

Oral Clonidine vs Oral Gabapentin for Obtunding Hemodynamic Response to Laryngoscopy and Tracheal Intubation

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Abstract: Introduction: The sequence of induction of anaesthesia, laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation are highly noxious stimuli associated with marked haemodynamic changes consisting of increase in circulating catecholamines and autonomic reflex activity which involves activation of adrenocortical system. There is an increase in myocardial oxygen demand and dysrhythmias may occur as well. These changes are transient in nature and do not affect healthy individuals however in patients with co morbidities like hypertension, raised intracranial pressure or coronary artery disease. The cardiovascular response is also directly related to the force and duration of laryngoscopy. Both Clonidine, an α_2 adrenergic agonist and gabapentin which is a GABA-B receptors agonist causes obtunding of hemodynamic response during laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation. Aim: The aim of conducting this study was to compare the effects of 100mcg oral Clonidine given 90 min prior to time of surgery with 300mg oral gabapentin given 90 min before surgery in blunting the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation. Methodology: A prospective randomized study was done in 60 patients undergoing elective surgeries general anaesthesia in Meenakshi medical college hospital and research institute was selected randomly and the patients were randomly split into two groups of 30 each. One group C received 100mcg of orral clonidine and the other group G received 300 mg of Gabapentin orally 90 minutes before surgery. ECG monitoring, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure (MAP) with noninvasive monitoring and pulse oximetry (SpO₂) and ETCO₂ monitoring was done and recorded after premedication, after induction, before and during intubation at different time intervals (T₀, T₁, T₃, T₅ T₁₀ and T₁₅ minutes). Other adverse effects of this oral premedication with 100mcg Clonidine and 300mg Gabapentin like bradycardia, hypotension, sedation and dryness of mouth were recorded post operatively also. Result: In both group the heart rate (HR), systolic blood pressure (SBP), diastolic blood pressure (DBP), mean arterial pressure (MAP) were increased at T₀, T₁, T₃, T₅ and T₁₅. The 1 minute post induction values of SBP, DBP, MAP were significantly less in Clonidine group (P<0.001) and significance persisted upto 5 minutes. Increase in HR was less in Clonidine group than in the Gabapentin group. Conclusion: Premedication with oral Clonidine 100mcg 90 minutes before laryngoscopy and intubation superior to oral gabapentin 300mg in obtunding the hemodynamic response to endotracheal intubation and laryngoscopy

Keywords: 100mcg oral Clonidine, 300mg oral Gabapentin, direct laryngoscopy, endotracheal intubation, attenuation of hemodynamic response, heart rate systolic blood pressure; diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure.

1. Introduction

Many strategies have been employed to minimize the adverse hemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation like reducing the duration of laryngoscopy to less than 15 seconds and administration of drugs like volatile anaesthetics, topical and intravenous lidocaine, opioids, vasodilators, calcium channel blockers, β - blockers, and alpha-2 adrenergic agonist before laryngoscopy. No single agent has been established as the most appropriate for Laryngoscopy and intubation is a day to day routine in the practice of anaesthesiology.

It is not only performed for general anaesthesia during elective and emergency surgeries as indicated, we are also called upon for securing airway in critical care. However both laryngoscopy and intubation are noxious stimuli and are associated with stress response in the form of laryngo sympathetic stimulation which is manifested as hypertension, tachycardia and cardiac arrhythmias.

The hemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation is dependent of multiple factors like adequate premedication, dose of induction agent, depth of anaesthesia, topicalization of the airway, the duration and number of attempts of laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation.

In young and healthy individuals such a haemodynamic response does not pose any threat, however in patients with

comorbidities like hypertension, coronary artery disease, cerebrovascular disease and intracranial aneurysms hemodynamic changes due to laryngoscopy may lead to complications such as left heart failure, intracranial haemorrhage, acute myocardial ischemia, and cardiac arrhythmias.

Clonidine is an alpha-2 adrenergic agonist used for many years as an antihypertensive agent. Pharmacological action of clonidine has been used in attenuating stress response to laryngoscopy and intubation. Gabapentin, 1-(amino methyl) cyclohexane acetic acid, is a structural analogue of the neurotransmitter γ -aminobutyric acid. The mechanism of gabapentin in controlling this hemodynamic response remains unknown. Since, gabapentin inhibits membrane voltage gated calcium channels (VGCCs), it is possible that it may have a similar action to calcium channel blockers.

Gabapentin acts on the voltage gated calcium channels and it has also been proven that for Gabapentin to be effective the integrity of the alpha-2 receptors in the spinal cord, noradrenergic descending pathway and spino bulbo spinal circuit.

The aim of conducting this study was to compare the effects of 100mcg oral Clonidine given 90 min prior to time of surgery with 300mg oral gabapentin given 90 min before surgery in blunting the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation.

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2. Objectives

Primary Objectives

- To observe the efficacy of oral pre medication with Clonidine 100 mcg with Gabapentin 300 mg given 90 minutes prior to surgery, in attenuating the adverse hemodynamic responses to laryngoscopy and intubation of the trachea.
- To compare the efficacy of oral pre medication with Clonidine 100 mcg with Gabapentin 300 mg given 90 minutes prior to surgery and conclude which of the above two drugs is superior in attenuating the adverse hemodynamic responses to laryngoscopy and intubation of the trachea.

Secondary Objectives

To observe and compare if there are any untoward effects like excessive sedation of such pre medication Clonidine 100 mcg with Gabapentin 300 mg given 90 minutes prior to surgery.

Physiology of Sympathetic Response to Laryngoscopy and Tracheal Intubation

Direct laryngoscopy (1) and endotracheal intubation (2) stimulate a sympathoadrenal response. Suctioning of the airway and laryngoscopy itself can cause sudden increase in blood pressure, heart rate, increase in intraocular pressure and increase in intracranial tension

Supraglottic traction (3) during laryngoscopy or superficial stimulation of airway(4) or passage of tracheal tube into trachea(5) may be associated with reflex sympathetic changes.

