great burden on the medical system. Patients with recent COVID–19 infection have a great risk for pulmonary complications and mortality in the perioperative setting (1).

The aim of this study is to assess the impact of COVID–19 history more than 3 month on the perioperative incidence of pulmonary complications (acute respiratory failure and pneumonia) in the elective cardiac surgery patients.

**Materials and Methods:** We conducted a prospective observational study for four months in a cardiac intensive care unit (ICU). 68 consecutive patients who were hospitalized in the ICU after elective on pump cardiac surgery were included. The patients were followed from the ICU admission until discharge from the hospital. The history of COVID–19 infection and vaccination status were recorded.

**Results and Discussion:** From the 68 patients with a mean age of 61.78 ± 11.43 years, 34 (50%) had a history of COVID -19 and 61.8% were vaccinated. 97.05% of the patients had a mild form of COVID-19. The mean ASA score was 3.44 (±0.520) and the mean EUROSCORE I 5.19 (±2.541).

The most frequent surgery was the coronary bypass (CABG) – 35.3%, with a median of pump duration of 104.60 (±41.88) minutes. 35.3% of the patients had acute respiratory failure and 5.9% had pneumonia. The multivariate mixed effects logistic regression model found that the history of COVID-19 disease [odds ratio (OR) 3.54, 95% confidence interval (CI), 1.06-11.85] was associated with post-operative acute respiratory failure, but not with the occurrence of pneumonia.

The patients who had COVID-19 in 2020 (37.5%) or 2021 (37.5%) are more prone to have acute respiratory failure than those who had it in 2022 (12.5%).

**Conclusion(s):** The history of COVID – 19, even mild, is associated with acute respiratory failure post cardiac surgery, but not with the occurrence of pneumonia. The main limitation of this study is its size, but the intention is to extend it.

**Reference:**

13AP05-12
30-Day outcome in patients undergoing postponed elective surgery during the COVID-19 pandemic (TRACE II)

A.C. Werger1, J.S. Bree2, B.A. in ‘t Veld4, M.W. Hollmann2, W.F. Buhre3, D. de Korte-de Boer6
1Haaglanden Medical Centre (HMC), Anaesthesiology & Pain Medicine, The Hague, Netherlands, 2Amsterdam University Medical Centres (AMC), Anaesthesiology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 3University Medical Centre Utrecht (UMCU), Anaesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Utrecht, Netherlands, 4Maastricht University Medical Centre + (MUMC+), Anaesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Maastricht, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: The COVID-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on the capacity of elective surgery worldwide. The TRACE II study aims to study the effect(s) of delayed surgery on preoperative health status, postsurgical complications and quality of life (QoL) in patients with postponed elective surgery.

Materials and Methods: From September 2020 onwards, this observational, multicentre, prospective cohort study was performed in seven Dutch hospitals (1) and results were compared with the control group of the original TRACE study (2). We used independent samples t-tests and Mann-Whitney U tests to test for differences in continuous baseline characteristics and Pearson’s χ2 test and Fisher’s exact test to check for differences in distribution of categorical variables between the two cohorts. The primary outcome, 30-day incidence of major complications, was compared between the cohorts using logistic mixed-effects regression analysis.

Results and Discussion: A total of 1479 patients were included in TRACE II and compared to 2490 control patients from TRACE. At baseline more patients in the TRACE II study had an ASA score of III or higher and a lower METS score. The mean quality of life, quantified as EQ-5D-5L utility score at baseline, was lower in TRACE II compared to TRACE. Surgery severity grade was also lower in TRACE II. The delay of surgery ranged from 1 day till 744 days. Within 30 days after surgery, we observed 58 (2.3%) patients with major complications in TRACE and 54 (3.7%) in TRACE II (aOR for TRACE II: 1.29, 95% CI: 0.87 – 1.93, p = 0.208). The mean quality of life at 30 days was 0.77 (SD 0.21) for patients in the TRACE cohort, compared to 0.73 (SD 0.23) in the TRACE II cohort (p = 0.028).

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that patients undergoing delayed elective surgery have more serious comorbidities, however, major postoperative complications did not occur more frequently compared to the TRACE control cohort.

Furthermore, quality of life seems to be lower before and after surgery in patients undergoing delayed elective surgery.

References:

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13AP06-01
Does the choice of neuromuscular blocking agent in rapid sequence induction influence mortality risk? A retrospective propensity score-matched cohort study

L. Falkner1, F. Scheffenbichler2, M. Graeßner2, M. Blobner1,2, B. Jungwirth2, S. Kagerbauer1,2
1Technical University of Munich, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Munich, Germany, 2University Hospital Ulm, Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Ulm, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Clinical trials have demonstrated that rapid sequence inductions (RSI) with rocuronium (0.9 -1.2mg/kg) are not statistically different from those with succinylcholine in terms of excellent and acceptable intubation conditions [1]. Due to the numerous adverse effects and contraindications of succinylcholine and the increased availability of sugammadex, rocuronium is increasingly favoured [2]. To date, however, both types of neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBA) are used in clinical practice. The aim of this study was to investigate the influence of choice of NMBA on in-hospital mortality.

Materials and Methods: After ethical approval, surgeries performed between 2014 and 2022 in adults receiving RSI were analysed. We excluded caesarean sections and surgeries, where both NMBA were used. All available preoperative and clinical data were included. To reduce inhomogeneity, we performed 1:1 propensity score matching with a caliper of 0.001. Mann-Whitney-U test and Fisher’s exact test for count data were used.

Results and Discussion: A total of 4,724 surgeries with RSI took place during the study period of which 3,793 (80.3%) received neuromuscular blockade with rocuronium and 931 (19.7%) with succinylcholine. After 1:1 propensity score matching, 568 patients given rocuronium were matched to 568 reference patients with succinylcholine. No significant difference in mortality between the rocuronium [n=22 (3.9%)] and succinylcholine group [n=15 (2.6%; p=0.24)] was found.

Conclusion(s): The choice of NMBA does not influence perioperative mortality in a tertiary care hospital, where RSI performed with rocuronium and succinylcholine are both common practice.

References:
13AP06-02
The experiment for anti-tumor effect of lidocaine and the impact of intravesicle lidocaine administration in bladder cancer: developing clinical model based on the translational research

M.H. Kim¹, J.S. Lee¹
¹Yonsei University College of Medicine, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Background and Goal of Study: Lidocaine, which is known for a famous local anesthetic, has recently been reported to have anti-tumor effects in several studies, showing the possibility of being helpful in the treatment of cancer patients. However, the exact oncological molecular mechanism of lidocaine has not yet been fully investigated. Moreover, the increased blood concentration of lidocaine via intravenous administration can cause fatal side effects. However, if lidocaine is injected directly into a bladder cavity for the transurethral resection of bladder tumor, it can be used safely in the bladder cancer surgery. Therefore, we aimed to confirm the anti-tumor effect of lidocaine on bladder cancer cells, and establish a protocol can be used as one of the adjuvant therapies in bladder cancer surgery by providing evidence for the efficacy and safety of intravesical lidocaine based on our research.

Materials and Methods: We evaluated effects of lidocaine on human-derived bladder cancer cell lines (253 J cell) and rat-derived bladder cancer cell lines (NBT-II cell) by assessments of cell viability, cell cycle analysis, cell migration, Western blot analysis, and flow cytometry. Subsequently, autophagy influx and real-time polymerase chain reaction were conducted to find out the transduction system of signals related to the apoptosis of bladder cancer cells. In addition, the impact of intravesical lidocaine on the growth and metastasis of bladder cancer was investigated by vivo imaging system via the 253 J cells xenograft in nude mice.

Results and Discussion: The NBT-II cell viability assays demonstrated that lidocaine had an anti-proliferative effect to the bladder cancer cells by cell cycle arrest, suppressing cell migration, and p-extracellular signal-regulated kinase signalling. It was also confirmed that bladder cancer cell growth inhibition by lidocaine acting as an autophagy inducer, and tumor growth was also attenuated in lidocaine administered into bladder groups.

Conclusion(s): The anti-tumor effect of lidocaine appears to be associated with mechanisms, including inhibition of proliferation, induction of apoptosis, and autophagy. And the clinical dose of lidocaine demonstrated anti-tumor effects on 253 J cell-derived bladder cancer in nude mice. Accordingly, we may expect that the clinical benefit of the intravesical lidocaine administration as an alternative adjuvant therapy in patients with a transurethral resection of bladder tumor.

13AP06-03
Efficacy of melatonin premedication in reducing perioperative anxiety during hysteroscopy under spinal anesthesia

H. Khouadja¹, K. Khareddine¹, F Mighri¹, H. Liouane¹, A. Brahim¹, K. Ben Jazia¹
¹Farhat Hached Teaching Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Sousse, Tunisia

Background and Goal of Study: Hysteroscopy is a frequent surgical procedure performed for diagnostic or therapeutic benign endocavitary uterine pathologies. Although it is most often conducted on an outpatient basis, it continues to be a source of perioperative anxiety for patients. Melatonin has shown an anxiolytic effect when administered preoperatively in different types of surgery. The aim of the study was to evaluate the anxiolytic efficacy of melatonin when administered as premedication during hysteroscopy procedures.

Materials and Methods: A prospective randomized double-blind study was performed over a period of 04 months at a tertiary maternity center. It included ASA I and II physical status patients scheduled for diagnostic or therapeutic hysterectomy under spinal anesthesia. Patients were randomized to receive two tablets of either a placebo in group P or melatonin in group M (a total dose of 04mg); 120 minutes before surgery. Spinal anesthesia was performed below L3 with 10 mg of hyperbaric bupivacaine and 2.5 μg of sufentanil for a sensitive block at T10.

The primary outcome of the study was the degree of pre and post operative anxiety measured by a simple verbal anxiety scale (VAS: 10-9 awful; 8-7 horrible; 6-5 distressing; 4-3 uncomfortable; 2-1 annoying; 0 no anxiety).

The secondary outcomes were intraoperative hemodynamic status and patient satisfaction measured by a two-dimensional scale (0 not satisfied; 1 satisfied). A p value<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results and Discussion: Our study included 51 patients in each group. There was no significant difference in socio-demographic and surgical characteristics in the two groups. Preoperatively, the mean VAS score was 3.2±1.1 and 5.6±1.4 respectively in groups M and P (p<0.001). In the post operative period, VAS scores were 1.6±0.8 in group M and 3.9±1.8 in group P (p<0.001).

The mean time of installation of spinal anesthesia was 3±0.8 minutes in the melatonin group and 4.8±0.8 minutes in the placebo group (p<0.001). A hemodynamic stability status was observed in both groups (p=0.2). Patient satisfaction was noted in 98% of the patients in the group M and in 64% of the patients in the group P (p<0.001).

Conclusion(s): Exogenous melatonin is harmless and has several analgesic, anti-inflammatory and sedative properties. In our study, melatonin reduced perioperative anxiety and improved the satisfaction of patients proposed for hysteroscopy scheduled under spinal anesthesia.
13AP06-04  
**Effects of music therapy on anxiety and physical parameters in central venous catheter placement: a systematic review and meta-analysis**

W.H. Hsu¹, C.W. Lu¹, C.H. Ho¹, J.R. Jhang¹  
¹Far Eastern Memorial Hospital, Anesthesiology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

**Background and Goal of Study:** During central venous catheter (CVC) implantation, patients often suffer from intensive anxiety and pain, which may lead to instability of hemodynamics. There are already several original articles revealing controversial outcomes about the efficacy of the music therapy during CVC placement. This systematic review and meta-analysis surveys the existing literature for the use of music in CVC placement to further determine if music therapy can provide improvement in patients’ anxiety levels and stabilize the hemodynamic status of the patients.

**Materials and Methods:** Literature search was performed by 3 different reviewers using Pubmed and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, using the search strings of “Music (Music intervention) and catheter”. We included all the randomized clinical trials investigating the effects of music therapy in adult patients during placement of central venous catheter, peripherally inserted central catheter and subcutaneous port. Primary outcome was the visual analogue scale (VAS) to measure the anxiety level of patient, and secondary outcomes included the systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, and heart rate during the procedure. We used Review Manager 5.4.1 for data extraction and analysis.

**Results and Discussion:** There are 4 studies, 284 patients involved in the study. The studies used VAS to measure anxiety, which significantly decreased in music therapy group [standard mean difference (SMD): -1.19, 95% Confidence interval(CI): -1.38,-1.01]. Considering secondary outcomes, the heart rate was significantly lower in the music therapy group (SMD: -8.36, 95% CI: -14.35, -2.38) as well as the diastolic blood pressure (SMD: -3; 95% CI: -5.77, -0.23); the systolic blood pressure is insignificantly lower in the intervention group (SMD: -4.48, 95% CI: -9.73, 0.77). The heterogeneity of all results is moderate to high. The absence of blinding of the patients may contribute to risk of bias.

**Conclusion:** The music therapy can decrease the anxiety level of the patient and lead to stabler heart rate and diastolic blood pressure during implantation of central venous catheter.

13AP06-05  
**Effectiveness of virtual reality distraction compared to tablet distraction for reducing pain associated with peripheral venous cannulation**

F Grotenhuis¹, C. Willems¹, M. de Vries¹, F. Wulfert¹  
¹Wilhelmina Ziekenhuis Assen, Anesthesiologie, Assen, Netherlands

**Background and Goal of Study:** We investigated the feasibility and benefits of implementing a tablet compared to VR-glasses for distraction during peripheral venous cannulation in a Dutch peripheral hospital (Wilhelmina Hospital Assen). By diverting attention away from a painful stimulus pain perception is reduced. The use of VR glasses for minimizing pain associated with peripheral venous cannulation in a pediatric population is established. The aim of this non-inferiority study was to compare the NRS scores during peripheral venous cannulation using tablet or VR glasses, since a tablet is more feasible and less expensive than VR glasses.

**Materials and Methods:** Patients were eligible if peripheral venous cannulation was indicated and surgery was scheduled. Inclusion was from July 5, 2021 until October 18, 2021. The exclusion criteria were: Children under 4; patients who did not receive intravenous access; language barrier; a history of epilepsy, psychosis, or claustrophobia; blindness or deafness; cognitive impairment; and refusal. A total of 658 patients were randomized into a VR distraction or tablet distraction group. Numeric pain rating scale (NRS) was used prior and after, to address pain during venous cannulation. Additionally, questionnaires for patients and staff were used to address satisfaction of both distraction technics.

**Results and Discussion:** There was no significant difference in NRS scores between VR glasses (2.6 SD +/- 2.3) or tablet (2.9 SD +/- 2.2 ) P= 0.12 (p<0.05). Of patients using VR glasses as distraction, 80.5% were satisfied, versus 58.5% using a tablet. Staff member satisfaction with the VR-glasses was 74.0% versus 48.6% in the tablet group. Both the VR glasses and tablet were easy applicable in a high turnover setting.

**Conclusion:** Although there was a higher satisfaction with VR glasses, this study shows that a tablet gives comparable pain distraction during venous cannulation.

13AP06-06  
**Prevalence of preoperative anaemia and postoperative outcomes in 15 166 surgical patients from a public hospital in Brazil: a single observational study**

C. Mendanha¹, L. Sekine², I. Sirtoli¹, L. Stefani¹  
¹Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Perioperative Medicine, Porto Alegre, Brazil, ²Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Hemotherapy Service, Porto Alegre, Brazil

**Background and Goal of Study:** Preoperative anaemia is associated with poor postoperative outcomes, but few studies have reported the prevalence of this condition in patients submitted to surgery in low-middle income scenarios. We aimed to identify the prevalence of anaemia and its relationship with 30-day postoperative death at a university public hospital in Brazil.

**Materials and Methods:** This cohort study included patients who underwent surgery between 2015 and 2019 at Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre.
Primary outcome was 30 day-death after surgery. Anaemia was defined as haemoglobin <12 g/dL for females and <13 g/dL for males. Poisson regression models were constructed to examine the associations between preoperative anaemia and outcomes.

**Results and Discussion:** We included 15,166 patients. The mean age was 56 [SD 17] yr, and 7819 (51.6%) were female. Preoperative anaemia was present in 6387 (42.1%) patients, 2881 (19.1%) had mild anaemia, 2837 (18.7%) had moderate anaemia, and 669 (4.4%) had severe anaemia. After adjustment for potential confounding factors, patients with moderate (RR 1.73 95%CI 1.43-2.10) and severe anaemia (RR 2.43 95%CI 1.92-2.07) had increased mortality. Anaemia also significantly increased the risk of transfusion (RR of 11.83 95%CI 10.09-13.85 for severe and RR of 5.44 95%CI 4.72-6.27 for moderate anaemia.

**Conclusion(s):** Four of every ten patients were anaemic in our cohort. These patients have an increased risk of transfusion and death. Interventions are essential to improve the quality of care and optimize the surgical patient’s journey from anaemic patients.

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**13AP06-07**

**Effectiveness of melatonin as premedication for cataract surgery under peribulbar block**

F. Mighri¹, H. Khouadjia¹, H. Liouane¹, M.K. Khiareddine¹, A. Brahim¹, K. Ben Jazia¹
¹Farhat Hached Teaching Hospital, Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Sousse, Tunisia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Cataract is a ubiquitous pathology. Surgical treatment is increasingly practiced under sedation and locoregional anesthesia on an outpatient basis. In this context, intraoperative sedation-anaesthesia is not without risks. Melatonin enhances sedation when administered preoperatively.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of a premedication with melatonin on sedation-anaesthesia for elective cataract surgery under peribulbar block.

**Materials and Methods:** This is a prospective randomized double-blind study including patients (ASA I to III) scheduled for elective cataract surgery by phacoemulsification under peribulbar block. Sixty minutes before surgery, patients received 05 pills of either a placebo (group P) or Melatonin (10 mg) (group M). Peribulbar block was performed after sedation with intravenous Midazolam (0.02mg/kg) and Alfentanil (03μg/kg).

Intraoperatively, a supplemental sedation-anaesthesia was given to achieve a Ramsey score between 2-4 and a simple verbal scale(EVS)< 2 (0: no pain, 1: mild, 2: moderate, 3: severe and 4: extremely severe pain).

We noted total consumption of Midazolam and alfentanil, sedation level (Ramsey score and bispectral index), analgesia (EVS), patient anxiety (APAIS score), perioperative intraocular tone and patients and surgeons satisfactions (Five points Likert Scale). The primary outcome was the total consumption of Midazolam and Alfentanil.

The secondary outcome was perioperative intraocular tone. A p<0.05 value was considered statistically significant.

**Results and Discussion:** Our study included 56 patients. During the procedure, the median consumption of Midazolam in group M was 1.5 [1.3-1.7] mg and 2.3 [1.47-2.57] mg in group P (p=0.003). The median consumption of Alfentanil was 240 [195-287] μg and 380 [247.5-442.5] μg respectively in group M and P (p=0.001). The median EVS and the mean value of BIS were significantly lower in group M (p<0.001). The median APAIS Score was 8 in both groups (p=0.259). During the procedure, intraocular tone was significantly lower in group M (p<0.01). Patients and surgeons satisfaction scale were higher in group M (respectively 3 and 4 (p=0.001)).

The primary outcome was the total consumption of Midazolam and Alfentanil.

**Conclusion(s):** Oral premedication with melatonin for elective cataract surgery under peribulbar block enhanced sedation and analgesia, reduced intraocular tone and improved the operating conditions. Other studies should be conducted to demonstrate its perioperative anxiolysis.
13AP06-08
Derivation and validation of a national multicenter mortality risk stratification model – the Brazilian Extended Care (BE-Care) model

S. Passos1,2, A. Stahlschmidt1,2, S. Castro2, P. Neto2, C. Pando1,3, L. Stefani2,1, Ex-Care Study Group
1Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Serviço de Anestesiologia e Medicina Perioperatória, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Médicas, Porto Alegre, Brazil

Background: Surgical risk stratification models are useful for decision-making regarding prioritization of care, resource allocation and facilitating dialogue between professionals and family members. Ideally, they should be simple, accurate, reproducible and externally validated. However, most of these tools were built in high-income countries and did not have their accuracy tested in our scenario. To fill this gap, we aimed to build a robust and feasible national preoperative risk assessment tool based on data from patients operated in Brazil.

Methods: Retrospective multicenter cohort study including consecutive surgeries from January, 2017 to December, 2018 at ten Brazilians hospitals. Data were obtained through queries from electronic medical records. The Ex-Care model, a validated tool including four predictors, was used as reference. A multivariable logistic regression model predicting 30-day in-hospital mortality was developed. Sequential variables adjustments were fitted on the derivation sample and new coefficients were obtained, based on Ex-Care original predictors (age, ASA-PS, surgical severity and nature) to keep with the principles of a parsimonious model. An independent sample was used for validation. Model accuracy was tested using discrimination (area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC)) and calibration (Brier test and calibration plot) measures.

Results and Discussion: 105501 patients were considered for analysis. 73850 comprised the derivation cohort, with a mortality rate of 2.16%. The BE-Care model presented excellent discrimination, AUROC 0.931 (CI 95%, 0.925-0.936), and calibration (Brier score of 0.017). The good performance was confirmed by the validation cohort, composed of 31651 patients with mortality of 2.17%, AUROC 0.933 (CI 95%, 0.926-0.941) and Brier score of 0.017. Among the selected predictors, surgical nature and ASA-PS class had the greatest impact on death (OR 4.23 and 4.00, respectively). The good performance was confirmed by the validation cohort, composed of 31651 patients with mortality of 2.17%, AUROC 0.933 (CI 95%, 0.926-0.941) and Brier score of 0.017. Among the selected predictors, surgical nature and ASA-PS class had the greatest impact on death (OR 4.23 and 4.00, respectively).

Conclusion: Using a multicentric sample, the BE-Care model showed excellent accuracy in stratifying the surgical risk of patients operated in Brazil. Using this tool, quality improvement strategies can be planned to improve surgical population outcomes in resource constrained settings.

Reference:

13AP06-09
CLOCKS 2 observational study: does the phase shift observed after surgery and anesthesia differ for morning vs. afternoon procedures?

A.J.G. Meewisse1, M. van Zuilen1, E.C. van Huizen1, K.F. Choi1, D.J. Stervers2, J. Hermanides1
1University of Amsterdam / Amsterdam University Medical Centers, Dept. of Anesthesiology, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2University of Amsterdam / Amsterdam University Medical Centers, Dept. of Internal Medicine (Endocrinology), Amsterdam, Netherlands

Background and Goal of Study: Surgery and general anesthesia are known disturbances of the circadian timing system and post-operative sleep. Earlier research from our study group showed a phase advance of sleep-wake timing on the night before and two nights after surgery, which was associated with a lower post-operative sleep quality. However, the timing of the disturbance of the circadian timing system may be of importance and we hypothesized that surgery and general anesthesia in the afternoon would result in a larger phase advance.

Materials and Methods: We performed a single centre prospective cohort study in adult (18 years or over) patients scheduled for elective surgery with at least 30 minutes of general anesthesia. We used the Munich Chronotype Questionnaire and Pittsburgh Sleep Quality index (PSQI) to determine baseline chronotype, sleep parameters (e.g. on- and offset timing, duration) and sleep quality. A sleeping log was used for 3 nights before and 7 nights after surgery, and a second PSQI was filled out a week after surgery to determine sleep-wake timing and post-operative sleep quality respectively.

Results and Discussion: We included 94 patients for this preliminary analysis. We compared the shift between midpoint of sleep three nights before surgery with midpoint of sleep on the night after surgery. For patients operated in the afternoon, we found a phase advance of 53 min (SD 76 min), which was smaller than the phase advance of 20 min (SD 71 min) we found in patients operated on in the morning (p = 0.049).

However, multiple linear regression using morning-afternoon surgery, as well as pre-operative chronotype, age and duration of surgery as independent variables showed that only chronotype predicted phase shift significantly (p < 0.001), while morning vs. afternoon surgery did not (p = 0.190).

Both morning and afternoon surgery resulted in a lower post-operative sleep quality, but there was no significant difference in lowering of PSQI-score in both groups. Our results do not concur with studies in animals, showing differences in phase shifts depending on the timing of administration of anesthetics.

Conclusion(s): We did not find a significant smaller peri-operative phase advance in patients operated on in the afternoon when using multiple linear regression. However, there was a significant phase advance in sleep-wake timing in both groups, which was associated with a significant lowering of sleep quality.
13AP06-10
Anxiolytic preanaesthetic medication in Europe: a survey of current practice - preliminary results

C. Dahlem1,2, C. Oliveira1,3, L. Azvedo1,4, C. Granja1,5
1Porto University, Faculty of Medicine, Center for Health Technology and Services Research - CINTESIS, Porto, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar Entre Douro e Vouga, Anaesthesiology, Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal, 3Centro Hospitalar Vila Nova de Gaia / Espinho, Anaesthesiology, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal, 4Faculty of Medicine University of Porto, Department of Community Medicine, Information and Health Decision Sciences - MEDCIDS, Porto, Portugal, 5Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de São João, Anaesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goals: Excessive preoperative anxiety is associated with increased postoperative complications, but there are no clear guidelines for preoperative anxiolysis. Preanaesthetic medication with midazolam has been a common practice for the last decades but recent European data are unknown. We aim to evaluate the current practice of preoperative anxiety assessment and management in Europe and the role of midazolam in modern practice.

Methods: Cross-sectional online survey of European anaesthesiologists regarding current anxiolytic premedication practice starting 14th November 2022. Links were sent by email to ESAIC members. The survey included 9 sections with 38 multiple choice questions.

Results and Discussion: We received 288 responses from anaesthesiologists working in 51 countries; mean age of respondents was 45 ± 11 years, 63% were men, 85% anaesthesia specialists and working mostly in public hospitals. 76% of respondents report to evaluate anxiety subjectively and only 3% use a scale; 22% register anxiety data in the medical record; 71% use non-pharmacologic strategies to manage anxiety, the most frequent being the pre-operative visit. Only 3% of responders never prescribe anxiolytic medication. Among the prescribers, 68% report that midazolam is the preferred drug in the outpatient setting, 66% in the inpatient setting and 79% in the paediatric setting. Globally, 80% admit to use Midazolam at least occasionally.

The second most used drugs are other benzodiazepines in adults and dexmedetomidine in children. Most anaesthetists premedicate adult patients in the holding area through an intravenous route, or orally on the day of surgery; and paediatric patients orally in the ward.

Only 21% report being aware of anxiolytic premedication protocols in their department for ambulatory surgery, 34% for inpatient surgery and 47% for paediatric anaesthesia. Midazolam is the most used protocol drug in all settings, and might be combined with other drugs.

Conclusions: Midazolam remains the most used anxiolytic preanaesthetic medication among European anaesthesiologists in all operative settings. 43% of respondents are unaware of protocols in their departments.

We recommend that anaesthesiology societies develop clear guidelines concerning evaluation, registry and management of preoperative anxiety, namely the use of quantitative anxiety scales, non-pharmacologic and pharmacologic strategies.

Acknowledgements: To ESAIC for disseminating this survey.

13AP06-11
AMAZONE Prevention of persistent pain after breast cancer treatment by online cognitive behavioural therapy – results of an interim analyses after 6 months

A. Lukas1, M.H. Theunissen2, D. de Korte-de Boer1, S.M. van Kuijk3, W.F. Buhre4, M.L. Peters5
1MUMC+, Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Maastricht, Netherlands, 2Maastricht University, Clinical Psychological Science, Maastricht, Netherlands, 3MUMC+, Clinical Epidemiology and Medical Technology, Maastricht, Netherlands, 4UMC Utrecht, Anesthesiology, Utrecht, Netherlands

Background: Persistent pain after breast cancer treatment (PPBCT) is highly prevalent. Strategies of intensified perioperative pain management failed to reduce the prevalence of PPBCT. Until now psychological distress (PD) has not been targeted before surgery. The AMAZONE study is designed to examine the preventive effect of online cognitive behavioural therapy (eCBT) on the prevalence of PPBCT six months after surgery.

Methods: In a randomized controlled multicenter trial in six Dutch hospitals, patients scheduled for unilateral breast cancer surgery with PD [HADSa ≥ 8, CARSA ≥ 5, SFI ≥ 3, PCS ≥ 18] were randomized to five sessions perioperative eCBT or education interventions (EDU). Patients with low PD received treatment as usual (TAU). Primary endpoint is the prevalence of PPBCT (NRS ≥ 3/10) at 6 months. Secondary endpoints are pain intensity, -interference, and psychological distress. The sample size was calculated to be 138 patients with PD.

Results: From June 2021 to October 2022, 188 patients were included, 54 scoring high for PD and randomized to eCBT or EDU, 100 were TAU and 34 excluded. PD was mostly determined by anxiety and surgical fear (tab1). The majority of patients had low stage breast cancer and underwent breast conserving surgery. Only three patients had to undergo axillary dissection. The mean postoperative pain-intensity was higher in ECU and eCBT (n.s.) (fig1).

The 6-month results on PPBCT prevalence, pain sensitivity, PD are not yet available and will be presented at the conference.

Table 1: Epidemiological Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Age [a] (mean±sd)</th>
<th>BMI [kg/m²] (mean±sd)</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Surgical time [h]</th>
<th>CARSA ≥ 5 (%)</th>
<th>SFI ≥ 3 (%)</th>
<th>PCS ≥ 18 (%)</th>
<th>HADSa ≥ 8 (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>eCBT (n=27)</td>
<td>52.0 (32/66)</td>
<td>24.2 (3.4/18.7)</td>
<td>3 (11%)</td>
<td>13 (48%)</td>
<td>5 (19%)</td>
<td>9 (33%)</td>
<td>22 (82%)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDU (n=27)</td>
<td>52.0 (30/70)</td>
<td>25.5 (18/42.4)</td>
<td>4 (15%)</td>
<td>12 (44%)</td>
<td>4 (15%)</td>
<td>6 (22%)</td>
<td>24 (89%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAU (n=100)</td>
<td>58.5 (53/77)</td>
<td>25.4 (19.7/18.6)</td>
<td>6 (6%)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Mean postoperative pain-intensity day 1-7
13AP06-12
A prospective, longitudinal cohort study of persistent postsurgical opioid use among patients treated at a Swiss hospital: a preliminary analysis

A. Rixecker1, F. Breitenmoser1, J. Welter1, A. Dullenkopf1
1Spital Thurgau Frauenfeld, Institute for Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine, Frauenfeld, Switzerland

Background and Goal of Study: A recent study of the Swiss national poison center found a significant increase in the rate of calls for opioid-related poisonings (1). The ongoing opioid epidemic in the United States has been associated with opioid dependence after surgery (2).

It is unclear if a similar association exists in Switzerland. Our year-long study aims to detect and describe prolonged opioid use after major elective surgery in a Swiss cantonal hospital.

Materials and Methods: For this preliminary analysis, 312 patients undergoing major elective surgery were screened for enrollment from June 1 to September 30, 2022. 272 patients were eligible and agreed to participate. Baseline demographic and operative data were gathered from electronic medical records.

Postoperative interviews about opioid use were done by telephone 6 weeks after surgery. If patients were taking opioids, a 12-week follow-up was scheduled. The cantonal ethics committee approved this study (EKOS 22/042), consent was obtained from all patients.

The analyses were conducted in Stata Version 15.

Results and Discussion: Of the 272 eligible patients, 5 withdrew at the first follow-up (n=267). The median age at surgery was 59 years (IQR 39-73), 56% were women, 71% had ≥1 comorbidity (ASA ≥3), and 66% took concomitant medication. Surgery type was: major visceral (34%), hip arthroplasty (19%), caesarian section (18%), major hand (16%), spine (8%), and partial or complete prostatectomy (5%).

Anesthesia was performed as general (73%), regional (24%) or combination (3%). 8% had major postoperative complications. 13 patients took opioids before hospitalization, and 11 received a prescription at discharge (9 patients with a long-term prescription did not receive an additional one from the hospital).

At the 6-week follow-up, 14 patients were lost-to-follow-up. Of the 243 patients contacted, only 4 filled their opioid prescription. 2 patients received opioids from another source after discharge. At the 6-week follow-up, 4 patients were still taking opioids. At the 12-week follow-up only 2, both of whom were already taking opioids before surgery.

Conclusion: These preliminary results indicate no association between perioperative opioid usage and prolonged opioid use disorder. This study is ongoing. Long-term outcomes are needed to generalize our findings.

Reference:

13AP07-01
From pre-to perioperative iron deficiency management for colorectal cancer patients undergoing robot-assisted surgery

B. Shah1, H. Agostini1
1Colchester Hospital, Anaesthetics, Colchester, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: A pre-operative diagnosis of iron deficiency, which is highly prevalent in patients with colorectal cancer, predicts for decreased survival. Treatment with oral or intravenous (IV) iron can significantly improve post-operative and ongoing oncological outcomes.

Current guidelines for treatment of iron deficiency, shown in Figure 1, plan for treatment in the pre-operative period only. However, opportunities for pre-operative treatment are missed due to the short interval between diagnosis of iron deficiency and therapeutic robot-assisted surgical procedure for colorectal cancer. Untreated iron deficiency leads to suboptimal clinical status post-operatively causing delays to time-sensitive onward oncological treatment.

National guidance advocates for extending the possible treatment timeframe of iron deficiency to the immediate post-operative period. A quality improvement (QI) project was therefore undertaken to bring local practice in line with national guidance, expanding the timeframe for treatment of iron deficiency from the pre-operative to the peri-operative period at Colchester Hospital.

Materials and Methods: Patients undergoing robot-assisted colorectal surgical procedures in the last 24 months were identified by searching the hospital database with relevant clinical codes. Patients undergoing procedures for non-malignant disease were excluded from the sample.

Electronic patient notes and pre-operative blood investigations were retrospectively analysed in order to identify those who were iron deficient. Iron deficiency was defined as haemoglobin (Hb) <130g/L and serum ferritin <30 mcg/L or serum ferritin 30-100 mcg/L with transferrin saturation <20% as per local guidelines. Further examination of patient records revealed those who were given pre-operative treatment and those who were not.

Results and Discussion: 107 patients undergoing robot-assisted colorectal cancer procedures were identified from September 2020 to March 2022. 42 of these patients (39.2%) had a pre-operative haemoglobin <130g/L. Of these, 18 did not have adequate investigations for iron deficiency completed.

