1005

1019

ANESTHESIOLOGY





ON THE COVER:

Discharge from the postanesthesia care unit (PACU) without observation of lower limb motor function after spinal anesthesia might significantly reduce PACU stay and enhance early rehabilitation after total joint replacement. In this issue of Anesthesiology, Aasvang et al. test this hypothesis in a multicenter randomized trial. PACU discharge without assessment of lower limb motor function after spinal anesthesia was noninferior to motor function assessment in reducing hospital length of stay and readmissions.

 Aasvang et al.: Safety Aspects of Postanesthesia Care Unit Discharge without Motor Function Assessment after Spinal Anesthesia: A Randomized, Multicenter, Semiblinded, Noninferiority, Controlled Trial, p. 1043

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■ PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE				

CLINICAL SCIENCE

◆ ● An Allometric Model of Remifentanil Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics

D. J. Eleveld, J. H. Proost, H. Vereecke, A. R. Absalom, E. Olofsen, J. Vuyk, and M. M. R. F. Struys

A general-purpose remifentanil pharmacokinetic—pharmacodynamic model was developed using pharmacokinetic data from studies of adults and children and pharmacodynamic data from an adult study. Model parameters were influenced by the patient covariates fat-free mass, weight, age, and sex. The predictive performance of the model was in a clinically acceptable range for all subgroups considered and was better than that of a widely-used model, particularly in young children and children.

T. K. Kim, S. Obara, T. D. Egan, and the Remifentanil Pharmacokinetics in Obesity Investigators

A general-purpose remifentanil pharmacokinetic model was developed using pharmacokinetic data from studies of adults. Model parameters were influenced by the patient covariates total body weight, fat-free mass, and age but not body mass index or sex. This new model provides the pharmacokinetic basis for remifentanil dosing calculations in obese and elderly adult patients.

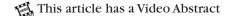
- Refers to This Month in Anesthesiology
- Refers to Editorial Views

This article has an Audio Podcast



See Supplemental Digital Content





♦ Effect of Dexmedetomidine and Propofol on Basal Ganglia Activity in Parkinson Disease: A Controlled Clinical Trial

1033

A. Martinez-Simon, M. Alegre, C. Honorato-Cia, J. M. Nuñez-Cordoba, E. Cacho-Asenjo, I. F. Trocóniz, M. Carmona-Abellán, M. Valencia, and J. Guridi

Activity in the subthalamic nuclei was similar to the control, unsedated state in patients that received dexmedetomidine. By contrast, propofol produced a dose-dependent reduction in neuronal activity, especially in the beta frequency range. The data support the use of dexmedetomidine for sedation in patients undergoing deep brain stimulator implantation.

Safety Aspects of Postanesthesia Care Unit Discharge without Motor Function Assessment after Spinal Anesthesia: A Randomized, Multicenter, Semiblinded, Noninferiority, Controlled Trial

1043

E. K. Aasvang, C. C. Jørgensen, M. B. Laursen, J. Madsen, S. Solgaard, M. Krøigaard, P. Kjærsgaard-Andersen, H. Mandøe, T. B. Hansen, J. U. Nielsen, N. Krarup, A. E. Skøtt, and H. Kehlet

A multicenter, noninferiority study involving 1,376 patients undergoing lower extremity joint replacement surgery under spinal anesthesia was conducted to determine the benefit of motor assessment. Patients not receiving motor examination completed a fast-track course as frequently as those who were assessed.

Risk of Epidural Hematoma after Neuraxial Techniques in Thrombocytopenic Parturients:
 A Report from the Multicenter Perioperative Outcomes Group

1053

1077

L. O. Lee, B. T. Bateman, S. Kheterpal, T. T. Klumpner, M. Housey, M. F. Aziz, K. W. Hand, M. MacEachern, C. G. Goodier, J. Bernstein, and M. E. Bauer, on behalf of the Multicenter Perioperative Outcomes Group Investigators

The Multicenter Perioperative Outcomes Group database and a systematic literature review were combined to estimate the relationship between platelet count and the risk of epidural hematoma requiring surgical decompression after neuraxial techniques. The upper bound of the 95% CI for epidural hematoma risk was 11% for a platelet count of 0 to 49,000 mm⁻³, 3% for 50,000 to 69,000 mm⁻³, and 0.2% for 70,000 to 100,000 mm⁻³.