After the induction of anesthesia other factors like anxiety and baroreceptor mediated reflexes do not cause hypertension and tachycardia unlike laryngoscopy as the MAC value of intubation is approximately 30% higher than the MAC value of a given agent. The tracheal intubation following laryngoscopy is not only accompanied by increased sympathetic activity but also increased sympathoadrenal activity (6). Increased hypothalamic adrenal axis activity and traffic in sympathetic efferent tracts are observed. Release of trophic hormones from hypothalamus stimulate release of ACTH, TSH, GH, FSH, luteinizing hormone and prolactin in addition to ADH from the pituitary.

Autonomic afferent impulses are transmitted by cranial nerves V, IX, X and sympathetic nerves from the airway. The afferents are relayed to cranial nerve nuclei, vasomotor and autonomic regulatory areas.

Key areas that integrate CVS responses and maintain CVS homeostasis are nucleus solitarius, dorsal vagal nucleus, nucleus ambiguus and parabrachial nucleus. The primary central synapse for baroreceptor mediated reflexes is nucleus solitarius and acts as relay station to hypothalamic sympathetic control centers peripheral information. It projects directly to interomediolateral nucleus of the spinal cord, the common pathway for preganglionic sympathetic outflow. Nucleus solitarius and nucleus ambiguus regulate the secretion of vasopressin (7).

Increase in sympathetic and hypothalamo-pituitary adrenal activity is responsible for cardiovascular changes seen with laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation.

Norepinephrine levels are doubled from 160pg/ml to 300pg/ml & last for 4-8 minutes. Epinephrine levels are increased from 70 to 280 pg/ml.

Surprisingly increase in plasma noradrenaline concentration and mean arterial pressures of upto 100% and 50% respectively can be correlated but correlation does not exist in postoperative period where noradrenaline concentration can increase upto 200% of the basal value.

The areas in the central nervous system which regulate the haemodynamic response have Mu receptors. Neurons in this area contain an endogenous opioid enkephalin. Opioids can modulate the afferent impulses at spinal cord and brain stem. It can also modulate the activity of hypothalamo pituitary adrenal axis (7).

Pharmacology of Clonidine

History and Chemistry

Clonidine hydrochloride, an imidazoline derivative was originally developed as a nasal decongestant and vasoconstrictor (8). Its hypotensive and bradycardic effects were first appreciated in 1962. It is a centrally acting adrenergic agonist that lowers blood pressure by decreasing basal sympathetic nervous system activity. It was introduced first in Europe in 1966 and subsequently in the U.S. for use as an antihypertensive agent.

Structure:

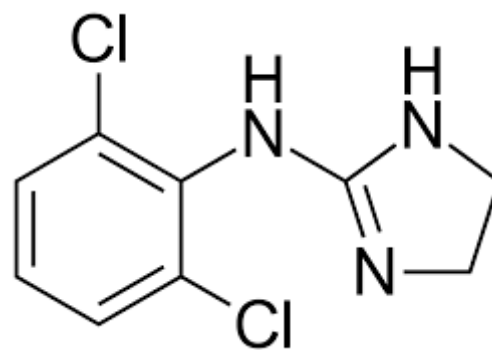


Figure 1

Clonidine

Pharmacokinetics:

Clonidine is rapidly absorbed from the G.I. tract. The onset of action occurs within 30-60 minutes with peak effect occurring 2-4 hours after oral administration.

Peak plasma levels occur at 90 minutes and the plasma half life is 6 – 15 hours(8,9).

Clonidine is metabolized mainly by the liver. Approximately 40% - 60% of an oral dose is excreted unchanged in the urine within 24 hours.

Clonidine is also well absorbed through the skin as a result of its low molecular weight and high lipid solubility. It is released from a transdermal preparation at a constant rate for a day period(10).

Mechanism of Action

It is thought to act by selective stimulation of Post-synaptic adrenergic receptors in the central nervous system, more specifically the nucleus tractus solitarius of the medulla oblongata and therefore reduction in catecholamine levels. This causes inhibition of basal efferent sympathetic vasoconstrictor effects on the peripheral and renal vasculature (11).

The role of the sympathetic nervous system as one of a number of important blood pressure regulating factors is well established (12). A direct relationship between blood pressure and plasma catecholamine levels has been demonstrated in hypertensive patients. Hypertensive patients have been shown to have an exaggerated sympathetic nervous system response to stress. Additionally, it has been suggested that sympathetic mechanisms may contribute to elevations in blood pressure by blunting the sensitivity of the carotid baroreceptors. Clonidine may restore baroreceptor sensitivity by its central action. The frequently observed decrease in heart rate during clonidine therapy reflects vagal stimulation or sinoatrial nodal inhibition. This comes about as a result of reciprocal relationship between the sympathetic vasomotor centre and the dorsal motor nucleus of the vagus nerve. Stimulation of the inhibitory sympathetic nerves results in increased vagal tone.

In addition, clonidine also has pre-synaptic agonist activity. This may inhibit neurotransmitter release and contribute to the decrease in plasma norepinephrine concentrations found during clonidine therapy.

Haemodynamic Effects:

Oral administration of clonidine causes a reduction in blood pressure, heart rate, cardiac output and stroke volume without any consistent change in calculated total peripheral resistance. The reduction in cardiac output is due primarily to the reduction in heart rate and venous return (due to venodilation) with no change in myocardial contractility. Incremental increases in cardiac output and heart rate in response to exercise are preserved probably because the central sympathetic inhibitory action of clonidine is more prominent than the peripheral constrictor action allowing peripheral effector mechanisms to remain intact. Reduction in resting heart rate is seen in both supine and upright position. Orthostatic hypotension is unusually less frequent than with ganglionic blockers and peripherally acting vasodilators.

