A comparative study using different doses of magnesium sulphate as adjuvant to intrathecal hyperbaric bupivacaine during anaesthesia for lower segment caesarean section

Dr. Bharathi BM, Dr. Madhumala, Dr. Tulsi T, Dr. Soumya Rohit and Dr. RS Raghavendra Rao

DOI: https://doi.org/10.33545/26643766.2019.v2.i2a.23

Abstract

Introduction: Spinal anaesthesia consists of temporary interruption of nerve transmission within subarachnoid space produced by injection of local anaesthetic in to CSF. Used widely and safely over 100 years, spinal anaesthesia has got many advantages over the general anaesthesia.

Material and Methods: 150 Pregnant women of physical status American society of anaesthesiologists (ASA) I and II posted for elective LSCS at Vani vilas hospital and Bowring & Lady Curzon hospitals attached to Bangalore medical college and research institute were selected for the study. Study period was from November 2018 to March 2019.

Observation and Results: A Comparative three group clinical study with 150 patients randomized in to three groups, 50 in Group M25 (25Mg), 50 patients in Group M50 (50Mg) and 50 in Controls( Group NS) were undertaken to study the different doses of magnesium sulphate as adjuvant to intrathecal hyperbaric bupivacaine during anaesthesia for lower segment caesarean section.

Conclusion: In our study, using 50mg & 25mg of magnesium sulphate, as adjuvant to intrathecal hyperbaric bupivacaine during anaesthesia for lower segment caesarean section, we were able to achieve perioperative hemodynamic stability, prolonged duration of analgesia and no maternal & fetal side effects.

Keywords: Anesthesia, magnesium sulphate, intrathecal, hyperbaric, caesarean, bupivacaine

Introduction

Spinal anaesthesia consists of temporary interruption of nerve transmission within subarachnoid space produced by injection of local anaesthetic in to CSF. Used widely and safely over 100 years, spinal anaesthesia has got many advantages over the general anaesthesia. On 16th august 1898, August Bier performed the first spinal anaesthesia using Quinke’s technique and injected cocaine in subarachnoid space. Subarachnoid block is the anaesthetic technique of choice and is gold standard for cesarean section compared to general and epidural anesthesia. In general anaesthesia there is chance of acid aspiration due to interference of pregnant airway which is considered as difficult airway. There is difficulty in performing epidural anaesthesia because of changes due to pregnancy and some degree of lack of reliability. Bupivacaine is the most commonly used local anaesthetic in obstetric anaesthesia practice because it tends to preserve motor function and is compatible with Intraspinal opioids. Different additives have been used with local anaesthetic for spinal anaesthesia in order to prolong or intensify the block and prevent postoperative pain. Commonly used additives in obstetrics are opioids like fentanyl and sufentanil. Magnesium is the fourth most abundant cation in the body and second most intracellular cation. It has antinociceptive effect. Magnesium action is primarily based on the regulation of calcium influx in to the cell [3]. This is a natural physiological antagonism. It also antagonizes voltage-gated N-methyl D-aspartate receptors. It is relatively harmless.

Material and Methods

Source of Data
150 Pregnant women of physical status American society of anaesthesiologists (ASA) I and II posted for elective lower segment caesarean section at Vani vilas hospital and Bowring & Lady Curzon hospitals attached to Bangalore medical college and research institute were
selected for the study. The patients were randomly allocated into three groups comprising of 50 patients in each group. The study was conducted over a period from November 2018 to March 2019.

**Observation and Results**

**Study Design:** A Comparative three group clinical study with 150 patients randomized in to three groups, 50 in Group M25 (Mg25), 50 patients in Group M50 (Mg50) and 50 in Controls (Group NS) were undertaken to study the different doses of magnesium sulphate as adjuvant to intrathecal hyperbaric bupivacaine during anaesthesia for lower segment caesarean section.

**Age and distribution**

| Age in years | Controls(NS) | Group M25 | Group M50 |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 18-20        | 5(10%)       | 5(10%)    | 8(16%)    |
| 21-25        | 25(50%)      | 34(68%)   | 31(62%)   |
| 26-30        | 18(36%)      | 10(20%)   | 11(22%)   |
| >30          | 2(4%)        | 1(2%)     | 0(0%)     |
| Total        | 50(100%)     | 50(100%)  | 50(100%)  |

Mean ± SD

Mean ± SD 24.72±3.48 23.78±2.82 23.58±2.72

Samples are matched with P =0.136

The difference proportion of subject observed in all groups with respect to age was comparable and statistically not significant.

