



The Perioperative use of Transesophageal echocardiography in cardiac Anesthesia and I.C.U

Essay

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By

Amr Mohammed Hilal Abdou

M.B.B.Ch., Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

Supervised by

Professor doctor / Nahed Effat Youssef

*Professor of Anesthesia and Intensive Care
Faculty of Medicine - Ain Shams University*

Doctor / Adel Mohamad Alansary

*Assistant Professor of Anesthesia and Intensive Care
Faculty of Medicine - Ain Shams University*

Doctor / Ahmed Kamal Mohamed

*Lecturer of Anesthesia and Intensive Care
Faculty of Medicine - Ain Shams University*

**Faculty of Medicine
Ain Shams University
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Abstract

The introduction of echocardiography into clinical practice represents one of the most important medical achievements. Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) as an imaging technique in intra-operative patient monitoring provides dramatic non invasive imaging of the heart and great vessels as well as permitting quantification of blood flow and over all cardiac performance without interrupting the surgical procedure.

TEE is a special ultrasound monitor that uses sound waves to take pictures of the heart. Ultrasound creates its imaging by emitting high frequency acoustic pulses and allowing these pulses to travel through soft tissue, various tissues possess different acoustic properties and each interface causes a small portion of pulse energy to be reflected as an echo.

The M-mode allows time motion study of intracardiac structures with high resolution, the 2D display is a conventional anatomical tomography of the structures with a field up to 90° with increasing power of computers, its possible to reconstruct a three dimensional (3D) image of the heart structures.

TEE plays an important role in management of cardiac surgeries, vascular surgeries, and non cardiac surgeries in haemodynamically unstable patients.

TEE is better than ECG for detection of myocardial ischemia within seconds of regional myocardial oxygen deprivation as it can discovers it before or even in the absence of ECG changes.

Global left ventricular (LV) function is an important predictor of outcome in patients undergoing major surgeries. The simplest echocardiographic method for evaluating global LV function involves indirect measures of ejection fraction (EF).

TEE can be used to evaluate cardiac output and its individual component, right ventricular function and ventricular dysfunction associated with pulmonary embolism and thoracic aortic dissections (98% to 100%) is comparable to MRI and superior to CT or aortography as a screening test.

TEE is a particularly useful technique for diagnosing the presence and location of thrombus in all cardiac chambers with the exception of the LV, thrombus in the LV apex may be difficult to visualize via TEE approach compared to TTE.

Images of cardiac masses obtained by TEE are usually clearer, more defined, and often quite dramatic, TEE delineation of the extension and origination of intra and pericardial tumors can have major impact in determining the extent of the surgery.

TEE proved to be helpful for detecting and removing intra cardiac air to prevent an occurrence of embolic events as the retained air shows unique TEE findings.

TEE has proven itself to be a major diagnostic modality in the evaluation of patients of all ages with congenital heart disease. The lesion may be well defined preoperatively; a comprehensive TEE examination must confirm not only the presence of the known congenital lesion but also the nature and degree of this lesion, also the direction and quantification of shunting. In addition, it is important for the ultrasonographer to rule out the presence of collateral pathology.

TEE is evolving as a peri-operative monitoring and diagnostic tool in the intensive care unit, especially for the treatment of high-risk cardiovascular patients. Its significance lies in that it is the only direct method for imaging and evaluating heart function, calculation of ventricular volumes and ejection fraction of the left ventricle, evaluation of contractility and assessment of valvular anatomy and function, this is of particular importance in haemodynamically compromised patients; when an efficient, relatively safe and fast approach is required.

Although TEE is considered a noninvasive diagnostic and monitoring tool, it is not free from complications ranging from minor to life threatening. The overall morbidity is 0.2%, whereas mortality is around 0 – 0.004%, the complications may be divided according to system affected into cardiopulmonary, gastrointestinal and others.

From this essay we concluded that peri-operative Transesophageal Echocardiography (TEE) is a very useful monitor and should be a routine monitor in cardiac surgeries, also there should be adequate training of the anesthesiologist for proper use of the TEE.