Cardiac Effects:

Regression of left ventricular hypertrophy has been observed with clonidine with and without a low-dose diuretic. Diastolic left ventricular filling which reflects diastolic ventricular function has been found to be abnormal in hypertensive patients and may improve during short term (12 weeks) clonidine therapy.

Effects on Renin and Aldosterone:

Clonidine reduces plasma renin activity probably as a result of reduced sympathetic stimulation at the renal adrenergic receptors. This contributes to the antihypertensive effect. Clonidine causes suppression of aldosterone production which may also contribute to its blood pressure lowering

effect. The notable lack of salt and water retention seen with clonidine therapy is probably a result of the inhibition of the renin-aldosterone axis.

Dosage and Administration:

Usual starting dose of oral clonidine is 0.1 mg twice a day which may gradually be increased by 0.1 mg per week. In elderly once daily administration at bedtime is a very effective and convenient way of lowering blood pressure and avoiding unpleasant side-effects. Transdermal clonidine greatly reduces the incidence of sedation, and causes a dry mouth.

Different sizes of the patch are programmed to yield 0.1 mg, 0.2 mg or 0.3 mg of clonidine per day for 7 days.

Side Effects:

Dry mouth and sedation occur during therapy particularly at high doses. However these effects wear off with time. Impotence and postural hypotension are less of a problem. The side effect of clonidine which has received most attention and is of particular concern to anesthesiologist is the so called clonidine withdrawal syndrome which has been described following abrupt cessation of the drug. It has features of a hyperadrenergic state resembling pheochromocytoma with increase in blood pressures, pulse rate and catecholamine concentrations. Best treatment is to reinstitute clonidine therapy. Blockers such as phentolamine are also effective. Care should be taken if clonidine is discontinued prior to anaesthesia when the dose should be slowly tapered, while other antihypertensives are substituted.

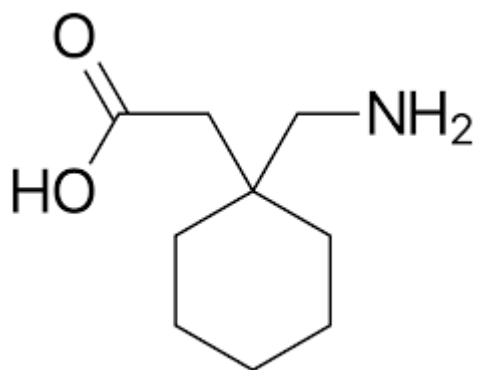
Clinical Uses

- Antihypertensive
- Treatment for opioid, nicotine and alcohol addiction
- Treatment of anxiety attacks
- Treatment for chronic pain
- As a premedicant for its sedative and anxiolytic effect
- Attenuation of haemodynamic response to intubation
- Reduces requirement of opioids, intravenous and general anaesthetics
- Reduces post operative shivering
- Reduces intraocular pressure
- To reduce perioperative ischemia

Clonidine may be used in treating all forms of hypertension.³⁸ It is still more useful in combination with a diuretic. Of late clonidine has been used increasingly in the field of anesthesiology. Oral dose of clonidine (about 5µg/kg) as a premedicant has been useful in many ways. Studies have shown that it can attenuate the tachycardia and hypertensive responses to laryngoscopy and intubation. It is also effective as an anxiolytic and a sedative. Moreover it has been seen that clonidine can decrease the MAC value inhaled anaesthetics intraoperatively

Gabapentin

Gabapentin or 1, Aminomethyl,cyclohexane acetic acid is structurally similar to gamma amino butyric acid is freely water soluble. It is used for its anticonvulsant, antihyperalgesic and antinociceptive properties(13).

Structure**Figure 2****Mechanism of Action**

Although structurally similar to GABA it does not act through GABA receptors. The proposed mechanism of action is through their effect on voltage gated calcium channels (alpha 2 delta subunit) (14). Although this may seem to have similar effects like calcium channel blockers there is no proof regarding its other anticonvulsant, antihyperalgesic and nociceptive properties. Other proposed actions include agonistic action on GABA-B receptors, augments the current flow in NMDA and spinal cord level AMPA mediated inhibition of neurotransmission (15).

Pharmacokinetics

Gabapentin, is absorbed from gut by diffusion and facilitated transport mediated mechanism and currently only oral preparations are available. It is transported by binding to a receptor linked to a saturable L-amino acid transport mechanism. Due to the saturable nature of the transport mechanism the bioavailability of gabapentin decreases with increasing dose.

The bioavailability of a 300-mg dose is 60%, whereas that of a 600mg dose is 40%, and this decreases to 35% at steady state with doses of 1600 mg three times daily. Peak plasma levels (C_{max}) of gabapentin of 2.7 ± 2.99 mg.l) are achieved 3 ± 3.2 h after ingestion of a single 300-mg capsule.

As a result of the dose-dependent saturable absorption of gabapentin, C_{max} increases less than threefold when the dose is tripled from 300 to 900 mg.

Metabolism

Gabapentin is not metabolized in humans and is excreted unchanged in urine. The unmetabolized drug is excreted through faeces. It is not a microsomal enzyme inducer. Due to renal excretion plasma clearance and elimination rate are dependent on creatinine clearance.

Therapeutic Uses

- 1) Used in the treatment of partial seizures as an adjunct of standard therapy with antiepileptic's (16).
- 2) Used to treat neuropathic pain, post-herpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, HIV neuropathy (16).
- 3) Used as adjunct with in anxiety and bipolar disorder (16).
- 4) Used in treatment of hot flushes (16).
- 5) Used as preemptive analgesic and reduces post-operative opioid consumption.