24 of the 42 patients were diagnosed with iron deficiency and should have been treated pre-operatively as per local and national guidelines. 14 out of these 24 (58.3%) were given a pre-operative iron transfusion. 10 patients received no treatment for iron deficiency in the peri-operative period.

Figure 1: Current guidelines for treatment of iron deficiency in the pre-operative period
This data has initiated a change in current peri-operative iron deficiency management guidelines. Proposed guidelines shown in Figure 2. Following implementation of new guidelines, prospective data will be collected as part of the second QI cycle to ensure these recommendations are smoothly implemented into local clinical practice.

Limitations of this quality improvement project include the retrospective data collection from patient records which were not designed for this purpose and therefore may be subject to researcher bias.

Conclusion(s): The data highlighted that in an 18-month period, 41.6% of iron-deficient patients undergoing robot-assisted surgery for colorectal cancer missed the opportunity to have a pre-operative intervention for iron deficiency. Therapeutic intervention would not only have improved future outcomes but may also have prevented delays in their onward oncological care.

By changing guidelines and local practice we hope to improve peri-operative and oncological outcomes for future patients.

References:
Conclusion: Anaemia after surgery for colorectal cancer was frequent in our cohort, although anaemia before discharge was not associated with decreased 1-year survival. Patients with anaemia before discharge received more red blood cell transfusions in the intra- and postoperative period and had an increased length of stay.

**13AP07-03**
Preoperative anaemia and 1-year survival in colorectal cancer patients: a single centre retrospective study

A. Abad-Motos¹², P. Alavedra Martínez¹, A. Ortega Martín³, C. Moreno De Albornor Montesinos², A. Blanco Barrón², A. Abad-Gurumeta³³
¹Hospital Universitario Donostia, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, San Sebastian, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, Madrid, Spain, ³Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Medical School, Madrid, Spain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Anaemia is frequent in patients with colorectal cancer. Preoperative anaemia is independently associated with postoperative morbidity and mortality, and with red blood cell transfusions. Besides, it has been associated with worse long-term outcomes in patients undergoing surgery for cancer. The aim of our study was to analyse the effect of preoperative anaemia on 1-year survival.

**Materials and Methods:** Single centre retrospective cohort study including patients undergoing colorectal cancer surgery between 2009 and 2017. Patients were grouped according to the presence or not of preoperative anaemia. Anaemia was defined as haemoglobin <12 g dl⁻¹ for females and <13 g dl⁻¹ for males.

Primary outcome was 1-year survival.

Secondary outcomes included 30-day postoperative complications, red blood cell transfusions and length of stay.

Overall survival was calculated with the Kaplan-Meier log rank method and Cox proportional hazard regression based on anaemia at discharge.

Anaemic patients received more red blood cell transfusions during the intra- (53 (16.4%) vs 7 (2.1%) p <0.05) and postoperative (78 (24.3%) vs 32 (10%) p <0.05) periods, and had an increased length of stay (7 [IQR 5-13] vs. 6 [IQR 5-11], p <0.05). There were no differences in overall 1-year survival (HR 1.09; 95% CI 0.83 - 1.43; p = 0.547).

**Conclusion(s):** In this single centre cohort of patients undergoing colorectal surgery preoperative anaemia was not associated to decreased 1-year survival, or 30-day postoperative complications. Preoperative anaemia was associated with red blood cell transfusion and increased length of stay.

**13AP07-04**

J. Ripollés-Melchor¹, A. Abad-Motos², P. Fernández-Valdes-Bango¹, R. Navarro-Pérez³, A.V. Espinosa⁴, A. Abad-Gurumeta¹,
¹Infanta Leonor University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain, ²Donostia University Hospital, Anesthesia, San Sebastian, Spain, ³Clínico San Carlos University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain, ⁴Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services, Anesthesia, Bahrain, Bahrain

**Background and Goal of Study:** Improvements in outcomes following colorectal surgery have been linked to Enhanced Recovery After Surgery treatment, as opposed to conventional care. However, uncertainties remain on how monitoring impacts postoperative outcomes.

This study sought to determine whether the use of anesthetic optimization techniques such as bispectral index (BIS), cardiac output (CO), temperature, and neuromuscular blockade was linked to a reduction in postoperative outcomes.

**Materials and Methods:** The European Postoperative Outcomes Within Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Protocol (EUROPOWER) Study recruited 2841 consecutive adults scheduled for elective colorectal surgery from 185 centers in 21 different European countries over the course of one month in 2020.

The primary study outcome was moderate to severe postoperative complications within 30 days after surgery. Patient characteristics and data related to CO, BIS, neuromuscular blockade and temperature monitoring were collected. To determine the characteristics that led to the use of monitoring, a multivariable logistic regression model was used.

**Results and Discussion:** Patients were monitored for CO, BIS, neuromuscular blockade, temperature, and neuromuscular blockade in 23%, 45%, 58%, and 64% of cases, respectively. The 2 factors associated with the CO monitoring were the presence of a metastatic solid tumor (OR [95% confidence interval (CI)]:10.24 [1.46-71.95], p=0.019), and preoperative albumin (OR [95% CI]:0.34 [0.14-0.85, p=0.02). Preoperative creatinine (OR [95% CI]:0.75 [0.61-0.92, p=0.005) was associated with BIS monitoring.

Comorbidities were associated with neuromuscular blockade monitoring (OR [95% CI]:5.25 [1.03-26.6] p=0.046). Duration of surgery (OR [95% CI]:1.00 [1.00-1.00] p=0.015) was associated with temperature monitoring. There was no correlation between the use of...
individual monitoring or all monitoring combinations and a reduction in postoperative complications (OR [95% CI]: 0.66 [0.36-1.22] p=0.186).

Conclusion(s): Monitoring is not carried out as recommended in patients having colorectal surgery in Europe; in this substudy, more monitoring was not linked to improved postoperative outcomes.

Reference:

13AP07-05
Clinical and economic impact of multimodal prehabilitation in adult patients undergoing major oncological digestive surgery
E. Moret1, M. Sendra1, Y. Jimenez-Capel1, A. Avezilla1, C. Costa1, V. López1
1University Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol/UAB, Anaesthesiology, Postoperative ICU and Pain Treatment, Badalona/Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Prehabilitation may reduce postoperative complication rates and severity, but its sustainability and impact on costs are still under discussion. The aim of our study was to assess the clinical and economic impact of multimodal prehabilitation (MP) programme in patients undergoing major digestive oncological surgery.

Materials and Methods: During the 3 years previous to the COVID-pandemic, we gradually implemented a MP programme in our setting. We included a total of 307 adult patients (199 male (64.8%)/108 female (35.2%), mean age 64 ± 5.1 years) scheduled for oncological major digestive surgery due to esophageal, hepatic or pancreatic cancer. MP consisted of a standard prehabilitation protocol consisting in anaemia correction, nutritional and psychological support and physical exercise recommendations was performed 4 weeks before surgery (8h-session/week). Variables recorded were: age, gender, in-hospital/ICU length of stay (LOS), in-hospital mortality, 30 days- hospital readmission, readmission mortality. Data are presented as absolute numbers, mean values and/or percentages.

Results and Discussion: During the studied period, a 3.3 days reduction of the in-hospital LOS and a 3.6 days reduction of the ICU-LOS were achieved; this fact allowed us to increase the number of operations. In-hospital mortality was 1.92% lower and the readmission rate was very similar over time.

We recorded demographic variables (gender, age, BMI, ASA status and Charlson index) and intraoperative data (duration of surgery and need of conversion to open surgery).

We analyzed length of stay (LOS) and incidence of postoperative complications measured with the Comprehensive Complication Index (CCI).

Statistical Analysis: Mann-Whitney U test for LOS and CCI

Results and Discussion: We included 43 patients in the Historical Group and 52 in the Prehabilitation Group. No differences found between groups in demographic or intraoperative data.

The median (range) LOS in the historical group was 13 (6-44) days while in the prehabilitation group was 8 (4-28) days (p<0.05).

The prehabilitation group also had a lower median CCI 8.7 (0-74.3) compared to the historical group 20.9 (0-44.9) p<0.05.

Conclusion(s): Prehabilitation program for oncological rectal resections in our hospital is effective. Studies addressed to evaluate efficiency should be designed.

13AP07-06
Efficacy of prehabilitation in oncologic rectal resections
M. Sadurní1, M. Vall1, C. Rodríguez1, S. Alonso2, M. Pérez2, L. Aguilera1
1Hospital del Mar, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, 2Hospital del Mar, Colorectal Surgery, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Prehabilitation provides preoperative interventions to promote physical and psychological health and improve nutritional status in order to enhance recovery after the surgery. However, the main guidelines can’t strongly recommend its implementation due to a lack of studies that demonstrate its efficacy. The goal of the study is to analyze the efficacy of our prehabilitation program in patients scheduled to rectal resections.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval, we designed a retrospective study of patients scheduled to laparoscopic oncological rectal resections after neoadjuvant therapy (5 weeks of chemotherapy + 1 week of radiation therapy). We divided patients into 2 groups:

- Prehabilitation Group (2017-2021): When the patients finished neoadjuvant therapy they started a prehabilitation program 2 months before the surgery. It consisted in a non-supervised high intensity training to improve their physical condition, protein supplementation (20g/day) for increasing muscle mass and mindfulness sessions to provide emotional support.

- Historical Control Group (2011-2016): After neoadjuvant therapy patients waited 2 months until surgery without any specific treatment.

All patients were managed following the standard intraoperative protocol of our hospital.

We recorded demographic variables (gender, age, BMI, ASA status and Charlson index) and intraoperative data (duration of surgery and need of conversion to open surgery).

We analyzed length of stay (LOS) and incidence of postoperative complications measured with the Comprehensive Complication Index (CCI).

Statistical Analysis: Mann-Whitney U test for LOS and CCI

Results and Discussion: We included 43 patients in the Historical Group and 52 in the Prehabilitation Group. No differences found between groups in demographic or intraoperative data.

The median (range) LOS in the historical group was 13 (6-44) days while in the prehabilitation group was 8 (4-28) days (p<0.05).

The prehabilitation group also had a lower median CCI 8.7 (0-74.3) compared to the historical group 20.9 (0-44.9) p<0.05.

Conclusion(s): Multimodal prehabilitation may add value to the surgical process without incrementing global costs to the health system. A significant saving in health care costs was achieved by reducing complications and shorter hospital stay. MP seems to be a safe, efficient and cost-effective intervention that should be a gold standard for preoperative optimisation of high-risk patients scheduled for major (oncological) surgeries. Further RCTs on these populations are needed to confirm our hypothesis.
Detection and treatment of perioperative iron deficiency anaemia in patients presenting for elective colorectal cancer resection: where are we now?

C. Clark¹, S. Chien², M. Stephens¹
¹University Hospital Wishaw, Department of Anaesthesia, Wishaw, United Kingdom, ²Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Department of General Surgery, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Increasing elective surgery following the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated improvement of efficiency and consistency of perioperative medicine. Recommendations and standards for management of iron deficiency anaemia, along with the morbidity and mortality associated with both this and autologous blood transfusion led us to target this as a key area for improvement.¹²³ Data from which future work can be benchmarked has been made. All patients had a full blood count checked, improving compliance with ferritin requesting and prompt treatment of anaemia had treatment. Our next cycle of improvement will focus on future work assessing impact of improvements made. Non-invasive screening can provide early anaemia detection, while reducing costs, harm and stresses associated with unnecessary invasive laboratory studies.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective analysis of 50 consecutive colorectal cancer resections from our colorectal malignancy database were selected and analysed. Electronic laboratory and primary care records were accessed for full blood count and ferritin results at the time of endoscopic diagnosis and time of surgery. We assessed whether oral iron had been prescribed.

Results and Discussion: 10 patients excluded as emergent resections prior to elective operative date. All patients had a full blood count at time of diagnosis. Ferritin was requested in 50% of cases. 12 patients were anaemic based on full blood count. A further 5 were iron deficient by ferritin level. A further 9 patients with ferritin 30-100μg/L may have benefitted from oral iron therapy. 9 patients had iron studies performed. 50% of anaemic patients were treated and no significant improvement in haemoglobin concentration seen. The mean time from diagnosis to operation was 68 days.

Conclusion: Improvements in the identification of anaemia have been made. All patients had a full blood count checked, improving on previous work. Ferritin may have picked up more iron deficient patients, but only 50% were assessed. Half of those identified as anaemic had treatment. Our next cycle of improvement will focus on compliance with ferritin requesting and prompt treatment of anaemia. Consideration to future work assessing impact of improvements in pre-operative anaemia on rates of perioperative complication.

References:

Non-invasive, patient-near anaemia screening in elective orthopaedic pre-operative assessment - is it accurate, safe and cost effective?

K. Sarsam¹, M. Gardner², M. Staber¹
¹Inverclyde Royal Hospital, Anaesthetic Department, Greenock, United Kingdom, ²Inverclyde Royal Hospital, Orthopaedic Department, Greenock, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Anaemia is associated with poor orthopaedic outcomes, increased transfusion rates and delayed discharge. Venepuncture is shown to cause pain and stress responses, so we assessed a non-invasive co-oximeter as a screening tool for anaemia in the pre-operative assessment setting, while also considering the financial implications of avoiding unnecessary invasive laboratory studies.

Materials and Methods: Prospective data was collected from 50 patients (28 females, 22 males, median age 63 years) at lower limb arthroplasty pre-assessment clinic. Non-invasive total haemoglobin (SpHb) was measured using the Masimo Radical-67 co-oximeter, alongside full blood count (FBC) venepuncture. SpHb results were compared with the FBC haemoglobin (FBCHb) results using the World Health Organisation definition for anaemia: male &lt;130g/l and female &lt;120g/l.

Results and Discussion: Forty-four (88%) patients had a normal haemoglobin on both FBC and SpHb testing. The mean variation between the two tests was + - 9.7g/L (SD 7.2). Three of the four FBC anaemic patients were missed by the non-invasive device. One patient had a large gap between the FBC Hb of 120 and SpHb of 153, which we cannot explain. Two patients were anaemic using non-invasive measurement, however FBC confirmed normal haemoglobin levels. Our data show that with an r-value of 0.6, the SpHb may result in false negative findings in females with an SpHb < 130 and males with an SpHb < 140.

Conclusion(s): Our findings suggest that the co-oximeter can be used as a screening tool for anaemia, but we advise caution in females with an SpHb &lt;130g/l and males &lt;140g/l. While lab studies have a degree of error, they are the gold standard and indicated in these patients. FBC and UE tests are part of our anaemia screen, the latter is required for retrospective haematinics. The cost for these is £18.82 alongside clinic time, transport, and interpretation while patients often experience pain and stress during blood tests. The device and patient sensor (allowing 1000 readings) cost £910 and £1845, respectively. If 146 of the 1000 scans can be shown to have a satisfactory SpHb, then the device pays for itself. Our data suggest that around half our patients would have avoided venepuncture. In summary, non-invasive screening can provide early anaemia detection, while reducing costs, harm and stresses associated with unnecessary invasive venepuncture.
13AP07-09
Quality improvement project: management of anaemia in Musgrave Park Hospital Pre-Operative Assessment Clinic for patients undergoing orthopaedic surgery

V. Morrison¹, C. Poots², C. Barker³
¹Antrim Area Hospital, Anaesthetics, Antrim, United Kingdom, ²Royal Victoria Hospital, Anaesthetics, Belfast, United Kingdom, ³Belfast City Hospital, Anaesthetics, Belfast, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Peri-operative anaemia and allo-genic blood transfusion are independent risk factors for poor post-operative outcomes. Risks associated with peri-operative anaemia include increased length of hospital stay, post-operative complications such as poor wound healing, and increased mortality. Risks associated with blood transfusion include effects on immunity, exposure to multiple donors and transfusion reactions. (1) It was noted that there was variation in practice in the management of anaemia when identified at Musgrave Park Hospital Pre-Operative Assessment Clinic. This resulted in patients presenting for orthopaedic surgery with un-investigated, un-optimised anaemia. Patients were then undergoing potentially avoidable blood transfusion with consequent risk of related complications.

The primary aim of our project was to improve pre- and post-operative Haemoglobin and our secondary aim was to reduce the incidence of peri-operative blood transfusion.

Materials and Methods: We introduced a pre-operative pathway in our intervention group which was based on the 2017 AAGBI Consensus Guideline for managing peri-operative anaemia. We rapidly identified anaemic patients using a Point-of-care Haemoglobin device (Haemocue) to ensure early investigation and treatment of anaemia. Our comparison group of patients were managed pre-operatively in the usual manner.

Results and Discussion: We found that accuracy of the Haemocue was acceptable and it under-read compared to lab values, so 100% of anaemic patients in the intervention group had a same-day Haematinics screen sent. The pathway improved appropriate investigation of anaemic patients with Haematinics by 64%. It improved appropriate pre-operative treatment of anaemia based on Haematinics by 16%. It reduced the incidence of patients presenting with anaemia for primary or secondary arthroplasty by 6%. It reduced the incidence of patients becoming anaemic in the immediate post-operative period by 8%. It also reduced the incidence of peri-operative blood transfusion by 3%.

Conclusion(s): Pre-operative anaemia is common, and a strong predictor for peri-operative blood transfusion. Early diagnosis and treatment of anaemia improves post-operative outcomes and patient safety in the peri-operative period. (1)

Reference:

13AP07-10
Association of preoperative factors and 30-day postoperative complications in adult patients undergoing elective colorectal surgery

B. Escontrela¹, C. Acosta Sanchez², A. Bueno Balboa³, A. Ruiz Escobar¹, D. Fernández García¹, A. Abad Gurumeta¹
1Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain, 2Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Medical School, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Preoperative diseases are frequent in patients with colorectal cancer. Besides, comorbidity has been associated with worse long-term outcomes in patients undergoing surgery for cancer. The aim of our study was to analyse the effect of preoperative factors on postoperative complications in adult patients undergoing elective colorectal surgery.

Materials and Methods: Single centre retrospective cohort study including patients undergoing colorectal cancer surgery between 2009 and 2017. Primary outcome was to analyse the effect of preoperative factors (preoperative diseases, sex, age > 70 years, and ASA clinical status) on included 30-day postoperative complications. Secondary outcome were the influence of type of colorectal surgery in postoperative outcomes. Postoperative complications were calculated with Chi-Square and Fisher exact test, Odds ratio and logistic regression.

Results and Discussion: 747 patients with a mean age of 70 (± 12.6) were included, of whom 368 (49.8%) were anaemic. Age > 70 years (196 (54.60%) vs 243 (62.79%) p<0.05) and male (207 (57.50%) vs 263 (67.96%) p<0.01 ), odds ratio = 1.89 ((Wald IC95%: (1.047, 3.408)) and preoperative obstructive pulmonary disease odds ratio =5.39 (Wald IC95%: (1.271, 22.852)) were associated with more postoperative complications p<0.05. However, there were no differences in 30-day postoperative complications between anaemic and non-anaemic patients (52.7% vs 51.5%, p = 0.74). Moreover, ASA clinical status and type of colorectal surgery was not associated with complications after surgery, p>0.05.

Conclusion(s): Age >70 years, males and preoperative obstructive pulmonary disease were associated with more 30-day postoperative complications. Preoperative anaemia, ASA clinical status and type of colorectal surgery were not associated with 30-day postoperative complications.

13AP07-11
The impact of treatment of anaemia with intravenous iron on haematological values and recovery for patients after colorectal cancer surgery. A prospective, randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled study

J. Gudaityte¹,², R. Valiuviene¹,², S.D. Baltrusaityte¹,², A. Macasi¹,²
1Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Department of Anaesthesiology, Kaunas, Lithuania, 2Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Clinics, Department of Anaesthesiology, Kaunas, Lithuania

Background and Goal of Study: Anaemia is common among patients with colorectal cancer (CC). Iron supplements, erythropoiesis stimulating medication and allogeneic blood transfusion are used for treatment.
However, a significant ratio of patients does not receive adequate treatment preoperatively. The goal of the study is to evaluate the effect of postoperative intravenous (iv) iron supplementation on haematological values, serum ferritin levels and clinical recovery in patients with ferrodeficitic anaemia who underwent CC surgical treatment.

**Materials and Methods:** The study was registered in the clinicaltrials.gov (NCT02999217). It included ASA I-III patients, aged 18-75 years with preoperative anaemia (haemoglobin (Hb) <130 g/l and ferritin (Fer)<100 mkg/l) and CC who had elective surgery. Patients were randomly assigned into two groups to receive postoperatively: iv iron (IV) – 1000 mg of iron isomaltoside solution (Monofer, Pharmacosmos, Orivas) or control (CTRL) – corresponding amount of saline. Data describing demographics, anaemia status before treatment, changes in Hb, hematocrit (Ht), mean corpuscular volume (MCV), mean Hb concentration (MCH) and Fer over time, complications and length of hospital stay were collected. Mann–Whitney U, χ² and Student–t tests were used for statistical analysis, p<0.05 was considered statistically significant. Results are presented as mean (standard deviation).

**Results and Discussion:** The study included 34 patients. IV and CTRL groups were comparable with respect to sex, age and ASA class, as well as anaemia level and type. Fer concentrations, mkg/l in IV group versus CTRL were as follows: 438.5 (231.92) vs 145.36 (118.98) μg/l 3 days after surgery, 534.31 (214.98) vs 140.08 (115.00) at discharge from hospital and 499.27 (138.28) vs 88.07 (51.54) 4 weeks after discharge, p<0.001 at all points. Hb level, g/l was higher in IV group 4 weeks after treatment: 126.70 (13.02) vs 116.45 (10.96), p=0.039. Groups were comparable in terms of Ht, MCV, MCH and complications (p=0.101). Length of hospital stay was 8.00 (1.73) vs 9.36 (2.34) days, IV group vs CTRL, respectively, p=0.035.

**Conclusion(s):** Postoperative i/v iron supplementation of colorectal cancer patients with preoperative ferrodeficitic anaemia results in statistically significantly higher levels of serum ferritin and Hb. The positive effect lasts for 4 weeks and leads to 1.4-day shorter hospital stay.

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14AP01-01
Impacts of fatigue on trainees' clinical performance and clinical errors

I. Abramovich1, I. Grigoras2, N. Redfern3
1Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (CVK / CCM), Berlin, Germany, 2'Grigore T. Popa' University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Iasi, Romania, 3Newcastle upon Tyne NHS Foundation Trust, Department of Anaesthesia, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Fatigue is known to impact on clinical performance. As we get more tired, vigilance becomes more variable, performing complex tasks and making decisions is more difficult, and arithmetic ability, attention and memory are all affected. (Kayser et al., 2022). The way we interact with colleagues and manage our emotions changes and we are less able to assess risk.

Materials and Methods: An online survey about the impacts of fatigue on trainees in anaesthesiology and intensive care in Europe was distributed through the delegates of the European Board of Anaesthesiology, National Anaesthesiologists Societies Committee and through the ESAIC trainee network over a seven-month period. As well as questions on demographics, working schedules and the impacts of fatigue on their wellbeing, reported elsewhere, the trainees were asked whether they had made or had nearly made a clinical error because of fatigue. and asked to anonymously share details. The free text answers to the question ‘Have you ever made a clinical error or had a near miss because of fatigue?’ were thoroughly read several times by two separate reviewers to immerse themselves in the data. Each identified themes which were then discussed, and a coding frame agreed. Four main themes emerged.

Results and Discussion: Of 1200 respondents, 72 (6%) provided free text examples of errors or near misses. These included clinical decision-making errors, poor quality communication, difficulties with procedures, drug errors and prescribing errors. Examples included: ‘Pneumothorax during central line insertion after sleepless night’ and ‘Gave a bolus of norepinephrine instead of insulin’.

Conclusion(s): Clinical errors and near misses are a common occurrence amongst trainees working night shifts. If the events described in this survey are typical of the experience of European trainees, tiredness may be having significant detrimental effects on patient care. Other safety-critical industries are required to manage fatigue-related risk, by ensuring that employees have regular breaks and encouraging power naps at night. Patients safety may be improved if Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care adopt a similar approach.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: The WWW Standing Committee of the EBA

14AP01-02
Pre-anesthetic assessment documentation practice: safety concern

F. Khaleel1
1Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Anaesthesia, Drogheda, Ireland

Background and Goal of Study: Pre anesthetic evaluation is the cornerstone of peri op management of patient which would minimize morbidity & mortality. Documentation can improve overall patient outcome. It also has an irreplaceable role in medico-legal aspects. Documentation is one of the challenges of providing quality care service.

Materials and Methods: 50 pre operative assessment sheets. Observational retrospective study, collected from recovery and wards post operatively, using an empty sheet as template and that it should be (100% completed).

Results and Discussion: (100%) done the patient sticker (demographic), past procedure, medication, systemic review and ASA grade were filled in all forms. proposed operation (94%), dentition (92%), Patient or guardian were consented in (88%). On the other hand, the lower percentages were in: (20%) BMI, Investigations and risks of damage to teeth, Fasting & cross matching were mentioned in less than 50% of responses. Only (50%) wrote plan & comments.

Conclusion(s): A written summary of the pre-anesthetic assessment, orders or arrangements should be explicitly and legibly documented in the patient’s anesthetic record. Staff awareness of the short areas. Another cycle could be repeated in a couple of months (Reaudit).

Furthermore, posting posters or stickers to notify doctors of the importance of being fully compliant.

Lastly, Constructing electronic sheet as a replacement could be the ultimate solution.

Reference: Local Guidelines

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Dr Vikash, Audit department OLOL Hospital and my friend Dr. Monzer Okasha

14AP01-03
Management of antihypertensive treatment in the pre-anesthetic visit, medical orders and accomplishment

T.V. Díaz Gómez1, S. Aguado Sánchez1, L. Aguilera Cuchillo1
1Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The prevalence of hypertension is estimated at 55% in the general population. 88% of known hypertensive patients take pharmacological treatment and the most frequently used drugs are ACE2/RAA inhibitors, diuretics and calcium antagonists. The goal of this evaluation was to know the current state of the pre-operative management of the different antihypertensive drugs in patients undergoing elective non-cardiac surgery in our center.

Materials and Methods: We did an analysis of all hypertensive patients undergoing scheduled surgery between October to December 2021, filling a preoperative questionary asking:
1. Whether or not they had received instructions on the management of antihypertensives in the pre-anesthetic visit, and;
2. If they had complied with the instructions, if they had received them.

Results and Discussion: We analyzed 101 patients aged 69±2 years (mean ± SD), 52% women, 47% ASA 3 and the rest ASA 2. 44% received combinations of the drugs studied, 52% received any of them in monotherapy, with ACE inhibitors being the most frequent group. 26% of patients reported having received a verbal explanation and a written order in the consultation. 52% of patients only received a verbal explanation and 10% only received a written order.

In 12% of patients no indication was given. 96% of the surveyed patients who received medical indications fulfilled them correctly. Conclusion(s): 10% of the patients received medical orders only written and in most cases only a verbal indication was given. There is a high percentage of accomplishment of the pre-anesthetic medical orders by the patients.

References:

14AP01-04
Does repetitive simulation-based training enhance non-technical skills of medical undergraduates?

P. Moll-Khosrawi1, J. Kuellmein1, L. Schulte-Uentrop1
1University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Anaesthesiology, Hamburg, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Non-technical skills are inevitable to maintain best patient care and to enhance patient safety. The need for early integration and implementation of NTS already during undergraduate medical education, has been emphasized. There is a gap of knowledge on how to convey effectively and hereby enhance NTS in under- or postgraduate medical training. Therefore, we investigated if repetitive simulation-based training enhanced NTS of medical undergraduates.

Materials and Methods: N = 937 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year undergraduates were enrolled, who participated in mandatory emergency simulation trainings of the medical faculty Hamburg. Each training has a pre-set of training specific and standardized simulation scenarios. NTS of the students were assessed with the Anaesthesiology Students NTS (AS-NTS) taxonomy.

The differences of performance of the different cohorts of students were calculated with an analysis of variance (ANOVA) and with a follow-up post hoc test (Bonferroni correction) the significant differences were analyzed.

Results and Discussion: NTS of the undergraduates improved with every ascending year of medical school. NTS of 4th year undergraduates differed significantly compared to 1st year undergraduates. NTS, F(4, 937) = 5.612, p < .001. As the trainings are specially designed to assess progress of NTS (with each proceeding training, the simulation scenarios require higher levels of TS and NTS), conceptualized comparison of the trainings and thus comparison of skills levels of different year medical undergraduates is possible. Although it has been emphasized that NTS do not enhance with clinical experience, we could demonstrate that undergraduates benefit from repetitive simulation trainings. Nonetheless, the effects of this NTS progress occurred only after three trainings.

Conclusion(s): NTS are essential skills to complement technical skills and hereby ensure patient safety. The early longitudinal integration of NTS trainings in undergraduate medical curricula (learning spiral) is an effective approach to enhance NTS of future doctors.

Reference:
Our audit established that the piped supply of N₂O was grossly under-utilized, was resulting in leakage of hazardous waste, and was financially inefficient. It also highlighted the cost, difficulties, and challenges of the maintenance task. We estimated an annual saving of around $40,000 to be achieved by supplying this N₂O consumption (0.07 million liters) through 76 E-type cylinders attached directly to the anaesthesia machines; this excluded the savings on the MGPS maintenance costs. An administrative decision was taken to discontinue N₂O supply through MGPS, and switch to portable E type cylinders in the operating rooms according to the clinically needs.

Conclusion(s): Our audit proved to be an inexpensive tool, an alternative to the highly expensive engineering machinery, to determine the extent of the wastage of N₂O supplied through MGPS, and resulted in introducing a significant change of practice with enhanced efficiency and safety.

14AP01-08
Move to improve: avoiding medicacion errors (ME) in a new surgical area
M. Lema Tomé1, D. Ginel Feito1, M.T. Portas Gonzalez1, A. De Miguel Guijarro1, P. Zalvide Pombo1, P. Cabrerizo Torrente1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: ME are a leading cause of morbimortality and avoidable harm in peripreoperative care. ME can occur at different stages of the medication use process and different contributory factors may be involved. The operating room (OR) is a sensitive environment where different factors can make it more vulnerable:

1. The same anesthesiologist prescribes, prepares, registers and administers the medication, without any other professional or technology verifying its suitability.
3. Instant decision-making, critical situations and a large volume of activity with a high number of care transitions.
4. Adverse environment: poor lighting, stress, noise, difficult access to the patient.

Materials and Methods: During 2022 we have faced the opening of a new Surgical Center. The Anaesthesia Patient Safety Task force decided to create a multidisciplinary team including anaesthesiologist, farmaceuticals and IT to go over the ME strategies, to detect the possible weak points, updated the preventable strategies and to elaborate new measures to prevent ME to occur taking advantage of new technologies available.

Results and Discussion:
The measures that have been introduced are:
- Prescription: development of a one-step computer prescription and administration program.
- Dispensing: incorporation of pixis machine, design of anesthesia trays with medication for general anesthesia and specific for ambulatory surgery.
- Storage: restructuring of anesthesia carts, change of presentation of look a like drugs.
- Preparation: presentations with a clamping system, increase the number of pharmacy-prepared infusions and pre-filled syringes.
- Management: double check with barcode reading before administration.

We found the following barriers to implementation: work overload, individual attitudes and lack of safety culture. The time and the way to implement the recommendations coinciding with the opening of the new surgical center was especially relevant. Training programs were carried out for professionals and dissemination of the strategic measures adopted via email 4 months in advance.

Conclusion: The goal was to change attitudes and work habits to improve not only patient safety but anaesthesiologist safety too. Individual efforts to decrease ME alone are not successful: changes in existing protocols and systems are necessary, as well as a safety culture and institutional support.

14AP01-09
Central venous catheterization protocol with ultrasound for non-experts
J.J. Tortajada-Soler1, P. Cuesta-Montero1, J. Navarro-Martínez2, I. Melina-Yedro2, M. Serna-Gandía2, L.M. Charco-Roca1
1Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Albacete, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Albacete, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario Dr. Balmis, Clinical Simulation Laboratory (SimIA) and Institute for Health and Biomedical Research (ISABIAL), Alicante, Spain, 3Hospital Marina Salud, Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Denia, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Central venous access is an essential element in all patients who require special intravenous treatments. Insertion, care and resolution of complications require previous and continuous training over time. Point-of-care ultrasound permits rapid patient evaluation, improved success rate and early detection of complications. Clinical simulation provides training in a safe environment, promoting possibility of repetition-guided learning and accelerating the translation of learning to practice.

This systematic review aimed to provide knowledge for correct indication and safe procedure in central venous catheterization.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a literature search to review scientific evidence available in PubMed and Cochrane Library, using English and Spanish languages and 2015 - 2022 dates. The protocol is complemented by teaching experience of ECOCRITIC and SIMIA.

Results and Discussion: Learning and improving central venous access can be summarised in:
- Patient history: justification, allergies, personal background.
- Insertion site (ultrasound anatomical check, exclude anatomical variants - thrombosis) and type of catheter.
- Patient positioning and ultrasound preparation.
- Asepsis measures.
- Identify anatomy and location of the vein (longitudinal and transverse section of artery and vein, colour-pulsed Doppler).
- Real-time ultrasound-guided technique.
- Confirm needle-guide wire-catheter position inside the vein.
- Rule out complications: catheter malposition (no contralateral jugular turbulence sign, right atrial turbulence sign) (image) and iatrogenic pneumothorax (sliding B-mode and seashore M-mode) (1).

Conclusions: Training programmes aim to develop medical professionals able to provide a high level of care and safety. Standardisation and teaching of central venous insertion improves effectiveness and safety in the process. It is necessary to create successful educational programmes and to get long-lasting educational results.
References:

14AP01-10
Knowledge and attitudes of healthcare professionals towards the use of Look Alike Sound Alike medication

D. Costa Marques1, J. Moreno2, I.A. Santos1, I.B.d.M. Beirão3
1Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Anestesiologia, Porto, Portugal, 2Unidade de Saúde Pública do Agrupamento de Centros de Saúde do Grande Porto VII - Gaia, Saúde Pública, Porto, Portugal, 3Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Nefrologia, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: The need to avoid errors associated with medication is a growing concern, since they are major causes of avoidable harm. Preventing Look Alike Sound Alike (LASA) medication errors is an important part of that. This study aims to assess the evolution of healthcare professionals (HCP) knowledge about LASA medication, its influencing factors and the adoption of preventive attitudes.

