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Postoperative Care

(Abstracts and Case Report/Series)

Comparison of Intraperitoneal Versus Intravenous Dexamethasone on Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting after Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy

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Introduction:

Despite all benefits that are provided by laparoscopic cholecystectomy (LC), such as rapid recovery and shorter hospital stays by patients, the incidence of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV), and also post-operative pain (POP), still remain high. This study was designed with the aim of examining the effect of intraperitoneal (IP) dexamethasone on the reduction of PONV and POP.

Methods:

A prospective randomized double-blind clinical trial, with population of eighty-seven adult patients that scheduled for laparoscopic cholecystectomy, with American society of anesthesiology class I-II, were randomized into three groups, IP (intraperitoneal dexamethasone) (n=29), IV (intravenous dexamethasone) (n=29) and C(control)(n=29) groups. Patients were followed up about study outcomes including PONV, POP, consumption of antiemetic's and hemodynamic status during first 24 hours after operation.

Results:

Present study showed that, in the first 24 hours of post operation, no significant differences in nausea(p:0.41) and vomiting(p:0.38), between IP and IV dexamethasone groups. However, there was found lower severity of nausea (SN) in the IP group (p:0.001). Also, the VAS score that represents POP was significantly reduced in the IP group (p:0.02). No significant differences between all three groups were found about hemodynamic status during operation.

Discussion:

Administration of 8mg of IP dexamethasone, associated with significantly reduced pain, and less effective with reduced severity of nausea, after laparoscopic cholecystectomy, in comparison to IV and control groups. But IP dexamethasone had no similar effect on the reduction of PONV.

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