- 6) Used to attenuate hemodynamic response to direct laryngoscopy and endotracheal tube intubation.
- 7) Used as pre-medication for anxiolysis.
- 8) Used in prevention of postoperative nausea, vomiting.
- 9) Used in prevention of chronic post-surgical pain.

Adverse Effects:

- Dizziness 11%
- Somnolence 15%
- Nausea 3%
- Ataxia 2%
- Esthenia 6%
- Weight gain 2%
- Withdrawal symptoms appear after abrupt discontinuation of long term gabapentin therapy.

Drug Interactions:

Gabapentin does not have significant drug interaction with other drugs undergoing renal excretion.

Antacids when administered together with gabapentin reduce the bioavailability of gabapentin by 15%.

3. Review of Literature

A study (Raval et al) was conducted in 100 patients of ASA 1 & 2 undergoing elective surgeries with endotracheal intubation between oral diazepam and oral clonidine. Two groups of 40 each received oral clonidine and oral diazepam respectively with a control group of 20 patients receiving placebo. Oral clonidine had higher sedation, more antisialagogue and anxiolysis. Oral clonidine was also superior in obtunding haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy (17).

A study (Millar Forbes et al) conducted to evaluate the effects of hypertension on response to endotracheal intubation it was concluded both treated and untreated patients were equally at risk to deleterious haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation. However uncontrolled and untreated patients had a higher incidence of myocardial infarction (18).

A study (Shribman et al) conducted to find any increase in to detect the levels of plasma catecholamines in response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation found that significant rise in plasma noradrenaline levels with corresponding rise in arterial blood pressure. However there were no changes in adrenaline levels (19).

A study (Derbyshire et al) was conducted to compare plasma adrenaline and plasma nor adrenaline levels in patients undergoing general anesthesia with endotracheal intubation using thiopentone. The patients were split into two groups one receiving suxamethonium and the other receiving pancuronium. Pancuronium group showed significantly lower noradrenaline levels (20).

In a study (Derbyshire et al) conducted to observe the sympathetic-adrenal stimulation at various stages of anesthesia by measuring plasma noradrenaline levels. It showed significant sympathetic-adrenal stimulation with corresponding increase in nor adrenaline levels (21).

A study (Wright et al) was conducted in 69 patients on the effects of 300mcg of clonidine as premedication. Normotensive patients were chosen and the study was conducted with randomized double blinding and showed clonidine was effective in attenuating the tachycardia and hypertensive response to laryngoscopy and intubation (22).

A study (Carabine et al) was conducted with 80 patients in ASA1 group to observe the effects of clonidine at oral doses of 100mcg, 200mcg, 300mcg. They were split into groups of 20 each with a control group of 20 receiving regular benzodiazepine premedication. It concluded that oral clonidine of upto 200mcg is ideal as 300mcg clonidine premedication causes excessivesedation postoperatively (23).

Clonidine augments the effect of other anesthetic drugs thereby reducing requirement of opioids and induction agents. Oral clonidine at 5µg/kg reduces dose of fentanyl to 55% and obtunds haemodynamic response to intubation with reduced plasma catecholamine levels (24).

Administratin of oral clonidine 30 to 90 mins before surgery reduces the dose of anesthetic agents and opioids and also obtunds the haemodynamic response to endotracheal intubation (25).

A study (Tanaka et al) was conducted measuring plasma catecholamine levels in response to two subsequent doses of ephedrine in two groups of patients with one receiving receiving clonidine premedication. The group receiving clonidine showed significantly lower noradrenaline levels (26).

A study (Adriana et al) was conducted to study the effects of clonidine for fiberoptic bronchoscopy at an intravenous dose of 3mcg/kg and it proved to be effective in reducing the sypatheticoadrenal stimulation to bronchoscopy with a lower incidence of arrhythmias (27).

A study (Martina et al) was conducted with clonidine administered intramuscularly at 4.5mcg/kg to obtund the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation proved effective and was confirmed by plasma beta endorphin responses (28).

A study (Goyaji et al) was done using oral clonidine at 2.5-5mcg/kg as premedication to observe decrease in the awakening concentration of Isoflurane and showed delayed awakening in patients receiving oral clonidine (29).

A study(Batra et al)in patients receiving oral clonidine as premedication showed attenuation of increase to heart rate and blood pressure in response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation (30).

Using α_2 adrenergic agonist is one of the modalities of obtunding the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation. Oral clonidine as premedication is effective (31).

A study (Stuhmeier et al) conducted in patients undergoing vascular surgery showed reduced incidence of postoperative myocardial infarction at a oral dose of 2 mcg/kg (32).

A study (Chadha et al) in patients undergoing craniotomy, with oral premedication with clonidine showed obtunding of haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and also showed reduction in dose of thiopentone (33).

A study was conducted in 75 patients divided into 3 groups of 25 each each receiving 300mcg oral clonidine,900mg oral gabapentin and placebo 120 min before surgery. The study concluded both clonidine and gabapentin were effective when given orally as premedication (34).

A study conducted in 75 patients of ASA 1 & 2 undergoing elective surgeries with endotracheal intubation were given 900mg oral gabapentin 90 mins prior to surgery showed it was effective in obtunding the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy (35).

A study was conducted in 50 ASA1 patients divided into 2 groups of 25 each with one received in 1200mg oral Gabapentin and other receiving a placebo 120 min before surgery. There was significant blunting of haemodynamic response to intubation but there was no difference in plasma catecholamine levels (36).

A study concluded in 100 patients undergoing elective surgery in groups of 50 each, with one group receiving 800mg oral gabapentin and another receiving a placebo. The study concluded Gabapentin was effective in obtunding the rise in blood pressure but was not effective in obtunding the rise in heart rate (37).