Materials and Methods: A cross-section study held in two different times in a tertiary hospital in Portugal, between 2015 (T0) and 2019 (T1), used a self- administered questionnaire to HCP such as nurses, physicians, pharmacy technicians and pharmacists, to determine their knowledge regarding LASA medication and their adoption of preventive attitudes. The same questionnaire was applied in T0 and T1. Taking into account the results obtained in T0, improvement measures were implemented to increase HCP knowledge and to increase safety in medication handling (institutional education, discussion of clinical scenarios, display of posters containing LASA information, improvement of electronic prescription).

Results and Discussion: Of 890 participants, 448 were obtained in T0 and 442 in T1. The median age was 37 years, with a median of 12 years of experience and a predominant sex was female (72.8%). From the total of HCP, 62.9% knew about LASA medication, with an increase in this knowledge (p <0.001) in T1.

Factors associated with this increase included recognition of Tall Man Lettering (OR 4.74, 95% CI 3.12-7.19), learning through hierarchical superior (OR 4.70, 95% CI 2.17-10.15), by institutional (OR 2.50, 95% CI 1.40-4.46) or by academic education (OR 22.87, 95% CI 5.17-101.13).

Factors with a positive impact on safe practices included, being in T1 group (OR 36.56, 95% CI 16.49-81.94), being a nurse (OR 6.51, 95% CI 3.14-13.52), working in a surgical department (OR 2.73, 95% CI 1.51-4.93), having knowledge of LASA (OR 8.19, 95% CI 4.80-13.97) and having at least one prescription error (OR 2.08, 95% CI 1.07-4.06).

Conclusion(s): Continuous training and improving HCP knowledge, specifically on how to adopt preventive attitudes can have a positive impact on patient safety. These illustrate the impact that continuous training has in the acquisition of knowledge and changes in behavior.

14AP01-12
The effect of implementation institutional protocol for massive bleeding on patient safety

A. Babić1, T. Tomić Mahecic2, M. Raos3, B. Durović3, L. Divjak1, M. Hizak4
1UHC Zagreb, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, 2UHC Zagreb, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, 3UHC Zagreb, Department of Transfusion Medicine and Transplantation Biology, Zagreb, Croatia, 4Applied Health Studies, Applied Health Studies, Zagreb, Croatia

Background and Goal of Study: Massive transfusion protocol (MTP) was an initiative of the PBM program in Croatia. To improve patient safety we try to implement national MTP as a protocol of UHC Zagreb institution. As MB accounts for a significant proportion of the annual global mortality and after it is recognized as a serious health problem, we improved our educational efforts and we tried to standardize our treatment of massively bleeding patients. After intense educational efforts, we tested the algorithm, and we analyzed the data for MB patients during 1.1.2021. till 31.12.2021.

Materials and Methods: During 2021, to ensure the successful implementation of MBP despite the heterogeneity of massive bleeding, we used a user-friendly pocket-sized protocol, with two sides. On the one side, there were algorithm for massive bleeding without a point of care coagulation (POC) device, and on the other side, there was an interventional algorithm for MB with a POC device. We did a single-center retrospective analysis about the influence of MTP implementation on early mortality (24 h) and mid-term mortality (30 days) in surgical and intensive care massive bleeding patients. We found 46 massive bleeding cases from whom 9 (18.5%) died in the first 30 days, and no single patient died in the first 24 h.
Results and Discussion: MB has been related to higher morbidity and mortality, reaching even more than 50% in some studies, depending on the type of bleeding and its treatment. Low overall mortality and no patients with mortality in the first 24 h means we are aggressive with resuscitation and the algorithm is useful. With quick and safe treatment mainly led by anaesthesiologists on duty in ED, we achieved a significant reduction in mortality following MTP implementation, especially using a point-of-care monitoring device. It should be recommended to all institutions managing injured and bleeding patients.

Conclusion(s): Patient safety is a healthcare discipline that is crucial for providing quality healthcare and reduction in patient morbidity and mortality. We still do not know the perfect dosing, rates, and timing of hemostatic therapy, blood, and blood products, but for sure early resuscitation with coagulation factors, tranexamic acid, and avoiding dilution of patients using POC device strongly influence patient safety, lowering morbidity and mortality.

14AP01-13
The four temptations of the multidose vial to err is human: to sin too
A. Garrido Sanchez¹, M. Lema Tomé¹, I. Hidalgo García¹, E. SanJuan Lopez¹, I. De Gregorio¹, A. Romera Rabasa¹
¹Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background: Medication-related adverse events (MRE) are a common cause of patient morbidity and mortality. We have analyzed all the multidose-vial (MV) related critical incidents (CI) reported in a 10-year period in the Spanish System of Safety Notifications in Anesthesiology and Resuscitation (SENSAR). The aim of this study is to reflect on the reasons why clinicians continue to use these containers, despite their known potential danger to the patient.

Material and Methods: In 2021, all MRE reported to SENSAR database from 2008 to 2017 were analyzed. Among them, we identified those specifically related to the use of MV.

Results and Discussion: In the period analyzed, 7,072 CI were reported, out of which 1,970 corresponded to MRE. Data classification does not include a "MV category"; in turn, no statistical figure has been obtained. However, detailed analysis of each MRE revealed four main reasons for its dangerous popularity:

1. Avoiding waste: drugs packaged in higher doses than needed for a single patient (insulin or droperidol).
2. Dividing doses: expensive or prescription-controlled drugs (botulinum toxin, opioids or sugammadex).
3. Amplifying the accessibility: drugs with low availability (COVID19 or monkeypox vaccines).
4. Optimizing the turnaround time to attend a higher number of patients (remifentanil or iodinated contrasts).

While the potential for time and cost savings is evident, the use of MV is risky, with an ever-present danger of contamination from infection, iatrogenic cross-contamination or dosing error. Guidelines have stated that the safest practice is not to use MV. These contributing factors and measures to be implemented can be highlighted:


Task: single vial per patient. Standardize.
Human team: awareness and communication. Training.
Organization: care pressure. Safety culture promotion.

In conclusion, understanding the operational behaviors of professionals, designing legislation and creating a true alliance where the interests of healthcare organizations, industry and patients can co-exist, is imperative to stop MRE.

Learning points:
- MRE are frequent.
- There are four main reasons why clinicians continue to use MV, despite their known potential danger.
- Understanding the operational behaviors of healthcare professionals is the cornerstone to stop MV related CI.

14AP02-01
Morphine lethal overdose due to electromagnetic interference on intrathecal infusion pump
E. Valencia¹, I. Núñez Peña¹, Y. Mouvet¹, R. Navarro Pérez¹, J.A. Palacios¹, L. Santé¹
¹Clinico San Carlos Hospital, Anesthesiology, Critical Care and Pain Therapy, Madrid, Spain

Background: Electromagnetic interference can cause malfunctioning of certain Intrathecal infusion pumps used for chronic pain treatment. We present a case in which the recommendations given were not followed and ended in tragedy.

Case report: A 79-year-old woman, treated of chronic low back pain with an intrathecal infusion pump (Prometa®) and intra-abdominal reservoir, undergoes magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at a Radiodiagnosis Centre. During this procedure she goes into cardiorespiratory arrest.

After resuscitation by the Extra Hospital Emergency Service, she was transferred to our ICU. Upon admission: Glasgow Scale 3 points, areflexic isochoric pupils and hemodynamic lability, gasometry: respiratory acidosis and high lactic acid. A TTE and cranial CT were performed, without findings.

We suspected an inadvertent intrathecal massive release of hydromorphone. The pump was checked, and it was noted that the medication potentially released could be a total of 20 mL of morphic chloride (2mg) and Bupivacaine 2% (400mg). The reservoir is emptied, extracting only 3 mL; therefore, we started treatment with a bolus and continuous infusion of Naloxone.

A few hours later, the patient began with VT, and subsequent asystole. Advanced CPR is started without success, resulting in the patient’s death. Toxicological autopsy studies showed positive CSF morphine values, and also 3.6 mg/mL in blood (therapeutic range: 0.01-0.1 mg/mL, lethal range of 0.1-0.4 mg/mL).

Discussion: Intrathecal administration is a good treatment option, which allows low and long-lasting doses. Intrathecal morphine toxic doses can cause acute respiratory depression with risk of cardiorespiratory arrest. In 2016, the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices, published an informative document with the conditions for performing an MRI procedure in patients with the implanted Prometa® device, motivated by the notification of several overdose incidents. These devices, subjected to a strong magnetic field, could open the dosage valves allowing the free flow of the drug. For this reason, the manufacturer updated the product information and developed reference guidelines for performing a safe MRI procedure.
In Conclusion: physicians should:
1. Remove the drug from the pump before taking the patient to an MRI procedure.
2. Follow Guidelines and manufactures labelled instructions.
3. Know and consider the safety information notes from regulatory authorities.
4. Inform patients and/or caregivers.

14AP02-02
Air embolism associated with central venous access placement: a preventable complication

C. Madruga1, P. Victor2
1Hospital Prof. Doutor Fernando Fonseca, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Amadora, Portugal, 2Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Venous air embolism is a rare but potentially lethal complication, caused by the entry of air into the bloodstream. This situation occurs when there is a communication between the atmospheric air and the circulatory system, and a favourable blood-stream pressure gradient. There are several clinical and surgical procedures implicated in the pathophysiology of air embolism, the insertion and remotion of central venous catheters being one of them. Most of the times this diagnosis requires a high index of suspicion, making its overall incidence difficult to predict.

Case report: A 60-years-old female was admitted in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) following the decompression and fixation of the thoracic spine, for a T4-5 spondylodiscitis. The patient was awake, breathing spontaneously, with no signs of dyspnea. A central line was placed in the internal jugular vein for vasopressor support. The Seldinger technique was performed with the head elevated 20 degrees. Air exposure of the needle occurred during the substitution of the syringe with the guidewire, allowing for a direct connection with the atmospheric air.

Following the substitution, the patient developed shortness of breath with hypoxemia (minimum SpO2 of 66%) and tachycardia (maximum 140 beats per minute). The technique was readily interrupted, oxygen support started, and the position of head corrected. The patient recovered within 15 minutes and the central venous catheter placement technique was completed, with no further occurrences. The differential diagnosis included pneumothorax and pulmonary thromboembolism, which were both excluded by clinical and radiologic criteria. The patient was monitored in the PACU for an additional 18-hour period, maintaining vasopressor and oxygen support. She was discharged after 33 days of hospitalization, with no complications registered other than infectious.

Discussion: Air embolism is a rare and challenging entity, with a wide range of clinical presentations. A high index of suspicion is mandatory to promptly initiate supportive therapy.

Reference:

Learning Points: The anesthesiologist must be aware that there are some measures one can implement to prevent complications associated with the different techniques and improve patient safety.

14AP02-03
Inadvertent intraoperative anticoagulation – a reminder to be knowledgeable about every medical device

M.-L. Coutinho1, J. Li1, P. Marques1, J. Aires1, L. Silva1
1Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Coimbra, Portugal

Background: Adverse events frequently occur in any medical system, and may originate from different factors. These can be either preventable or unpreventable and are often associated with medication errors.

We report a case of an adverse event due to the intraoperative administration of the heparin lock from the dialysis catheter.

Case report: A 61-year-old man, ASA III - end-stage renal disease under hemodialysis (HD), was proposed to a deceased-donor kidney transplantation. HD was performed 4h before surgery. Post-dialysis results: Hb 11g/dL, Cr 5.79mg/dL. General anesthesia included invasive radial arterial pressure monitoring and CVP monitoring through the HD catheter.

During surgery, a severe bleeding occurred with a Hb decline to 7.2g/dL. As no surgical cause for the bleeding was identified, we performed a ROTEM test and consulted with a hemotherapy specialist.

A total of 4 units of RBCs was administered, followed by repeated blood gas analysis. ROTEM showed an increase in the coagulation time (CT) by the INTEM test with a normal CT by the HEPTEM test, suggesting the effect of heparin. It was confirmed with the dialysis service that no heparin was utilized for the HD therapy. All vials in the operating room were verified and no heparin was found.

However, the dialysis catheter, locked with heparin (estimated amount of 11000U), was used during the procedure with no previous aspiration. Protamine was then administered allowing a progressive resolution of the hemorrhage. Transfer to PACU ensued uneventfully with Hb 10.2g/dL. The incident was registered in the hospital’s health events reporting system.

Discussion: It is important being aware of all medical treatments as they may result in possible harmful events. Knowing medical devices used for clinical practice is crucial to securely prevent improper management. HD central catheter was used intraoperatively to minimize redundant invasive puncture which is not risk-free.

Thus, an alternative access site would be available for further employment. Perioperative period has a higher risk of health adverse events.

Early recognition and prompt correction of any adverse events is essential to minimize impact and prevent worse outcomes. Reporting all adverse events is key to collect incident data and provide an evidence base for the development of safety solutions.

Learning Points: Intraoperative adverse events are under-reported and may lead to increased postoperative mortality, morbidity, and length of stay.
14AP02-04
Airway management in oral surgery and mandatory nasal intubation in a patient with deformed nasal nostrils and difficult airway predictors

E. Benito Anguita1, B. Tapia Salinas1, C. Losada de La Rosa1, R. Uña Orejón1, J.L. Cebrían Carretero2
1Hospital General Universitario La Paz, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario La Paz, Cirugía Oral y Maxilofacial, Madrid, Spain

Background: The management of the difficult airway (DA) is a challenge for anaesthesiologists, overmore in head and neck surgery, in which predictors are often attached. Usually a nasotracheal tube is mandatory in order to offer an easier surgical field. Nevertheless when nasal anatomy is unexpectedly not appropriated, an alternative pathway must be planned, prior to airway safe1.

Case report: A 69 years old woman assessed as American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) grade III was scheduled segmentary mandibulectomy and non-pedicule reconstruction. Medical history included cervical dissection, neoadjuvant radiotherapy, Mallampati 3 and maximum mouth opening of less than 2 cm. Nasal tube was required by surgeons. There were prepared a videolaryngoscopy (VL) and flexible fibrobronchoscopy (FBO). Nasal nostrils were prepared with a vasoconstrictor drug (oxymetazoline).

When we firstly attempted intubation with a nasotracheal tube (size 6,5), there was non-enough space through nostrils. A second attempt with smaller nasal tube (size 6) was not successful either. Trying to avoid nasal bleeding and worsen ventilation (previously we had found a HAN 2 scale), we inserted an oral flexometallic tube (VL posterior commissure vision).

When airway was ensured, we introduced a nasal tube using FBO through nostril and reached carine, once deflated oral tube balloon. Aided with VL, we removed the orotracheal tube and inserted the nasal tube. During all the procedure the O2 saturation was over 97%. Discussion: When a DA is expected, a safe management must be mandatory. In this case, in which a nasal tube was essential to the surgical procedure, securing the airway with an oral tube allowed us to design strategies for an easier and lower-risk nasal tube placement. Nasal bleeding could have produced a worsen of vocal cord vision. Moreover the risk of non-ventilation /non-intubation situation was a possibility and would have needed an emergent tracheoscopy.

Reference:

Learning points: Having a clear pathway in airway management continues to be a challenge in some patients. Anaesthesiologist should be aware of the possibility of encountering unpredicted DA factors and must be prepared to manage these situations while guaranteeing patient security at all time.

14AP02-05
Unwanted curarization during induction of anesthesia due to siphon phenomena

F Teixeira1, A. Vasconcelos Pereira2, P. Amorim3
1Centro Hospitalar De Trás-Os-Montes E Alto Douro, E.P.E., Anesthesiology, Vila Real, Portugal, 2Hospital Vila Franca de Xira, Anesthesiology, Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal, 3Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, Anesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background: Drug infusion systems are extensively used in intraoperative care. Critical incidents may occur due to inappropriate setting of these systems.

Case report: A 60-yr male was scheduled for elective lumbar surgery. ASA standard monitoring was used plus invasive blood pressure (BP), processed electroencephalogram (EEG) and neuromuscular block (NMB).

A Fresenius Orchestra™ infusion station was used with 3 infusion pumps: 2 were programmed with remifentanil and propofol for TCI and a 3rd received a rocuronium syringe, that was not programmed and had its clamp open. The extenders were coupled to three individual 3-way taps, placed in the IV system (saline at 200mL per hour) and connected to the IV cannula with a 0.9mL extender.

A few seconds later, the patient developed agitation, blurred vision, difficulty keeping the eyes open, dyspnea, and muscle weakness. Left eyelid ptosis, slurred speech, reduced strength in 4 limbs, and reduced chest expansion were observed, but ventilatory drive was maintained. SpO2 dropped to 74% but cerebral oximetry, BP, heart rate, ECG, or EEG monitoring stayed normal. Curarization was suspected, oxygen was administered, the patient was reassured and remifentanil was started to allow painless NMB monitoring, revealing a TOF ratio of 64%. Within 10 minutes, there was a complete resolution without NMB reversal. The patient remained alert with a sustained and oriented verbal response and respiratory drive. After the procedure, he was calm and described the event with precision.

Discussion: A rocuronium leak was suspected, as the perfusion station was positioned 30cm above the IV access. This can be explained by siphon phenomena. A siphon is initiated due to the negative pressure generated at the lower end, in which the atmospheric pressure adds to the pressure of the fluid column, displacing the fluid until there is a pressure equilibrium. We did not find any similar case in the literature. By ruling out other causes, this case shows that safety precautions must be consistently applied. The fact that the 3-way tap was open, even with the infusions off, the clamp not closed and the use of anti-reflux instead of anti-siphon valves probably led to the unwanted curarization.

Reference:

Learning points: Understanding physics is relevant to Anesthesia practice. Strict compliance with technical recommendations is key for patient safety.
14AP02-06

Risks associated with imported neglected diseases: surgery dangers derived from immigration

N. Aracil Escoda¹, B. Escontrela Rodríguez¹, E.D. Martínez-Hurtado¹, E. Sáez-Ruiz¹, M. Tirado-Patiño¹, A. Abad-Gurumeta¹
¹Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background: It is tempting to assume that scientific advances imply that certain diseases belong to a different era, but immigration and its socio-economic implications brings old enemies to our operating rooms. Given that safety of anesthesia and surgery is partly based in risk analysis related to known individual and common diseases, unknown or neglected diseases may impact safety and quality of care of vulnerable patients. We present a case of tertiary hyperparathyroidism (3HPT) in an immigrant patient.

Case Report: We present a case of airway management of a 20-year-old North African male with 3HPT suffering from untreated end- Stage Renal Disease stage 5 A2 due to poor socioeconomic background. He was listed for total parathyroidectomy, thymectomy and autologous transplant due to parathyroid adenomas. Preoperatively, abnormal general bone density with secondary cystic fibroid osteitis, maxillary hyperplasia, retrognathia, limited mouth opening and stiff neck were noted.

A strategy plan for difficult airway management related to his medical history was devised:
- The approach of choice was induction of anesthesia and intubation with video laryngoscopy (King Vision®);
- The back-up approach was rescue with fibroscopy according to current guidelines.

After pre oxygenation and anesthesia induction, ventilation was uneventful (HAN II) and the first attempt to intubation with King Vision® video laryngoscopy was successful.

Discussion: Access to quality medical and surgical treatment is frequently a challenge in some third world countries. 3HPT is an uncommon endogenous cause of excessive secretion of parathormone in secondary hyperparathyroidism related to chronic kidney disease. If left untreated, extra skeletal calcifications and progressive loss of bone density with changes especially in facial bone structures leading to difficult airway ensue and give a classical clinical picture. Our patient presented difficult airway predicting requiring a thoughtful management plan to avoid serious incidents. For this reason, our first choice was videolaryngoscopy, given the improved visualisation and higher successful rate achieved operating this device compared with classic laryngoscopy.

Clinical Learning Points: Review of evidence and planning for different possible management scenarios when dealing with less common diseases is essential in order to guarantee safety of anesthesia and surgery.

Reference:
V. D. Palumbo et al Clin Ter 2021; 172 (3):241-246

14AP02-07

General versus local anaesthesia for carotid endarterectomy: a case report

A. Masoodi¹, A. Abramenko², D. Dziuba¹
¹Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital, Anesthesiology, ICU and ED, Kyiv, Ukraine, ²Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital, Vascular Surgery, Kyiv, Ukraine

Background: Atherosclerotic carotid artery disease, in the form of carotid intima-media thickening or luminal stenosis, accounts for 20% of ischemic stroke events. NASCET found that, for every six patients treated with carotid endarterectomy (CEA), one major stroke would be prevented at 2 years for symptomatic patients with a 70%–99% stenosis. The anesthetic plan should be made on an individual basis, taking into consideration patient’s comorbidities and wish.

Case Report: Patient N, 66 years old was admitted to hospital with complaints of dizziness, impaired memory and vision. Developed for arterial hypertension and ischemic stroke.

Diagnosis: Stenosis of the left internal carotid artery.

Treatment: carotid endarterectomy on the left. ASA-III. In order to control the perfusion pressure and consciousness, it was chosen to perform the surgical intervention under local anesthesia. Standard monitoring was established, ECG, invasive blood pressure (IBP), pulse (HR) SPO2. Preoperative parameters: HR -78 min, blood pressure 150/80 mm Hg and SPO 95-99%.

During surgical access to the vessel after heparinization and medical hypertension necessary to clamp the carotid artery, the patient developed hypertension of 70/20 mmHg, bradycardia, facial asymmetry, right-sided hemiplegia. After stabilization of hemodynamics, consultations of a neurologist, neurosurgeon.

CT angiography was performed to rule out a hemorrhagic stroke, which was excluded. It was decided to perform an urgent endarterectomy of the internal carotid artery. The patient was agitated, it was decided to continue the operation under general anesthesia. In the postoperative period, regression of neurological symptoms was observed, limb movements were restored, dysphasia remained. The patient was transferred to the ward. On the next day, the dysphasia symptoms regressed.

Discussion: Optimal planning with surgeon and the patient is of crucial importance. Local regional anesthesia should always be an option for the anesthetist for CEA.

References:

Learning Points: The anesthetic plan should be individualized according to concomitant pathology, expected intraoperative technical difficulties and patient’s wish after informed consent is obtained.
14AP02-08
Serious adverse event during laparoscopic surgery: what to know

A. Plaza Saura1, S. Ferrer Reverte1, C. Ródenas Herranz1, B. García Iniesta1, C.M. López López1, R. González Celdrán1

1Hospital General Universitario Reina Sofía, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Murcia, Spain

Background: Laparoscopy is a widely performed surgical technique nowadays due to its many advantages. It requires to distend the abdomen by establishing pneumoperitoneum and several gases have been used to achieve it. However, carbon dioxide is the most frequent one as it is colorless, non-flammable and highly soluble in blood. Any mistake made concerning pneumoperitoneum can lead to serious consequences to the patient.

Case report: A 64-year-old male with no medical record underwent elective laparoscopic cholecystectomy. After the start of surgery and once the trocars were inserted and the pneumoperitoneum was established, a flame was observed inside the patient’s abdomen, right where the tip of the electric scalpel touched the patient’s peritoneum and that flame increased after the scalpel’s removal through the trocar.

In light of this, all the laparoscopy equipment was changed and the surgery continued. However, this event happened again, so an abdominal suction system was introduced, which allowed the surgery to be completed without further incidents.

Before starting the second scheduled laparoscopic surgery, another cholecystectomy, the entire equipment was changed again. Nevertheless, the same scene happens again in the next patient, which makes it necessary to stop the surgery and carry out an exhaustive analysis.

At that time it was found that, although the oxygen and carbon dioxide wall outlets are different in terms of their internal structure, they have the same external shape. This led to the connection of the carbon dioxide to the oxygen outlet, leading to pneumoperitoneum induction with oxygen, a flammable gas, instead of carbon dioxide.

Fortunately, the event did not cause any harm to either of the two patients.

Discussion: Pneumoperitoneum induction is an important step during a laparoscopic surgery not only because of its cardiopulmonary repercussions, but also because any mistake related to gas insufflation can develop severe and potentially fatal consequences.

Reference:

Learning points: High percentage of the adverse events in the operating room are preventable. Anesthesiologists play a key role in maintaining a safe surgical environment, detecting and solving incidents at an early stage.

14AP02-09
Esophageal temperature probe: wrong place, wrong time. A case Report

A. Maciel1, A.C. Segundo1, A. Lares1, A. Eliseu1, A. Aguiar1

1Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Algarve, Anesthesiology Department, Faro, Portugal

Background: Adequate maintenance of body temperature during general anesthesia is necessary for safety and is essential to diagnose and treat temperature impairment in patients, as hypothermia or overheating. Generally, esophageal temperature probe is commonly used in practice for intubated patients because of its reliability and feasibility to monitor intraoperative temperature. Wrong placement of esophageal temperature probe conducts to complications.

Case report: In this case report, we describe our experience with a 46-year-old woman with a personal history of hypertension, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia and morbid obesity, undergoing to vertical gastrectomy (gastric sleeve) via laparoscopic under balanced general anesthesia in whom the esophageal temperature probe, that was unexpected misplaced into intragastric position, was accidentally cut. Reopening of the mechanic suture was needed, with posterior suture by hand. Methylene blue test was performed according to surgical protocol and without leak evidence.

Discussion: Generally, esophageal temperature probe can be inserted into the esophageal orifice blindly at optimal depth of probe tip of 24 cm below the corniculate cartilages (lower fourth of the esophagus) in adult patient under anesthesia. Correct placement of temperature probe is important to reflect accurate core temperature. The incident we had at our institution is of special interest because it happened a misplaced probe into intragastric position, during gastric surgery, despite good communication between the OR team. If not noticed at all, it could led to stuck probe in the suture line and further possible damage while trying to remove it. Late discovery of probe fragment postoperatively could end in re-operation.

References:

Learning points: Accurate insertion of esophageal temperature probe and careful assessment of correct temperature probe position is essential. It is important to notice how easy such complications can be missed or underestimated during surgery. To avoid such a possible complication, we should reassess placement, fix the tube or remove it before the section or suture.
14AP02-11
Life-threatening metamizole anaphylaxis should question its widespread use - a case report

T. Elvas Leitão¹, R. Tavares de Pina¹, A. Garcia Alves¹, J.D. de Albuquerque¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Serviço de Anestesiologia, Lisboa, Portugal

Background: Perioperative anaphylaxis is usually an unexpected life-threatening scenario, despite patients’ exposure to multiple drugs with hypersensitivity potential. Metamizole is an analgesic widely used in our practice, regardless of concerns of agranulocytosis and severe hypersensitivity reactions. We report an anaphylactic shock related to metamizole in which rapid detection and adequate response in the post-anaesthesia care unit (PACU) allowed for positive outcomes.

Case report: A 72-year-old patient without known drug allergies underwent an uneventful transurethral resection of bladder tumor under general anesthesia and was admitted to the PACU. At arrival he started a 2g metamizole infusion for pain complaints. Ten minutes later, he complained of intense feet pruritus. The medical team was alerted as the clinical picture evolved towards generalized pruritus, anasarca, agitation, shock, dyspnea, desaturation and bronchospasam. Anaphylactic shock was suspected and metamizole infusion was stopped. Treatment with IV adrenaline infusion, clemastine and hydrocortisone, oxygen, bronchodilators and crystalloids was administered with progressive improvement. Acute-phase value of tryptase (30.9μg/L) and subsequent downward kinetics (10.3μg/L; 12h) were observed and the patient was referred to an Allergologist.

Discussion: The incidence of perioperative anaphylaxis has been widely underrated and its unexpectedness contributes to high mortality rates (52%)¹. Metamizole is frequently (1:5000 parenteral administrations) associated with severe and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reactions, both immediate and delayed, which makes awareness of these numbers of utmost importance as a high suspicion degree is crucial for early detection and better outcomes.

The frequency and severity of these reactions should question the safety of broad metamizole use after surgery, especially in ambulatory settings.

Reference:

14AP03-01
Intensive care airway trolleys

L. Charig¹, M. Hosken¹
¹University Hospital Dorset, Anaesthetics, Poole, United Kingdom

Aim: After some time working in the intensive care unit, it became clear that the airway trolleys were not always fully stocked. This led to delays in finding equipment and potential patient harm when in an emergency situation. These trolleys are relatively new to the department, and their use has yet to be audited. Our aim was to gather data on how frequently these trolleys were fully stocked, and to implement a way to ensure the trolleys were being checked, re-stocked and tagged on a daily basis.

Methods: We initially constructed a questionnaire to gain qualitative data from medical staff working on the intensive care unit to gather information on whether they knew whose responsibility it was to check the airway trolleys, how long it would take them to restock the trolley using the current checklist, and if they recognised all the equipment on the checklist.

Feedback included that medical staff who were not airway trained would find it difficult to identify and locate the correct equipment from the list. All participants agreed that a new airway trolley checklist would be helpful.

Cycle 1: We replaced the existing checklist with an updated checklist including pictures of each piece of equipment, where to locate it in the department, and where to place it in the trolley in a plan A to plan D order.

Cycle 2: We implemented a new morning handover checklist for the ICU MDT. This includes a prompt to check the airway trolley and delegate a member of the medical team to do this. This is overseen by the ICU consultant.

Results: Prior to cycle one, we audited the three airway trolleys on three separate occasions, and found that only 44% of the time they were fully stocked.

After replacing the checklist, we repeated our audit of the trolleys to find that 55% of the time they were fully stocked.

Following use of the morning handover checklist, we found an improvement up to 77%. This is still not in keeping with DAS and AAGBI standards requiring trolleys to be checked daily, therefore we have plans to implement cycle three with an update to the patient handover list.

Conclusion: This was a multi-cycle patient safety improvement project. The changes made from this project will hopefully remain in place for the foreseeable future. Although an improvement has been seen, we have made suggestions for further development and have engaged the junior doctors and consultant body. This can be easily re-audited to see if the changes have remained in place.
14AP03-02

Developing and piloting a self-evaluation process strategy of patient safety practices in perioperative care: SAFEST project

A. Rodriguez1, C. Valli1, I. Martinez-Nicolas2, A.B. Nunes3, Y. Edmond4, A. Žaludek5, SAFEST Project

1Avedis Donabedian Research Institute (FAD) /Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Patient Safety, Barcelona, Spain, 2Sistema Español de Notificación en Seguridad en Anestesia y Reanimación (SENSAR), Centro de Simulación IDEhA. Hospital Universitario Alcorcón, Alcorcón, Spain, 3NOVA National School of Public Health, NOVA University Lisbon, Health Strategies, Lisbon, Portugal, 4Radboud Institute for Health Sciences, Radboud University Medical Center, Scientific Center for Quality of Healthcare (IQ Healthcare), Nijmegen, Netherlands, 5Charles University, Third Faculty of Medicine/Spojená Akreditacní Komise (SAK), Department of Public Health, Prague, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Surgery care has been reported to have one of the highest pooled prevalence of preventable patient harm (1). Adopting standards promoting evidence-based practices can significantly improve the safety outcomes of surgical care (2). In the context of the SAFEST project (www.safesturgery.org), this study aims to develop and pilot a self-evaluation process strategy for patient safety practices (PSP) in perioperative care.

Materials and Methods: This study describes the development and piloting of a self-evaluation process of PSP in the complete perioperative journey (i.e., preoperative, intraoperative and postoperative). We will follow a four-step approach:

1. Development of a set of measurable criteria for the PSP in perioperative care to be evaluated in 10 hospitals from 5 European countries;
2. Development of an online platform with a self-evaluation tool containing a scoring system to assess the degree of implementation of the PSP;
3. Development of the evaluation strategy, educational and training material;
4. Testing and refinement of the evaluation process strategy.

Results and Discussion: We will present a set of measurable criteria to evaluate patient safety in perioperative care with the scoring system. The developed online platform, education, and training material, along with a manual including the list of the PSP and related evidence, will be shown.

Results from the pilot test and refinement will be presented. Finally, we will share lessons learned from the process and potential barriers and facilitators for self-evaluation.

Conclusion(s): This study will ensure consistency in the assessment procedures of PSP in the SAFEST participating hospitals, allowing the adoption of this evaluation strategy by a broader range of hospitals.

References:

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14AP03-03

Patient safety and the role of the surgical checklist on patient safety in Fundació Hospital Esperit Sant, Barcelona. Is it just bureaucracy or do we understand the essence of the procedure?

A. Binagui-Buitureira1

1Fundació Hospital Esperit Sant, Anaesthesia, Santa Coloma de Gramanet, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: The Surgical Checklist was launched in 2008 by WHO. Research published in 2009 showed strong evidence of its positive effects on morbidity, mortality and infection prevention1. However, after more than a decade it hasn’t been widely adopted in our country. The purpose of our study was to explore the implementation of the Checklist in our practice, to evaluate engagement of subteams, and to propose strategies to overcome resistances and poor implementation2.

Materials and Methods: This was a pre-post observational study, after changing the Checklist administration paradigm. Checklist was redefined from a written record to a guided conversation using 3 posters hanging on the OR wall. Each of the surgical subteams (Anaesthesia, Surgery, Nursing) were responsible of one part in the Oral Checklist (OC). Corresponsability, teamwork and communication were encouraged. A quality indicator of teamwork was defined. Incidents were analyzed 8 months before, and after introduction of the OC.

Results: The OC showed an improvement in Teamwork from 5/10 to 9/10. From March 2021 to July 2022, 9 incidents were analyzed. Five were adverse events and appeared when no OC was applied, although a written checklist was registered. Four were preventable if the checklist had been effectively administered, and one was due to negligence. The remaining 4 incidents out of 9, were classified as hazards that didn’t result in harm thanks to early detection in the Oral Checklist.

Conclusion(s): Improvements in Teamwork and engagement, as well as compliance with administering the Checklist were observed after the Paperless OC introduction. No adverse events were detected when the OC was applied, showing a consistent trend to improved surgical safety results as suggested in previous studies1. Poor motivation and poor teamwork in organizations may help to forget the application of this safety tool. It has been suggested that success in applying the checklist requires a change in climate and culture of the organization. Engagement, collaboration and effective communication are vital. In complex environments such as the medical one, Checklists have shown to be essential to try to overcome the human factor. A change of perspective is needed in order to accept that such a simple and inexpensive tool can make a powerful and dramatic change in our practice. No excuse can be argued in 2023 to not apply an Oral Checklist.
14AP03-04
Prospective evaluation of an enhanced electromyographic (EMG) detection algorithm

F. Norrby1, J. Nordin1, A. Jacobson1, S.J. Brull2
1Senzime AB, Engineering, Uppsala, Sweden, 2Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Jacksonville, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Electromyographic (EMG) monitoring involves stimulation of a nerve, and detection, recording and analysis of peak (-) and trough (+) amplitudes of evoked responses. EMG analysis depends on optimal selection of these EMG points.

