

Vasopressor boluses (Phenylephrine 50 mcg/ml) were administered if the MAP dropped by 10% of the initial value.

The number of bolused episodes was recorded.

All patients received an IV balanced crystalloid (10 ml/kg) at SAB insertion, followed by an infusion.

Pain scores (VAS) were documented perioperatively.

Results Conclusions

1. Slowly titrated, low-dose SAB in elderly patients with mild-moderate, asymptomatic AS did not develop precipitous hypotension.
2. MAP was relatively easily maintained with boluses of Phenylephrine (50mcg/ml).
3. US-guided SIFI FICB is an effective analgesic adjunct.

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CONTINUOUS SPINAL ANESTHESIA FOR OPEN CHOLECYSTECTOMY: CUSTOMIZED ANAESTHETIC MANAGEMENT IN A CHALLENGING PATIENT

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Background and Aims Continuous spinal anesthesia (CSA) provides fast onset titratable neuroaxial block. In the context of upper abdominal surgery on patients with acute respiratory disease offers minimization of respiratory complications and ensures adequate anaesthetic conditions.

We aim to present a CSA for open cholecystectomy in a patient with multiple neurological deficits and acute pneumonia.

Methods 60 years-old woman, 40 kg, 152 cm. Past history of rickets having severe skeletal deformation; hypertension; status post cerebellar tumor resection with multiple sequelae: loss of visual and auditory acuity, dysphagia, dysphonia, respiratory insufficiency and ventriculoperitoneal shunt. Admitted for urgent open cholecystectomy having alongside acute pneumonia with pleural effusion. Laboratory tests and current medication posed no contraindication to spinal anesthesia.

Spinal catheter 20G was introduced through 18G tuohy needle at L3-L4 level. On supine position the adequate block level was achieved using bed tilting and sequential doses of hyperbaric bupivacaine (total of 10 mg) and sufentanil (total of 10 mcg). During the 1h procedure there was no need for sedation. The spinal catheter was removed on the operating room (OR) after a morphine 100 mcg administration. Neither respiratory nor regional anesthesia complications were reported on the postoperative period.

Results Although a CSA in this patient was a challenge we considered that the benefits exceeded the risks and surpassed limitations of other techniques. The anaesthetic plan was sustained by careful communication with the patient and strict collaboration of the surgical team.

Conclusions CSA allowed a safe and effective management during the intraoperative period and optimized the postoperative recovery.

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TEMPORARY MENINGEAL SYMPTOMS AFTER EPIDURAL BLOOD PATCH

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Background and Aims Post-puncture headache – an unpleasant rare event. Associated with epidural and spinal anesthesia. With epidural anesthesia, its cause is an unintentional puncture of the inner leaf of the dura mater. With spinal, intrathecal puncture itself.

Methods 20 years of experience in post-puncture headache in a maternity hospital (~ 200 observations), associated with epidural analgesia in childbirth.

Results Almost 100% of observations – unintentional puncture of the inner leaf of the dura mater with an epidural needle. Manifests 6–18 hours after removal of the epidural catheter. In less than 50% of cases amenable to conservative treatment. Classical triad (bedrest, hydration, tylenol) – temporary unstable relief. Most have an epidural blood patch. In case of refusal, contraindications for filling, strict adherence to bed rest for 10–14 days. A single epidural blood patch with autologous blood with a volume of 10–20 ml in almost 100% permanently relieves a headache. Repeated epidural autologous blood filling is required only in 1–2% of cases. In 1–2% of our cases of epidural blood patch, we observed short-term, up to 3–5 days, development of meningeal symptoms, in particular, pronounced occipital rigidity against the background of complete disappearance of positional headache. This occipital stiffness looks quite frightening, but usually practically does not bother patients and regresses spontaneously by 5 days after a blood patch.

Conclusions A possible explanation for the development of meningeal symptoms immediately after an epidural patch is the ingestion of a small amount of autologous blood into the subarachnoid space, followed by irritation of the dura mater.

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CONTINUOUS SPINAL ANESTHESIA FOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION IN SEVERE MITRAL REGURGITATION LUPIC PATIENT

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Background and Aims Anesthesia for kidney transplant on a patient with severe mitral regurgitation is a true challenge since a judicious hemodynamic management is needed to avoid pulmonary edema and ensure optimized reperfusion of the transplanted organ. A 49-year-old Caucasian female with chronic severe mitral regurgitation was scheduled for urgent kidney transplant due to end-stage renal disease caused by lupus nephritis.

Methods We performed the first described continuous spinal anesthesia in a patient with chronic severe mitral regurgitation undergoing cadaver donor kidney transplant. Echocardiography and serial blood gas analysis were monitored.