4. Methodology

A total of 60 patients posted for elective surgery under general anaesthesia were chosen for the study randomly.They were divided into 2 groups by double blinding.Written and informed consent in their native language was obtained regarding their participation in the study along with consent for general anesthesia.The study was conducted in Meenakshi medical college and research institute, Enathur, Kanchipuram in patients undergoing elective surgeries under general anesthesia with endotracheal intubation.

Patients undergoing various Urologic, Orthopaedic,E NT, Gynecological and General surgical procedures were selected.

Inclusion Criteria:

- 1) Patients between age of 18-55 years of both the sexes.
- 2) Patients of ASA Grade I or II status.
- 3) Patients undergoing elective surgical procedures under General anaesthesia.

Exclusion criteria:

- 1) Unwilling Patients.
- 2) Emergency Surgeries.
- 3) Age >55years or <18 years
- 4) Difficult airway

- 5) Patients with congestive heart failure, Valvular heart disease, Hypotension, IHD, diabetes mellitus.
- 6) Patients on Psychotropic drugs or history of drug allergies.

60 cases were divided into two groups with 30 each in every group.

Group – C: Patients in this group received oral tablet clonidine 100mcg 90 minutes prior to surgery.

Group –G: Patients in this group received oral tablet gabapentin 300mg 90 minutes prior to surgery.

On the day of surgery, systolic and diastolic blood pressures, heart rate and respiratory rate were measured before premedication and 90 minutes later before induction, scoring was done for sedation, and pain postoperatively.

Other unwanted effects like hypotension, bradycardia, vomiting was evaluated.

Ramsay sedation scale system was used to assess sedation:

Ramsay Sedation Scale

Score	Level of Sedation
1	Patient is anxious and agitated or restless or both
2	Patient is Co-operative, oriented and tranquil
3	Patient responds to commands only
4	Patient exhibits brisk response to light tactile stimuli or loud auditory stimulus
5	Patient exhibits sluggish response to light tactile stimuli or loud auditory stimulus
6	Patient exhibits no response

Figure 3

5. Technique

After the was shifted to OT 90min after oral premedication patients were connected to the cardiac monitor for ECG monitoring of lead II. Pulse oximeter was connected and blood pressure was measured non-invasively. Baseline recording of heart rate and arterial pressure was done. An 18G intravenous line was secured and Ringer lactate was started. Inj Glycopyrrolate. 0.2 mg i.v and Inj Midazolam 1mg was given prior to induction. All the patients were pre-oxygenated with 100% oxygen for 3 minutes before induction with a tight fitting face mask. Anaesthesia was induced with Inj Propofol 1.5-2mg/kg body weight and administered slowly till the loss of verbal contact. Inj. vecuronium was administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg body weight i.v. Direct laryngoscopy was performed with rigid laryngoscope with appropriate sized curved Macintosh blade. Patients were intubated under vision with appropriate sized cuffed endotracheal tube and cuff was inflated with adequate volume of air. Positioning was confirmed with ETCO2 trace and 5 point auscultation. The patients were then ventilated with 50% nitrous oxide and 50% oxygen with appropriate tidal volume of 7-8 ml/kg and a respiratory rate of 12 to 14 breaths per minute. For maintenance of relaxation, Inj. vecuronium bromide was administered accordingly to body weight. Systolic, diastolic blood pressures and heart rate were monitored before induction, after induction and at one, three, five, ten, fifteen minutes after laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation

At the end of the surgery, reversal was done with Inj Neostigmine 0.05mg/kg to 0.03mg/kg and Inj Glycopyrrolate 0.01mg/kg i.v. Patients were extubated after complete recovery from non depolarizing muscle relaxant.

The adverse effects of these drugs were monitored intraoperatively and postoperatively. All necessary precautions were taken to ensure patient safety.

6. Statistical Analysis

Descriptive data presented as mean with SD in percentage. Pair wise comparison between the groups was done using repeated measures ANOVA test, Bonferroni test and student unpaired t test. For all tests a p value of less than or equal to 0.05 and was considered significant. Chi square test is also used for some pair wise comparison.

Note: The following list of formulae can be added in the analysis part

1. Arithmetic mean = $\frac{\text{Sum of all the values}}{\text{No. of values } n} = \frac{\sum X}{n}$

2. Standard deviation, $1) (2) \dots = \frac{\sum nXXSD}{n}$

3. One-way ANOVA

F = Between sample variance

Within sample variance

1. Student's unpaired t test

T = Difference of means

S.E of difference of means

1. Paired t test

t = Mean of paired differences

S.E of paired differences

1. Chi square test

$X^2 = \frac{\sum (O-E)^2}{E}$

E

O= Observed value, E= Expected value

7. Results

The mean age of the study participants was 40 (1.6) years. 50% (n=30) participants were males and 50% (n=30) were females.

Table 1

Surgical procedure	n (%)
Appendicectomy	3 (5)
Myringoplasty	3 (5)
Antrostomy	4 (6.7)
Rhinoplasty	1 (1.7)
Diagnostic laproscopy	2 (3.3)
Septal correction	3 (5)
Nasal bone reduction	1 (1.7)
Pyramidal lobe excision	1 (1.7)
Intrarenal surgery	1 (1.7)
Cholecystectomy	8 (13.3)
Sinus tract excision	1 (1.7)
Websters procedure	1 (1.7)
MRM	3 (5)
Modified radical mastectomy	5 (8.3)
PCNL	9 (15)

Meshplasty	2 (3.3)
Septoplasty	5 (8.3)
Thyroidectomy	5 (8.3)
Tonsillectomy	3 (5)