Materials and Methods: The TetraGraph (Senzime AB, Sweden) EMG monitor records and analyzes EMG responses using an algorithm. The ulnar nerve is stimulated via surface electrodes (TetraSens, Senzime), and evoked EMGs are recorded at three hand muscles. We evaluated the effect of a new algorithm on sensitivity and consistency of EMG detection. We extracted clinical case data from a de-identified repository (TetraConnect) and processed data with both old (12d) and new (12e) algorithm.

Our prior conditions were that the new 12e algorithm detected smaller signals without generating false positives or misidentifying neuromuscular responses at deep levels of block. The validity of detected signals was evaluated by ensuring that EMG signals (TOF ratio, TOF count, and twitch amplitude) followed clinically expected trends. The 12e algorithm was evaluated by comparing 50 randomly selected pairs of anonymized intraoperative EMG data (duration 2-5 h each) that included thousands of datapoints. Printouts contained pairs of TOF ratios, TOF counts, post-tetanic counts (PTC), and individual amplitudes of TOF components (T1, T2, T3, and T4). The data pairs were plotted with color codes to identify the two algorithms for subsequent analysis (Fig 1).

Results and Discussion: Of the 50 pairs of EMGs, the 12e algorithm improved readings (TOF ratio, TOF counts, and T1-T4) in all 50 (100%) of recordings; in 1 case (2%), the improvement involved recovery parameters only (TOF ratio). In contrast, the old 12d algorithm improved readings in 0 (0%) instances. There were 0 (0%) cases of misidentification of EMGs at deep block.

Conclusion(s): The new 12e algorithm improved detection of EMGs in 100% of cases, without introducing false-positive EMGs. Improvements in EMG detection help better plan intraoperative drug dosing and optimal antagonism, decreasing residual paralysis and facilitating patient safety.

14AP03-05
European perioperative patient safety standard practices: preliminary results of a systematic review of clinical practices guidelines from the SAFEST project

I. Martinez-Nicolas1, A. Rodriguez2, J. Silva3, A. Bartakke1, A. Žaludek4, N. Fabregas1, SAFEST Project
1‘Sistema Español de Notificación en Seguridad en Anestesia y Reanimación (SENSAR), Centro de Simulación IDEhA. Hospital Universitario Alcorcón, Alcorcón, Spain, 2Avedis Donabedian Research Institute (FAD) /Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Patient Safety, Barcelona, Spain, 312 de Octubre University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, Surgical Critical Care and Pain Medicine, Madrid, Spain, 4Charles University, Third Faculty of Medicine/Spojená Akreditacni Komise (SAK), Department of Public Health, Prague, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: To identify recommended patient safety standard practices all along the entire perioperative journey (from surgical indication to 90 days after discharge) in the available clinical practice guidelines for surgical adult patients.

Materials and Methods: A systematic review of clinical guidelines was performed following the PRISMA 2020 statement (PROSPERO registration: CRD42022347449). We included publications with at least one recommendation promoting patient safety in the perioperative care in adult population, published from 2012 to 2022. We excluded technical, old version and non-original guidelines, and those related to percutaneous or non-common surgeries. Main international databases were employed. Search terms related to each of the perioperative period, patient safety and clinical practice guidelines were used. Also, an extensive search of grey literature was made.

Independent review and data extraction was performed. Extracted standard practices were categorised for depicting their characteristics.

Results and Discussion: From databases, 4086 records were screened, and 504 documents were assessed for eligibility. From grey literature, 236 documents were also assessed for eligibility. After exclusion, 270 documents remained for analysis.

A total of 4732 standard practices were extracted from which 2101 (44.4%) were strong recommendations with a wide variability in their level of evidence. They were mostly addressed to inpatient care (40.5%) or applicable to both inpatient and ambulatory surgeries (55.7%). The most prevalent were infection and complication prevention standards (41.5%), whilst those related to diagnosis and referral, provider communication and handovers, safe medication use, safe blood derivates management, discharge and outpatient care.
follow-up, safety structures, and safety evaluation barely accounted for the 15% altogether. Distribution along the perioperative continuum seemed balanced, except for the post-discharge phase (2.1%).

**Conclusion(s):** A large number of evidence-based standards are available for their implementation in healthcare facilities. Specific guidelines for ambulatory surgery and recommendations for the post-discharge phase are extremely scarce.

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### 14AP03-06
**Improving patient safety in the operating room: an innovative one-step electronic tool to avoid medication errors**

M. Lema Tomé1, P. Cabrerizo Torrente1, A. De Lorenzo2, A. Ribé3, P. Zalvide Pombo1, D. Giné Feito1

1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Pharmacy, Madrid, Spain

**Background:** Medication error is a major cause of preventable patient harm. Medical prescription is a stage where medication errors can occur being the OR a dangerous environment due to:
1. The same anesthesiologist prescribes and administers the medication unsupervised
2. High-risk medication is handled. We developed a one-step program for electronic prescription in anesthesia and created a training strategy for anesthesiologists.

**Materials and Methods:** This study was carried out in a tertiary hospital with 39 operating rooms which performs more than 27,000 surgeries per year. It has an electronic medical record and electronic prescription established. In the OR the electronic medical record is available but the prescription is made manually. In 2020, a multidisciplinary group of anesthesiologists, pharmacists and IT was created to design the prescription program. In February 2022 the initial prototype was ready to start running. A training plan was carried out to introduce the program to the anesthesiologists.

**Results:** The one-step electronic prescription program for OR is a web program with a simple and very visual interface designed for Google Chrome and Internet Explorer and integrated with the prescription of admitted patients. It is designed in two tabs: one for prescription and another for administration. The patient’s data, weight, height, allergies and alerts are always visible.
- Prescription is made by therapeutic groups or by established protocols, with standardized doses and concentrations.
- Administration is made by scanning the drug’s barcode or manually. It automatically generates labels that identify the patient and medication to stick on the solutions to be administered.

The program generates alerts for allergies and maximum doses, and the possibility of viewing the administrations of the last 48 hours. Also, the program makes it possible to continue with the administration of the medication outside the OR and thus guarantee continuity of care.

Regarding training, a team of pharmacists was available in the OR to individually teach the program to the anesthesiologists and collect suggestions.

**Conclusion:** Multidisciplinary team has been essential for the creation of a self-designed electronic prescription program in the OR that meets the needs demanded by anesthesiologists. Its implementation is one barrier to reduce the risk of medication errors. The training program encourages user participation, improving customer loyalty and satisfaction.

### 14AP03-07
**Bespoke educational training videos increase novice trainees’ confidence with anaesthetic and critical care equipment**

L. Ananth1, S. Scholes1, K. Sebekova1, S. Matthews1, K. Harden1, N. Constable1

1Great Western Hospital, Anaesthetics and Critical Care, Swindon, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** It is known that videos enhance effective learning and are an important tool in medical education. However, there are no previous published studies focussing specifically on the effect of medical videos in the context of anaesthetic equipment. We wished to identify whether bespoke instructional videos of commonly used equipment in anaesthetic and critical care practice can enhance novice trainees’ confidence in their use.

**Materials and Methods:** A pre-intervention survey was sent to novice trainees joining the critical care and anaesthetic departments at the Great Western Hospital, Swindon to assess confidence in using 10 pieces of anaesthetic equipment using a scale of 1-10. We chose to pilot the Alaris syringe pump driver and the CMAC video laryngoscope as two pieces of equipment for bespoke instructional videos. A short video of each piece of equipment was made by one of the authors, highlighting the main indications, basic modalities, functions and troubleshooting of these pieces of equipment. A follow up survey was completed by the trainees immediately after viewing these videos to assess their confidence post intervention.

**Results and Discussion:** The n for this QIP was 10. All trainees answered pre and post intervention surveys. A paired sample T test showed a p value of 0.001 for the alaris pump video and a p value of 0.01 for the CMAC video. There was a statistically significant increase in the confidence of the trainees in using the equipment after watching the bespoke videos. Although the sample size was small, the results of the quality improvement project were significant. Even though confidence in these pieces of equipment can arise from everyday practice, these videos offer confidence on first usage and the time to be confident in every day practice will hopefully be reduced.

The benefit of videos as an educational medium means they can be shared and assessed easily and used for new doctors rotating into the trust. Future plans for the project include: making more bespoke videos on anaesthetic equipment, retesting this group alongside a control group to see if the information from the videos is retained and upload these videos onto the trust intranet and Southwest Anaesthetic, Pain & ICM Teaching (SWAPIT) hub to support trainees regionally.

**Conclusion(s):** Bespoke instructional educational videos of everyday equipment increase novice anaesthetic and critical care trainee confidence in a district general hospital.
Background and Goal of Study: Anesthesia care is a high-tech environment where an increasing number of patients suffer from severe and complex conditions. The demand on quality of care and safety for patients are therefore increasing. Communication, expert knowledge, and patient related information are all key factors to maintain a high level of quality and safety in anesthesia care. Augmented reality (AR) via smart glasses (SG) has shown to have the potential to improve communication, enhance availability of expert knowledge and improve access to patient related information such as vital signs (VS). There is a lack of knowledge regarding experiences with the use of SG. The goal of this study is to evaluate in which situations SG are suitable for use and what kind of vital signs that is most relevant to visualize in these situations.

Materials and Methods: 28 individuals participated in the study. Participants were anesthesiologists and nurse anesthetist at a university hospital in Sweden. Data were collected using questionnaire surveys and focus group interviews. All participants answered the questionnaire after using SG in a simulated situation related to anesthesia care. Three different simulated anesthesia situations were created. Participants (n=4) from each situation joined the focus group interviews and additional questions regarding the feasibility of SG were asked.

Results and Discussion: This is preliminary result that refers to the initial ten participants questionnaire survey regarding the simulated situation of cardiac arrest. The preliminary result indicates that SG could be feasible in a situation like cardiac arrest. The most important VS to visualize during a cardiac arrest are Spo2, ECG, and blood pressure. The general perception of SG was that they functioned ok during the situation they experienced. Participants also answered that SG need further improvement to function in a clinical setting.

**Table 1. Participants Characteristics**

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<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Age (y)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Nurse anesthetist/Anesthesiologist</strong></td>
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*Mean value

**Conclusion(s):** SG has potential to be used in a situation where a patient suffers from cardiac arrest. ECG, Spo2, invasive and noninvasive bloodpressure are the most important VS to visualize. More data need to be analyzed to confirm our results.

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14AP03-09
Development and use of an open-source Arduino based display control, 3D-printed, bespoke, compact, anesthesia machine simulator

O. Cohen-Rosenboim1,2, Y. Brzezinski Sinai1,2, E. Fiszer1,2, I. Mato1,2, C. Weiniger1,2, O. Bar Nathan1,2
1Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Management, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: The TAST (Tel Aviv anesthesia simulation team) facilitates simulations of complex clinical situations at medical conferences. We performed a simulated operating room pediatric airway emergency in our national meeting hotel conference. Lacking an anesthesia machine, we designed, built and tested an anesthesia machine simulator (AMS), the “Drooler”. We present the concept, design and development of our open code/Arduino based display 3D printed AMS.

Materials and Methods: Requirements for the AMS included compact size, transportability, output display relevant to the clinical scenario and tactile features for the participants to operate in the simulated crisis. First, we constructed a wooden box prototype with ventilation pipes, APL, oxygen and vaporizer with rotating knobs. The simulate manual bag ventilation (MVB) is shown in Fig A. Incorporation of 3D designed & printed panels, Arduino based screen display and rotary knobs coding (by an anesthesia resident, OBN) enabled gas flowmeters with screen indicators of flow and adjustable controls on a main screen of simulated automatic ventilation parameters (FigB). The facilitator controlled the displayed pressure and alarm notifications via a phone application connected to the AMS by Bluetooth.

Results and Discussion: The “Drooler” AMS was used in a pediatric laryngospasm simulation (FigC). The AMS enabled participants to respond appropriately to apnea resulting from simulated laryngospasm. Apnea alarm and notification was apparent on the AMS main screen (activated by the facilitator) and noticed by the participants. They responded by BMV, administering 100% oxygen while adjusting the APL. Those who wished were able to adjust vaporizer output. We plan to add additional features eg MAC display, MAC notifications, pressure control notifications and alarms. Next, we plan to create a fully 3D printed, compact model that can be easily reproduced around the world.

Conclusion: We described the need for our bespoke AMS, the construction process, and our pilot use. We envision an AMS that is easy to replicate, providing an accessible training tool.
14AP03-10
Introduction of a duty floor anaesthetist, the cost of the Cappucini test and gaining Royal College Accreditation

A. Youssef1, W. Fry1, C. Schmidt1, F. McGee1, M. Wattie1
1Ashford and St Peter’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics, Chertsey, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Ashford and St Peter’s is a two site hospital with 18 theatres delivering general and obstetric anaesthesia. The Royal College of Anaesthetists introduced Anaesthesia Clinical Standards accreditation’ (ACSA) with multiple standards across 5 domains. ACSA is a marker of quality and safety in the care of patients and our department sought accreditation. Compliance is assessed across 5 domains. Our department has failed the supervision standard (‘Cappucini test’) several times. We also fell short in others, including ASA 3 patient follow up. In addition, contacting the emergency list anaesthetist in-hours was problematic and delivering emergency anaesthesia in remote hospital sites like Radiology or the Cardiac suite was inefficient.

Materials and Methods: Multiple Cappucini tests were conducted on trainees and non-autonomous SAS grades, which involved asking 5 standardised questions regarding supervision and contact. Incremental changes introduced included a duty phone, a department ‘whatsapp’ group, a starred consultant and finally a Duty Floor Anaesthetist (DFA). Each change was assessed for effectiveness of communication and supervision.

Results and Discussion: We failed 2 rounds of Cappucini supervision test despite raising departmental awareness via a presentation and asking management for an extra anaesthetist to cover emergencies. Introduction of a Duty phone did not make sufficient impact to pass the standard. Introducing a DFA on two sites proved highly popular and achieved required standards of supervision. Cost was estimated at 3 whole time equivalents (WTE) and approximately £300,000 per annum. However, the benefit has been noticeable and the remit is expanding including; locum anaesthetist support, attending remote site emergency anaesthesia, follow up of ASA 3 patients and providing second opinion if on day cancellation is pending.

Conclusion: As staffing levels declined our department rarely had more than one anaesthetist on an operating list. SAS doctors were working solo, with no supervision arrangements and remote site emergency anaesthesia was causing delays to the emergency list. The introduction of a DFA has improved efficiency of staffing providing flexibility with trainees and SAS grades working solo with robust supervision. Multiple standards could not have been achieved without this ‘DFA’ role.

Reference:
1. RCOA. Chapter 1: Guidelines for the Provision of Anaesthesia Services The Good Department, 2021

14AP03-11
Implementation of Clinical Data Warehousing Information System (CLADE-IS) for improvement of workflow and counselling in Academic Centre for Malignant Hyperthermia Masaryk University (ACMH MU) – new encrypted electronic national Malignant Hyperthermia Registry

M. Klincová1,2, D. Štěpánková2,1, I. Schröderová2,3, E. Eva Klabusayová1, K. Kusalová1, P. Štouřa1,2,3
1University Hospital Brno and Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 2Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Academic Centre for Malignant Hyperthermia of Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic, 3St. Anne’s University Hospital and Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Brno, Czech Republic, 4Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses, Ltd., Projects Management, Brno, Czech Republic, 5Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Malignant Hyperthermia (MH) is a rare, hereditary, life-threatening pharmacogenetic disorder triggered by some commonly used anaesthetics. MH diagnostics, both genetic testing and In vitro contracture test (IVCT), have been available in the Czech Republic for 20 years. ACMH MU centre consists of four academic departments of the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in two tertiary university hospitals1. The diagnostic process contains a lot of important and confidential patient information which must be shared among involved personnel. To provide better workflow and counselling in ACMH MU we implemented and adjusted the already existing Clinical Data Warehousing Information System (CLADE-IS) for creating a new encrypted electronic national MH registry as part of the national registry of intensive care.

Materials and Methods: CLADE-IS uses the so-called Entity-Attribute-Value (EAV) model and is robust enough to allow many different configurations of user rights, roles, and data flows. The online registry application is available to users via any internet browser and is characterized by a responsive web design. Only authorized users can access the CLADE-IS interface based on a unique combination of username and password. Communication between CLADE-IS and its users is encrypted via the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL).

Results and Discussion:

Conclusion(s): Modern database systems such as CLADE-IS can be successfully implemented into the national registry of patients with rare diseases and can help to provide modern and safe counselling.
References:

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14AP04-01
Greek Anaesthesiologists’ Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the post COVID-19 era: an observational, multicenter, cross sectional study from COVID-19 referral, university/tertiary hospitals

M.P. Ntalouka¹, D. Aretha², P. Chloropoulou², E. Pistioli⁴, E. Koraki⁵, E. Arnaoutoglou¹
¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Thessaly, Larissa University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Larissa, Greece, ²University Hospital of Patras, Department of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Rion, Patras, Greece, ³School of Medicine, Democritus University of Thrace, Department of Anaesthesiology, Alexandroupolis, Greece, ⁴School of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, ‘Attikon’ University Hospital, 2nd Department of Anaesthesiology, Athens, Greece, ⁵George Papanikolaou Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Thessaloniki, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Anaesthesiologists actively involved with COVID-19 are at increased risk for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). We assessed the PTSD, and possible determinants, of anaesthesiologist’s in COVID-19 referral hospitals in the post COVID-19 era with the validated PTSD Checklist for DSM-5 (PCL-5) and the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ).

Materials and Methods: A multicentre cross-sectional survey was conducted among anaesthesiologists’ working in the 7 COVID-19 referral university/tertiary hospitals during November 2022 (post-COVID-19 era) in Greece. PCL-5 is a 20-item and a 5-point Likert scale self-report measure, scored with two different ways in order to ensure for a provisional diagnosis of PTSD. Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ) explores 3 main dimensions of personality, whereas the Lie (L) scale serves as a measure of “dishonesty”. T-test and one factor ANOVA, or their nonparametric equivalents, Mann-Whitney U and Kruskal-Wallis tests, were employed for comparison of continuous variables accordingly. The Fisher’s exact test was used for comparison of categorical variables. Multivariate logistic regression analysis was performed to identify predicting factors of PTSD.

Results and Discussion: One-hundred doctors (response rate 85%) from 7 hospitals (72% females, median age 46 [33–51.5] years) participated. The overall Cronbach’s alpha for PCL-5 was 0.946. According to each scoring, 18% and 23% of respondents were diagnosed with PTSD respectively, while 7% were classified as suffering from probable PTSD.

Interestingly, children (OR 0.17, p=0.048) and satisfaction with job position (OR:0.211, p=0.024) exhibited a protective effect against PTSD.

On the other hand, family obligations were identified as an aggravating factor (OR=4.274, p=0.026). Concerning the personality traits only neuroticism was identified as a statistically significant independent factor predicting PTSD (OR 1.524, p=0.001).

Finally, job ranking was also a statistically significant independent factor predicting PTSD, with a 3 times risk augmentation for each level in job hierarchy (from Residents towards Academics) (OR=3.034, p=0.022).

Conclusion(s): In the post-COVID-19 era up to 23% of Greek anaesthesiologists’ working in referral hospital suffered from PTSD. Children and job satisfaction exhibited a protective role in contrast to higher ranks of job hierarchy.

14AP04-02
Sustainable Independent Measurement of Perioperative mortality and complication rates for low-and middle-income countries – initial evaluation of a pilot project at King Faisal Hospital, Rwanda (SIMPL-pilot KFH)

L. Grüber¹, E. Bukara², S. Nambayisa², J. Schuler⁴, L. Knüvener⁴, K. McQueen⁵, SIMPL-Pilot KFH Study Group
¹Harvard University, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, United States, ²King Faisal Hospital, Department of Orthopaedics, Kigali, Rwanda, ³King Faisal Hospital, Critical Care, Kigali, Rwanda, ⁴RWTH Aachen University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Aachen, Germany, ⁵University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Anesthesiology, Madison, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Perioperative Mortality Rate (POMR) is an endorsed indicator of surgical and anaesthesia quality and safety. However, POMR is often not tracked in clinical routine in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). Without knowledge of POMR and perioperative complications the assessment of the current levels of quality and safety and the success of future interventions cannot be accurately and reproducibly measured.

In LMICs, resources are scarce and tracking POMR must be easily executed with little additional staff time. SIMPL-pilot KFH aims to evaluate local POMR at King Faisal Hospital (KFH), Kigali, Rwanda, with minimal effort for local staff via the smartphone-based REDCap app. Up until now, the REDCap app has not routinely been used for research in LMICs.

We aim to identify challenges that should be considered when setting up this digital data collection tool in LMICs.

Methods: SIMPL-Pilot KFH started 08/24/22 and is collecting data for 6 months via the REDCap app v12.5.16. Information on challenges encountered during the conceptualization and implementation phase was collected in online meetings and in-person.

Results and Discussion: Hospitals from three countries in Sub-Saharan Africa expressed interest in joining the international research project. Conceptualization took place for 12 months. No challenges were reported. The first hospital completing the IRB approval process was KFH. Only local hospital-based IRB approval was required which facilitated time planning. Understanding patient flows and splitting responsibilities of data entry minimized the workload for involved local staff and aided ongoing data collection.

Set-up of the app on all involved staff’s phones required 9 detailed training steps including e-mail communication on app and ethical training with the U.S. based provider. This was reported to be difficult and slowed installation for each data entry person. Entering data requires 15 steps in the app.

Despite minor connection problems, data on more than 1000 cases was collected within the first 3 months. Set-up of the app, training and data entry should be simplified.

Conclusion: Digitalisation facilitates conceptualization, communication, and implementation in international research collaborations. The REDCap app has the potential to enable widespread tracking of POMR and perioperative complications in settings without dedicated research resources. In order to be scaled up the tool requires simplification.
Walkabout safety audit: a method for monitoring standards in anaesthesia

W. Fry1, C. Ellis1, G. Nelson1, S. Watson1, L. Wijayasiri1, M. Wattie1
1Ashford and St Peter’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthetics, Chertsey, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Anaesthetics Clinical Standards Accreditation (ACSA) is a Royal College of Anaesthetists accreditation scheme where participating departments benchmark their performance against a set of standards. ACSA is a marker of quality and safety in patient care. Compliance is assessed across five domains: the care pathway; equipment, facilities and staffing; patient experience; clinical governance; and sub-specialties. The aim of the project was to achieve measurable improvement in compliance across multiple ACSA standards. The Walkabout is a cost-effective method to identify strengths and weaknesses across all domains.

Materials and Methods: A digital form was devised that required no expert knowledge to use. It contained 30 questions pertaining to ACSA domains. The form was adapted to address different unmet standards. Rota visibility, Handover, Emergency protocols, Equipment and Drugs were all addressed with one ‘Walkabout’. Direct questions were asked to a random selection of theatre staff, other questions were answered by checking equipment directly or asking relevant staff. Each walkabout took around 30 minutes. Interventions were made according to findings and repeat use of the walkabout tool made multiple incremental improvements in different areas simple to measure.

Results and Discussion: The Walkabout effectively measures standards of care as defined by ACSA and is efficient in identifying gaps and creating improvement opportunities. We have measurably improved our ACSA compliance and safety in multiple standards. Performing the audit improves the education of our staff and creates opportunity for multiple offshoot quality improvement projects to implement rapid change.

Of note, we introduced QR code checklists to improve documentation of the Difficult Airway Trolley and Transfer Bag compliance. We improved signage of emergency equipment and information. The results also allowed the department to secure funding for a duty floor anaesthetist.

Conclusion: Awareness of safety gaps, education and opportunity for rapid improvement were valuable aspects of the walkabout. Many staff had ideas and opportunity to improve the safety systems, ensuring all were empowered to implement sustainable change. Simplicity and adaptability will enable the walkabout tool to be rolled out, both within the Trust and other anaesthetic departments.

Reference: 1. RCOA. Chapter 1: Guidelines for the Provision of Anaesthesia Services The Good Department, 2021

Intubation Bundle: A tertiary centre audit of clinical practice and adverse events of tracheal intubation out of operation theatre

D V Gladston1, V.S. Pillai1, R.C. Koshy1, J. Krishna K. M2
1Regional Cancer Centre, Department of Anaesthesiology, Trivandrum, India, 2Regional Cancer Centre, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Trivandrum, India

Background and Goal of Study: Tracheal intubation is commonly performed outside the operating theatre to secure airway during an emergency or while resuscitation of physiologically unstable patients. The present study is aimed to assess the current practice, compliance with the Difficult Airway Society guidelines, and the incidence of adverse events during out of theatre intubation in our hospital.

Materials and Methods: We performed an observational audit examining all tracheal intubations occurring outside the operating theatre in tertiary cancer centre over a 6 month period. Data were collected on intubation techniques, presence of essential safety equipment and monitoring, and adverse events.
Results and Discussion: Thirty-two out of theatre intubations were performed excluding cardiac arrest. The most common indication was respiratory failure [13 cases (40.6%)] followed by sepsis [5 cases (15.6%)]. Intubation for respiratory failure along with sepsis and aspiration were 4 cases respectively (12.5%). Crash cart and intravenous access were present in all cases. A combination of etomidate and ketamine [9 cases (28.1%)] and ketamine alone [8 cases (25%)] were used as induction agent. Opioids were used in all cases and neuromuscular blocker succinylcholine was used in 28 cases (87.5%). Rapid sequence induction was performed in 26 cases (81.3%) and airway secured with endotracheal tube with first attempt in 22 cases (68.8%), with stylet in 21 cases (65.5%) and bougie in 5 cases (15.6%).

Capnography was used only in 3 cases (9.4%). Adverse events like death, hypotension, aspiration, dysrhythmias and oesophageal intubations were present only in 2 cases respectively (6.3%). Use of intubation aids and first attempt in securing airway has significantly reduced adverse events (p value= 0.070). Nineteen cases (59.4%) had no complications due to adherence to difficult airway guidelines.

Conclusion(s): Airway can be successfully secured and adverse events can be reduced by adhering to intubation bundle guidelines in out of theatre intubations.

Reference:

14AP04-06 Validation of a novel electronic monitoring system for hand hygiene of anesthesiologists during the induction of anesthesia – simulation based study

M. Glebov1, H. Berkenstadt1,2, L. Abdallah1, D. Orkin1
1Sheba Medical Center, Anesthesiology, Ramat Gan, Israel, 2Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Hand hygiene is one of the most effective ways to prevent transmission of healthcare-associated infections. However, the level of hand hygiene compliance among anesthesia providers is persistently low. We developed an artificial intelligence-based system, which continuously detects hand hygiene opportunities and the adherence to hand hygiene guidelines with performance feedback. In this preliminary study, the accuracy of the system was assessed.

Materials and Methods: An automated electronic camera-assisted system was installed in a simulation operating room. Three cameras were placed over hand sanitizer dispenser, head of the patient simulator, anesthesia cart and computer workstation. The system is based on artificial intelligence, deep learning, video analysis and rules control system. Anesthesiologist’s hands movements during the induction of anesthesia were detected and the compliance to hand hygiene rules was determined. Ten anesthesiologists participated in the study.

Each anesthesiologist was asked to prepare the operating room for anesthesia, insert an intravenous line, perform induction of anesthesia, and document the relevant information in the anesthesia record system. The ability of the system to detect hand hygiene opportunities and deviations from hand hygiene guidelines was compared to that of the direct observation by the researchers.

Results and Discussion: A total of 132 interactions with equipment and patient were performed by participants and observed by the researchers. The electronic monitoring system captured correctly 126 events (95.5%). From a total of 59 hand hygiene opportunities, 55 events were captured by the electronic monitoring system (93.2%). There were 4 false-negative events, that is, events that are observed but not captured by the system (false negative rate of 6.8%).

Conclusion: This preliminary data demonstrates a high level of precision for the evaluated electronic monitoring system to detect patterns of hand hygiene behavior among anesthesia providers under simulation conditions.

14AP04-07 Implementation of a new cognitive aid app for emergency management in anesthesia in a German pilot clinic – the DANGER study

F Rückert1,2, V. Truxa1, P. Dussmann1,2, T. Schmidt1, E.I. Charitos3, T. Seyfried1,2
1Clinic Ernst von Bergmann, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Potsdam, Germany, 2Clinic Ernst von Bergmann, Medical Simulation- and Trainingcenter, Potsdam, Germany, 3Kerckhoff Heart Center, Kerckhoff Heart Center, Bad Nauheim, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: Since its release by the German Society for anesthesiology and intensive care medicine in August 2020 the “electronic cognitive aid for anaesthesiologic emergencies” (eGENA) has been available as a medical tool for emergency situations.(1)

As a pilot clinic, we performed a detailed assessment of our current emergency management. In the context of the introduction of eGENA we asked our personnel to participate in a survey. For the first time eGENA can be described before, during and after the implementation into clinical practice.

To answer the question whether the eGENA app leads to more safety in emergency treatment in anesthesia or not and if it is feasible to implement cognitive aids in our safety management of anesthetic emergencies.

Materials and Methods: From February to March 2021 98 employees were in-house trained. (Training rate >92%). They completed two emergency trainings and a 25 questions evaluation. Results were shown as the mean value +/- standard deviation. Wilcoxon-test was used for significance tests (p<0.05).

Results and Discussion: Physicians (n=47) scored with 6.15 +/- 2.20 out of 10 points in a self-assessment of their confidence managing anaesthesiologic emergencies. There was no significant difference between specialised and general nurses (n=38) with 6.55 +/- 1.66 points. (p=0.31) Trainee anaesthesiologists scored significantly lower (4.88 +/- 2.05) than trained anaesthesiologists (7.48 +/- 1.44). (p<0.001) 54,0% found the former emergency management predominantly or entirely satisfactory. Both groups see potential in the app but physicians consider the use of a digital checklist as more useful than nurses (p = 0.003), also in emergency situations. (p<0.001)

Since the app is completely new so far, there is hardly any data on it. Current results reflect investigations of the implementation in a large hospital and can be helpful for the further expansion of the app.
Conclusion(s): With good planning and initiative, the implementation of eGENA is possible. Repeated emergency training will enhance patient safety and eGENA will be a valuable adjunct. Further research should investigate the impact on quality of emergency management and patient safety.

References:

14AP04-08
Animal model for biomonitoring ropivacaine from plasma, urine and tissue: a useful tool for improving patient safety

M. Butiulca1, L. Farczadi2, A. Lazar1
1George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Târgu Mureș, Romania, 2George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology, Center for Advanced Medical and Pharmaceutical Research, Târgu Mureș, Romania

Background and Goal of Study: Ropivacaine is a local anesthetic used in regional anesthetic practices such as nerve blocks. Due to side effects associated with ropivacaine toxicity, biomonitoring studies are an essential tool for optimizing administration and dosage, which necessitate selective, accurate, and sensitive analytical methods to correctly assess the absorption, distribution, metabolism, and elimination pattern of ropivacaine.

Materials and Methods: An LC/MS system consisting of a highly sensitive and selective QTOF mass spectrometer coupled with a high-performance liquid chromatograph was used to develop a suitable method for quantifying ropivacaine and its main metabolite, 3-hydroxy-ropivacaine, from biological matrices. For analytical separation, a Gemini-NX C18-type chromatographic column was used with aqueous formic acid and methanol as mobile phases in gradient elution. Detection was optimized and carried out in MS/MS mode, by selective fragmentation of the analytes, after positive ESI ionization. Fast and simple protein precipitation of plasma and one-step liquid-liquid extraction for urine and tissue samples were used for analyte extraction and sample clean-up.

Results and Discussion: Ropivacaine was monitored by mass spectrometric fragmentation of m/z 275.2 to m/z 126.1, while for the metabolite fragmentation pattern m/z 291.2 to m/z 126.1 was used. Isotopically labeled ropivacaine-d7 was ideal as an internal standard and monitored through fragmentation of m/z 282.2 to m/z 133.1. Method gradient was optimized for short analysis times (10 minutes per sample) and good analytical separation. The calibration interval was 0.575-1150 ng/ml for both ropivacaine and its metabolite. The method was used on preclinical samples from rats and showed that ropivacaine and its metabolite are present in all organs, in a concentration between 57.32 ng/g and 611.93 μg/g, after ropivacaine infiltration.

Conclusion(s): Biomonitoring of ropivacaine is essential for understanding health risks to patients and improving treatment. The LC-MS method developed is simple, sensitive, and selective, and proved to be adequate for biomonitoring and bioavailability studies, while the large calibration interval allows for versatility in study designs. Results of the preclinical pilot study were encouraging and offer valuable information for further biomonitoring and bioavailability studies, enabling improvement of treatment for patients undergoing surgical procedures.

14AP04-09
Too noisy to be safe: an observational study on noise in the operation room during anesthetic induction

J. Ripolles-Melchor1, E. Martinez-Hurtado1, R. Navarro-Pérez2, B. Escontrela1, B. Nozal-Mateo1, E. Sáez-Ruiz1
1Infanta Leonor University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain, 2Clínico San Carlos University Hospital, Anesthesia, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Noise in the operating room is common and is associated with negative effects for anesthesiologists, surgeons and patients. Induction of anesthesia is one of the noisiest perioperative periods. Despite its critical nature, there is little data on noise levels during induction, which represents the most critical moment for the anesthesiologist and also probably the most dreaded for the patient.

Materials and Methods: Our objective was to quantify noise exposure during anesthetic induction in patients requiring general anesthesia in elective noncardiac surgery in 3 operating rooms of a single center for 2 weeks. Decibels were measured using the calibrated Sound Meter IOS (Apple) application. Decibels (dB) were recorded from the cannulation of a peripheral line in the operating theater to the capnography check after orotracheal intubation, a time representing the period of greatest stress for both patient and anesthesiologist in charge.

One person collected the data. He positioned himself in each theatre so that he was as close as possible to the anaesthetist (so as to represent the anaesthetist’s perspective most accurately) without causing any obstruction or interfering with the working environment.