Brachial Arterial Pressure Monitoring during Cardiac Surgery Rarely Causes Complications

A. Singh, B. Bahadorani, B. J. Wakefield, N. Makarova, P. A. Kumar, M. Z.-Y. Tong,

D. I. Sessler, and A. E. Duncan

Brachial artery cannulation for hemodynamic monitoring during cardiac surgery rarely causes complications.

BASIC SCIENCE

Growth Arrest and DNA-damage–inducible Protein 45β-mediated DNA Demethylation of *Voltage-dependent T-type Calcium Channel 3.2 Subunit* Enhances Neuropathic Allodynia after Nerve Injury in Rats

C.-Y. Lai, M.-C. Hsieh, Y.-C. Ho, A.-S. Lee, H.-H. Wang, J.-K. Cheng, Y.-P. Chau, and H.-Y. Peng

The ligation of nerves in the rat hind limb both caused nociceptive sensitization and expression of growth arrest and DNA-damage–inducible protein 45β (Gadd 45β) in spinal cord tissue. The abundance of Gadd 45β controlled the expression of the calcium ion channel *voltage-dependent T-type calcium channel 3.2 subunit* through demethylation, which in turn appeared to modulate nociceptive sensitization.

Effect of Thoracic Epidural Anesthesia on Ventricular Excitability in a Porcine Model

K. Howard-Quijano, T. Takamiya, E. A. Dale, K. Yamakawa, W. Zhou, U. Buckley, and A. Mahajan

A porcine animal model was used to characterize the effects of thoracic epidural anesthesia on sympathetic stimulation and critical parameters of cardiac excitability. Thoracic epidural anesthesia reduced ventricular excitability and the proarrhythmic effects of sympathetic hyperactivity. The study adds important mechanistic insight to support the treatment of ventricular arrhythmias by thoracic epidural anesthesia.

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1125

■ CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE

CLINICAL SCIENCE

Prevalence and Impact on Weaning of Pleural Effusion at the Time of Liberation from
 Mechanical Ventilation: A Multicenter Prospective Observational Study

M. Dres, D. Roux, T. Pham, A. Beurton, J.-D. Ricard, M. Fartoukh, and A. Demoule

Pleural effusion was detected in 37% of patients and was significant in 13%. However, the presence of significant effusion was not associated with an increase in duration of—or weaning from—mechanical ventilation or with length of intensive care unit stay.

Clinical Judgment Is Not Reliable for Reducing Whole-body Computed Tomography Scanning after Isolated High-energy Blunt Trauma

T. Mistral, V. Brenckmann, L. Sanders, J.-L. Bosson, G. Ferretti, F. Thony, S. M. Galvagno, J.-F. Payen, and P. Bouzat

The diagnostic performance of clinical judgment in the prediction of the presence of significant lesions on computed tomography scan (CT) was modest and was considered to be insufficient. However, in patients with a completely normal physician examination, clinical judgment predicted the lack of a lesion on CT scan. The data suggest that clinical judgment is not sufficient to reduce the need for whole-body CT scans in patients with high-energy trauma.

BASIC SCIENCE

Up-regulation of Intracellular Calcium Handling Underlies the Recovery of Endotoxemic Cardiomyopathy in Mice

J. C. Morse, J. Huang, N. Khona, E. J. Miller, D. A. Siwik, W. S. Colucci, and I. A. Hobai

The authors have performed a functional and molecular assessment of myocardial calcium handling in surviving mice in a preclinical model of sepsis. The authors have found a supernormal augmentation of heart function and myocytes calcium handling during the recovery phase of sepsis-induced cardiomyopathy that was associated with distinct changes in the expression and function of calcium-handling proteins in the heart. The work suggests the existence of an active myocardial recovery mechanism in sepsis, with significant implications toward possible future therapies.