Table 2

Preoperative parameter	Treatment	N	Mean (SEM)	p
Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	73.8 (0.9)	0.4
	Gabapentin	30	74.9 (0.8)	
Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	122.5 (1.6)	0.008*
	Gabapentin	30	127.8 (1)	
Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	76.6 (1)	0.004**
	Gabapentin	30	80.5 (0.8)	
Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	92.3 (1.2)	0.008††
	Gabapentin	30	96.2 (0.8)	

*indicates significantly lower preoperative systolic blood pressure in patients who received clonidine using independent sample t test. **indicates significantly lower diastolic blood pressure in patients who received clonidine using independent sample t test †† indicates significantly lower baseline mean arterial pressure in patients receiving clonidine using independent sample t test

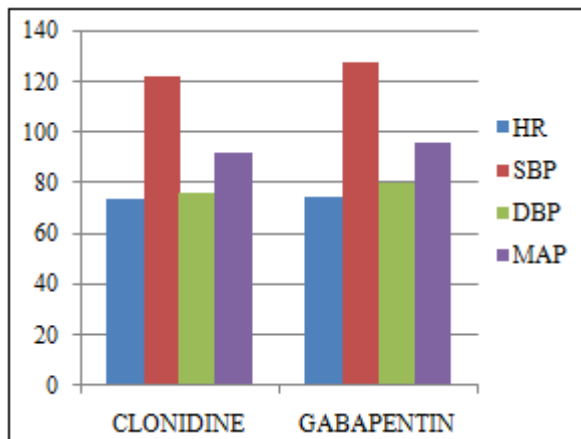


Figure 4: Cardiovascular parameters at various time intervals between treatment groups

Table 3

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
0 minutes	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	73.8 (0.9)	0.08
		Gabapentin	30	74.9 (0.8)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	109.6 (1.6)	0.013*
		Gabapentin	30	115.5 (1.6)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	71.5 (1.5)	0.08
		Gabapentin	30	75.1 (1.4)	
Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	84.3 (1.3)	0.02**	
	Gabapentin	30	88.6(1.3)		

*indicates significantly lower systolic blood pressure in patients who received clonidine using independent sample t test. **indicates significantly lower mean arterial pressure in patients who received clonidine using independent sample t test

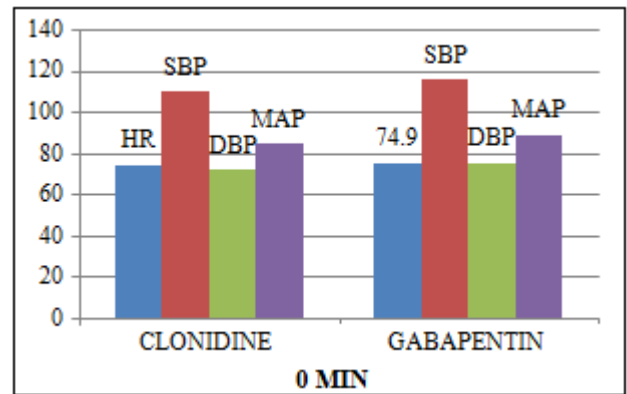


Figure 5

Table 4

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
1 minute	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	80.0 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	85.8 (1.1)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	129.8(1.3)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	138.7(1.2)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	81.3 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	87.1 (0.8)	
	Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	97.5 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	104.2(0.9)	

*indicates significantly lower heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure mean arterial pressure in patients who received clonidine at 1 min after laryngoscopy using independent sample t test.

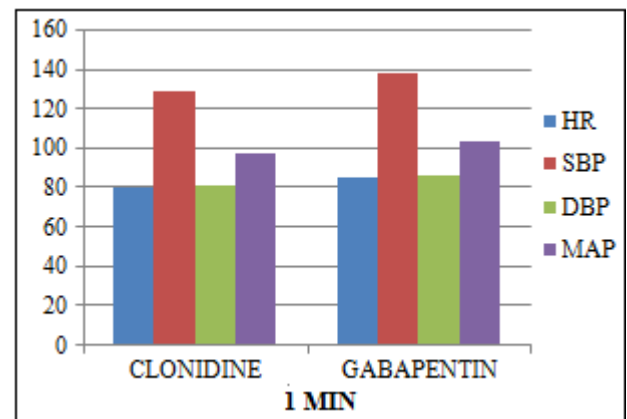


Figure 6

Table 5

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
3 minute	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	76.5 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	82.2 (1)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	124.9 (1.4)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	134.5 (1.2)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	78 (0.9)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	84.1 (0.7)	
	Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	93.6 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	100.9 (0.8)	

*indicates significantly lower heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure in

patients who received clonidine at 3 min after laryngoscopy using independent sample t test.

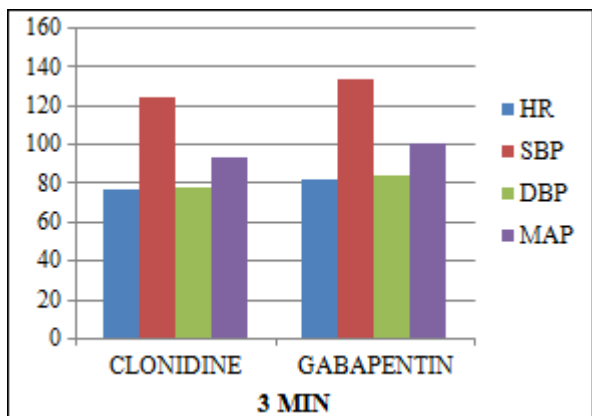


Figure 7

Table 6

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
5 minutes	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	73.7 (0.9)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	79.7 (1)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	119.7 (1.3)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	132 (1.3)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	75.5 (1)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	82 (0.7)	
Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	90.3 (1)	<0.001*	
	Gabapentin	30	98.7(0.9)		

*indicates significantly lower heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure in patients who received clonidine at 5 min after laryngoscopy using independent sample t test.