Results and Discussion: Forty-two theater cases were included. Mean and standard deviation (SD) mean noise levels were 70.9 (6), while mean minimum noise levels were 56 (11) and maximum noise levels were 86 (8.4). The maximum noise peak was 115.8 dB. The mean monitoring time was 5 minutes, 6 seconds. Noise levels can be a contributing factor to a number of patient safety events; one of the most detrimental acute effects of noise pollution in the operating room is the interference it imposes on verbal communication, which
is necessary during the critical phase of anesthetic induction. While the average noise we have observed is acceptable, the maximum noise averages and peaks are unacceptable. 

**Conclusion(s):** We documented noise levels well above recommended levels during anesthetic induction. Anesthesia that may compromise the quality of the anesthesia.

### 14AP04-10

**Using the PAPER acronym to improve clinical decision making in emergency situations in students from a German medical school**

M. Gebauer, C. Szalai, S. Benson

1. University Hospital Essen, Institute of Medical Education, Essen, Germany, 2. University Hospital Essen, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Essen, Germany, 3. University Hospital Essen, Institute of Medical Education, Center for Translational and Behavioral Neuroscience (C-TNBS), Essen, Germany

**Background and Goal of Study:** Clinical Decision Making (CDM) is the process of choosing the best available option to treat a patient. CDM is an essential skill for all medical professionals. Nevertheless, CDM is only implicitly taught in many medical schools. So, training time should be dedicated to this topic.

Our goal was to develop an acronym-based scheme to assist CDM in emergencies and pilot the acronym in clinical simulations.

**Materials and Methods:** The content of the acronym was established from the input given in a Delphi forecast (DF). Clinical experts were asked to submit aspects of clinical management which they thought were essential for CDM in an emergency setting. The final acronym was created after 3 Rounds. The Acronym was then piloted in a randomized controlled study during simulation-based courses for medical students. We included students in the 4th and 6th year of training to assess the timing of implementation. The control group (CG) completed the simulation teaching with post simulation feedback, while the intervention group (IG) received a presentation on the theoretical aspects of CDM and the acronym as a CDM tool before.

Clinical performance was rated using a checklist and the Anaesthesia Non-Technical Skills (ANTS) checklist. Participants completed a cognitive load (CL). CG and IG were compared with ANOVA accounting for semester.

**Results and Discussion:** After three rounds of DF, a consensus on the items in the acronym was reached (see figure).

![PAPER Acronym](image)

194 students participated in the study and were randomly distributed into CG and IG, no difference between the clinical management (p=.86) or in the ANTS (p=.79) was seen. Differences were seen in the cognitive processing between CG and IG (p<.05). Older students showed reduced CL compared to the younger students (p<.05). While CL increased for the younger students but did not affect performance.

**Conclusion:** The PAPER Acronym can be used to teach CDM for novices. Younger students show increased cognitive demands while practicing CDM. The timing as well as the method of teaching CDM is crucial to reduce CL. Research is needed to establish when and how CDM can be explicitly taught.

### 14AP04-11

**Preventing medication errors during the administration of intravenous infusions by increasing the use of 'smart' pumps and drug libraries in a network of 5 hospitals**

R. Rajendram, A. Abu Alburak, A. Teh, A.K.A. Singh, A. Sabyani, M. Mousa

1. King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2. King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, College of Medicine, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3. King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Nursing, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 4. King Abdulaziz Medical City, Department of Pharmacy, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 5. MediServ Medical Supplies & Services Co. Ltd, Clinical Practice Support, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Background and Goal of Study:** Errors during the administration of intravenous (IV) medications can cause significant morbidity and mortality. Smart pumps with drug libraries reduce the risk of such errors. Yet many healthcare professionals do not use this widely available technology.

**Aim:** Decrease harm by preventing errors during the administration of IV infusions.

**Materials and Methods:** An audit identified underuse of the drug libraries in the smart infusion pumps at our institution. So the factors preventing use of the drug libraries were identified and addressed using several plan, do, study, act cycles. Each initiative was first piloted in one centre. Successful interventions were implemented throughout the healthcare network of 5 hospitals. All drug libraries were updated and standardized by March 2019. The drug library usage was monitored (monthly, quarterly, and annually) using the manufacturer’s software.

**Results and Discussion:** Compliance with the use of the drug libraries increased from 48% in January 2017 to 98.5% in August 2022 throughout the hospital network. Standardization of the drug libraries was completed in March 2019.

![Increase in drug library use throughout the healthcare network](image)
In 2020 the pumps administered 7,197,472 medications. The drug libraries were used for 5,953,869 medications (83%) and prevented 134,080 attempts to exceed the programmed hard stop limits. It is unlikely that users attempted to exceed the hard stop more than once. Iatrogenic drug overdoses were prevented in up to 2.25% of infusions during 2020 alone.

**Conclusion(s):** Prevention of medication errors has significant benefits for patients, healthcare professionals and healthcare systems. After an audit highlighted the scale of the failure to use the drug libraries a survey of the end users identified the reasons for this. Targeted remedial actions increased the use of the drug libraries. The appropriate use of smart pump technology prevented many medication errors during the COVID-19 pandemic. As the error reduction software was already available within the institutions’ smart pumps the financial cost of this initiative was negligible.

**14AP04-12**

**Association of anesthesiologist’s sex with 30-day-mortality: a retrospective analysis**

M. Maleczek¹, S. Zeiner¹, D. Laxar², O. Kimberger¹
¹Medical University of Vienna, Department of Anaesthesiology, Intensive Care Medicine and Pain Medicine, Vienna, Austria, ²Medical University of Vienna, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Health and Patient Safety, Vienna, Austria

**Background and Goal of Study:** The influence of patient’s sex on various outcomes is well known. Recently an increased mortality was found in female patients treated by male surgeons. This leads to the question of anesthesia provider’s sex influence on postoperative outcomes, namely 30-day-mortality as a reliable endpoint.

**Materials and Methods:** Differences in 30-day-mortality between patients treated by male and female anesthetists were investigated. Therefore, a retrospective database analysis was done using the routine documentation of an academic center. To correct for competing risks, patient sex, age, ASA score and duration of anesthesia were used. Anesthesia quality benchmarks were compared as secondary outcome. The benchmarks were: Normotension (<65 mmHg for < 15 min), protective ventilation (tidal volume of <8 ml/kg predicted body weight) and normothermia (>36°C within 30 minutes before anesthesia end time). A logistic regression was modelled using those factors as independent variables.

Included were all cases without changes in treating anesthesiologist between 1.1.2014 and 31.3.2022 at an academic center. Excluded were all cases with incomplete datasets, especially regarding quality indicators.

**Results and Discussion:** Complete datasets were available for 124,984 cases with a mean 30-day-mortality of 1.9% (SD: 13.7%) and a mean age of 49.6 (SD: 21.9). 47.2% of patients were male, 60.0% of providers were male. In a univariate analysis, there was a significant difference in 30-day-mortality between male and female providers (p < 0.01) In the multivariate logistic regression, again a small but significant association between male provider’s sex and 30-day-mortality could be shown. (OR: 1.15, CI: 1.05, 1.26). In all three quality indicators, male provider sex was associated with slightly increased rates of normotension (OR: 1.07), normothermia (1.06) and protective ventilation (1.17).

To ensure that male and female providers had a similar case mix, ASA scores, anesthesia duration and age were compared with no significant differences between the groups.

These results show that there is an association between anesthesia provider’s sex and 30-day-mortality. Further and more detailed research is necessary to show not only an association but to further investigate the possible causes of this phenomenon.

**Conclusion(s):** In a retrospective cohort of 124,984 cases, male provider’s sex was associated with increased 30-day-mortality.

**14AP04-13**

**Safe transfer from emergency department resuscitation area to CT: a quality improvement project**

J. Dobbin¹, D. Maxwell², G. Ray³
¹Royal Alexandra Hospital, Anaesthetics, Paisley, United Kingdom, ²Royal Alexandra Hospital, Emergency Department, Paisley, United Kingdom, ³Royal Alexandra Hospital, Acute Medicine, Paisley, United Kingdom

**Background and Goal of Study:** To increase the use of ‘Safe to Transfer Checklist’ for patients going from to resus to CT at the RAH by 40%. Through this quality improvement project we hope to make transfer of unwell patients safer.

**Why is this important?** Datix data at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and Inverclyde Royal Hospital shows there is a 2222 call CT scan every 2 weeks. It is well documented that safety checklists can reduce adverse events, improve human factors and reduce morbidity and mortality, especially in busy, stressful situations[1].

**Materials and Methods:** Quality Improvement tools utilised:
- Process mapping to identify stakeholders and where changes could be made
- PDSA cycles
- Run charts to describe data

Tests of change: email advertisements, posters, QR codes, staff education

**Measures:**
- Outcome measure: frequency of checklist use
- Process measure: staff feedback regarding the user friendliness of the checklist

**Balancing measure:** time to complete the checklist

**Results and Discussion:** The diagram is a run chart of checklist use. The initial introduction of the checklist did not lead to a sustained increase in use of the checklist. However, creating colourful posters and creating a QR code link to the checklist, increased use of the checklist by 75%. The average time to complete checklist was <90 seconds.
Conclusion(s): This is an on-going quality improvement project. We are now in the process of creating an HDU safe transfer checklist.

Reference:
Modified frailty index may predict intraoperative complications in older women with endometrial cancer undergoing laparoscopic or robotic assisted surgery: a multicenter observational study

C. Schipa¹, M. Ripa², V. Gallotta³, G. Scambia⁴, L. Sollazzi⁵, P. Aceto⁵
¹Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Dipartimento di Scienze dell’Emergenza, Anestesiologiche e della Rianimazione, Roma, Italy, ²Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Ophthalmology Unit, Rome, Italy, ³Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, UOC Ginecologia Oncologica, Dipartimento per la Salute della Donna e del Bambino e della Salute Pubblica, Rome, Italy, ⁴Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli, IRCCS, UOC Ginecologia Oncologica, Dipartimento per la Salute della Donna e del Bambino e della Salute Pubblica, Rome, Italy, ⁵Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Dipartimento di Scienze dell’Emergenza, Anestesiologiche e della Rianimazione, Rome, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: To assess and evaluate the strength of the association between the modified frailty index (mFI) and intraoperative and postoperative complications in patients undergoing laparoscopic or robotic-assisted surgery for endometrial cancer.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective observational multicenter (five Italian centers) study using data from a prospective filled up database was performed. Frailty was defined as a modified Frailty Index (mFI) score of ≥3. Logistic regression was used to assess the impact of mFI upon the rate of intraoperative and early (within 30 days from surgery) and delayed (beyond 30 days from surgery) postoperative complications.

Results and Discussion: The study involved 577 women, 7.9% (n=40) were frail with an mFI ≥3 and 93.1% (n=537) were non-frail with an mFI of 0-2. Notably, frail women had a significantly higher rate of intraoperative complications (7.5% vs 1.7%, p<0.01) with 4.76 greater odds (95% CI 1.23-18.32, p=0.02). There was no difference in the rate of intraoperative complications (15% vs. 6.9%, p=0.06) and delayed postoperative complications (3.9% vs. 2.5%, p=0.65) for non-frail versus frail patients.

Conclusion(s): This multicentric analysis of women with endometrial cancer who underwent robotic or laparoscopic surgery demonstrates that frailty, defined by an mFI ≥3, is associated with a significantly higher risk for intraoperative complications, supporting the practice of assessing frailty before surgery to predict the early outcome better.

References:
15AP01-03  
Predicting primary postoperative respiratory failure in older adult patients undergoing hip fracture surgery

Y. Won1, M. Kim2, G. Li3, H.S. Kim1
1Korea University Guro Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, 2Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Anesthesiology and Epidemiology, New York, United States

Background and Goal of Study: Respiratory failure (RF) is a serious complication following hip fracture surgery (HFS) in older adults, but the factors that denote increased risk of this complication have not been clearly delineated. This study aims to determine the incidence, pre-operative risk factors, clinical applications of postoperative respiratory failure in older adult underwent HFS.

Materials and Methods: The American College of Surgeons National Quality Improvement Program (ACS-NSQIP) dataset (2016-19) was used to identify a retrospective cohort of older adults (age >65) undergoing HFS. Independent preoperative risk factors for postoperative RF were identified using stepwise multivariable logistic regression. RF was defined as failure to wean from the ventilator within 48 hrs after surgery or unplanned intubation/reintubation intraoperatively or postoperatively until 30 days after HFS.

Results and Discussion: We identified 41403 patients for inclusion, of which 28771(70%) and 12632 (30%) were randomly assigned to the derivation and validation cohorts, respectively. RF developed in 28771(70%) and 12632 (30%) were randomly assigned to the derivation and validation cohorts, respectively. Stepwise multivariable logistic regression model identified 12 variables as independent risk factors for postoperative RF:

1. male,
2. ASA Physical Status 3-5 (vs ASA 1-2),
3. preoperative dyspnea,
4. chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,
5. congestive heart failure,
6. preoperative dialysis,
7. preoperative bleeding disorder,
8. preoperative transfusion,
9. preoperative blood urea nitrogen ≥30,
10. preoperative international normalized ratio,
11. surgery >1 day after admission, and
12. general anesthesia.

The model demonstrated good discrimination (c statistic = 0.724 (95% CI 0.694-0.754)) and was well-calibrated (Hosmer-Lemeshow p=0.747). When applied to the internal validation cohort, the model had similar discrimination (c statistic =0.712 (95% CI 0.679-0.753)) and calibration (p=0.246).

Conclusion(s): Postoperative RF is a serious complication after HFS in older adults. This model may help to identify patients who are at increased risk of RF during the perioperative period.

15AP01-04  
Routine screening for preoperative frailty using the Clinical Frailty Scale in older elective surgical patients

Y. Weiss1, Y. Kiselevich1, M. Abu Ghanim1, S. Zarour1, B. Cohen1, I. Matot1
1Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anesthesia, Pain and Intensive Care Division, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: The American College of Surgeons recommends preoperative frailty screening in older surgical patients. The “Clinical Frailty Scale” (CFS) is a validated tool for frailty screening ≥ age 65. Since 2022, all elective surgical patients ≥70 years of age are screened for frailty using the CFS as part of the pre-anesthesia evaluation in the Tel-Aviv Medical Center. We aimed to evaluate the correlation of the CFS on cognitive impairment and postoperative delirium in elective elderly surgical patients.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective single-center cohort study of 2022. All elective surgical patients ≥70 years old without pre-existing dementia were included. CFS scores were grouped into 3 categories: 1-3 “non-frail”, 4-5 “mild frail”, 6-9 “moderate-severe frail”. Impaired cognition is defined as a preoperative Mini-Cog score ≥2. Postoperative delirium is a 4A’s test score ≥4 during PACU stay or 48-hours postoperative.

Results and Discussion: In total, 1,922 subjects were eligible and 1230 (64%) were screened for pre-operative frailty and included. Of whom 846 (70%) in the non-frail group, 236 (18%) were mild-frail, and 148 (12%) were moderate-severe frail (fig1). The moderate-severe frail patients were older (median [IQR], 79 (74,84) compared to the mild 77 (73.83) and non (75 (72.79) groups, p<0.001), had higher ASA PS (82% (severe) vs 70% (mild) vs 36% (non) P<0.001), only severe frail had a higher prevalence of cognitive impairment compared to mild or non-frail (37% (severe) vs 18% (mild) and 16% (non), p<0.001 [(OR=2.6 95% CI [1.6-4.3]), but even mild-frail had a higher incidence of postoperative delirium (15% (severe) vs 13% (mild) vs 5% (non) p<0.001, [OR=3.1 95% CI [1.9-5.3]), no differences were found between the groups in terms of sex or surgical severity (using the POSSUM system). (table1)

Conclusion(s):

• 30% of older elective surgical patients are frail.
• While only moderate-severe frailty was associated with cognitive impairment, even mild frailty was found to be associated with postoperative delirium.
• Screening for frailty is simple, feasible and defines high-risk populations at whom interventions should be aimed

References:
2. Rockwood K et al. A global clinical measure of fitness and frailty in elderly people. CMAJ. 2005 Aug 30;173(5):489-95
15AP01-05
Preoperative sarcopenia in elderly patients scheduled to colorectal surgery. Incidence and relationship to length of stay and postoperative complications

P. Rivera1, M. Sadurni1, J. Carazo1, L. Aguilera1, C. Rodríguez2, M. Corcoy3
1Hospital del Mar, Anaesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Sarcopenia is common in elderly patients. Some authors suggest that sarcopenia is related to the appearance of postoperative complications[1]. The goal of the study is to evaluate the incidence of sarcopenia in patients over 70 years scheduled to oncological colonic surgery and the relationship between sarcopenia with length of stay and postoperative complications.

Materials and Methods: After ethics committee approval, we designed a retrospective study of patients over 70 years scheduled to oncological colonic surgery during 2021.

Sarcopenia was defined as probable by EWGSOP2 guidelines if the values of strength measured with hand grip dynamometer were <27Kg in men or <16Kg in women.

We revised the patients and divided them into 2 groups (sarcopenic group and control group) depending on the incidence of preoperative sarcopenia (hand grip recording was performed in the preoperative evaluation).

All patients were managed following the standard intraoperative protocol of our hospital.

We collected demographic variables (gender, age, BMI, ASA status and Rockwood Clinical Frailty Scale) and intraoperative data (type and duration of surgery).

We analyzed length of stay (LOS) and incidence of postoperative complications measured by the Comprehensive Complication Index (CCI) comparing the sarcopenic and the control groups.

Statistical Analysis: Mann-Whitney U test for LOS and CCI.

Results and Discussion: We included 46 patients, finding a 39% incidence of sarcopenia. We finally divided the patients in 2 groups:

• Sarcopenic Group (n=18)
• Control Group (n=28)

No statistical differences found between groups in demographic or intraoperative data.

The median (range) LOS in the sarcopenic group was 10 (4-30) days while in the control group was 5 (4-23) days (p<0.05).

The sarcopenic group also had a higher median CCI 21.75 (0-52.4) compared to the control group 8.7 (0-61.5) without achieving statistical significance (p=0.4).

Conclusion(s): Sarcopenia is common in elderly population and it’s related to an increase in LOS and a tendency to develop more postoperative complications.

Sarcopenia in elderly patients must be investigated and treatment strategies directed to improve this condition should be designed.

Reference:

15AP01-06
An immune signature of postoperative cognitive dysfunction (POCD), a prospective cohort study

F. Verdonk1, J. Hedou2, G. Bellan3, E. Ganio2, T. Sharshar4, B. Gaudilliere2
1Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris - Hospital Saint Antoine, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Paris, France, 2Stanford University, Anesthesiology, Stanford, United States, 3SurgeCare, Statistics, Paris, France, 4Sainte Anne Hospital, Critical Care, Paris, France

Background and Goal of Study: Post-operative cognitive decline (POCD) is one of the most common postoperative complications in elderly patients undergoing major surgery. While emerging preclinical evidence suggests that the systemic immune response to surgical trauma is a key pathobiological process driving POCD, studies in patients are critically lacking[1].

Materials and Methods: Blood samples from 33 elderly patients undergoing major orthopedic surgery - for whom the postoperative cognitive status was evaluated - were collected over four timepoints before and after surgery (day of surgery (DOS) and postoperative days (POD) 1, 7, and 90). They were analyzed using a combination of single-cell mass cytometry and plasma proteomics.

We employed unsupervised clustering from correlation networks and univariate analyses to characterize the trajectory of immune cell distribution and signaling responses in patients with or without POCD. A stacked generalization (SG) predictive modeling approach was applied to classify patients at risk for POCD before surgery[2].

Results and Discussion: Unsupervised analysis of the high-dimensional immunological data collected before and after surgery identified cell-type and signaling-specific immune trajectories differentiating patients with and without POCD.

Examination of the most prominent trajectory features revealed early exacerbation of JAK/STAT and dampening of IkB and NF-κB immune signaling responses to surgery in patients with or without POCD. Further analyses integrating immune cell responses, proteomic, and clinical data collected before surgery identified a robust predictive SG model that classified patients with and without POCD with excellent accuracy (AUC = 0.86, p = 2.2e-03).

Conclusion(s): The single-cell immune system analysis of elderly patients undergoing surgery identified immunological trajectories differentiating patients with and without POCD, revealing a peripheral immune signature of POCD.

In addition, a pre-operative multi-omic model accurately predicted the later development of POCD, providing a promising strategy for future development of a diagnostic test for POCD guiding the individualized care of surgical patients.

References:
**Background and Goal of Study:** The sustained increase in the extreme elderly population poses important challenges when surgical decisions are needed. It is not always obvious which factors should discourage surgery, and once completed it is difficult to determine when further therapeutic efforts no becomes futile. The aim of this study is to determine which pre-operative factors and which post-operative complications reduce 6 months survival rate in this population.

**Materials and Methods:** We performed a prospective cohort study. We included patients ≥ 85 years, who underwent elective surgery between 2011-2021. We excluded ambulatory and emergency surgeries and procedures that did not require anesthetic involvement. The dependent variable, days of postoperative survival, was studied at 6 months after surgery.

Pre-operatively, we collected demographic variables, comorbidities, type of surgery and key variables included in the Comprehensive geriatric assessment. Post-operatively, we registered complications, need to reoperate or readmission after discharge. Categorical variables were analyzed using χ² and Fischer’s test. Kaplan Meier and log-rank test were used. To determine which factors independently reduced perioperative survival we used Cox regression analysis. Statistical significance was assumed at a P value of <0.05.

**Results and Discussion:** A total of 203 patients were included. Ninety eight were females. At 6 months follow up, the survival rate was 84.7%. The results of the Cox regression model shows that 5 variables were associated with a reduced 6 months survival rate: severe dependency (Katz index) [HR 8.9 (95% CI: 3.7-21.6)], Alcohol consumption [HR 9.1 (95% CI: 2.4-33.9)], Atrial Fibrillation [HR 2.8 (95% CI: 1.4-5.8)], Postoperative Pneumonia [HR 3.8 (95% CI: 1.1-13.9)] and Postoperative hydroelectrolitic disorders [HR 5.04 (95% CI: 1.9-13.2)]. Conversely, female gender was associated with better survival [HR 0.31 (95% CI: 0.14-0.72)].

**Conclusion:** These results suggest that elderly dependent men with alcoholism or atrial fibrillation are less likely to survive beyond 6 months after surgery. Similarly, post-operative pneumonia and hydroelectrolitic imbalances are serious complications that compromise survival. Consequently, our findings should help to make better informed decisions regarding surgery, and to actively prevent such postoperative complications.

**B. González Rodríguez¹, X. Redondo Herrera¹, L.C. Barrera¹, M. de Miguel¹, A. Pelavski¹
¹Hospital Universitario Vall d’Hebrón, Department of Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain**

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**Background and Goal of Study:** Hip fracture in elderly patients is associated with complications and higher risk of mortality. Evidence showed that regional or general anesthesia has similar outcomes and early surgery could reduce mortality in elderly patients under hip fracture surgery. Our study goal was observed outcomes in elderly patients under hip fracture surgery.

**Materials and Methods:** Retrospective and one-center study to describe outcomes in elderly patients under hip fracture surgery. Our primary outcome was observed complications and mortality. Our secondary outcome was described complications and mortality predictors.

**Results and Discussion:** 144 patients were included. Median age was 88 years old, 89% women, 58% ASA 4 and 31% ASA 3. Pterocanetic and subcapital fractures were present in 53% and 37% of patients, respectively. Spinal anesthesia was performed in 97% and general anesthesia in 3% of patients. Intraoperative hypotension requiring vasoactive drugs was seen in 59% of patients. Mortality was 3% and complications were present in 77% of patients. Tramexamic acid was administered intraoperatively in 39% of patients. Intraoperative hemorrhage requiring transfusion was present in 6% of patients. Postoperative anemia needing transfusion support was more frequent complication (71%), followed for Acute Kidney Failure (46%) and delirium (33.3%). Logistic regression showed that early surgery could reduce complications, but no predictor was found for mortality reduction.

Our little size study showed a typical elderly population presenting hip fracture requiring surgery. Patient variables like age, ASA, fracture type and anesthesia not affected complications or mortality, according to our analysis. A higher number of our patients presented complications but mortality was very low. Intraoperative administration of tramexamic acid probably explained a lower transfusion during this time. Postoperatively we found anemia as most frequent complication probably because this population is very prone to anemia worsening especially under losses related to hip fracture.

**Conclusions:** Our findings emphasizes that even in higher risk elderly patients an early surgery could reduce complications. Patient factors and anesthesia type not affected outcomes. Lack of mortality predictors in present study probably resulted of lower mortality observed and will require larger studies for describe variables influencing this outcome.

**B. Escontrela¹, I. Acevedo Bambaren², E. Saiz Ruiz¹, E. Martinez Hurtado¹, N. Aracil Escoda¹, A. Abad Gurumeta¹
¹Hospital Universitario Infanta Leonor, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain, ²Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain**
Background and Goal of Study: Postoperative delirium is the most common postoperative complication in elderly surgical patients. Some evidence suggests that peripherally administered benzodiazepines might increase the risk of postoperative delirium in elderly patients. We therefore aimed to evaluate the independent association between midazolam premedication and postoperative delirium in a large retrospective cohort of patients ≥70 years.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective cohort study of patients ≥70 years having elective non-cardiac surgery under general anesthesia from 2020 to 2021. The primary outcome, postoperative delirium, was a collapsed composite outcome including at least one of the following: a positive 4ATs test during post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) stay and/or the initial 2 postoperative days; physician or nursing records reporting new-onset confusion; or a positive 3D-CAM test performed by the geriatric health care team. The association between midazolam premedication and postoperative delirium was assessed using multivariable logistic regression, adjusting for potential confounding variables. Several sensitivity analyses were performed using similar regression models.

Results and Discussion: In total, 1973 patients were included in the analysis (median age 75 years, 47% women, 50% ASA score ≥3, 32% high risk surgery). The overall incidence of postoperative delirium was 15.3% (302/1973). Midazolam premedication was administered to 782 (40%) patients (median [IQR] dose of 2 [1, 2] mg). After adjustment for potential confounding variables, midazolam premedication was not associated with increased odds of postoperative delirium, with adjusted odds ratio of 1.09 (95% confidence interval 0.82-1.45; P=0.538).

Midazolam premedication was not associated with postoperative delirium in any of the sensitivity analyses performed including separate investigation of delirium diagnosed in PACU and after PACU discharge, and sub-group analyses in patients ≥80 years, patients with preoperative cognitive impairment, and high-risk surgeries.

Conclusion(s): Our results suggest that low doses of midazolam can be safely used to pre-medicate elective surgical patients 70 years or older before non-cardiac surgery, without significant effect on the risk of developing postoperative delirium.
15AP02-03
Recovery from deep neuromuscular blockade using different sugammadex doses in elderly patients undergoing laparoscopic robot-assisted prostatectomy: a prospective, randomized, double-blind clinical trial (RECIR)

P. Aceto¹, C. Cambiase², E. Luca¹, C. Schipa¹, A. Russo¹, L. Sollazzi¹
¹Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A Gemelli IRCCS, Dipartimento di Scienze dell’Emergenza, Anestesiologiche e della Rianimazione, Roma, Italy

Background and Goal of Study: A rapid and complete recovery from deep neuromuscular block (dNMB) in elderly patients could be required for clinical reasons, including an increased risk of postoperative recurarization (1).

It has been reported that, in elderly patients, adequate recovery of dNMB is achieved by an ED95 of sugammadex increased by about 50% compared to a standard dose (2).

We hypothesize that a dose of sugammadex increased by 50% compared to a standard dose could significantly shorten neuromuscular recovery time in elderly patients undergoing robotic-assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy (RALP).

Materials and Methods: After local Ethical Committe approval, this phase III, randomized double-blind controlled trial involved 34 patients (age ≥65 years) scheduled for RALP. All patients received 1 mg/kg rocuronium and intraoperative boluses (0.15 mg/kg) administered to ensure dNMB (post-tetanic count ≤2). Patients were randomized to receive sugammadex 4 mg/kg (group A) or 6 mg/kg (group B) for dNMB reversal at the end of surgery.

The primary end-point was recovery time (in seconds) from dNMB to a train-of-four (TOF) ratio=1 measured at the adductor pollicis (TOF-Watch® SX).

Secondary end-points included: time to extubation; time to exit from the OR; PACU length of stay; hemodynamic and respiratory parameters after sugammadex administration. Mann-Whitney and chi-squared tests were used for statistical comparisons.

Results and Discussion: One patient was excluded due to a TOF-Watch battery malfunction. The time to a TOF ratio of 1.0 at the adductor pollicis was similar in group A (379 ±134; n = 16) and in group B (328 ±149; n = 17). Sugammadex 4 and 6 mg/kg reversed dNMB within 9.5 min and 10 minutes, respectively.

None of the secondary end-points showed a statistically significant relationship with the different doses of sugammadex. The occurrence of adverse events (25% vs 53%; p = 0.10) and serious adverse (12.5% vs 17.6%; p = 0.68) events was similar in A and B groups, respectively.

Conclusion: Sugammadex 4 mg/kg was sufficient to completely antagonize a deep rocuronium-induced neuromuscular block within 9.5 minutes.

References:

15AP02-05
Time to recovery of two responses to train-of-four stimulation following different doses of rocuronium in patients 80 years and older: a secondary analysis

S.S. Wadland¹, M. Vested², L.S. Rasmussen²
¹University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Copenhagen, Denmark, ²Rigshospitalet, Department of Anesthesia, Centre of Head and Orthopedics, Section 6011, Copenhagen, Denmark

Background and Goal of Study: A train-of-four (TOF) count of two allows administration of cholinesterase inhibitors for reversal of neuromuscular block. Limited data are available on time to recovery of two responses to TOF stimulation in elderly patients. We hypothesized that time to a TOF count of two would be shorter after rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg than after rocuronium 0.9 mg/kg.

In addition, we hypothesized that time to a TOF count of two would be shorter after rocuronium 0.3 mg/kg than after rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg.

Materials and Methods: This was a secondary analysis of data from two previous studies and included 50 patients >80 years. A total of 16 patients received rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg, 16 patients received rocuronium 0.9 mg/kg, and 18 patients received rocuronium 0.3 mg/kg. All patients received total intravenous anesthesia, and neuromuscular block was monitored with acceleromyography. The primary endpoint was time to recovery of a TOF count of two.

Results and Discussion: Time to a TOF count of two was shorter after rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg than after rocuronium 0.9 mg/kg: 37 min (SD 10) vs. 59 min (SD 17) (difference: 22 min [95% CI 33 to 10], p = .00006). Time to a TOF count of two after rocuronium 0.3 mg/kg was shorter than after rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg: 19 min (SD 6) vs. 37 min (SD 10) (difference: 18 min [95% CI: 25 to 11], p = .00006). However, in 67% of the patients receiving rocuronium 0.3 mg/kg, a TOF count of zero was not obtained.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rocuronium</th>
<th>Difference with 95% CI</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.3 mg/kg</td>
<td>20 (82-84)</td>
<td>84 [81-83.5]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6 mg/kg</td>
<td>16 (100%)</td>
<td>25.7 (4.9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ASA III/III | 0/9/11 | 1/8/7 | 0/10/7 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of surgery</th>
<th>Orthopedic</th>
<th>Plastic/breast</th>
<th>Gynecology</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n = 6*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time to recovery of TOF 2 (min)</th>
<th>19 (6)</th>
<th>13*</th>
<th>18 (25 to 11)</th>
<th>p = 0.0006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Onset time</td>
<td>227 (100)</td>
<td>6*</td>
<td>62 (-85 to 209)</td>
<td>p = 0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of action</td>
<td>46 (100)</td>
<td>16*</td>
<td>40 (56 to 24)</td>
<td>p = 0.0005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMB reached TOF 0</td>
<td>6 (33%)</td>
<td>16*</td>
<td>67% (45%-88%)</td>
<td>p = 0.0005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuous data presented as mean with (standard deviation) or with [interquartile range].
* number of patients with available data
Conclusion(s): Time to a TOF count of two was shorter after rocuronium 0.6 mg/kg than after rocuronium 0.9 mg/kg. A dose of rocuronium 0.3 mg/kg resulted in a shorter time to a TOF count of two compared to 0.6 mg/kg, however, not all patients receiving 0.3 mg/kg obtained a TOF count of zero.

15AP02-06
The association between myocardial injury and 90-day mortality after hip fracture surgery

E. Refaeli-Awin1, S. Zarour1, V. Varenkin1, M. Aronov1, B. Cohen1, I. Matot1
1Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Anaesthesia, Pain and Intensive Care, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background: Hip fractures are a common cause of morbidity and mortality in elderly patients. Myocardial Injury after Non-cardiac Surgery (MINS) is associated with postoperative mortality, but it is unclear whether this association exists in patients having hip fracture surgery.

We therefore aimed to investigate the association between MINS and postoperative 90-day mortality in patients >65 years having surgical hip fracture repair.

Methods: We conducted a single-centre retrospective cohort study in a large volume tertiary medical centre and included patients >65 years who had hip fracture surgery between 5/2020 - 6/2022. MINS was defined as plasma cardiac troponin-I concentration >50 ng/L during the first 72 postoperative hours, supposedly of cardiac origin. Patients were therefore excluded for new diagnosis of PE, CVA, sepsis during the index admission, and end stage renal disease. Patient were also excluded for multi-trauma or pathologic and peri-prosthetic fractures.

The association between MINS and postoperative mortality was evaluated using pearson Chi-square correlation. Due to the small number of outcomes we were unable to perform a proper multivariate analysis.

Results: In total 1256 patients had hip fracture surgery during the study period. After excluding ineligible cases, 698 patients remained available for analysis (median [interquartile range (IQR)] age 84 [77, 90] years; 68% females; 68% ASA physical score 3-4). Incidence of MINS was 24% (n=165), and 90-day mortality rate was 6% (n=41). Patients with MINS had significantly higher mortality rate than those who did not experience MINS (10.9% vs. 4.3%, p<0.01). Age, creatinine clearance, and ASA score were also associated with 90-day mortality (p<0.05 for all). The time between hospital admission and surgery was not associated with mortality (p=0.47).

Conclusion: Our results suggest that MINS is associated with postoperative 90-day mortality in elderly patients having hip fracture surgery. This finding is in agreement with previous studies that investigated this association in other surgical populations. The relatively low 90-day mortality rate we found can be explained by the exclusion of high risk patients that was essential for MINS definition.