■ PAIN MEDICINE

CLINICAL SCIENCE

♦ A Three-arm Randomized Clinical Trial Comparing Continuous Femoral Plus Single-injection
 Sciatic Peripheral Nerve Blocks *versus* Periarticular Injection with Ropivacaine or Liposomal
 Bupivacaine for Patients Undergoing Total Knee Arthroplasty

A. W. Amundson, R. L. Johnson, M. P. Abdel, C. B. Mantilla, J. K. Panchamia, M. J. Taunton, M. E. Kralovec, J. R. Hebl, D. R. Schroeder, M. W. Pagnano, and S. L. Kopp

In a three-arm randomized trial involving 165 adult knee arthroplasty patients, femoral and sciatic nerve blocks, ropivacaine-based periarticular injection, and liposomal bupivacaine-based periarticular injection all provided good analgesia. The peripheral nerve block strategy provided some advantages in terms of pain relief and opioid sparing at early time points after surgery.

BASIC SCIENCE

Oral Application of Magnesium-L-Threonate Attenuates Vincristine-induced Allodynia and Hyperalgesia by Normalization of Tumor Necrosis Factor-α/Nuclear Factor-κB Signaling

 T. Xu, D. Li, X. Zhou, H.-D. Ouyang, L.-J. Zhou, H. Zhou, H.-M. Zhang, X.-H. Wei, G. Liu, and X.-G. Liu

Vincristine-induced allodynia and hyperalgesia are reduced by oral magnesium-L-threonate administration. Oral magnesium-L-threonate administration also blocked tumor necrosis factor- α /nuclear factor- κB signaling and spinal cord neuroplasticity after vincristine administration.

■ EDUCATION

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Anomalous Single Coronary Artery from the Pulmonary Artery		
K. A. Machovec, B. Taicher, R. D. B. Jaquiss, and K. D. Hill		
Carotid Body Paraganglioma: A Rare Tumor with Serious Anesthetic Challenges		
A. T. Truong, S. Thakar, and DT. Truong		

EDUCATION

Effectiveness of Written and Oral Specialty Certification Examinations to Predict Actions against the Medical Licenses of Anesthesiologists Y. Zhou, H. Sun, D. J. Culley, A. Young, A. E. Harman, and D. O. Warner

Using medical license action (most common types were substance use, license/board violation, malpractice, and unprofessional conduct) as an outcome, those passing neither examination and those passing only the written examination had a greater risk of receiving an action from a state medical board compared with those passing both examinations. Passing both the oral and written examinations, but not just written examination, is associated with a lower risk of subsequent license actions. These results suggest that the oral examination assesses domains not fully assessed in the written examination.

CLINICAL CONCEPTS AND COMMENTARY

♦ To Stop or Not, That Is the Question: Acute Pain Management for the Patient on Chronic Buprenorphine

T. A. Anderson, A. N. A. Quaye, E. N. Ward, T. E. Wilens, P. E. Hilliard, and C. M. Brummett

Perioperative pain management suggestions for patients taking buprenorphine and presenting for elective and urgent/ emergent surgery have been developed and are described here.

REVIEW ARTICLE

Cerebral Autoregulation-oriented Therapy at the Bedside: A Comprehensive Review L. Rivera-Lara, A. Zorrilla-Vaca, R. G. Geocadin, R. J. Healy, W. Ziai, and M. A. Mirski

In this review, the authors discuss the methodology and clinical applications of cerebral autoregulation monitoring, including an innovative application in which optimal cerebral perfusion pressure is calculated at the bedside.

MIND TO MIND

Our Grief and Loss: The Hazards of Caring for Critically Ill Children S. Crowe

■ CORRESPONDENCE

Measurement of Patient Outcomes Important 1202

D. G. McGuckin

In Reply

T. Volk, A. Raddatz, and H. Bomberg

Video Laryngoscopes and Best Rescue Strategy for Unexpected Difficult Airways: Do Not Forget a Combined Approach with Flexible Bronchoscopy! F. Sanfilippo, G. Chiaramonte, and F. Sgalambro

In Reply

T. Asai

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