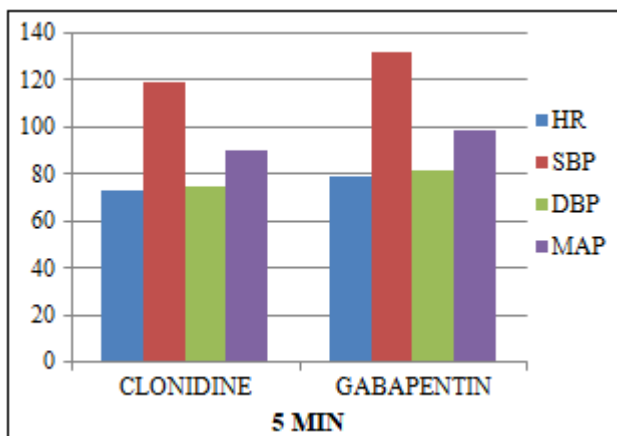


Figure 8

Table 7

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
10 minutes	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	69.3 (0.6)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	76.5 (1)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	112.9 (1.5)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	127.4 (1.2)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	70.8 (0.9)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	79.1 (0.8)	

Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	84.5 (1.1)	<0.001*
	Gabapentin	30	95.2(0.9)	<0.001*

*indicates significantly lower heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure in patients who received clonidine at 10 min after laryngoscopy using independent sample t test.

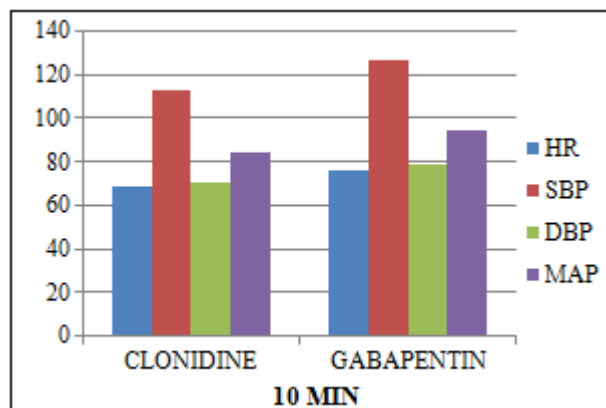


Figure 9

Table 8

Time of measurement	Parameter	Treatment	n	Mean (SEM)	P
15 minutes	Heart rate (beats/ min)	Clonidine	30	66.9 (0.6)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	73.9 (0.9)	
	Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	111.3 (1.6)	0.04*
		Gabapentin	30	120.4 (3.9)	
	Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	68.5 (0.9)	<0.001*
		Gabapentin	30	76.5 (0.8)	
Mean arterial pressure (mm Hg)	Clonidine	30	82.8 (1.1)	<0.001*	
	Gabapentin	30	91.2 (1.6)		

*indicates significantly lower heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure in patients who received clonidine at 3 min after laryngoscopy using independent sample t test.

**indicates significantly lower values with clonidine compared to gabapentin using independent sample t test.

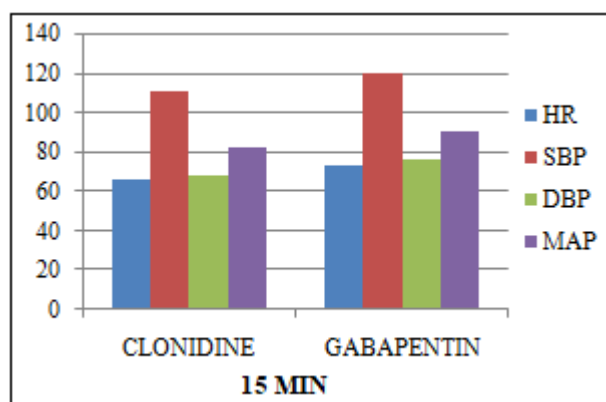


Figure 10

8. Discussion

Laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation are frequently associated with sympathetic adrenal response characterized

by tachycardia, hypertension, rise in ICT, IOP. This study has been undertaken to observe and compare the effectiveness of oral Clonidine with oral Gabapentin as a premedication in attenuating the hemodynamic response during laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation.

The present study was done in 60 patients under ASA Grade I and II aged 18-55 years undergoing elective surgeries. The adverse effects pertaining to both Clonidine and Gabapentin were observed and recorded. Sedation occurred in almost 60% of patients. Hypotension and bradycardia were less common side effect. Dryness of mouth (63%) was reported in patients administered oral clonidine which is mediated by the alpha-2 agonistic action presynaptically in the brainstem and parasympathetic nervous system, which innervates the salivary glands. No patients in gabapentin group had bradycardia or hypotension but in clonidine group the overall incidence of bradycardia was 5% and 10% patients had hypotension. Episode of bradycardia was treated by injection Atropine 0.6mg. Overall the incidence of side effects is significantly less in gabapentin group.

There are few limitations of this study. Patients with ASA physical status I and II were enrolled in the study, so the results cannot be generalized to the patients with higher ASA status. The study was conducted in a single centre. A multi-centered larger study may be more informative. Another limitation of our study was that we did not measure the stress mediators, i.e. endogenous plasma catecholamines or cortisol values perioperatively

9. Conclusion

- 1) Oral clonidine 100mcg given 90 minutes prior to surgery was superior to oral gabapentin 300mg in attenuation of hemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation.
- 2) There was no significant hypotension and bradycardia in clonidine group as compared to gabapentin group.
- 3) Ramsay sedation score was more in clonidine group as compared to gabapentin group but the patients were not deeply sedated and were arousable.
- 4) Post-operative pain using visual analogue score was lower in clonidine group.