Results Cardiac output monitoring confirmed absence of impaired ventricular function or worsening of mitral regurgitation during the installation of subarachnoid block. We used a total of 10 mg bupivacaine and 10 mg sufentanyl and had no need of vasopressor use during block installation and all the intra-operative period. No sedation was administered.

Conclusions Continuous spinal anesthesia provides potential advantages over other forms of neuraxial anesthesia, since low doses of local anesthetic could be titrated during all the

surgical procedure with minimal hemodynamic impact, ensuring a reliable block with quick onset and low risk of local anesthetic toxicity. In the case allowed adequate hemodynamic management to avoid mitral regurgitation deterioration and optimize graft perfusion. Continuous spinal anesthesia was suitable for the surgical procedure and contributed to an individualized management essential to the outcome of the patient.

58 AGAINST ALL ODDS: EPIDURAL HAEMATOMA IN A MINOR HEPATIC METASTASECTOMY

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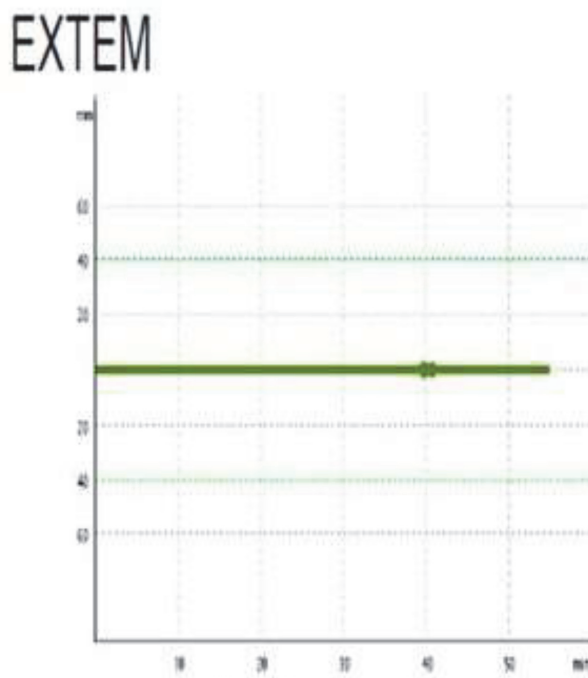
Background and Aims Epidural analgesia (EA) in patients undergoing liver resection remains controversial because of the increased risk of epidural haematoma (EH), although extremely rare [1]. We report a case of EH in a patient submitted to a hepatic metastasectomy, after EA.

Methods A 71-year-old, diagnosed with metastatic cholangiocarcinoma and previously submitted to cephalic pancreatoduodenectomy, was admitted for elective metastasectomy (2×3 centimeters). Her history included hypertension on bisoprolol and chemotherapy two years previously. Preoperative assessment revealed minor changes, as described in table 1. The patient consented a combination of EA with general anaesthesia and a lower thoracic epidural catheter (T9-T10) was uneventfully placed.

Results A two-hour surgery was performed successfully, with insignificant blood loss. On postoperative day 2, the patient underwent emergent reintervention due to severe hemoperitoneum but no vascular bleeding point was detected and therefore, coagulopathy was assumed. After transfusion of 3 units of fresh frozen plasma (FFP) and 1 platelet concentrate (PC), haemorrhage resolved and the epidural catheter was removed the next day, considering a 12 hour interval since the last administration of prophylactic enoxaparin. 18 hours later, the patient presented with severe lumbar and inferior limb pain and paraparesis. A CT scan revealed an



Abstract 58 Figure 1 Thoracic and lumbar CT scan. A hyperintense lesion displacing the cord anteriorly at T8-T10



Abstract 58 Figure 2 ROTEM[®] Thromboelastometry showing no activation of dot formation in EXTEM

Abstract 58 Table 1 Perioperative coagulation and liver function tests

Table 1				
Perioperative coagulation and liver function tests				
	Preoperative	1POD	2POD*	3POD
PT (s)	13.6	17.1	14.7	15.7
INR	1.16	1.47	1.26	1.35
Platelet ($\times 10^9/l$)	108	91	92	77
Albumin (g/l)	45.2	25.9	26	26.1
ALT (U/l)	69.4	103	78	68.4
ALP (U/l)	56.6	103.8	66.8	46.7
Bilirubin (mg/dl)	0.7	0.73	1.15	0.77

POD - postoperative day
*Day of catheter removal

EH from T8-T10, and emergent laminectomy was performed. 1 PC, 4 FFP and 1000U of prothrombin complex concentrate were administered, ROTEM guided. After several months of rehabilitation, the patient managed to walk unassisted.

Conclusions Despite following every recommendation for epidural catheter handling, masked coagulopathy can prevail and thus a high level of EH suspicion should always subsist.