Method

near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) during and after venipuncture. We conducted an audit/survey to get an overview of current analgesia practice for painful procedures in children.

Methods

We used a questionnaire, in a paper and also online format, and distributed it to nursing and midwifery staff, Paediatric and CP junior doctors, and consultants working in Paediatric departments in hospitals in the South West of London. It included general questions about the perception of pain and also specific scenarios looking into the use of analgesia for a variety of procedures in children of different ages.

Results

The amount of analgesia used was highest in the age group over one year and lowest in the newborn and one to four months groups. Throughout the different age groups, venepunctures were among the procedures when analgesia was used most often. Analgesia for intramuscular injections and lumbar punctures was never or only rarely used in the groups up to 4 months. Regardless of age, the procedure most commonly performed without analgesia was intramuscular injections.

Conclusions

Use and knowledge of analgesia for painful procedures in children is still not optimal. We suggest that Paediatric department should offer better training for junior staff and also include a session on this topic as part of departmental induction programmes for new staff.

EFFECTS OF GLUCOSE AND NON-NUTRITIVE SUCKING ON PAIN PERCEPTION

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Background and Aim

Sweet tasting solutions and non-nutritive sucking are strong pain reducers for newborns. This study aimed to investigate effects of 30% glucose solution and non-nutritive sucking on amplitude of pain perception with pain scale, stress detector and visual, behavioural and physiological pain scales are not always reliable in premature infants. Few studies with limited sample size have been published on the reliability and efficacy of Skin Conductance Algesimeter (SCA) in monitoring pain in infants and children.

Aim

To identify the clinical usefulness of SCA as a reliable and valid measure of pain intensity and stress response in preterm infants.

Methods

Parents of all preterm infants admitted to the neonatal unit were invited to participate in the study. The usefulness of SCA was compared with the simultaneous measurement of ‘Premature Infant Pain Profile’ (PIPP) and ‘Face, Legs, Activity, Cry and Consolation’ (FLACC) scores during invasive and/or painful procedures.

Results

46 measurements were recorded from 31 patients. The gestational age at birth ranged from 27+3 to 35+1. Mean PIPP scores Pre: 3.06±1.272, Pro: 9.175±3.761, Post 4.275±1.506. Two-tailed t-test Pre - Pro, t=10.82, P<0.001; Pre - Post, t=4.19, P<0.001. Mean FLACC scores Pre: 0.713±1.198, Pro: 5.925±2.99, Post: 0.862±1.091. Two-tailed t-test Pre - Pro, t=9.51, P<0.001; Pre - Post, t=0.67, P=0.507. Some correlations between SCA results and PIPP/FLACC did give statistically significant correlation coefficients.

Conclusions

PIPP and FLACC scores were statistically significantly increased during the procedures. Further research is needed to ascertain the usefulness of SCA in preterm infants.

ADMINISTRATION OF ROPIVACAINE WITH LOW DOSE KETAMINE REDUCES CYTOKINE EXPRESSION AFTER MAJOR ABDOMINAL OPERATION IN NEWBORN WITH CONGENITAL VISCERO-ABDOMINAL DISPROPORTION

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D Dmytriev. Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Vinnitsa National Medical University, Vinnitsa, Ukraine

Background

Inflammation and nociceptive sensitization are hallmarkst of tissue surrounding surgical incisions. Our studies were directed towards determining if administration ropivacaine with low dose ketamine alter cytokine production after major abdominal operation in newborn with congenital viscero-abdominal disproportion.

Methods

A 39 children after major abdominal operation was used to measure the effects of infiltrative administration ropivacaine 0.2% with low dose ketamine (0.1 mg/kg i.v.) administration on cytokine production in blood 45 minutes, 4 hours after operation. We examination 30 patient, undergoing major abdominal operation in children, first group receive combination ropivacaine with low dose ketamine, second group receive morphine (0.1 ml per year). For statistical analysis 2 tests were used.

PAIN EVALUATION IN PRETERM INFANTS USING SKIN CONDUCTANCE ALGESIMETER

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M Ahmed, D Sobithadevi, S Mostafa, P Pore, U Maiden, J Boswell, M Molnar, T Reynolds. Paediatrics; Research Nurse; Clinical Chemistry, Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Burton Upon Trent, UK

Background

Assessment of pain is a challenge in neonatal setting. Visual, behavioural and physiological pain scales are not always reliable in premature infants. Few studies with limited sample size have been published on the reliability and efficacy of Skin Conductance Algesimeter (SCA) in monitoring pain in infants and children.

Aim

To identify the clinical usefulness of SCA as a reliable and valid measure of pain intensity and stress response in preterm infants.

Methods

Parents of all preterm infants admitted to the neonatal unit were invited to participate in the study. The usefulness of SCA was compared with the simultaneous measurement of ‘Premature Infant Pain Profile’ (PIPP) and ‘Face, Legs, Activity, Cry and Consolation’ (FLACC) scores during invasive and/or painful procedures.

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