10. Summary

The study entitled " ORAL CLONIDINE VS ORAL GABAPENTIN FOR OBTUNDING HEMODYNAMIC RESPONSE TO LARYNGOSCOPY AND TRACHEAL INTUBATION" was conducted in Meenakshi medical college hospital and research institute. The study was done in 60 patients undergoing elective surgeries general anaesthesia with endotracheal intubation and were divided into two groups consisting of 30 patients in each group. Group C received 100mcg oral clonidine and Group G received 300 mg oral gabapentin orally 90 minutes prior to surgery with double blinding. Parameters such as ECG monitoring, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure (MAP) with noninvasive monitoring and pulse oximetry (SpO₂) and ETCO₂ monitoring was done and recorded after premedication, after induction, before and during intubation at different time intervals (T₀, T₁, T₃, T₅, T₁₀ and T₁₅ minutes. Other adverse effects of

this oral premedication with 100mcg Clonidine and 300mg Gabapentin like bradycardia, hypotension, sedation and dryness of mouth were recorded post operatively also. This study was conducted with an objective to compare the effect of 100 mcg oral Clonidine administered 90 minutes before surgery with 300mg oral gabapentin administered 90 minutes before surgery on the haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and intubation.

In both the groups the reflex changes in heart rate, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure were obtained in response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation at 0,1,3,5,10 and 15min. The 1 minute post induction values of SBP, DBP, MAP were significantly less in Clonidine group (P<0.001) and significance persisted upto 5 minutes. Increase in HR was less in Clonidine group than in the Gabapentin group.

With the above findings we conclude that premedication with oral Clonidine 100mcg 90 minutes before laryngoscopy and intubation superior to oral gabapentin 300mg in attenuation of hemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and endotracheal intubation.

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Abbreviations

GABA-gamma amino butyric acid
 ASA – American Society of Anesthesiologist
 BP- Blood pressure
 SBP- systolic blood pressure
 DBP-diastolic blood pressure
 MAP- mean arterial pressure
 HR- Heart Rate
 LA- Local Anesthesia
 MPC –Mallampatti Class
 min– Minutes
 PD- Pharmacodynamics
 PK-Pharmacokinetics
 RR- Respiratory rate
 Spo2- Saturation of oxygen
 VGCC-voltage gated calcium channels

COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN "ORAL CLONIDINE VERSUS ORAL GABAPENTIN AS PERMEDICATION FOR OBTUNDING HEMODYNAMIC RESPONSE TO LARYNGOSCOPY AND TRACHEAL INTUBATION"

PROFORMA

CODE:

NAME:

AGE/SEX:

DATE:

MRD NO:

PROCEDURE:

ANAESTHESIA TIME:

ASA:

HEIGHT:

;WEIGHT-

BASELINE VITALS:

PR-

;BP-

;RR-

; TEMP-

CVS-

RS-

AIRWAY

MOUTH OPENING-

;MPC-

;TMD-

NECK MOVEMENT-

;DENTITION-

;SPINE-

SMD-

MANDIBULAR PROTRUSION-

LARYNGOSCOPY

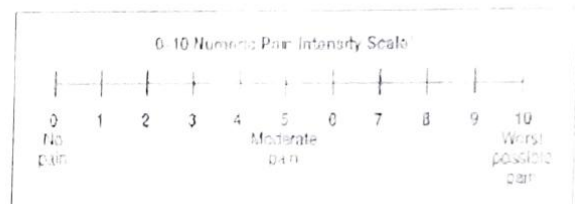
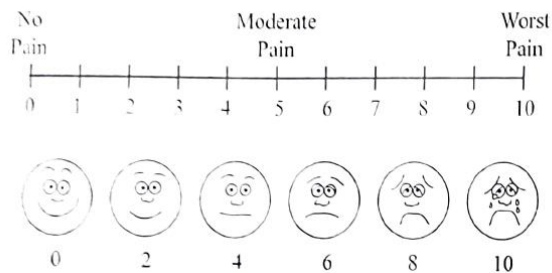
TIME	HR	BP(mean)	SPO2	RR	REMARKS
0 MIN					
1 MIN					
3 MIN					
5 MIN					
10 MIN					
15 MIN					

EXTUBATION

TIME	BP(mean)	PR	SPO2
0 MIN			
5 MIN			
15 MIN			
30 MIN			
45 MIN			
60 MIN			

POST -OP PAIN

TIME	NUMERIC RATING SCALE	VISUAL ANALOGUE SCALE
30min		
60min		
120min		
240min		



POST OP SEDATION

TIME	SCORE
0min	
30min	
60min	
120min	
240min	

RAMSAY SEDATION SCALE

Score	Level of Sedation
1	Patient is anxious and agitated or restless, or both
2	Patient is co-operative, oriented, and tranquil
3	Patient responds to commands only
4	Patient exhibits brisk response to light tactile stimuli or loud auditory stimulus
5	Patient exhibits sluggish response to light tactile stimuli or loud auditory stimulus
6	Patient exhibits no response

Signature of Candidate

Master Chart

CRUIPC

Table with columns: S.No., Date, Name, Age, Sex, WHO no., Suppt, Heart rate (Pre-Op, 0min, 3min, 15min, 30min, 45min, 1hr, 1.5hr, 2hr, 3hr, 4hr, 5hr, 6hr), SpO2 (Pre-Op, 0min, 3min, 15min, 30min, 45min, 1hr, 1.5hr, 2hr, 3hr, 4hr, 5hr, 6hr), Decubit (Pre-Op, 0min, 3min, 15min, 30min, 45min, 1hr, 1.5hr, 2hr, 3hr, 4hr, 5hr, 6hr), Mean arterial pressure (Pre-Op, 0min, 3min, 15min, 30min, 45min, 1hr, 1.5hr, 2hr, 3hr, 4hr, 5hr, 6hr), and Sign. Each row represents a patient's data across various parameters over a 6-hour period.