Our results are limited by our inability to perform a proper multivariate analysis. Future studies should aim to further determine the association between MINS and postoperative mortality in a larger cohort of patients having hip fracture surgery.

15AP02-07
Early hip fracture treatment in patients on clopidogrel treatment. Are we still concerned about its safety?

S. Gonzalez Santillana1, C. Corbella Gimenez1, J. Barros Garcia-Imhof1, F Sanchez Rodriguez1, A. Gallo Carrasco1, E. Monge Cid1
1Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Anestesiología y Reanimación, Madrid, Spain

Background: Hip fracture frequently occurs in frail elderly patients. It has been widely described that early surgery (<48h) reduces morbidity and mortality. However, surgery continues to be delayed in many clopidogrel-treated patients due to concerns that it may increase the risk of bleeding.

We analyse four cases after early implementation of a hip fracture clinical pathway at our hospital.

Case Reports: These four patients were admitted for unilateral subcapital femoral fracture. 1-Male 90yrs-old ASA III, hypertension, COPD and double lacunar stroke under treatment with clopidogrel. 2-Female 69 yrs-old ASA III, hypertension, COPD and femoro-femoral bypass due to critical ischemia of the right lower limb under treatment with clopidogrel. 3-Female 92 yrs-old, ASA III, hypertension, dyslipidemia, CKD and ischemic stroke under treatment with clopidogrel. 4- Male 90yrs-old ASA III, hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, COPD and CAGB treatment with clopidogrel.

According to our clinical pathway, surgery was performed in all cases in less than 48 hours under general anesthesia and reserving platelets before surgery due to the risk of bleeding.

Discussion: For scheduled surgery, clopidogrel must be stopped at least 5 days before. However, the hip fracture must be treated as an emergency and intervened in less than 48 hours despite this therapy. Clopidogrel should be discontinued upon admission, platelets reserved and proceed under general anesthesia to avoid the risk of spinal hematoma associated with neuraxial anesthesia, according to our clinical pathway.

There is always concern that decreased withdrawal time increases bleeding risk. However, the experience in our center is that intraoperative bleeding or transfusion requirements did not increase compared to patients without antithrombotic therapy or ASA alone. Thus, treatment with clopidogrel should not be a reason to delay surgery, allowing the patient to benefit from early rehabilitation.

Reference:

Learning Points: The timing of surgery is a pillar of the clinical pathway for a hip fracture. Antithrombotic therapy with clopidogrel should not delay surgery, and in the event of significant bleeding, platelet transfusion should be considered.
Evaluation of 2183 cases followed by Acute Pain Service, facing the increase in elderly surgical patients, is pain control enough?

C. Compagnone, M. Procopio, V. Bellini, A. Calabrese, T. Domenichetti, E.G. Bignami
`
Umbriat di Parma, Anesthesiology, Critical Care and Pain Medicine Division, Department of Medicine and Surgery, University of Parma, Parma, Italy`

**Background and Goal of Study:** Since its inception, the Acute Pain Service (APS) has aimed to improve postoperative pain management and related complications. The most recent guidelines have highlighted the priority to be increasingly tailored to the surgical procedure and patient. The number of elderly patients who frequently access health care and the demand for surgical services is increasing worldwide. Within this population, APS plays a crucial role: elderly patients are often undertreated for pain with an increased risk of complications, such as delirium.

The incidence of delirium in elders adults hovers around 10% and is related to worse outcomes with prolonged hospitalization, increased 30-day mortality and loss of independence. The modern view of APS is based on pain evaluation (by Numerical Rating Scale, NRS), considering also other variables associated with complications like Post-Operative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV), Sleep Disorders (SD), itch and sedation, leaving out behavioral illness like delirium.

The goal of this analysis, as the average age increased, is to evaluate the requirement to improve our APS, in order to tailor the service towards elderly patients.

**Materials and Methods:** In our observational and prospective analysis, we collected data from patients undergoing major non-cardiac surgery from 2017-2018 vs 2021-2022 examining type of analgesia, pain (NRS at rest and in movement) and other parameters (PONV, SD, itch, sedation).

**Results and Discussion:** We compared 869 patients from 2021-2022, controlled to 1314 from 2017-2018. Although there were no statistically significant differences in the average age group (62 +/- 15.9 vs 63.6 +/- 15.7, p=0.8), we found a difference in the frequency of patients in the age group between 75-84 years (20% vs 25%, p=0.0001).

There was an increase of neuroaxial anesthesia (65% vs 71%, p=0.04) and perineural (2% vs 4%, p=0.001) but this not change the quality of pain control rated on NRS (2.1 +/- 1.6 vs 2.9 +/- 2.3, p=0.45).

Between the different age groups, the analysis doesn’t detect differences in terms of complications except in the case of behavioral changes: the result is not statistically significant but it could be associated with the lack of use of scales adapted to the study population.

**Conclusion:** In light of the increasing age of patients, there is a need to reshape APS in order to evaluate the elderly patients: the standard assessments are to be supplemented with other additional rating scale.
Background and Goal of Study: The strain on healthcare systems by SARS-CoV-2 has created increased psychological distress among nurses, especially the postanesthesia care unit (PACU) nurses, the guardian of the airway after anesthesia. The study aims to assess the presence of PACU nurse burnout, role pressure, depression, and anxiety, and their risk factors and protective factors during the COVID-19 pandemic and provide data support to improve the current situation of postoperative care.

Materials and Methods: This is a multi-center cross-sectional survey. 170 PACU nurses from six Grade-III Class-A hospitals in Western China were invited to complete the 71-question online questionnaire. Besides demographical data, each subject’s characteristics and work information, MBI Scale, Depression-Anxiety-Pressure Scale (DASS-21), and Role Stressor Table were collected. The data was analyzed using the SPSS22.0 statistical software.

Results and Discussion: Among the 170 invited participants, 138 valid responses were received, giving an overall response rate of 81.1%, and 46 (33%) participants reported at least one symptom of burnout. There was one mild depression, five mild anxiety, and two moderate anxiety.

Working hours per week and nursing years were positively associated with role stress ($P = 0.004$). The higher pay satisfaction and a better attitude toward the prospects of anesthesia care were less prone to role stress and burnout.

In addition, physical health was a protective factor against burnout, depression, and anxiety.

The present study has certain limitations. We only focused on female subjects due to our study's extremely disproportionate distribution of male and female subjects. Moreover, this cross-sectional study was conducted at a specific time and geographic location without a follow-up. Another limitation concerns the sample size. All of these limitations make us hard to extrapolate the results to the overall PACU nurses during the epidemic. A more rigorous prospective study with larger sample sizes is a more practical option with greater external validity.

Conclusion(s): Our study confirmed the high prevalence of burnout, depression, and anxiety in PACU nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic. And working hours, satisfaction with income, attitude towards the prospect, and physical health are significantly related to the burnout, role stress, and psychological distress of PACU nurses.
16AP01-03

Survey evaluating the prevalence and the severity of feelings of self-doubt in European anesthesiologists


1Geneva University Hospitals, Anesthesiology, Geneva, Switzerland, 2UZ Leuven, Anesthesiology, Leuven, Belgium, 3University of Liege, Biostatistics, Liege, Belgium, 4UZ Brussel, Anesthesiology, Brussels, Belgium, 5Az Sint-Jan Brugge Oostende AV, Anesthesiology-Emergency Medicine, Brugge, Belgium, 6Az Sint-Jan Brugge Oostende AV, Anesthesiology-Intensive Care, Brugge, Belgium

Background and Goal of Study: Impostor syndrome (IS) is a form of erroneous self-assessment, defined as the inability to believe that one's success is earned and that positive outcomes are the result of one's skills (1). The syndrome has already been described in the healthcare setting and among academic faculty members which work in a competitive environment. A recent scoping review of IS in physicians concluded that low self-esteem, gender, and institutional culture are linked to high rates of impostor syndrome (2). The fact that burnout has also been linked to IS is more worrisome. Moreover, this syndrome might have negative effects such as preventing physicians from acting in stressful situations. Although IS has been studied in doctors across other specialties, it has yet to be investigated within anesthesiology. We hypothesise that IS prevalence will be high in this population due to core attributes of the profession itself. With the present survey study, we aim to investigate the prevalence and severity of IS in European anesthesiologists and to identify key demographics that are linked to increased rate of IS.

Materials and Methods: This survey is endorsed by the ESAIC and will be distributed via email from February 2023 onwards to its members for a period of 6 months. First, anesthesiologists will be asked to provide demographic data. Second, impostor syndrome will be measured through the Clance Impostor Phenomenon Scale (3), a previously validated score with questions that investigate self-assessment of competency, praise, and success. Impostor characteristics are graded “few” if the total score is 40 or less, “moderate” between 41 and 60, and “intense” between 61 and 80. The higher the score, the more frequently and seriously the Impostor Phenomenon interferes in a person’s life. Pearson chi squared test will be used to highlight predictive attributes.

Results and Discussion: Results will be presented at the end of the survey period. This survey will allow us to identify the prevalence and severity of impostor syndrome among anesthesiologists, which has never been evaluated on a large scale. In parallel, it can identify risk factors associated with impostor syndrome, allowing a better understanding of the phenomenon, and offering better guidance to colleagues in the future. In the discussion we will also suggest solutions, such as mentor-mentee programs and coping strategies.

16AP01-04

Burnout in a single surgical centre

L. Fernandes, M. Azevedo, J. Freitas, A. Amorim

1Centro Hospitalar do Funchal, Anaesthesiology Department, Funchal, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: Burnout syndrome is characterized by the dimensions of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and low sense of personal accomplishment. Healthcare professionals’ burnout is associated to decreased quality of life, patient satisfaction and quality of care. We aimed to determine the prevalence of and risk factors for burnout in our surgical centre, since data from all working professionals in a single surgical centre is limited.

Materials and Methods: In May and June 2022, anaesthesiologists, nurses, and operating room assistants of our surgical centre were anonymously surveyed, using the Maslach Burnout Inventory Human Services Survey and additional questions querying professional and personal factors. High risk for burnout was defined by high scores on the emotional exhaustion subscale and on the depersonalization subscale and burnout syndrome by demonstrating high score in all three dimensions. T-student and ANOVA tests were used for continuous variables and Fisher’s exact test for categorical variables. All variables with P < 0.05 on univariate testing were included in the multivariable logistic regression modelling.

Results and Discussion: 97 healthcare professionals completed the survey (response rate 66.7%); 18.6% were at high risk of burnout, and 6.2% met criteria for burnout syndrome. High levels of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and reduced feelings of personal accomplishment were experienced by 50.5%, 21.6%, and 29.9% of respondents, respectively. Unlike other studies, a regular working schedule and daytime-only shifts were associated with high risk of burnout (p=0.001 and p=0.005, respectively), possibly due to work overload and relocation to other working places. Differences were detected within professional category, where high risk of burnout was greater in circulating/instrumentalist nurses (p=0.014) and burnout syndrome in operating room assistants (p=0.017).

On multivariable analysis, professional category – operating room assistant (OR, 11.1; 95% CI, 1.1 to 113.4) and a regular working schedule (OR, 4.6; 95% CI, 1.3 to 16.5) were independently associated with high risk for burnout.

Conclusion: The prevalence of burnout in our surgical centre was low, but the degree of emotional exhaustion was high. The authors identified professional category – operating room assistant and regular working schedule as factors influencing high risk for burnout.
Background and Goal of the Study: Greece encounters shortage in blood supplies to cover the high transfusion needs arising from trauma, surgery, and treatment of thalassaemia. Furthermore, the blood supply in Greece relies exclusively on voluntary nonpaid blood donations (BD). Appropriate training of medical students (MS) could have a positive impact in BD.

The aim of this study was to evaluate and analyze the knowledge and attitudes of undergraduate 4th year MS at the University of Thessaly on BD.

Materials and Methods: An anonymous survey (based on Arsalan J. et al.), was conducted during the first class of anaesthesiology core rotation (October 2022), after obtaining permission by the authors. Apart from participants’ demographic data the survey consisted of 13 questions regarding MS knowledge of BD and 11 questions regarding attitudes towards BD, scored in a 3 point Likert scale.

Descriptive statistics and frequencies were used for statistical analysis while knowledge and attitudes are presented with proportions of answers. Data were summarized using means (SD), and are presented as numbers and percentages.

Results and Discussion: A total of 91 MS (65.5% females), with a mean age of 22.6 years old completed the survey (response rate 82.7%). Only 21.1% of them knew the weight requirements for BD, while almost half of them knew the appropriate time interval between two BD and the appropriate age of the donor (46.1% and 53.9% respectively).

While 50% believed that females can’t donate in the perimenstrual period, the majority knew the limitations on BD. Although 71.1% knew the difference between blood products and whole blood, only 45.5% were aware of the concept of autologous components. Regarding their attitude towards BD, the majority of MS declared that they would donate blood (80%) and would encourage other people to do that also (82.2%).

While 88.9% would like to receive training about BD, believing in the necessity of the spread of knowledge about BD in healthcare professionals (93.3%). Interestingly only 44.4% of the MS agreed with the current voluntary BD policy in Greece.

Conclusions: Although medical students in our medical school display a positive attitude towards BD, there are gaps in some aspects of their knowledge regarding BD. Hence, a curriculum that confronts these educational oversights seems mandatory in order to improve the knowledge about BD and enhance its propagation.

Reference:
1. DOI 10.7759/cureus.7733
Assessing engagement and burnout in anaesthetists in a university teaching hospital

V. Penston¹, M. Stott¹
¹Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Department of Anaesthesia, Liverpool, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: It is well recognised that burnout is increasingly prevalent in healthcare workers. Despite an association with impaired performance and reduced patient safety, many departments will be unaware of the incidence, therefore appropriate support may not be in place. Likewise, engagement is fundamental to staff wellbeing and improved patient outcomes. The goal of this study was to evaluate the impact of burnout and level of engagement in the anaesthetic department of University Hospital Aintree.

Materials and Methods: We used the shortened 9-point Utrecht Work Engagement Scale (UWES-9) to assess engagement across 3 domains¹ and the Burnout Assessment Tool (BAT-12), a 12-point questionnaire, across 4 domains.² Both surveys were distributed among all consultant and trainee anaesthetists and anaesthesia associates during October 2022. Statistical significance was assessed using a single sample t-test comparing study population means with statistical norms from BAT-12.

Results and Discussion: There were 51 and 43 responses for engagement and burnout respectively. Burnout was likely in 28% of consultants and 50% had some evidence of burnout. Conversely, 75% of registrars did not demonstrate any features of burnout. We demonstrated significantly higher rates of burnout overall. Only 5.8% of anaesthetists had high levels of engagement with 40% of consultants reporting low or very low levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Exhaustion</th>
<th>Mental distance</th>
<th>Cognitive impairment</th>
<th>Emotional impairment</th>
<th>Overall Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAT-12 statistical norms - mean (SD)</td>
<td>2.26 (0.66)</td>
<td>1.98 (0.90)</td>
<td>2.12 (0.70)</td>
<td>1.73 (0.74)</td>
<td>2.02 (0.66)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study population - mean (SD)</td>
<td>3.23 (0.71)</td>
<td>2.65 (0.85)</td>
<td>2.10 (0.57)</td>
<td>2.19 (0.75)</td>
<td>2.54 (0.54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>P&lt;0.00001</td>
<td>P&lt;0.00001</td>
<td>P 0.41379</td>
<td>P 0.00009</td>
<td>P&lt;0.00001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No burnout</td>
<td>21 (49%)</td>
<td>11 (25%)</td>
<td>40 (93%)</td>
<td>23 (53%)</td>
<td>22 (51%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk of burnout</td>
<td>5 (12%)</td>
<td>20 (47%)</td>
<td>2 (5%)</td>
<td>8 (19%)</td>
<td>10 (23%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnout most likely</td>
<td>17 (39%)</td>
<td>12 (28%)</td>
<td>1 (2%)</td>
<td>12 (28%)</td>
<td>11 (26%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. BAT-12 results

We have shown high levels of burnout among anaesthetists in our trust and intervention is paramount to improving staff satisfaction and performance. Engagement was found to be lower than average and further evaluation is required to determine the most appropriate course of action.

Conclusion: Burnout and engagement were worse than expected highlighting the importance of monitoring wellbeing. Further evaluation may allow strategies to be employed to improve these results.

References:
Perioperative ethical dilemma in adolescent with ataxia telangiectasia: does the end justify the means?

Z. Kostense¹, S. Kessner¹
¹University Medical Centre Groningen, Department of Anaesthesia, Groningen, Netherlands

Background: With careful perioperative planning, many high risk paediatric cases are performed with little impact on morbidity and mortality. The quest to save lives pushes the boundaries of anaesthetic practices. How far do we go in the pursuit of patients’ best interest?

Case report: L is a 17-year-old refugee presented with severe malnutrition. He has severe chronic restrictive pulmonary function and neurological symptoms diagnosed as ataxia telangiectasia (AT). The anaesthetist was asked to assist in percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) for his nutritional problem. At that point, L had a BMI of 13 and received TPN. He was also treated for pulmonary and line sepsis.

A multidisciplinary meeting was held due to the complexity of the case. The anaesthetic team considered this is as a high risk anaesthetic case due to the combination of malnutrition, low BMI, deteriorating chronic lung function and sepsis. However, the referring team felt he should be given the chance despite those risks. L consented and received GA for his PEG. He was admitted to the PICU postoperatively and was discharged to the ward the next day where his respiratory function rapidly deteriorated. L died peacefully 48 hours later.

Discussion: AT is an incurable genetic disease manifested by neuro degeneration and chronic lung disease. L was likely to be in his final palliative stages. Although, the PEG would address his malnutrition, undergoing GA poses a greater threat to his physical condition. Ethically, was this the right decision? Such parallel scenarios are often confronted within our anaesthetic practices.

Too often is the anaesthetic risks and advice are underestimated by other healthcare professionals. This forces the anaesthetist to confront and deal with the eventualty of expected anaesthetic related adverse events. Although such events are anticipated, the psychological impact to the anaesthetist is immense and often overlooked. There is a need for proper guidance.

Reference:

Learning Points:

Learning Points:
1. Informed consent is questionable when anaesthetic risks outweighs the benefits of the procedure.
2. Local ethics committee should be part of the consultation process if one of the clinicians raised their doubts in such cases.
3. Attention should be given to the psychological impact of the anaesthetic provider in such cases.

Euthanasia and organ donation. A new challenge for the anaesthesiologist

D.P. Oviedo Torres¹, A. Vilches García¹, J.C. Álvarez García¹, A. Serrallonga Castells¹, A. Ferrer Segarra¹, L. Aguilera Cuchillo¹,²
¹Hospital del Mar, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Barcelona, Spain, ²Hospital del Mar, Medical Ethics Comitee, Barcelona, Spain

Background: The euthanasia law was approved in Spain on June 2021¹. Patients suffering from a chronic incurable disease with significant physical and psychological burden are able to request euthanasia. The physician responsible for the patient is the leader of the process. In our hospital, the Anesthesiology department provides support in the management of intravenous drugs. Many patients suffering chronic neurological disease choose organ donation in asystole-controlled Maastricht III².

Case Report: A 75-year-old patient suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, whose physician provided information on prognosis, evolution, therapeutic alternatives and palliative care. The patient requested euthanasia as well as offered organ donation. A multidisciplinary assessment was performed. A favorable answer was obtained. The patient arrived to the operating room accompanied by his family and referring physician. Medication was administered by the anesthesiologist, as a key part of the support team. When asystole was detected, the death of the patient was certified and organ harvesting begins.

Discussion: Euthanasia was recently approved in Spain. Medications to cause death could be self-administered by the patient or intravenously (iv) by the usual physician. The majority of the team involved in euthanasia is not familiar with iv medications (midazolam, lidocaine, propofol and rocuronium).

Even though all iv-administration process is very well established in the euthanasia guidelines¹, the presence of an anesthesiologist, who is familiar with the drugs, the cannulation of venous line and with the problems associated, improves the safety and quality of the process.

Organ donation after controlled circulatory death (Maastricht III) following the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment is an increasing procedure in Europe² and could be applied to patients requesting euthanasia.

References:

Learning Points:
1. Treating physicians must provide the necessary support.
2. Interdisciplinary communication between the patient and caregivers is mandatory.
3. Healthcare professionals need more training in the psychological and emotional aspects involved.
**16AP01-10**

**Do you know what you are consenting to?**

**Readability of Informed consents for anaesthesia in Croatia accessed by SMOG score**

A. Mandaric¹, D. Karmelic¹, V. Nedeljkovic², I. Situm¹, A.-M. Šarušić³, S. Mihaljevic¹

¹University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Department of Anaesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care, Zagreb, Croatia, ²Special Hospital for Lung Disease, Department of Internal Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia, ³University of Zagreb, School of Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia

**Background and Goal of Study:** The Simple Measure of Gobbledygook (SMOG) formula is testing tool designed to grade a text based on the number of sentences and syllables per word. SMOG Readability Formula estimates the years of education a person needs to understand a text. It has been used in many instances to analyse the readability of medical texts.

Informed consents for anaesthesia are the base of patient’s autonomy in a situation where they will surrender that autonomy to the anaesthesiologist in full faith, therefore it is crucial to understand what they’re consenting to.

The goal of this study was to compare the readability of informed consent form for anaesthesia (A-IC forms) across Croatia.

**Materials and Methods:** A-IC forms were collected from various Croatian hospitals. The text was analysed using SMOG-Cro, a validated variation of SMOG formula for Croatian language: \( 2 + \sqrt{4+syllables} \), where a coefficient of 2 is added to the nearest square root of the total number of words with at least four syllables.

**Results and Discussion:** 14 consent forms were collected. 12 of them were accessed by SMOG score, while 2 were excluded due to insufficient amount of text (those hospitals provide oral explanations of anaesthesiology procedures to patients) Average SMOG score was 11.12 which means that level of education needed to comprehend text is at least 11 grades of formal education (finished 3rd year of high school). The highest score was 14.5 while the lowest was 10.4.

According to the 2014 statistics of the level of formal education of Croatian population, 27.4% of the population over the age of 19 have completed only primary school (8 years), 54.8% have finished high school (11-12 years of education), and 17.6% of Croatian citizens have a high level of education (14+ years of education). 35.6% of those have Bachelor, 35.6% Masters degree, and 2% completed doctoral studies (14+, 16+ and 19+ years of education).

Therefore, it is important to implement Informed consents that are easily readable to all citizens with at least Elementary school education, which in case of Croatian Anaesthesiology informed consent is not the case.

**Conclusion(s):** The comprehension problems this study found should alert institutional review boards to review consent forms currently in use, making sure they are easily readable by all citizens. Only thus are the interests of both patients and doctors protected, and the obtained consent truly informed.

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**16AP01-11**

**The patient perspective on informed consent for anesthesia in patients scheduled for cardiac surgery, an observational study**

M. Marsman¹

¹UMC Utrecht, Anesthesiology, Utrecht, Netherlands

**Background and Goal of Study:** In current practice anesthesia and surgery require separate informed consents. It is not known, however, whether patients value a separate consent for anesthesia, whether information about risks influences consent and how patients assess anesthetic risks compared with surgical risks.

**Materials and Methods:** This cross-sectional study included patients scheduled for cardiac surgery in a tertiary referral hospital in the Netherlands between May 2021 and March 2022. Patients completed a questionnaire exploring patient perceptions about information provisioning, anesthetic risks, informed consent and how anesthetic risks relate to surgical risks and benefits.

**Results and Discussion:** Of 120 patients eligible, 100 completed the questionnaire and those were analyzed. Twenty-six were female and 62 were older than 60 years. Sixty-five patients valued information about anesthesia and 35 not. Most patients worried about surgical risks instead of anesthetic risks. Seventy-six patients felt no need for a separate consent for anesthesia, mainly because of the feeling of ‘no choice but to undergo surgery’. Even when probabilities for severe anesthetic complications were high, 63 patients would still be willing to undergo surgery.

**Conclusion(s):** The majority of patients scheduled for cardiac surgery reported to have no need for a separate informed consent for anesthesia. Although most patients valued information about anesthesia, this information was not needed, nor did it influence their consent as surgical risks and benefits outweighed any anesthesia risk. In the future, surgeons and anesthesiologists may offer information tailored to patients’ preferences after which combined consent for the complete anesthetic and surgical process can be obtained.
Ventilation effectiveness during paediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation: simulation-based comparative study

T. Skrisovska1,2, J. Djakow2,3, P. Stourac2,1, T. Kramplova1
1University Hospital Brno, Department of Pediatric Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Brno, Czech Republic,
2Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 3NH Hospital Inc. Hořovice, Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, Hořovice, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: This prospective simulation-based comparative study aimed to evaluate the ventilation during simulated paediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) provided by health care professionals (HCP) and lay rescuers (LR). European Resuscitation Council (ERC) guidelines 2021 were considered standard of care.(1)

The primary outcome was the number of effective breaths out of 5 initial CPR breaths before and after structured training. The secondary outcomes were: a sub-analysis of 2 first ventilation attempts, the time to first effective ventilation, and the time to the start of chest compressions.

We hypothesised, that in HCPs more than 80% of ventilation attempts from 5 initial breaths will be effective (4 out of 5 breaths). In LRs, more than 60% of ventilation attempts (3 out of 5 breaths) and there will be a significant improvement in the number of effective ventilation in both groups after simulation-based training.

Materials and Methods: HCP and LR performed 90 seconds of CPR on 2 simulation mannequins: 5 kg Baby and 20 kg Junior. The HCPs provided bag-mask ventilation; LR dispatcher-assisted CPR with mouth-to-mouth ventilation. The effectiveness of ventilation (defined as a visible chest rise) was recognized by a mannequin and visually confirmed by trained independent observers. Both had to be in concordance to mark a ventilation attempt as effective.

Results and Discussion: Data were obtained from 40 HCPs and 46 LRs. Significant improvement was detected in the number of effective ventilations in Baby in HCP before and after the training 26 (65%) vs. 40 (100%), respectively and in LRs 28 (60.9%) vs. 45 (97.8%), (both P<0.001). The improvement before and after the training in Junior was significant only in the LR group [32 (82.1%) vs. 37 (94.9%), P=0.005], not in the HCP group [31(77.5%) vs. 32 HCP (82.1%), (P=0.77)].

Conclusion(s): ERC guidelines recommendation to start pediatric CPR with 5 initial breaths, was based on the experts’ opinion.(1) Other resuscitation guidelines worldwide do not include initial resuscitation breaths in lay rescuers.(2)(3)

To our knowledge, this is the first study investigating ventilation effectiveness in paediatric CPR. Our data confirmed that lay rescuers providing dispatcher-assisted CPR can deliver effective breaths for both Baby and Junior. Obtained data display the benefit of practical paediatric CPR training by improving the number of effective initial breaths in both HCPs and LRs.

Using Rapid Cycle Deliberate Practice simulation to teach Rapid Sequence Induction to nurse anaesthetic providers in Tanzania

J. Hartley1
1University Hospital Sussex NHS Foundation Trust, Anaesthesia, Brighton, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Nurse anaesthetic providers in Tanzania complete a one-year course before being expected to work autonomously, often in rural locations. Simulation-based-education has an established role in teaching anaesthetic providers however its role in low-resource settings is limited. In Rapid Cycle Deliberate Practice (RCDP) simulation, facilitators provide ‘within-event’ debriefing and allow participants to correct mistakes, thus reinforcing the correct choreography of the procedure1.

The goal of this study was to evaluate the use of RCDP simulation to teach Rapid Sequence Induction – a core skill for nurse anaesthetic providers.

Materials and Methods: A simulation suite featuring a high-fidelity mannequin situated within a regional referral hospital in Tanzania was utilised. Thirteen student nurse anaesthetic providers at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, Moshi, took part. Participants carried out an obstetric general anaesthesia RSI scenario with feedback delivered using the RCDP model within the sim suite. Written questionnaires were completed before and after the scenario to assess confidence (on a 1-5 scale) in carrying out an RSI. Additional feedback relating to general aspects of the simulation session was also sought.

Results and Discussion: Mean confidence score amongst participants pre-simulation was 3.5 (range 1-5). Post-simulation mean score was 4.8 (range 4-5). 11/13 participants (84.6%) showed an improvement in RSI confidence score following simulation with a mean score improvement of 1.3 points.

77% of participants strongly agreed that the stated aims of the simulation were clear (remaining 23% answered ‘agree’).
92% strongly agreed that the simulation enhanced their learning of RSI (remaining 8% answering ‘agree’).
69% strongly agreed that the debriefing allowed them to reflect on their performance (remaining 31% answering ‘agree’).
92% strongly agreed that the facilitator created a safe and enjoyable learning environment (remaining 8% answering ‘agree’).

Conclusion(s): These results suggest a role for RCDP simulation in improving confidence in performing a RSI amongst nurse anaesthetic providers in a low-resource setting. Using simulation as part of a more comprehensive skills teaching program is suggested.

Reference:
16AP02-04
Launch of a novel Virtual Reality environment in the training of anaesthetists in aviation medicine

E.L. Kulcsár1, I. Lunczer1
1TrustAir Aviation Kft., Medical Department, Budapest, Hungary

Background and Goal of Study: Management of medical emergencies of critically ill ICU patients requires a wide range of knowledge, especially under particular circumstances, like a fixed-wing ambulance aircraft. Virtual Reality (VR) can be used in numerous ways in education, but its role is remarkable in medicine, by giving the opportunity to safely experience the most challenging real-life scenarios. Using the new VR application under development in collaboration of TrustAir Aviation and ARWorks, skillful intensivists can be trained by scenario-based simulations of in-flight patient care.

Materials and Methods: While wearing the VR headset, the user is surrounded by a photorealistic 3D virtual on-board patient transport milieu colored with real environmental noises (aircraft engines, radio communications, medical equipment, etc.). At the beginning of the simulation, the intubated patient’s vital parameters are steady and within normal limits, but in an unexpected moment, the level of oxygen saturation decreases for randomised reasons.

Results and Discussion: The system is able to monitor and record response times and reactions, and collect details in an aggregated database, wherefrom statistics are easily available for the administrators. Hereby mistakes are identifiable and after multiple repetitions improvement is well traceable.

Conclusion(s): For the above-mentioned reasons the proposed method is appropriate for extending manual and non-manual medical skills under prehospital or hospital circumstances, and in a later iteration of development can be expanded to further techniques (i.e. ultrasound, RSI, insertion of peripheral or central lines, nerve blocks, surgical methods etc.).

The major advantage of VR technology is the ability to create a learning tool in virtual reality, when the prospect of carrying out the same practice in the real world would be extremely dangerous, challenging and expensive.

16AP02-06
The impact of the first palliative care in ICU course in Czechia

T. Prokopová1,2, K. Rusinová1, R. Gál1, P. Štourač1,2, A. Pokorná1,7, J. Maláška4
1University Hospital Brno, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 2Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 3First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University and General University Hospital in Prague, Department of Palliative Medicine, Prague, Czech Republic, 4University Hospital Brno, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 5Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Czech National Centre for Evidence-Based Healthcare and Knowledge Translation (Cochrane Czech Republic, Czech EBHC: JIB Centre of Excellence, Masaryk University GRADE Centre), Brno, Czech Republic, 6Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses, Brno, Czech Republic, 7Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Health Sciences, Brno, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Palliative care is an important area of everyday care in the ICU. The previous study (PEOpLE-C19) carried out in the Czech Republic among more than 300 physicians, and nurses showed us that palliative care is challenging for most physicians and nurses, and focused training was stressed as an important topic. These results were one of the driving forces to establish the Research Initiative in Palliative Care and Ethics in the ICU (RIPE-ICU) in Czechiia, and the first multidisciplinary education course focusing on palliative care in the ICU was held in November 2022.

Materials and Methods: Online 10 mostly multiple-choice question survey (pre- and post-test) in 16 course participants and 5 lecturers with non-obligatory participation.

Results and Discussion: In total, 19 course participants (physicians and nurses) filled out the questionnaire before and 17 after the course. The goals and outcomes of providing high-quality palliative care could be determined by 13 out of 19 respondents before the course compared to all 17 respondents after the course.

Conclusion(s): The first course aiming at palliative care in the ICU showed very good results concerning clarifying the terminology in end-of-life decisions and making participants more familiar with setting the goals of treatment and palliative care practice. Based on positive feedback, the new advanced course will be prepared for autumn 2023.

Reference:
Acknowledgements: We would like to thank RIPE-ICU initiative members and course lecturers.
16AP02-07
Motivation and knowledge in anaesthesia moving medicine graduates to start an anaesthesiology residency in Madrid

P. Martos De Lucchi1, N. Brogly1, E. Guasch Arévalo1, R. Cantero1, F. Martos Fernández de Córdoba2, F. Gilsanz Rodríguez2
1Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Departamento de Cirugía, Madrid, Spain, 2Hospital Santa Elena, Servicio de Anestesia, Málaga, Spain

Background: Over the past years, choice of specialization in anaesthesiology and intensive care has become more popular in Spain. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased this phenomenon: now it lies as a top-pick option for our graduated medical students who see in our specialty many career opportunities. We designed a survey to assess theoretical knowledge and factors which participated to the choice of our specialty, among first-year resident having started recently their training.

Methods: A survey was designed to evaluate the background, exposure to anaesthesia as a specialty during medical school training and motivation. The survey finalized with a theoretical test on knowledge concerning basic principles of anaesthesia (using 15 best single answer multiple choice questions). The questions were transferred to a GoogleForm survey and proposed to the seventy-first-year residents of the Madrid Autonomous Region (Spain). Results are presented as N (Percentage).

Results: Between September and December 2022, 40/70 (70%) residents answered the survey. 55.6% residents had studied in Madrid before starting residency program, 86.1% had attended a public university and 100% had chosen anaesthesia as their first option. During their medical degree, 51.4% of them had received theoretical lectures in anaesthesia. For 68.2%, these lectures were mandatory, and were given during their third year of medical school for 47.4% of them. 91.9% residents were offered opportunity to do clinical rotations in anaesthesia, even though it was optional for 72.2% of them. When asked about the main reason for selecting this specialty, 91.9% considered that the career opportunities were the most important factor, 86.5%, the width of knowledge and 81.1%, the variety of technical skills available. Having received a theoretical course of anaesthesia during their degree didn’t influence their choice for the specialty. The average score for the knowledge test reached 12/15 (80%) of correct answers, demonstrating a good level of knowledge at the beginning of the residency. The most failed question concerned general physiology (only 10.3% of residents answered correctly).