![Fig 1: Distribution of age in years in three groups of patients](image)

![Fig 2: Distribution of Diagnosis in three groups of patients](image)

**Table 1:** Distribution of age in years in three groups of patients

| Diagnosis | Group M25 | Group M50 | Controls(NS) |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Primi     | 17(34%)   | 16(32%)   | 16(32%)      |
| Multi     | 33(66%)   | 34(68%)   | 34(68%)      |
| Total     | 50(100%)  | 50(100%)  | 50(100%)     |

**Table 2:** Distribution of Diagnosis in three groups of patients

32% primi in group NS, 32% in group M50, and 34% of primi in group M25 were comparable. 34% of multi gravida in group NS, 34% in M50 group and 33% in M25 group were comparable.

**Discussion**

Subarachnoid block is a commonly employed anaesthetic technique for performing lower segment caesarean section. It is a safe, inexpensive and easy-to-administer. This technique also offers a high level of post-anaesthesia satisfaction for patients. The technique is simple, has rapid onset and is reliable. The risk of general anaesthesia and mishaps due to airway management in a parturient are avoided by this technique.

The dose of local anaesthetic in gravid patients is reduced by 30% when compared to non gravid females. This is because decrease epidural space due to enlargement of epidural veins, which decreases the volume of CSF and also there will be increased sensitivity for local anaesthetic. One of the limitations of spinal anaesthesia is the relative short duration of postoperative analgesia. To increase the duration of anaesthesia and analgesia, many adjuvants like opioids, clonidine, ketamine and neostigmine are added to bupivacaine spinal analgesia.

Bupivacaine delays the onset of motor block whereas no effect on onset of sensory block and time to reach maximum level of block. But it significantly prolongs the sensory and motor block and duration of spinal analgesia. Our study was conducted in 150 patients between age group 18 -30 years belonging to ASA I and II, who underwent elective LSCS. Patients were randomly allocated in three groups of 50 each. Group control (NS): Received hyperbaric bupivacaine 10mg + 0.1ml of NS intrathecally. Group M25: Received hyperbaric bupivacaine 10mg +0.1ml of 25% MgSO4 (25mg) intrathecally. Group M50: Received hyperbaric bupivacaine 10mg + 0.1ml of 50% MgSO4 (50mg) intrathecally. Demographic profile and parity of women were similar in all groups and mean duration of surgery also was comparable in all groups.

**Conclusion**

In our study, using 50mg & 25mg of magnesium sulphate, as adjuvant to intrathecal hyperbaric bupivacaine during...
anesthesia for lower segment caesarean section, we were able to achieve perioperative hemodynamic stability, prolonged duration of analgesia and no maternal & fetal side effects.

References

1. Phillip Bridenbaugh O, Nicholas Green M, Sorin Brill J. Spinal (Subarachniond) neural blockade, neural blockade in Clinical Anesthesia and Management of Pain. 3rd Edition, edited by Michael J Cousin, Phillip O. Bridenbaugh, philadelphia, Lippincott-Raven, 1998, 203-242.
2. Hinnerk FW Wulf, the Centennial of Spinal Anaesthesia, Anesthesiology. 1998; 89:500-506.
3. DavidL. Brown, Vijaya Gottumukkala, Spinal Epidural, Caudal Anesthesia. Anatomy, Physiology, and Technique, Obstetric Anesthesia: Principles and practice, edited by David H chestnut, 3rd edition, Elsevier Mosby, Philadelphia, 2004, 171-186.
4. Mikko Pikanen. Spinal (Subarachniond) neural blockade, neural blockade in Clinical Anesthesia and Management of Pain. 4th Edition, edited by Michael J Cousin, Daniel B. Carr, Terese T. Horlocker, Phillip O. Bridenbaugh, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia, 2009, 213-238.
5. Jong Wha Lee, Mi Kyeong Kim, Yang-Sik Shin, Bon-Nyeo. The analgesic effect of single dose of intrathecal magnesium sulphate, Korean Journal of Anesthesiology. 2007; 52:S72-76.