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استخدام الموجات الصوتية علي القلب عبر المرئ في تخدير جراحة القلب و الرعايه المركزة

توطئه للحصول على درجة الماجستير فى التخدير

رسالة مقدمه من

الطبيب / عمرو محمد هلال عبده

بكالوريوس الطب والجراحة - جامعة عين شمس

تحت إشراف

الأستاذ الدكتور / ناهد عفت يوسف

أستاذ التخدير والرعاية المركزة

كلية الطب - جامعة عين شمس

الدكتور / عادل محمد الأنصاري

أستاذ مساعد التخدير و الرعاية المركزة

كلية الطب - جامعة عين شمس

الدكتور / احمد كمال محمد

مدرس التخدير والرعاية المركزة

كلية الطب - جامعة عين شمس

كلية الطب

جامعة عين شمس

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الملخص العربي:

إدخال الموجات الصوتية على القلب فى الممارسة الإكلينيكية يمثل واحدة من أهم الإنجازات الطبية و إستخدام الموجات الصوتية على القلب من خلال المرئ لمتابعة المريض داخل حجرة العمليات تعطى صورة للقلب و الشرايين الكبيرة و تسمح بحساب سريان الدم و الأداء الكلى للقلب من غير التأثير على الخطوات الجراحية.

يقوم جهاز الموجات فوق الصوتية بتكوين الصورة عن طريق إرسال نبضات صوتية عبر الأنسجة و نظرا لإختلاف الخواص الصوتية للأنسجة المختلفة تقوم الطبقات بين الأنسجة المختلفة بعكس جزء من طاقة النبضات على هيئة صدى تعطى الموجات الصوتية أحادية الأبعاد تقريبا جيدا مع الوقت للتركيب الداخلى للقلب و بإستخدام الموجات الصوتية ثنائية الأبعاد يمكن الحصول على المعلومات من مقطع على مدى 90 درجة و مع زيادة قدرة الكمبيوتر أدى الى إستخدام الموجات الصوتية ثلاثية الأبعاد.

يلعب جهاز الموجات الصوتية من خلال المرئ دور هام فى تناول مرضى جراحة القلب و الشرايين و الحالات الغير مستقرة بالرعاية المركزة, يعتبر جهاز الموجات الصوتية على القلب من خلال المرئ أكثر حساسية من رسم القلب فى تشخيص قصور الشرايين التاجية فى خلال ثوانى من نقص الأكسجين الى القلب و يكتشف هذا غالبا قبل أو فى غياب حدوث تغيرات فى رسم القلب.

التقييم الكلى لوظيفة البطين الأيسر يعتبر مؤشر مهم فى توقع نتائج مرضى العمليات الكبرى و أبسط طريقة لتقييمه يكون بواسطة الموجات الصوتية و ذلك عن طريق القياس الغير مباشر لنسبة دفع الدم من البطين الأيسر. و يستخدم أيضا هذا الجهاز فى تقييم النتاج القلى و مكوناته و وظائف البطين الأيمن و تشخيص خلل وظيفة البطين المصاحبة بجلطة الشريان الرئوى و تشخيص تمدد الأورطى الإنشطارى الصدرى و حساسية هذا الجهاز فى تشخيص تمدد الأورطى الإنشطارى الصدرى هو 98%-100% هذا يعتبر مماثل للرنين المغناطيس و أفضل من الأشعة المقطعية.

و يعتبر هذا الجهاز طريقة مفيدة لتشخيص وجود و مكان الجلطة فى كل حجرات القلب ما عدا فى قمة البطين الأيسر فإنه يرى أفضل بالموجات الصوتية من خلال الصدر. و يعطى هذا الجهاز صور الأشياء الموجودة فى القلب واضحة و محددة و سريعة و يستطيع أن يحدد مصدر أى ورم فى او حول القلب و هذا يعتبر هام جدا فى تحديد حدود العملية الجراحية.

