Comparison between General Anaesthesia and Interscalen Block in Shoulder Surgery

Abstract

In 1970, Winnie proposed the brachial plexus block as an alternative and effective anaesthesia technique for shoulder surgery [1]. Surgeons and patients are often reluctant to support regional anesthesia (RA) for shoulder and other orthopedic surgeries [2]. The aim of this study is to evaluate and compare the results between general anaesthesia and interscalen block in patients who underwent shoulder surgery.

Purpose

The aim of this study is to evaluate and compare the results between general anaesthesia and interscalen block in patients who underwent shoulder surgery.

e) 14 patients received general anaesthesia.
f) 22 patients underwent a interscalen block as method for anaesthesia.
g) For the block all the patients received 20 ml Naropeine 7.5% and 10 ml NaCl 0.9% [3-7].

Methods

a) 36 patients (September 2013 - November 2015).
b) 24 males, 12 females.
c) Main age 56 years old.
d) Shoulder pathology included fractures, rotator cuff tears, subacromial decompression.
Results

I. 2 of 22 patients received, during the beginning of surgery, general anaesthesia because of pain.

II. There were no other complications, regarding the anaesthesia, during the surgery.

III. The postoperative analgesia was 8 hours in average for the patients who underwent interscalen block.

IV. None of the patients who underwent interscalen block received postoperatively any strong analgetics.

V. In addition for the patients who received general anaesthesia the first dose of analgetics was in average 2.5 hours after surgery.

Conclusion

We believe that the use of interscalen block is a safe and secure method of anaesthesia for the shoulder surgery with excellent analgetics results.

References