

A Study of Relation of Propofol Dose to Attain Induction in Anesthesia when used with Dexmedetomidine

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Abstract: *Since a combination of propofol and dexmedetomidine can cause both beneficial and adverse effects on the patient, it would be ideal to titrate the dosage of dexmedetomidine to retain its desirable effects while negating its side effects. Different doses of dexmedetomidine have been used with an induction agent for attenuation of hemodynamic response to intubation. Dexmedetomidine a potent, highly selective α_2 adrenoreceptor agonist possess desirable properties like sedation, analgesia, sympatholysis and reduces the anaesthetic requirement.*

Keywords: Propofol, Dose, Attain, Induction, Dexmedetomidine

1. Introduction

Since a combination of propofol and dexmedetomidine can cause both beneficial and adverse effects on the patient, it would be ideal to titrate the dosage of dexmedetomidine to retain its desirable effects while negating its side effects. Different doses of dexmedetomidine have been used with an induction agent for attenuation of hemodynamic response to intubation. Propofol, barbiturates, and benzodiazepines are all associated with profound hemodynamic adverse effects at doses needed to attenuate response to laryngoscope and intubation. As it is impractical to achieve sufficient depth to prevent sympathetic response to intubation solely with a single agent, adjuvants like opioids, β blockers, calcium channel blockers, vasodilators, etc are used. It is essential to remember that, time of laryngoscope and intubation should coincide with the peak effect of agents used to minimize the hemodynamic stimulation. Opioids are widely used adjuvants and appear to give a graded response in blunting hemodynamic responses. While 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ of fentanyl given before induction partially attenuates cardiovascular response, higher doses that prevent a hemodynamic response to intubation are associated with the risk of adverse effects.

A bolus of 1.5 mg/kg of lignocaine given intravenously adds 0.3 MAC of anesthetic potency and can blunt hemodynamic responses to intubation. Kasten and co-workers showed that lignocaine administered (3 mg/kg) intravenously is associated with significant attenuation of hemodynamic response to endotracheal intubation.

α_2 agonists like clonidine have been used extensively in the past for attenuation of sympathoadrenal stimulation caused by tracheal intubation and surgery. They have the desirable properties of sedation, anxiolysis, and analgesia with no respiratory depression. In addition α_2 agonists also sympatholytic and antinociceptive effects that contribute to hemodynamic stability during surgical stimulation. They also reduce the dose requirement of intravenous and volatile anaesthetics. Dexmedetomidine is a potent and highly selective α_2 adrenoreceptor agonist which was approved for clinical use in 1999 and recently introduced in India. It has

all the above mentioned properties and can impart significant benefits in the peri-operative use.

In spite of the multiple desirable effects of dexmedetomidine, bradycardia and hypotension remain clinically significant adverse effects. High doses of dexmedetomidine can result in a decreased heart rate and cardiac output, with a biphasic dose response relation for BP. High doses of dexmedetomidine can also be a cause of systemic and pulmonary hypertension.

In this study, we compared and evaluated the different doses of dexmedetomidine for the effect on induction dose of propofol and hemodynamic effects.

2. Aims and Objectives

To study the relation of Propofol Dose to Attain Induction in Anesthesia when used with Dexmedetomidine.

3. Materials and Methods

This study was conducted on 400 patients posted for elective surgery under general anaesthesia in Justice Kanachur Institute of Medical Sciences, Deralakatte, Mangalore. The study was conducted from 1/10/2015 to 1/06/2016.

Patients were randomly allocated to one of the four study groups i.e. group A, B, C, D by computer generated sequence to receive a study

drug diluted to 20 ml via an infusion pump over 20 minutes.

- Group A received 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ of dexmedetomidine.
- Group B received 0.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ of dexmedetomidine.
- Group C received 0.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ of dexmedetomidine.
- Group D received 20 ml of normal saline.

The relation of Propofol Dose to Attain Induction in Anesthesia when used with Dexmedetomidine was studied.

4. Results

There is significant intergroup difference between the four groups for induction dose of propofol ($p < 0.001$). Mean propofol dose for loss of eyelash reflex in the groups A, B, C and D were 48.63 mg, 59.48 mg, 71.51 mg, 88.42 mg. Similarly the mean propofol dose for loss of verbal response in the groups A, B, C and D were 47.97 mg, 58.7 mg, 71.72 mg, 88.75 mg. Significant differences existed between all groups (< 0.001).

Table 1: Propofol dose

Propofol dose (mg)	Group	Mean (mg)	Std. Deviation	Significance (p)
For loss of eyelash reflex	A	48.63	16.246	<0.001
	B	59.48	21.095	
	C	71.51	25.79	
	D	88.42	20.886	
For verbal response	A	47.97	15.184	<0.001
	B	58.7	21.067	
	C	71.72	26.728	
	D	88.75	21.299	

Table 2: Propofol dose in mg/kg

Group	Weight (kg)	Propofol dose (mg/kg)	
		Eyelash reflex	Verbal response
A	52.16	0.93	0.91
B	54.74	1.08	1.07
C	55.25	1.29	1.29
D	53.76	1.64	1.65

5. Discussion

There was significant intergroup difference between the four groups in terms of propofol requirement for induction ($p < 0.001$). Mean propofol dose for loss of eyelash reflex and verbal response was 48.63 mg (0.93 mg/kg) and 47.97 mg (0.91 mg/kg) respectively in group A. This was much lesser than the dose needed in the control group (1.64 and 1.65 mg/kg for loss of eyelash reflex and verbal response).

Ghodki et al (2012) noted that mean dose of propofol required for induction was 37.5 mg (0.75 mg/kg) with 1 µg/kg of dexmedetomidine IV given pre induction. However they noted the dose of propofol needed to achieve entropy of 40-60 as compared to loss of verbal response and eyelash reflex in our study.

6. Conclusion

Dexmedetomidine reduced the induction dose of propofol; a maximum reduction was seen along with 1 µg/kg followed by 0.6 µg/kg and 0.3 µg/kg.

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