

Case Reports

17. Acute hypoglycaemia in a healthy parturient following induction of a combined spinal-epidural analgesia for labor. Case report

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It is well established that labouring parturients have increased serum concentrations of stress hormones, cortisol and catecholamines, both of which are known to stimulate hyperglycemia. We present a case of a healthy 33 year old parturient at 37 weeks gestation in active labor, that developed acute onset of hypoglycemia following subarachnoid injection of opioid and local anesthetic, for pain relief in labour.

39. Streptococcus sanguis meningitis 10 days after spinal anaesthesia. Case report

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Meningitis caused by Streptococcus species other than Streptococcus pneumoniae is rare^{1,2}. When cases are described, the symptoms of meningitis start within 72 hours after a spinal puncture. We describe a case of Streptococcus sanguis meningitis 10 days after spinal puncture.

Case: A 42-yr-old healthy male underwent spinal anaesthesia for arthroscopy of the knee.

The day of surgery, he was afebrile and had no clinical signs of infection.

The same day, he was discharged from the hospital with a VAS score of less than 4.

Ten days later, he was admitted to the neurology department. He complained of severe, pro-gressive headache, independent of his position. A case of meningitis was suspected.

All results of blood-cultures were negative. Ceftriaxone, vancomycin, rifampicin and dexamethasone were started. Two days later temperature had normalised and clinical progression was favourable.

On the fourteenth postoperative day, Streptococcus sanguis was found in the CSF cultures. The diagnosis of primary bacterial meningitis was made and the former antibiotic regime was changed into six million units of penicillin. There were no signs of a spinal abscess. He was discharged on the eighteenth postoperative day.

Discussion: Streptococcus sanguis directly binds to oral surfaces and serves as a tether for the attachment of a variety of other oral microorganisms, which colonize the tooth surface, form dental plaque, and contribute to the aetiology of both caries and periodontal disease. Furthermore, Streptococcus sanguis has been long recognized as a leading cause of bacterial endocarditis.

Such infections are being compounded by the increasing frequency with which penicillin resistance is being observed in this group of organisms.

Streptococcus meningitis after spinal anaesthesia usually develops rapidly within 72 hours. The onset in our patient was 10 days after the lumbar puncture, without evident reasons in the delay of the symptoms.

References:

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