Discussion: Most of our first-year residents did a clinical rotation during their medical degree and were exposed to their future specialty, which oriented their choice. When considering anaesthesia as a choice, career opportunities was the most influencing factor.

Reference:
1. Sánchez Gil, JC, REDAR 2011

16AP02-08
Impact of policy documents & faculty opinions in Almetric Attention Scores of 17 anaesthesia & pain medical journals

G. Micha1, E. Soulioti1, A. Fassoulaki1
1Aretaieio University Hospital, Medical School, University of Athens, Department of Anaesthesiology, Athens, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Almetric Attention Score (AAS) includes a number of sources related to public attention. No association between Almetric impact factor (IF) and traditional IF was found. Assessing quality of articles and journals by AAS has been questioned. We studied the impact of Policy Documents and Faculty opinion in the AAS of anaesthesia and pain medical journals.

Materials and Methods: We included 4881 articles in 17 journals with an AAS published during the year 2020. From the Almetric details page of each article we recorded the Policy Documents and the Faculty Opinions which cited the relevant article. Results for each individual journal are presented as a) percentage of Policy Documents over the number of articles and b) percentage of the articles mentioned by the Faculty Opinion.

Results and Discussion: Results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Number of articles, Almetric Impact Factor (total AAS/n of articles), Numbers of policy documents over the number of articles (%) and Numbers Faculty Opinion over the number of articles (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>N articles</th>
<th>Almetric Impact Factor</th>
<th>Numbers of policy documents over the number of articles (%)</th>
<th>Numbers Faculty Opinion over the number of articles (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anesthesia</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>152272281 (94.2)</td>
<td>13/281 (4.63%)</td>
<td>3/281 (1.07%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthesiology</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>4465143 (10.8)</td>
<td>8/413 (1.94%)</td>
<td>17/413 (4.12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AnesthAnalg</td>
<td>795</td>
<td>6811795 (7.9)</td>
<td>9/795 (1.13%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br J Anaesth</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>5205281 (11)</td>
<td>60/481 (12.47%)</td>
<td>4/481 (0.83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can J Anaesth</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>4892130 (14.4)</td>
<td>10/310 (3.23%)</td>
<td>3/310 (0.97%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clin J Pain</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>768116 (6.6)</td>
<td>1/116 (0.36%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cur OpinAnesth</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>458131 (3.5)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eur J Anaesthesiol</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>530191 (2.8)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eur J Pain</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>1576182 (9.7)</td>
<td>6/182 (3.3%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J ClinMonitComput</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>881174 (4.6)</td>
<td>2/174 (1.15%)</td>
<td>1/174 (0.57%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J ClinAnesth</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>829475 (1.9)</td>
<td>10/475 (2.11%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Neurouros Anesthesiol</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>63883 (10.1)</td>
<td>3/83 (4.76%)</td>
<td>3/83 (4.76%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>6817409 (23.1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain Med</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>5256122 (10.1)</td>
<td>3/522 (0.57%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain Pract</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>274109 (2.4)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perioper. Med</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>148192 (15.9)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reg Anesth Pain Med</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>2348048 (9.1)</td>
<td>2/248 (8.31%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>4881</td>
<td>577494881 (11.8)</td>
<td>12714881 (2.6%)</td>
<td>31/4881 (0.64%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the 17 journals 12 had mentions in Policy Documents and only six had articles mentioned by the Faculty Opinions platform with a 2.6% and 0.64% frequency respectively.

Conclusion(s): The incidence of mentions in the Faculty Opinions is weaker than the incidence in Policy Documents as only 6 journals have articles included in this platform. Ranking of these journals does not follow ranking by the Almetric Impact Factor.
16AP02-09
Experience in a pre-commercial procurement about patient empowerment and stress avoidance: the STARS project

L. Blasco Torres1, A. Vallejo Tarrat1, C. Hernández Cera2, A. Fernandez Colorado1, G. Pujol Caballe1
1Hospital Universitari Parc Taulí, Anesthesiology, Sabadell, Spain, 2Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Anesthesiology, Barcelona, Spain

Background: Perioperative stress is a widespread problem with a high impact on surgical patients, which needs to be treated and mitigated. STARS project was designed as a pre-commercial procurement, with European Union funds, amongst five European hospitals that challenged the industry to develop an innovative support tool for patients planned for surgery, with the aim to reduce stress and improve patient’s health condition during the care path.

Materials and Methods: Public procurers challenge companies to develop new solutions. Two contractors, Evidenze with CARINAE Solution and Adhera Health with SAM Solution, reached the last phase and managed to undergo a field testing in these hospitals. Inclusion criteria were adults planned for major surgery in 2 to 4 weeks after the inclusion.

We developed a multicenter study, open-label, randomized to the intervention and control group during December 2021 to April 2022 with 60 patients recruited by each contractor. The main objective was the assessment of changes in stress levels suffered by patients using the solution versus those in the control group during the patient journey. Secondary objectives were the assessment of changes in pain level, empowerment, quality of life, control of wound healing, usability and satisfaction with the solution.

Results and Discussion: In SAM group, 40 patients were analyzed and randomized, 53.5% to SAM group and 47.5% to control group. The 81.1% finished the study. In CARINAE group 50 patients were analyzed and randomized, 46% to CARINAE group and 54% to control group. The 78% finished the study.

In both groups, changes in stress levels, pain, empowerment, quality of life, and wound healing did not significantly differ between intervention and control group. Patients perceived the experience as pleasant, clear, helpful and they would recommend the apps to other patients. Patients who used the solution scored higher in satisfaction evaluations showing greater perception of mental well-being, self-efficacy and self-management. In both solutions, patients negatively reported the communication chat with the health care professionals. No statistical differences were found.

Conclusions: STARS field testing is the first stone in validating with clinical signification.

16AP02-10
Beyond a national advanced airway training course – steps to education deployment

C.R. Bârsac1, A. Petrică2, C. B Burlacu3, D. Ostergaard4, M. Lazarovici5, D. Sandesc1
1Timiş County Emergency Clinical Hospital ‘Pius Branzeu’, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Timisoara, Romania, 2Timiş County Emergency Clinical Hospital ‘Pius Branzeu’, Emergency Department, Timisoara, Romania, 3University College Dublin, School of Medicine, Surgery and Surgical Specialties, Dublin, Ireland, 4University of Copenhagen, Academy for Medical Education and Simulation, Copenhagen, Denmark, 5Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, Human Simulation Center at the Institute for Emergency Medicine, Munich, Germany

Background and Goal of Study: At academic institutions, anesthesiology residents may be responsible for airway management inside and outside the operating room, either independently or with another resident. Poor judgment along with lack of education and training may be the leading preventable cause of adverse outcomes related to airway management. A national standardised advanced airway course would implement the same course content for all anaesthesia trainees, independent of local attitudes to airway management in view of optimising patient’s care perioperatively and in the Intensive Care environment.

Materials and Methods: An international working group representing 3 societies: ESAIC (European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care), SESAM (Society in Europe for Simulation Applied to Medicine) and SRATI (Romanian Society of Anesthesia and Intensive Care) designed a standardised course in advanced airway management for anaesthesiology trainees. The project started with a train the trainers course followed by delivering the course to all the 2nd year anaesthesia residents in the main five simulation centers from Romania (Bucuresti, Timisoara, Tg. Mures, Cluj, Iasi).

In this paper, we analyze the challenges encountered along the way from the design of a national advanced airway training course to its actual use in medical teaching.

The study assessed whether the intended aims of the training programme were clearly conveyed by the trainers, and how participants understood and subsequently implemented the training programme intentions into practice.

Evaluation was two-fold: (a) trainees’ perception and attitude towards this course and it’s actual effectiveness in teaching; (b) feedback from the trainers regarding the course development and their own development as faculty.

Results and Discussion: Trainees’ overall impression on the usefulness of a standardised airway management course were high (total scoring was in the upper 20 percent of the anonymous questionnaires’ scales). Previous studies have shown that the trainees’ knowledge increased as well as their competencies in technical skills and NTS after an advanced airway course. We foresee similar results with our national course and plan to integrate it within the national specialist training programme.

Conclusions: The positive feed-back received from trainers and trainees are compelling arguments for employing such standardised airway management courses in anaesthesia trainees’ curricula.
16AP02-11
Effects of simulation-based education on the acquisition of non technical skills in nurse anesthesia students
M. Daïki1,2, Y. Boukhalfa3, A. Hamzaoui4, M. Zarrouk5, A. Souissi6, I. Labbene7
1Elmanar University, Anesthesiology, Tunis, Tunisia, 2University Tunis El Manar/ Military Hospital of Tunis, Anesthesiology and critical care, Tunis, Tunisia, 3Military Hospital of Tunis, Anesthesiology and critical care, Tunis, Tunisia, 4Military hospital of Tunis, Anesthesiology and critical care, Tunis, Tunisia, 5Military Hospital of Tunis, Anesthesiology and critical care, Tunis, Tunisia, 6University Tunis El Manar, Anesthesia, Tunis, Tunisia, 7University Tunis El Manar, Anesthesiology and critical care, Tunis, Tunisia

Background and Goal of Study: In patient care, both Technical Skills (TS) and NonTechnical Skills (NTS) are necessary to maintain best practice as well as reach a high level of expertise. The “Anesthetists’ Non-Technical Skills (ANTS) system” evaluates the effect of simulation training and debriefing on nontechnical skills (NTS). Studies suggest that residents’ NTS may improve after simulation training but the effect on NTS of nurse anesthesia students is unclear. The purpose of this study was to determine whether high-fidelity simulation training and debriefing improved the NTS of nurse anesthesia students using the ANTS tool.

Materials and Methods: It was a prospective cohort study involving 16 nurse anesthesia students in their final year of graduation. The students managed a 45-minute anesthesia crisis using high-fidelity simulation and returned one month later to manage a second case. ANTS system rating forms were used by a clinician who was familiar with its use. The averages of scores between categories and elements of ANTS were compared between the two simulations sessions using the Wilcoxon nonparametric test (p-value <0.05).

Results and Discussion: The mean ANTS score for each category had progressed by 25.42%. The principle component analysis distinguished two groups (marginal and acceptable) during the first simulation, whereas in the second simulation, the marginal group no longer appears. The ANTS categories scores had a significant evolution (p-value <0.05) between the first and the second simulation, which confirms the effect of the simulation on the acquisition of non technical skills, despite the short delay of the study period.

Conclusion(s): Our study highlights the positive impact of high-fidelity simulation on the acquisition of non technical skills in nurse anesthesia students. Simulation based nontechnical skills training should be incorporated into educational training programs, quality improvement projects and ongoing professional development as for doctors.

References:

Acknowledgments: None.

16AP03-01
A novel subspecialty anesthesia immersive simulation curriculum for trainees: a cohort study
Y. Brzezinski Sinai1, E. Fiszer1, D. Karol1, J. Rozeznic1, G. Kaplan1, C.F. Weiniger1
1Tel Aviv Medical Center, Anaesthesia, Tel Aviv, Israel

Background and Goal of Study: Simulation is essential for medical education, especially in the field of Anaesthesia1. We aim to describe a simulation program’s structure, content, and resident feedback that will help implement simulation-based learning.

Materials and Methods: Cohort survey study, our participants were 33 anesthesia trainees from our department.

Trainees participated in five courses (Passports) for different anesthesia subspecialties: obstetric, pediatric, cardiothoracic, beginners, and advanced airway, developed on Kern’s 6-step approach for curriculum development.

Each course was offered annually between 2019 and 2022. Trainees were sent an anonymous online survey to assess the program.

Results and Discussion: All trainees participated in at least one Passport. Thirty-one trainees completed the survey (94% response rate); all questions had a positive median response (Fig. 1)

Conclusion(s): Our survey showed positive feedback, with trainees considering it helpful in building confidence and practicing skills, communication, troubleshooting, and emergency scenarios.

References:

Acknowledgments: None.

Table 1. Passport curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passport</th>
<th>Simulation scenarios included</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric anesthesia</td>
<td>Laryngospasm, Aprea during caudal anesthesia, Post tonsillectomy bleeding, Sinus tachycardia during surgery, Pre-operative evaluation, Anesthesia for a child with increased intracranial pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstetric anesthesia</td>
<td>Failed epidural anesthesia for emergent cesarean delivery, Fetal bradycardia after epidural analgesia, Eclampsia during vaginal delivery, Accidental dural puncture, Epidural consent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiothoracic anesthesia</td>
<td>Coming off bypass, Acute prostate reaction, Pump failure during coronary artery bypass graft surgery, Hypoxia during one-lung ventilation, Type A aortic dissection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced airway management</td>
<td>Video laryngoscopy and use of Frova catheter, Supraglottic devices, Fast-trach, Adjunctive fiberoptic intubation, Jet ventilation, A case of a complex airway algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Beginners’ course</td>
<td>Standard, elective induction of anesthesia, Rapid sequence induction, Aspiration during induction, Oesophageal intubation, Anaphylaxis, Bronchospasm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Scenario for communication skills
Pediatric anesthesia - Laryngospasm
- Identification of laryngospasm
- The laryngospasm algorithm
- Importance of preparation of intramuscular drugs for a child without intravenous access during induction

Obstetric anesthesia - Failed epidural anesthesia for emergent cesarean delivery
- Evaluation of epidural block
- Preparation and timing of conversion to general anesthesia
- Multidisciplinary communication and conflict resolution

Cardiothoracic anesthesia - Coming off bypass
- Procedure for coming off bypass - methodical approach
- The differential diagnosis for hemodynamic instability when coming off bypass
- Complex multidisciplinary communication between surgeons, pump technicians, and anesthetists

‘Beginners’ course - Aspiration during induction
- The correct choice of rapid sequence induction
- Initial measures for regurgitation during intubation
- Identification of emergencies and call for help
- Importance of equipment preparation (e.g., suction)

Table 2. Predefined debriefing points for sample scenarios

16AP03-02 Influence of a novel teaching program in critical care on the career intentions of undergraduate medical students

A. Walsh1, J. McCarthy1
1Royal Alexandra Hospital, Intensive Care, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Faculty of intensive care (FICM) census data demonstrates a need for significant workforce expansion in order to meet predicted levels of demand for critical care. The vulnerability of current critical care staffing levels has been further exposed by the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic. Studies have shown that experiences as an undergraduate impact the career choices made by medical students. Historically, critical care has been under-represented in the curriculum. The FICM/RCoA undergraduate framework was developed to support increased delivery of undergraduate education in ICU by focusing on generic competencies required by a newly qualified doctor. Expanding the role of ICM in undergraduate education in this way could improve recruitment.

Materials and Methods: A teaching program focused on transferable skills was devised, based around a practical approach to the deteriorating patient. Sessions were all relevant to the competencies of a foundation doctor, such as oxygen delivery, fluid prescribing, and a mastery approach to A-E assessment of a sick patient. Feedback was collated at the end of the block via an anonymous on-line form, focusing on career intentions, as well as evaluating the quality of teaching provided. Results were analysed using simple percentages and paired student’s t-test.

Results and Discussion: The response rate was 73.7%. For 66.7% of students, this was their first exposure to critical care. On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not at all interested, 5 = very interested), students rated their pre-block interest in a career in critical care at 3.1. Following our teaching program, this increased to 4.1. This difference was statistically significant (p <0.05). 93.3% expressed an interest in returning to our unit for additional exposure to critical care. Quality of teaching was rated 4.9/5.

Conclusion(s): Even in the penultimate year of medical school, the majority of students have no previous experience of critical care. This is concerning given the known link between exposure and career intentions. We report a statistically significant increase in interest in a career in critical care following provision of a high quality, skills-focused teaching block. Over 90% of students wished to return to ICU, reflecting the positive nature of their experience and providing a potential route to improve exposure and recruitment. This will require investment in terms of protected time and increased resource.
16AP03-03
In vivo placental vein catheterization as a simulation model for medical students

E. Guasch1, B. Jiménez2, N. Brogly1, I. Valbuena1, A. Gutierrez-Misis2, F. Gilsanz2
1Hospital Universitario La Paz, Anesthesia and Reanimation, Madrid, Spain, 2Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Facultad de Medicina, Madrid, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: Medical schools’ programs dedicate more and more hours to practical teaching and skills training in the recent years. One of these skills, useful for any medical student and future doctors, is peripheral vein cannulation (PeVC). Simulation is useful in this context, but mannequins may be poor for this purpose, and often scarce.

We have recently described a new model(1), based on “in vivo” placental vein catheterization. (PlaVC). Our goal was to validate this simulation model compared to traditional simulation model with mannequins in students on their last year of medical school. We also wanted to evaluate the competence acquisition with both models.

Materials and Methods: After ethical committee approval, we performed a prospective observational study on 10 students who started their learning in PeVC. We divided the 10 students in 2 groups. Group 1 started learning with mannequins and group 2 started with placental model. We considered 10 attempts per student with each model, before trying in one real patient.

Every student attempted 10 times PeVC. After these 10 attempts the groups were exchanged. We measured the success rate with each model and if they reached or not the competence level based on CUSUM methodology(2).

Results and Discussion: All but 2 students on each model, reached the competence, with a median range of attempts of 5 (placenta) and 6 (mannequin) for each student. We asked in an anonymous survey to each of the students about usefulness of the learning model and 70% of them evaluated placental model as superior. Mannequin model was found more difficult in 80% of students, and 100% of students considered themselves ready for their first attempt for a real patient PeVC after this simulation with a high degree of satisfaction (7 students 10/10, 2 students 8/10 and one student 7/10).

As limitations we can describe placenta availability depends on the same place.

Conclusion(s): The placental model is valid for teaching peripheral vein cannulation in medical students, and most of the students reach the competence with less than 10 attempts with a high degree of satisfaction among medical students

References:
2. de Oliveira Filho GR. Anesth Analg. 2002 Aug;95(2):411-6,

16AP03-04
Improving knowledge of 2021 Resuscitation Council UK guidelines and identifying gaps in training: A retrospective review of resuscitation training in Renfrewshire

R. Mackintosh1, L. Galloway2
1University of Glasgow, Medical School, Glasgow, United Kingdom, 2RCGP, Kelburn Medical Practice, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Despite the infrequency of cardiac arrests encountered in general practice, all staff must be equipped with basic life support skills, as prompt CPR will determine outcome success. Patients treated by bystanders with better CPR awareness, more confidence in their abilities and more training are likely to have better outcomes. Research suggests that the UK is falling behind in figures. The Out-Of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) survival rate in Scotland was 6% in 2013 compared to 9% across Europe.

The purpose of this study was to improve knowledge of the Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK) 2021 guidelines and emphasise the importance of resuscitation training. We aimed to evaluate the current resuscitation training methods employed by three general practices in Renfrewshire and identify hypothesised gaps in training provision.

Materials and Methods: A clinical audit was performed by sending a retrospective questionnaire to staff working across 3 general practices over a 2-month period. Questions assessed the type and frequency of resuscitation training received and how comfortable staff were with basic cardiac arrest management.

Results and Discussion: Two thirds of staff did not meet RCUK standards for resuscitation training within general practice. 22.2% of staff members did not receive training when joining their practice and 44.4% of staff were not comfortable in recognising cardiac arrest, calling for help and starting CPR. 55.6% of staff did not know who their practice resuscitation officer was and all staff expressed that further resuscitation training would be beneficial.

There is a relationship between willingness to perform bystander CPR and the level of confidence in training. CPR training is clearly both vital and effective, but skills become outdated and forgotten quickly. Training of non-clinical staff is just as important as training of clinical staff, and we need to concentrate on fostering confidence and leadership capability.

Conclusion(s): General practice resuscitation officers should examine their staff databases, as the recent Covid-19 pandemic may have created gaps in training provision. Governance at health board level would be beneficial to prevent future breaks in training. Further research should comprise larger sample sizes. It would be valuable to assess the efficacy of different training formats and more comprehensively study the effects of the covid-19 pandemic on resuscitation training.
16AP03-05
The simulation-based CPR training for 700 students
T. Prokopová1,2, T. Vafková3,2, V. Vafek4,2, R. Gál1, J. Hudec1,2, P. Štourač4,2
1University Hospital Brno, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 2Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Simulation Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic, 3Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute and Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Comprehensive Cancer Care, Brno, Czech Republic, 4University Hospital Brno, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Department of Paediatric Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Brno, Czech Republic

Background and Goal of Study: Basic life support (BLS) is an essential skill for every physician. At Masaryk University First Aid course is obligatory for all the students of General medicine and Dentistry. According to the research using simulation in CPR training is one of the most effective teaching tools. For this reason, we decided to change the teaching method from frontal lessons to the simulation-based concept. Because of the high number of the students (750) in a semester and limited financials and human resources, the peer learning concept was used. This research aims to prove that this concept is not inferior to the previous one.

Materials and Methods: The research was an analysis of the process of evaluation. The exam of the First Aid course is based on OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) principles. Students undergo one simulation aimed at adult or child CPR. Their performance in the simulation is evaluated according to a checklist. The quality of the CPR is evaluated by the software of an advanced mannequin.

Results and Discussion: Peer learning simulation-based course managed to prepare the students for the OSCE because the success rate was 100 % in the Dentistry and 99 % in General medicine which is not significantly different from previous concept (Dentistry 100 %, General medicine 99.8%). The most omitted step in the approach to the unresponsive victim was shouting for help, with a success rate of 89.9 %, head tilt (in adults) at 95.3 % or neutral head position (in infant) at 96.7 %. The best achieved CPR technique parameter was the ratio 30:2 (in adults) with a success rate of 97.5 % and 15:2 (in infant) with 98.5 %. The worst achieved CPR technique parameter was the depth of chest compressions in adults 60.2 % and in infant 56.4 % students achieved an accurate (not too deep, not too shallow) depth of 80 % chest compressions during 2 min CPR.

Conclusion(s): One of the most efficient ways to teach BLS is through simulations. Our research shows that using the peer learning concept with simulation-based training is a way to make it possible for large groups.

Acknowledgements: Many thanks to the student lectors and teachers of the First Aid course, personnel of the Simulation Centre of the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk university, Martina Kosinová and Daniel Barvík.

16AP03-06
Use of artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted imaging for teaching point of care cardiac ultrasound - a pilot study
Z.N. Koh1, E. Lee1, S. Paranjothy1, R. Agrawal1, G. Ponnamperuma2, S.M. Leong1
1National University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Singapore, Singapore, 2University of Colombo, Department of Medical Education, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Background and Goal of Study: Point of care ultrasound (POCUS) describes the use of bedside ultrasound (US) for diagnosis/ procedures. Benefits include better diagnostic sensitivity and specificity with faster institution of treatment. Teaching POCUS to medical students has shown benefits1, though resource intensive. AI-assisted imaging could be a useful adjunct for teaching. It is unknown whether this teaching method translates into superior skill/ knowledge gain versus conventional methods. This pilot study compared the use of an AI-enabled US machine (Kosmos by EchoNous) with a standard US machine for POCUS Cardiac teaching.

Materials and Methods: 33 US-naïve medical students were randomised into 2 groups for learning:(A) with an AI-enabled US machine, (B) with a conventional machine. A pre-training multiple-choice question (MCQ) test was conducted to assess baseline knowledge followed by a standardised 3-hour faculty-led hands-on learning. The AI-enabled machine provided real-time cardiac structure annotation, acquisition guidance and image grading for the apical 4 chamber view. All students took a post-training MCQ and practical skills test using a conventional US machine. 26 students underwent an interval assessment. Pre- and post-training MCQ test results were analysed for all students. Immediate and interval post-training MCQ and practical skills test results were compared between both groups.

Results and Discussion: Results showed significant improvement between pre- and post-training MCQ test scores in both groups, no significant difference in post-training MCQ test scores between groups, and similar immediate and interval practical skills scores. This suggests that AI-automated labelling and image guidance may not translate into better learning outcomes. This may be due to our study design with AI used in a single setting. AI-assisted probe guidance could also reduce the need for faculty guidance when learning POCUS.

Conclusion: Use of an AI-enabled US machine to teach cardiac POCUS in a single setting is non-superior to traditional methods. Further research on using AI machines for teaching in multiple settings is recommended to establish benefits.

Reference:

Acknowledgements: Bluestone Corporation(SG) for loan of the Kosmos by EchoNous machine; Prof Chen FG, Drs Swapna, Ashoka, Donald; Tan XY, V. Chua for their support.
16AP03-07
The feasibility and efficacy of training medical students in intravenous cannulation using the Microsoft HoloLens 2

M. Connolly¹, G. Iohom¹, J. Volz¹, A. O'Muircheartaigh¹, P. Sercham¹, G. Shorten¹
¹Cork University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Cork, Ireland

Background and Goal of Study: The Microsoft HoloLens 2 is a head-mounted device which renders a Mixed Reality (MR) environment and facilitates a two-way broadcast to a remote location. Devices such as the HoloLens may provide procedural training remotely, and MR elements such as holographic diagrams may improve knowledge integration and technical performance. We aimed to evaluate the feasibility and efficacy of intravenous cannulation training delivered using the HoloLens to compare this to in-person teaching.

Materials and Methods: Medical student volunteers were allocated to receive tutorials either in-person (IP) or via the HoloLens (HL). The HoloLens group were given a structured familiarisation session lasting 10-12 minutes. Holographic elements including diagrams were employed in the HL group, and physical images in the IP group.

Students performed cannulation on a training model. Baseline competence in cannulation was assessed using a 29-point validated tool. (1) Students then received metrics-based feedback from a tutor and carried out supervised practice. They then performed a second cannulation which was assessed using the same tool.

Both assessments were video recorded and scored by two tutors. Scores from both tutors were then averaged and a paired T-test employed to test for significance.

Results and Discussion: Sixteen medical students participated and were allocated equally to the HL and IP groups. Both IP and HL groups had similar pre-tutorial procedural performance: mean (SD, [range]) 18.63 (3.1, [15-22.5]) and 18.56 (2.7, [14.5-22]) respectively, p = 0.97.

Both groups showed statistically similar improvement in performance, absolute increase 8.03 (43.1%) and 8.12 (43.75%) with post-tutorial scores of; mean (SD, [range]) 26.68 (1.37, [25-29]) and 26.75 (1.85, [24.5-29]) respectively, p = 0.17.

Conclusions: We demonstrated that procedural training in IV cannulation via the Microsoft HoloLens 2 was feasible, with modest additional training /familiarisation requirements, and showed similar improvements in competence as in-person training.

Further evaluation of the usability of the device in this context is planned, and future research may evaluate the generalisability of our findings to other elements of medical education.

References:

16AP03-08
Undergraduate 4th year Greek medical students' knowledge, attitude and perspectives of artificial intelligence

A. Chatzis¹, M.P. Ntalouka¹, D. Aretha², K. Stamoulis¹, M. Bareka¹, E. Arnaoutoglou¹
¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Thessaly, Larissa University Hospital, Department of Anesthesiology, Larissa, Greece, ²University Hospital of Patras, Rion, Patras, Greece, Department of Anaesthesiology & Intensive Care, Rion, Patras, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Although artificial intelligence (AI) is a new field, it is constantly developing in medicine and especially in anaesthesiology. The aim of this study was to evaluate and analyse the knowledge, attitude and perspectives of undergraduate 4th year medical students of University of Thessaly on AI.

Materials and Methods: An anonymous survey was conducted during the first class of anaesthesiology core rotation (October 2022). Besides participants’ demographic data the survey consisted of 19 questions, scored in a 5 point Likert scale, about AI. Descriptive statistics and frequencies were used for statistical analysis. Data were summarized using means (SD), and are presented as numbers and percentages. Statistical analysis was performed with SPSS vs 27 and GraphPad Prism vs 9.4.1.

Results and Discussion: A total of 64 students completed the survey (response rate 74%). From them 59.4% (n=38) were males and 40.6% (n=26) were females, with a mean age of 21.6 years old. The Cronbach’s alpha was 0.75. Although almost half of students (40.6%) reported that “they have sufficient knowledge of AI”, the majority of them disagreed (42.2%) or felt undecided (32.8%) about “following emerging technologies”.

Interestingly, 59.4% of students disagreed that “AI offers useful applications in the field of medicine” and 46.9% that “AI will lead to drastic changes in every field of medicine”, respectively.

Lastly, although 37.5% of our students agreed that “the ability of AI to establish a diagnosis may outweigh clinical experience of physicians”, 45.3% of them cannot decided if “they will always use AI when making medical decisions in the near future”.

Conclusion(s): Medical students seem to have a sufficient knowledge of AI. However, they do not follow emerging technologies and they do not believe that AI will bring drastic changes in the near future.

16AP03-09
Simulation-based training as mandatory part of anaesthetic curriculum

V. Novak-Jankovic¹
¹University Medical Centre, Medical Simulation Centre, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Background and Goal of Study: Simulation-based training is a technique where one can learn and train technical and non-technical competencies and cognitive skills with different technological devices. Simulation based training was introduced in the Slovenian anaesthetic curriculum as mandatory since year 2017 and anaesthesiology is the first medical specialisation with such education in Slovenia.
Materials and Methods: The specialisation of Anaesthesiology and peri-operative intensive medicine in Slovenia lasts 6 years, so we have introduced 12 educational modules (2 times per year) in the curriculum. Modules in which total syllabus is included according to European Training Requirements are performed in the Medical Simulation Center (MSC) of University Medical Center Ljubljana and University Medical Center Maribor. The knowledge is achieved by lectures and scenarios using part-task trainers, ultrasound machines, high-fidelity patient simulators, virtual reality and etc. The first 32 residents who completed the training evaluated this simulation-based training in a short survey.

Results and Discussion: Residents have evaluated delivered modules by marks in the range from 1 to 5 (Table 1).

Table 1. Average evaluations of delivered modules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modul</th>
<th>Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modul 1. General anaesthesia I</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 2. General anaesthesia II</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 3. General anaesthesia III</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 4. Reanimatology</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 5. Regional anaesthesia</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 6. Special anaesthesia I</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 7. Special anaesthesia II</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 8. Special anaesthesia III</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 9. Intensive medicine I</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 10. Intensive medicine II</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 11. Intensive medicine III</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modul 12. Acute and chronic pain management</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marks are presented as mean values; range (1-5)

Conclusion (s): Slovenia is one of the 8 European countries with mandatory simulation-based training in the anaesthetic curriculum (1). Our survey showed good evaluation marks and resident satisfaction. The current generation of teachers are obliged to introduce simulation-based training in the curricula.

Reference:

16AP03-10
Non-academic challenges faced by anaesthesiology residents during post-graduate training in Pakistan

D. Raza1, F. A. Khan1, S. Babar2
1Aga Khan University Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Karachi, Pakistan, 2Aga Khan University Hospital, Department of Education Development, Karachi, Pakistan

Background and Goal of Study: Recent literature reveals that Anaesthesiology residents experience high levels of stress, burnout and depression during their training. These not only affect the clinician personally, but it also impair work performance and consequently patient care. Factors contributing can be academic and non-academic. Apart from academic stressors which may be faced equally by female and male residents, some non-academic may differ between genders, as well as being influenced by cultural factors. In South Asia, there is paucity of literature on this aspect. Currently no data is available regarding non-academic stressors faced by physicians undergoing post graduate medical education training in Pakistan, thus, there is a need to explore such factors and encourage the residency directors and institutions to adopt policies to effectively deal with this aspect as it may also affect the working performance of trainees and eventually patient safety.

Materials and Methods: We used qualitative participatory research method based on focus group discussions to generate themes exploring the non-academic stressors. These sessions were held online and recorded to aid logistics. The groups contained volunteers from each year of residency with authors as the moderators.

Results and Discussion: The most common non-academic stressors identified during group discussions were guilt of not being able to spend quality time with family/friends, inability to indulge in recreational activities, worsening political situation and a grave state of law and order in the country. Most of the stressors were common among both the genders. There were a few factors affecting females more than males like no reliable means of public transport, inadequate child care system and gender discrimination. Some senior residents also highlighted that a change in their personalities during residency and uncertainty about future career avenues after training were non-academic contributors to their stress.

Conclusion: The factors identified by the study reflect that non-academic stressors indeed affect postgraduate anaesthesiology trainees. Some of these factors are unique to this part of the world which were not explored by studies done in the developed countries. This information will help the institution to devise policies that might help alleviate these factors and contribute towards the wellbeing of their trainees.

16AP03-11
War and medical education: is there influence?

K. Bielka1, I. Kuchyn1, U. Kashchii1
1Bogomolets NMU, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Kyiv, Ukraine

Background and Goal of Study: Due to ongoing military conflicts, the countries where they take place have limited access to some basic needs that, during peaceful times, are widely available. Thus, while the demands for medical help during armed conflicts are increasing, it is simultaneously more challenging for medical universities to continue to provide medical education.

The aim of our research was to determine whether the full-scale invasion, which is currently happening in Ukraine, has an influence on the final-year residents-anaesthesiologists knowledge level and ability to perform the independent medical practice.

Materials and Methods: Since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion on the 24th of February 2022, the educational agenda for residents had to be modified. The majority of offline lessons were substituted by online classes or recorded sessions, expanding the amount of time for independent education.

In our research, we compared the results of OSCE of the residents in 2020, 2021, and 2022 years, we sent questionnaires to all the second-year residents for them to share their satisfaction with the education process and their capacity to work independently. Separate questionnaires we sent to educators for them to evaluate the results of their educational process and the impact of full-scale invasion on it.

Results and Discussion: In research took part 36 residents in 2022 and 36 residents in 2021, and 15 teachers were participating in the study. The number of residents, who failed OSCE in 2021 and 2022
did not vary substantially. The number of residents who received a higher percentage of competence accession was gradually growing in 2022 while comparing with the previous year. Talking about the assessment of the knowledge of the residents by teachers, 7 out of 15 noted that 2022-year graduates had a higher level of knowledge, in comparison with previous years though, 8 out of 15 responded it stayed on the same level.

Conclusion(s): While the full-scale Russian invasion was happening in Ukraine, the residents of anaesthesiology and intensive care were still able to receive knowledge and practical skills, and be prepared for autonomous medical practice due to different approaches, such as expanding the hours of their practical work in the hospitals, making recordings of online classes and setting aside more time for self-education.

