

update mangement of blunt abdominal trauma

Essay

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M.Sc Degree in General Surgery**

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List of abbreviations

ABCDE	Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure
AAST	American association for the surgery trauma
ACS	American collages of surgeons
ACTH	Adrenocorticotropic Hormone
AP	Antroposterior
BP	Blood pressure
C/S	Cervical spine
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
CT	Computed tomography
DPL	Diagnostic peritoneal lavage
ED	emergency department
FAST	Focused abdominal sonography for trauma
FUSG	Focused abdominal sonogram for trauma

g/day	grams per day
GCS	Glasgow coma scale
IV	Intravenous
IVU	intravenous urogram
kcal/g	kilocalories per gram
LP	Laparoscopy
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MVCs	Motor vehicle crashesm
OPSI	overwhelming postsplenectomy infection
OPSS	overwhelming post-splenectomy sepsis syndrome
OR	operating room
RR	respiratory rate
RTAs	Road traffic accidents
RTS	Revised Trauma Score
SBP	Systolic blood pressure
SS	Secondary survey
TCA	Tricarboxylic cycle
TS	Trauma Score

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UPDATE MANAGEMENT OF BLUNT ABDOMINAL TRAUMA

Introduction

Motor vehicle crash represent 70% of causes of blunt abdominal trauma, the other causes include fall from height, crashes, sport injuries and assault (**Handily and Giannaodis**, 2008).

Causes of intra abdominal injuries in blunt abdominal trauma are: compression which is produced by crush injury ,abrupt shearing forces which cause tear in intra abdominal organs or their vascular pedicles ,or sudden rise in intra abdominal pressure causing rupture in an intra abdominal viscous (**Pietzman,et al.**, 2008).

The diagnosis of hollow viscus injury remains a challenge in abdominal trauma patients (**Fakhry, Watts , and Luchette** , 2003).

In solid abdominal organ injury the hemodynamically stable patients are treated medically under close observation for 24-48h, or by angio-embolization or by packing and rarely by open surgical repair.

While in patients who are hemodynamically unstable surgery is the immediate and first choice (**Kobayashi , Green and Rhee** , 2010).

Indications for laparotomy in a patient with blunt abdominal injury include signs of peritonitis, uncontrolled shock or hemorrhage, clinical deterioration during observation, and hemoperitoneum findings after focused assessment with sonography for trauma (FAST)or diagnostic peritoneal lavage(DPL) examinations (**Udeane** ,2011).

The abdomen is a diagnostic black box. Fortunately, with few exceptions it is not necessary to determine which intra abdominal organs are injured, only whether an exploratory laparotomy is necessary or not. Physical examination of the abdomen is unreliable in making this determination for the majority of patients suffering blunt abdominal trauma.

ma, it is not clear whether exploration is needed (**Burch , Françoise , and Moore , ٢٠٠٥**).

Adequate volume therapy appear to be the cornerstone in managing the polytraumatized patient with blunt abdominal injury after of course ensure adequate airway and ventilation in order to decrease mortality (**Krausz M , ٢٠١٠**).

Incidence and prevalence of blunt abdominal trauma

Incidence and prevalence of blunt abdominal trauma

Injury is the leading cause of death and disability in the first four decades of life and is the third most common cause of death over all.

- In 1990, approximately 6 million people died worldwide as result of injury.
- Approximately 3 male deaths due to trauma were reported for every female death.
- Injured accounted for approximately 12.5% of all male deaths, compared with 3.4% of female death.
- The risk of dying from trauma is highest in the age group of 10-20 years.
- Estimates indicate that by 2020, 8.4 million people will die yearly from injury, injuries from RTA will be the third most common cause of disability worldwide and the second most common cause in developing world.
- Under reporting of deaths and injury is widespread especially in undeveloped countries.

Despite the acute onset of trauma, the chronic consequence has debilitating effects in the longer terms (**Rayan, Trunkey and Moore, 2000**).