Reference:
UNESCO «The quantitative impact of conflict on education»
18AP01-01
“Ditching the Des”: a QI initiative in sustainable anaesthesia to remove Desflurane from anaesthetic practice in a District General Hospital
K. Einset1, L. Clark2, E. Smith3, P. McConnell1
1University of Glasgow, School of Medicine, Glasgow, United Kingdom, 2Royal Alexandria Hospital, Anaesthesia, Paisley, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Anaesthetic gases use has profound global warming consequences. Desflurane has a particularly poor environmental profile. It contributes 80% of estimated greenhouse effects from all measured anaesthetic volatiles1, yet despite growing evidence for removal, desflurane remains stored and used in NHS facilities. The anaesthetic department at the Royal Alexandria Hospital (RAH) surveyed and audited its use, and undertook a QI initiative to limit its clinical use.

Materials and Methods: A survey of the department use and attitudes to Desflurane was performed along with obtaining pharmacy details of baseline usage. Following this a “compromise” intervention was performed (Desflurane removed from anaesthetic machines but available on a patient to patient basis from theatre stores). The use of Desflurane was then measured over one week. The lists running over the course of the week were considered to be a standard roster, and thus gave a fair representation of weekly usage in the theatre suite. Figures were also obtained for requests from stores for Desflurane vapourisers.

Results and Discussion: The initial survey found a cohort of consultants (26%) regularly used it and 14% of felt that removal would impact their practice. Pharmacy records showed a median of 5 bottles were being restocked per month. Our intervention was initiated and after one month and ran alongside a poster campaign and talks at our departmental meeting. Our follow-up audit showed no Desflurane use during the audit period. No deflurane vapourisers were signed out from stores and no critical incidents or theatre delays were reported since the intervention was initiated.

Conclusion(s): While there was initial resistance to its removal, placing vapourisers in stores rather than on machines was a helpful step in adjusting practice and demonstrating that a Desflurane-free department was possible. With Desflurane’s increase cost over Sevoflurane, there will also be financial as well as environmental savings. The removal of Desflurane did not impact on clinical care. Simple QI measures can be used to change practice which can show both financial and environmental benefit. We would encourage other departments to conduct similar interventions.

Reference:

18AP01-02
Anaesthesia and global warming: the environmental impact of maintenance hypnotics
F. Van Belleghem1,2, J. Mulier1,2,3, A. Kalmar1,4
1AZ Sint Jan Brugge-Oostende, Department of Anaesthesiology, Reanimation and Intensive Care, Brugge, Belgium, 2UZLeuven, Department of Anaesthesiology, Leuven, Belgium, 3UGent, Department of Anaesthesiology, Gent, Belgium, 4Ghent University, Department of Electronics and Information Systems, IBItech, Gent, Belgium

The current climate emergency requires reducing your professional carbon footprint. Given the exceptional heat-trapping potential of volatile anaesthetics, we aim to quantify the ecological impact of the choice of maintenance hypnotic.

To determine the difference in greenhouse gas emissions depending on the choice of maintenance hypnotic in a secondary hospital in Belgium.

For all general anaesthesias, aged > 5j between 1/4/2022 and 30/11/2022 in Sint-Jan Hospital, Brugge, Belgium, the anaesthesia time and body weight was collected from the electronic medical record. We simulated the CO2-equivalent emissions in two scenarios:
1. Propofol 3mg/kg + sevoflurane 2% in 50% O2 in air 2L FGF,
2. TIVA propofol 1% 3 mg/kg + 6 mg/kg/h with 50% O2 in air 8 L FGF

Emissions from production and disposal of sevoflurane, propofol, O2, air and required auxiliaries, each with its usual packaging material, were included. New propofol vials were assumed for every patient and new syringes for every new propofol vial taken into account when more than one vial is needed. The cost of medication and consumables were calculated according to customary Belgian tender prices.

For 11909 procedures with a median [IQR] anaesthesia time of 74[45-113] minutes and an average (SD) patient weight of 77(20) kg, sevoflurane anaesthesia resulted in 669,256 kg CO2e and €159,438. TIVA resulted in 18,655 kg CO2e and €73,034.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>amount</th>
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<td>sodalime canisters</td>
<td>1833</td>
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<td>O2</td>
<td>888</td>
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<td>air kg</td>
<td>1532</td>
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<td>Σ</td>
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<td>159,438 €</td>
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<tr>
<th>amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Σ</td>
<td>18,655 kg</td>
<td>73,034 €</td>
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</table>

In our hospital, extrapolated for one year, maintenance anaesthesia with sevoflurane results in an additional 976 tons of CO2e emissions and €129,606 higher cost than with propofol. Using automated mini-
Taking climate-smart actions in anaesthesiologic daily clinical routine - a cross-sectional before and after study within the "Provider and Education & Evaluation Project" (PEEP)

L. Grüber1, T. Dölker1, J. Schuler1, F. Schneider2, J. Wallqvist1
1RWTH Aachen University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesiology, Aachen, Germany, 2Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technical University Munich, Department of Anaesthesiology, Munich, Germany

Background: Anaesthesia contributes significantly to a hospital's carbon footprint. Climate-smart actions have the potential to reduce CO2 emissions. However, a basic prerequisite for sustainable behaviour is knowledge and awareness of providers. The prospective observational multicentre "Provider Education and Evaluation Project" (PEEP) was initiated by anaesthesiologists at the TU Munich and intended to identify and increase the level of awareness of climate change and sustainability in three German Hospitals. At RWTH Aachen University Hospital, we aimed to assess the change in anaesthesiologists' climate friendly behaviour before and after educational interventions in three areas that every anaesthesiologist can address in daily clinical routine: 1) Energy 2) Recycling 3) Volatile anaesthetics.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional assessment before and after a bundle of educational interventions within PEEP, which included presentations, posters and stickers on computers, light switches and vaporizers. For each cross-sectional assessment all central 28 ORs were observed for one week. For the before (2021) and after (2022) comparison we analysed: 1) Wasted energy in unoccupied theatres by operating computers and turned-on lights at 9pm 2) Feasibility of recycling of preoperative anaesthesia plastic packaging by determining the difference between calculated weight of presently unseparated preoperative plastic waste in the 1st assessment and the weight of actual separated waste in the 2nd assessment 3) Fresh gas flow (FGF) in balanced anaesthesia cases in steady state at 9am, and purchased hypnotics converted to bottles/1000 procedures in 2018-2022.

Results and Discussion: We observed a reduction of wasted energy by 44% in unoccupied theatres. Usage of low FGF settings increased from 58% to 82%. The average of purchased desflurane in 2018-2020 decreased by 79% in 2022. We calculated 10.3kg of preoperative plastic waste in one week, but we were unable to implement waste separation due to infrastructural and logistical reasons. While a structured cross-speciality approach is most desirable, we showed that anaesthesiologists can take low effort actions with high impact immediately.

Conclusion: We found that environmentally friendly working behaviours increased after the implementation of educational interventions. Due to the cross-sectional before and after design, the causality between the interventions and the observed improvements remains to be proven.

18AP01-05
No laughing (gas) matter: nitrous oxide manifold downsizing and decommissioning in one Scottish hospital

A. McCallum1, J. Mitchell2
1Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Department of Anaesthesia, Glasgow, United Kingdom, 2University Hospital Ayr, Department of Anaesthesia, Ayr, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Nitrous oxide (N2O) is a potent greenhouse gas1. The Nitrous Oxide Project, using Chakera methodology, provides a framework for nitrous oxide reduction2. At University Hospital Ayr (UHA), we identified a disproportionate number of N2O cylinders ordered compared to clinical use; especially given UHA has no on-site paediatric or maternity services. We aimed to reduce N2O use via exploring its clinical use and reviewing the methods of delivery to theatre.

Materials and Methods: Two cylinder manifolds were identified in UHA: 2 banks of 4x Size G cylinders supplying the theatre complex, and 2 banks of 2x Size G cylinders supplying a community dental unit. A survey was sent to all anaesthetists in UHA to understand N2O usage and explore support for manifold decommissioning. The number (and cost) of Size G N2O cylinders ordered over a 5-year period between 2017 and 2022 was obtained from pharmacy. Blanking plugs were then installed on N2O pipeline outlets in theatre. N2O could still be utilised on request via a portable cylinder. The volume used clinically over the following six-week period was obtained from electronic logs on theatre anaesthetic machines and any cases using N2O in the anaesthetic room were noted.

Results and Discussion: Survey response rate was 68%. One third stated they never used N2O, with another third using it on average less than six-monthly. The majority (87%) agreed to a trial without piped N2O. 323L N2O were used clinically over next six weeks, however despite this the theatre cylinder bank was replaced during this time. On average 80 size G cylinders per year were being ordered by pharmacy.

We demonstrate minimal clinical use of nitrous oxide along with substantial wastage within the piped manifold system and under-utilisation of a second manifold resulting in unused cylinders expiring. Consequently, the theatre manifold has been decommissioned and the dental manifold downsized. This is projected to reduce the carbon footprint of UHA by approximately 400 tonnes CO2 per year and save £3000/year.

Conclusion(s): Clinical review of N2O usage and decommissioning and downsizing of manifolds has resulted in significant environmental and financial benefits.

References:
Reducing hospital carbon footprint by improving renal replacement procedure taking into account auto-effluent systems: taking care of human team, saving money and being sustainable

C. Ferrer Gomez1, S. Serrano1, A. Cano1, J. De Andres Ibañez1
1Consortio Hospital General Universitario de Valencia, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Valencia, Spain

Background and Goal of Study: According to the data provided by the hospital’s Residual Waste Office (Punto Verde), our ICU generates an average of 5000 kg of type III waste per month, which means an annual production of 68,000 kg, representing between 1/3 and 1/4 of the hospital’s total production in terms of environmental impact. The management of this waste has a cost of approximately 1 euro/kg which is an annual cost of approximately 68,000 euros Furthermore, in terms of occupational health, there is also an ergonomic impact due to handling this waste. This waste is disposed in containers whose weight should not exceed 20-25Kg for Occupational Risk Prevention of the personnel who have to handle them.

Goal of the study. To reduce the generation of type III waste and promote the ergonomics of the ICU staff.

Materials and Methods: There is a clear area for improvement in the management of waste from filter bags. These bags, when full, have a weight of 10kg each and an approximate average of 5 bags per day of Renal Replacement Therapy are needed (for a standard treatment dose of 2000ml/h, a refill is needed every 5h, about 5 times a day, total 5 bags). These bags could be recycled, according to the criteria of “Preventiva”, after emptying them into the sinks of the Boxes.

However, this indication conflicts with the criteria of Occupational Health Department, that consider this action to be non-ergonomic and harmful to the worker. Renal Replacement Therapies in our ICU lead to an annual consumption of 6,320 filter bags at a cost of 58,239.72 euros. As the option of emptying and reusing the bags was not available, RRT provider companies were contacted for the incorporation of auto-effluent pumps in the RRT machines at a kit cost of 120 euros/therapy (for the whole duration of the therapy).

Results and Discussion: The use of auto-effluent systems with their direct discharge into the drains eliminates the use of filter bags and saves costs (economic impact) of 43,839 euros, as well as the waste generation reduction (environmental impact) accounting for 63,200 Kg meaning a 92% reduction of the total waste production, while gaining a resource for nurses as well as nursing assistants.

In addition, there is a secondary benefit in terms of occupational health and occupational risk prevention for the staff, as they do not have to move and transport the waste. Moreover, the reduction in the generation of waste containers frees up space in the Unit.

Sustainability at pre-anaesthesia outpatient clinics. Telemedicine as chance to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. A monocentric cross-sectional study

G. Gibas1,2, S. Ketaib1,2
1Evangelical Hospital Vienna, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Vienna, Austria, 2Sigmund Freud Private University, Medicine, Vienna, Austria, 3Paracelsus Medical Private University, Public Health, Salzburg, Austria

Background and Goal of Study: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, digitalisation and remote services in health care accelerate dramatically. Pre-anaesthetic preparation by phone provides a successful alternative compared to inpatient assessments, without divergence of diagnostics and process-related decisions. Given the imminent climate crisis, sustainability at every level of health care should be considered, while quality and patient safety is guaranteed.

The goal of this study was to estimate the reduction of CO2 emissions by pre-anaesthesia outpatient clinics using telemedicine.

Materials and Methods: A cross-sectional mono-center study was conducted between April 11th and June 17th 2022. After routine telemedical pre-anaesthesia visit a self-made questionnaire on climate-relevant aspects was assessed via another telephone call.

Sevenhundred and fourteen patients were invited to participate and informed about the study; 80 patients gave their written consent for descriptive analysis.

Results and Discussion: When asked which transportation patients would have used if the appointment for pre-anaesthesia visit had been in person at the hospital outpatient clinic, 61,3% replied by using an automobile and 38,7% would have arrived by public transportation. A distance of 74 km on average was calculated. Based on conservative estimations (new registrated cars 2019) of the emission-relevant share (35% diesel, 23,8% petrol), in total 0,703 tons CO2 had been saved.

Assuming constant proportions and extrapolation to all patients receiving telemedical pre-anaesthesia preparation within one year at the study centre (n = 2016) a CO2-reduction of 30,15 tons was calculated. The CO2 emission-sparing effect of telemedical pre-anaesthesia assessment was even higher when considering the avoidance of preventable pre-operative appointments for chest X-ray, laboratory testing, and consultation of internal specialists; such detours before hospital admission are still prescribed by family doctors despite national quality standards on pre-operative diagnostics exist.

Conclusion(s): Telemedicine in pre-anaesthesia outpatient clinics combined with preventable appointments contribute to climate protection in a relevant extent, even at a hospital in the centre of Vienna with surgical patients travelling within the city.

Further analyses are necessary to explore reductions in CO2 emissions at a national level including surgical patient flows in rural and remote areas.
Background and Goal of Study: Operating Theatre (OR) sustainability impacts health and health care practitioners (1). To reduce the environmental impact of operating theatres and provide information, specific in our setting, the Salerno University - School of Medicine has founded the Green Operating Theatre group, to work together to reduce the footprint of the perioperative environment.

Materials and Methods: Our group has developed a Green Operating Theatre agenda to follow along on the sustainability journey, aimed at: waste reduction, anaesthesia gas management and improvements of energy use.

Our first action is to reduce mishandled noninfectious waste in OR, in particular the use of disposable shoes covers, for patients and health care workers, since they not only produce non recyclable waste, but are not sufficiently effective at reducing contamination (2).

Results and Discussion: We implemented the use of a shoes sanitizing station, a system which, through ozone gas and UV light, sterilizes health personnel’s shoes at each OR access. This patented system not only guarantees an effective reduced contamination of the OR but leads to lower environmental burden with the management of non-infectious waste, thus combining clinical needs and sustainability considerations.

Conclusion(s): This approach is a tiny, little step towards sustainability but it may encourage similar policy considerations at national level to incentivize green practices in the operating room and throughout the healthcare system.

References:

Acknowledgements: The Authors are grateful to all the nurses working in the OR of the University of Salerno Hospital for their efforts to reduce pollution.

Bundled measures of an individual university hospital to reduce its carbon footprint

C. Neumann1, P. Kruse1, B. Bette1, M. Coburn1, S.-C. Kim2
1University Hospital Bonn, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Bonn, Germany, 2Orthopädische Klinik Markgröningen, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Markgröningen, Germany

Background: The global healthcare sector is a major contributor to the climate crisis with 4% of total CO₂ emissions (CO₂e) worldwide (1). The German Society of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine has published a position paper including a bundle of actionable measures to reduce anaesthesia carbon footprint. This paper served as a blue print for the Department of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine to develop different measures at the university hospital Bonn, Germany. The goal of the study was to demonstrate that concerted bundled actions are needed to reduce healthcare CO₂e.

Materials and methods: A multiprofessional “green” anesthesia team networking with other hospital facility teams was established in September 2020. Different projects were developed since then and led to measurable reduction of CO₂e over two years. CO₂e reduction was scientifically evaluated by Life-Cycle-Assessments: 1) Drugs: Eliminate the use of desflurane, use of minimal flow volatile anesthetics, smart use of propofol induction 2) Consumables/Waste: upcycling of CO₂ absorber, recycling of single use scopes and surgical material 3) Mobility: Development of alternative concepts for staff commute 4) Energy: light management, rooftop photovoltaic 5) Education: Lectures were introduced to the medical student curriculum.

Results and discussion: Since 2020 hospital-wide CO₂e were significantly reduced: 1) elimination of desflurane and establishing minimal flow was a major contributor to CO₂ reduction by 97 tCO₂ in anesthesia. 2) 1,065 tCO₂ reduction was achieved by increase in waste recycling. Amount of waste was reduced by 285 t. 3) employees’ mobility by car produced 6,731 t CO₂e and was reduced by possibility to work from home during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 4) Installation of rooftop photovoltaic energy generation saved 8,000 tCO₂e annually (2). It is estimated that the German healthcare system produces 70 Mt CO₂e per year (0.84 t CO₂e per capita). Bundled actions can reduce hospital-wide CO₂e, as demonstrated by the Federal Environment Ministry (KLIK green). A reduction of 200,000 tCO₂e over 3 years in 250 hospitals was achieved (3). There are a total of approximately 2,000 hospitals in Germany.

Conclusion: Bundled measure of a single university hospital can lead to a significant CO₂e reduction. However, based on our data, and given the increasing demand for surgery worldwide, efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of hospitals clearly need to be intensified.
18AP02-05
Burnout syndrome among anaesthesiologists in the post-COVID-19 era: a prospective, observational, multicenter study from COVID-19 referral, university/tertiary hospitals in Greece

A. Karakosta¹, M.P Ntalouka², V. Nyktari³, A. Papaionanou², P. Tzimas⁴, E. Arnaoutoglou⁴
¹University of Ioannina, Department of Anaesthesiology and Postoperative Intensive Care, University Hospital of Ioannina, Ioannina, Greece, ²University of Thessaly, Department of Anaesthesiology, Larissa University Hospital, Larissa, Greece, ³University of Crete, Anaesthesia Department of University Hospital of Heraklion, Heraklion, Greece

Background and Goal of Study: Studies have confirmed the high prevalence of burnout syndrome (BOS) and high risk for BOS (HR-BOS) in Greek anaesthesiologists during the pandemic (21.55% and 67.24%, respectively)¹.

We aimed to evaluate the levels of BOS and potential determinants in the post-COVID era, and to compare them with those during the pandemic.

Materials and Methods: In this multicenter, cross-sectional study, an anonymous survey consisting of the validated Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) and the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ), was conducted in the 7 anaesthesiology departments of COVID-19 referral University hospitals in November 2021 (Covid era) and again in November 2022 (post-Covid era). MBI is a 22-item self-report measurement of BOS. Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ) explores 3 main dimensions of personality (Neuroticism, Extraversion and Psychoticism) whereas the Lie (L) scale serves as a measure of “dishonesty”. Prevalence of BOS and HR-BOS was investigated comparatively, as well as possible associations with personality traits, as assessed by the EPQ. Multivariate logistic regression analysis was performed to investigate possible predictors of BOS and HR-BOS.

Results and Discussion: The response rate was 85% (100/118) and 98% (116/118) in 2022 and 2021, respectively. During the post-COVID era, prevalence of BOS and HR-BOS dropped to 11% and 48%, respectively. The post-Covid period exhibited a protective effect against BOS and HR-BOS (OR 0.123, p=0.001 and OR 0.4, p=0.011, respectively). Of note, concerning the dimensions of the EPQ questionnaire, Neuroticism and Psychoticism were identified as significant predictors of BOS (OR 1.24, p<0.001 and OR 1.16, p=0.024, adjusted for study period, respectively). Moreover, Neuroticism and Extraversion were identified as significant predictors of HR-BOS, with Neuroticism exhibiting an aggravating and Extraversion a protective effect (OR 1.22, p<0.001 and OR 0.91, p=0.043, adjusted for study period, respectively).

Conclusion(s): Our findings revealed a drop in BOS and HR-BOS prevalence one year after the Covid-19 crisis. Personality traits are consistently associated with BOS and HR-BOS.

Reference:
¹. M.P Ntalouka, D. Aretha, P.P Chloropoulou, E. Pistoli, E. Koraki, E. Arnaoutoglou. Greek anaesthesiologists’ burnout levels during the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic: results from referral university hospitals. EJA Volume 39, e-Supplement 60 page 331

18AP02-06
Project Shutdown: Switching Off Theatres

H. Blake¹, M. Sawaryn¹, T.-Y. Mohamed¹, J. Groome¹, J. Overend¹, M. Sussman¹
¹Royal London Hospital, Anaesthetics, London, United Kingdom

The climate crisis has complex, far-reaching impacts on health. Energy-efficient health systems have the triple benefit of reduced carbon emissions, cost-savings and, ultimately, improved wellbeing. Operating theatres (‘theatres’) are the most energy intensive areas within hospitals. Up to half of this energy powers lights, medical appliances and IT equipment, with the remainder powering scavenging and ultra-clean ventilation¹. The aim of this project is to achieve a sustainable reduction in energy use in our theatres by turning off all aforementioned non-essential equipment by January 2023.

85 spot-checks across 19 non-emergency theatres were carried-out between 12am and 7am to determine the extent to which non-essential equipment was left switched on out-of-hours. Overhead lights and the surgical TV screens were switched on in 70.5% and 67% of theatres respectively. Diathermy and Bairhuggers were on in 58.8% and 60% of theatres respectively. The scavenging was never switched off.

Theatre Shutdown Checklist

Operating theatre

Switch off and plug in:
- Infusion pumps
- Anaesthetic machine
- Anaesthetic monitor

Switch off:
- Lights
- Computers

Switch off and unplug:
- Bairhugger
- Diathermy

Surgical panel – turn off:
- “Room in Use”
- “PACS station”
- “X-ray in Use”
- “Laser in Use”
- AGSS
- TV screen

Follow shutdown procedure:
- Stack (switch off at machine only)
- Microscope (Neuro theatres)

Anaesthetic room

Switch off and plug in:
- Infusion pumps
- Anaesthetic machine
- Anaesthetic monitor

Switch off:
- Lights

Complete checklist via QR code

Have questions? Contact jonathan.groome@nhs.net
Background and Goal of Study: The NHS spends over £700M a year on waste disposal (1). Post pandemic we have seen a huge rise in the use of clinical waste bins resulting in missed collections and huge cost. These clinical waste bins often contain recyclable waste. Pre-Pandemic, an NHS Freedom of Information Report estimated that if waste was correctly classified, the NHS could save almost £8M a year (1). Our anaesthetic rooms currently only contain hazardous waste bins. We worked closely with the estates team to introduce recycling bins and designed a project to estimate the total annual saving following their introduction.

Materials and Methods: We formed a Greener Anaesthesia team within our Anaesthetics Department in a District General Hospital. Over a 1 week period, we weighed all our hazardous waste bins at the end of each day and extrapolated the results to estimate our annual waste production. We performed spot checks to estimate the amount of clinical, hazardous and recyclable waste in our bins. We could then project the total annual savings by correctly re-classifying waste with estates advising us on the cost of waste collection.

Results and Discussion: We estimated that we produce 3.99 tonnes of waste per year, our spot checks found that 95% of this was clinical waste. We intended to re-audit to ensure change in practice. As completion of the checklist online will provide us with a discrete outcome data, we will be able to monitor checklist completion. We will repeat our spot-check survey in the weeks following checklist roll-out and we look forward to sharing our findings regarding its efficacy with Euroanaesthesia. 

Conclusion(s): Nearly £5,500 saving per year whilst doing our bit for the environment. Relies on all team members to use the correct bins, NHS resources available to understand what goes in what bin. Highlights the benefits of a good relationship with hospital estates team


Acknowledgements: A big thank you to the Darent Valley Hospital Estates team
18AP03-02
Emergency atropine: will prefilled syringes be the future?

D. Sousa¹, J. M. Cabral¹, J. Moreira¹, F. Barros Silva¹, H. Meleiro¹, I. Correia¹
¹Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João, Department of Anaesthesiology, Porto, Portugal

Background and Goal of Study: In the operating room (OR), atropine is routinely drawn up to ensure its immediate availability. As a result, many prepared syringes remain unused and are discarded, contributing to increasing costs and environmental impact. Recent studies suggest that prefilled syringes might be cost-effective and reduce potential mistakes associated with drug preparation. The aims of the study were to quantify the wastage of atropine in a period of scheduled OR activity and to evaluate if the use of prefilled syringes would be cost-effective.

Materials and Methods: The total number of atropine vials prepared and administered were collected during 10 consecutive days, in 11 operating rooms of a tertiary hospital. Additionally, we calculated the number of prepared and administered syringes of atropine expected in a year by proportionally extrapolating the total number of annual surgical procedures. To achieve this, we applied a direct proportion between the 297 procedures conducted during our period of observation, and the 8219 procedures expected in the year.

The direct costs associated with the preparation of this drug were calculated and compared with the costs of prefilled syringes.

Results and Discussion: In 10 days of scheduled surgical activity, atropine was prepared 136 times and was administered only in 16 cases. There was a wastage of 88% of prepared syringes. We estimate that 3764 syringes of atropine would be prepared and 443 used during a year. The cost of atropine preparation is €0.95 (€0.91 atropine vial, €0.023 syringe, €0.017 needle), while a prefilled atropine vial, €0.91 atropine vial, 0.023 syringe, €0.95. During a year, the estimated cost of current practice would be €3575.80. With prefilled syringes we expect a cost of €2170.70 - a 39% decrease.

Our study has some limitations. We extrapolated results for a year only based on a short period, not controlling possible variation in the number of procedures and atropine administration. Additionally, it was conducted in a single center. Thus, studies in other tertiary centers may help weed off potentially site-specific variables impacting on vial wastage.

Conclusion: These data demonstrate that the use of a prefilled atropine is cost-effective. Indirect or waste treatment costs were not taken in account, which could further increase the economic advantage. This alternative would significantly minimize drug wastage and improve the environmental sustainability of our practice.

18AP03-03
Implementing green theatre changes: are reusable drapes a viable option?

R. Bolwell¹, E. Wallace², M. McLeod²
¹University of Glasgow, School of Medicine, Glasgow, United Kingdom, ²NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Anaesthetics, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Background and Goal of Study: Sustainable change within the healthcare system will have a direct impact on current and future health relating directly to the principle of non-maleficence, to ‘do no harm’ following the founding principle of medicine(1). Surgical theatres are the largest consumers of single use plastic within the hospital (2). A switch to reusable items will help to reduce this. Hence, we aimed to see if reusable drapes are a viable option in the surgical theatres of The Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow (RHCG).

Materials and Methods: An electronic, 9-item questionnaire was designed by the author and hosted online. A link was distributed to all currently working in RHCG theatres and explored the following key areas: Role within the RHCG, Opinions on disposable drapes, Opinions on reusable drapes and willingness to implement the use of reusable drapes in theatre.

Results and Discussion: There were 32 respondents to this survey. 88% of respondents said that if they had the option they would be happy to use reusable drapes for selected procedures (16% of which said they would be happy to use exclusively reusable). Similarly, 81% stated that they would be happy to use a mixture of different types of drapes in their practice.

Conclusion(s): There is an understanding of the environmental impact disposable drapes have, however there continues to be misinformation around reusable drapes and their infection control properties (3).

Overall, it can be concluded that there is a willingness to implement to the use of reusable drapes in theatres at the RHCG and through this small change we may be able to create a big impact. By involving theatre users at the outset this study provides a platform for discussion of both current environmental evidence and willingness to change practice in a large group of specialties.

References:
18AP03-05
The journey of recyclables from the operating theatre: identifying gaps for intervention

J.W.L. Lim¹, W.T.J. Chong¹, S.A. Lie¹, M.W.W. Zaw¹, M. Kynoch¹
¹Singapore General Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Singapore, Singapore

Background: Healthcare waste accounts for 1% of a nation’s solid waste; 25% are contributed by anesthesia waste. [1] While recycling is happening in operating theatres (OT) worldwide, the full journey of recyclables after end users dispose into the recycling bin is not fully explored. Our quality improvement project reviewed the journey of recyclables in Singapore General Hospital (SGH) OT, identified the gaps that resulted in low recycling rates and implemented solutions to fill these gaps. Our aim is to increase the weight of recycled plastic and paper by 50% from baseline weight per case.

Methods: Using the Institute for Healthcare Improvement model for improvement framework, multi-stakeholder engagement from project conception was prioritized, to ensure accurate identification and implementation of effective improvement measures. The journey of recyclable items was mapped via hospital walkthrough sessions. A questionnaire was administered to assess existing knowledge, attitude and current recycling practices of SGH OT personnel.

Results and discussion: From our root-cause analysis (Figure 1) and questionnaire, the highest contributory gaps in existing recycling practices are: limited knowledge on types of recyclable medical items, manpower and time constraints, and lack of recycling bins.

Chosen interventions included installation of colour-differentiated recycling bins, educational posters on types of recyclable medical items, and regular talks to educate SGH OT personnel. With ongoing implementation of recycling bins and educational posters, our preliminary results show 37% increase in weight of recycled plastic and paper from baseline.

Conclusion: With education involving all key stakeholders, implementation of recycling bins in OT and reaching out to green environmental champions to encourage and sustain a culture of recycling, the weight of recycled plastics and paper will increase significantly.

Reference:
18AP03-06
Economic and plastic waste associated with the use of pulse contour disposable sensors for perioperative hemodynamic monitoring

F. Michard1, E. Futier2, O. Desebbe3, L. Zieleskiewicz3, ECO-Responsible Hemodynamic Study Group
1MiCo, Consulting & Research, Vallamand, Switzerland, 2University Hospital, Anesthesia, Clermont Ferrand, France, 3Clinique de la Sauvegarde, Anesthesia, Lyon, France

Background and Goal of Study: Pulse contour techniques are used for cardiac output monitoring during high-risk surgery. Some require the use of specific pulse contour disposable sensors (e.g. FloTrac sensor), whereas others, known as “disposable-free” techniques, can be used with a regular low-cost pressure transducer.

Materials and Methods: To assess the potential carbon footprint and economic impact of pulse contour techniques in France, the following assumptions were made:
1) number of surgeries = 10 million/yr,
2) proportion of high-risk procedures = 12.5%,
3) plastic carbon footprint = 1.7-3.5 kg of CO2 per kg (woodly.com),
4) average hospital cost of a pulse contour disposable sensor and of a regular pressure transducer = €160 and €10, respectively.

A pulse contour disposable sensor and a regular pressure transducer were weighted (table).

Results and Discussion: If all high-risk surgical patients could benefit from perioperative hemodynamic optimization - as recommended by the French Society of Anesthesiology, SFAR – using a pulse contour disposable sensor instead of a regular pressure transducer would result in 69 extra tons of plastic waste/yr, which translates into 118-240 extra tons of CO2/yr (the equivalent of the yearly carbon footprint of 24-48 French citizens). Hospital extra-costs associated with the use of pulse contour disposable sensors were estimated to €187 million/yr (the budget necessary to purchase >36,000 handheld ultrasound devices or to hire >5,000 new nurses in France).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pulse contour disposable sensor</th>
<th>Regular pressure transducer</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight per unit</td>
<td>86 g</td>
<td>31 g</td>
<td>55 g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nb of high-risk surgeries/yr</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plastic waste/yr</td>
<td>108 tons</td>
<td>39 tons</td>
<td>69 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total carbon footprint/yr</td>
<td>184-378 tons</td>
<td>66-137 tons</td>
<td>118-241 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average cost per unit</td>
<td>€160</td>
<td>€10</td>
<td>€150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cost/yr</td>
<td>€200 millions</td>
<td>€13 millions</td>
<td>€187 millions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion(s): The annual carbon footprint of disposable pulse contour sensors is negligible at a population or national level. However, the economic impact is significant. In France, the use of disposable-free cardiac output monitoring techniques could lead to savings up to €187 million/yr or would enable the purchase of other medical devices and/or to hire thousands of nurses.

Acknowledgements: ECO-responsible HDM study group: M Biasis (Bordeaux), PG Guinot (Dijon), M Leone (Marseille), MJ Licker (Genève), S Molliex (St Etienne), R Pirracchio (San Francisco), S Provenchère (Paris), P Schoettler (Lausanne).

18AP03-07
The journey of plastics recyclables beyond the hospital: identifying limiting factors unique to a small city

J.W.T. Chong1, J.W.L. Lim1, S.A. Lie1, M.P.P.K. Tan1, M. Kynoch1
1Singapore General Hospital, Anaesthesiology, Singapore, Singapore

Background: The Singapore government has been promoting sustainable development under the Singapore Green Plan 2030 targeting the diversion of waste away from landfills into recycling pathways. However, only 6% of plastic waste was recycled in 2021 which has led to increasing interest in recycling healthcare plastic to propel the nation-wide agenda.

Goal of Study and Methods: To ensure that improved recycling efforts in the hospital can substantially increase plastic recycling rate, we need to understand the journey of plastic recyclables beyond the hospital. Through a series of field trips and discussions with recycling providers, we identified challenges faced downstream particularly to being a small island state, which has allowed us to review our recycling strategies in Singapore General Hospital.

Results and Discussion: Healthcare plastic recyclables are classified as post-consumer plastics which often consist of mixed plastic polymers. The main challenges cited by recycling providers were as follow:
1. Low quantity of recyclables collected
2. Lack of infrastructure– contributed by the land scarcity and relatively high labour costs for segregation and sorting
3. Heterogeneity of post-consumer plastics.

We also identified emerging alternatives to the traditional recycling processes, such as the use of mixed plastic recyclables in the creation of road construction material (Magorium Pte. Ltd.). These newer options may provide the ultimate solutions to the abovementioned limitations.

Conclusion: We identified a variety of limiting factors in the downstream recycling channels providing greater insight into the plastic recycling industry in Singapore. Our aim is to guide the future mapping and implementation of upstream recycling strategies in all Singapore hospitals concentrating efforts on those sustainable pathways offered to us in a country with inherent geographical and recycling infrastructure limitations.

Figure 1. Journey of plastics recyclables generated from Singapore General Hospital beyond the hospital.
Wylie, E. 07AP08-04
X
Xhaet, O. 07AP06-01, 03AP04-05, 03AP04-11, 13AP04-12
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