أيضا يستطيع أن يحدد و يساعد فى استخراج فقعات الهواء الموجودة بالقلب و بالتالى يمنع إنتشارها فى الجسم حيث أنه يعطى صورة فريدة لهذه الفقعات , و يلعب هذا الجهاز دور هام فى تشخيص و تقييم مرضى العيوب الخلقية بالقلب فى كل الاعمار فهو يحدد ليس فقط وجود عيب خلقى و لكن أيضا يحدد طبيعة و مقدار هذا العيب و يوضح عدم وجود عيوب أخرى مصاحبة.

و يلعب دور مهم أيضا فى تشخيص و متابعة الحالات الغير مستقرة بالرعاية المركزه التى تحتاج الى تدخل أمن و فعال و سريع. و على الرغم من أن جهاز الموجات الصوتية على القلب

عبر المرئ يعتبر جهاز تشخيص و متابعة غير إختراقى لكنه قد يؤدى الى نسبة قليلة من المضاعفات التى تتراوح من بسيطة الى خطيره فهو قد يؤدى الى مضاعفات بنسبة 0.2% و وفاة بنسبة 0.0004% و قد تكون هذه المضاعفات فى القلب و الرئة أو فى الجهاز الهضمى أو أخرى.

و نلخص من هذه الدراسة أن إستخدام الموجات الصوتيه من خلال المرئ داخل حجرة العمليات هام و جوهري و لذلك يوصى بإستخدامه بصفة روتينية فى كل عمليات القلب و الحالات الغير مستقره التى تجرى لها عمليات غير القلب و متابعة الحالات الغير مستقره بالرعاية المركزه و يوصى بضرورة تدريب أطباء التخدير على إستخدامه و الإستفاده منه.

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List of Abbreviations

TTE	Transthoracic echocardiography	EDID	end-diastolic internal diameter
TEE	Transesophageal echocardiography	ESID	end-systolic internal diameter
Z	Acoustic impedance	EDA	end-diastolic area
M-mode	Motion mode	ESA	end-systolic area
Fd	Doppler Shift	TMDF	transmitral Doppler flow
CWD	Continuous wave Doppler	PVDF	pulmonary venous Doppler flow
PWD	Pulsed wave Doppler	VTI	velocity time integral
AV	Aortic valve	CO	Cardiac output
LV	left ventricle	PAS	pulmonary artery systolic pressure
ME	mid esophageal	PE	Pulmonary embolism
LAX	long axis	ASD	atrial septal defect
TG	transgastric	VSD	ventricular septal defect
SAX	short axis	SAS	subaortic stenosis
LVOT	left ventricular outflow tract	SVC	Superior vena cava
RVOT	right ventricular outflow tract	IVC	inferior vena cava
CAF	Coronary artery fistula	PAPVC	partial anomalous pulmonary venous connection
RWMAs	regional wall motion abnormalities	PA	pulmonary artery
LAD	left anterior descending	SV	Stroke volume
Cx	Circumflex Artery	MAP	Mean arterial pressure
RCA	right coronary artery	SVR	systemic vascular resistance
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft	LVEDV	Left ventricular end-diastolic volume
CPB	Cardiopulmonary bypass	LVESV	Left ventricular end-systolic volume
EF	ejection fraction	EDPVR	end diastolic pressure volume relationship
FS	fractional shortening	RLPV	right lower pulmonary veins
FAC	fractional area change	MHZ	Megahertz

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Introduction

Introduction

Of the many technologies that have been applied to the field of peri-operative cardiac monitoring, none has provided as much new information as echocardiography (**Miller, 2009**).

Echocardiography is a non-invasive imaging modality used as a first line diagnostic tool in cardiology. Transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) is not useful in patients in the operating room, because the required transthoracic echocardiographic windows are not available and surgery makes the acquisition of useful high quality images almost impossible. Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) was initially used in cardiology to define lesions in patients with poor quality TTE images and where better definition of cardiac structures was required (**Hofer et al., 2004**).

Perioperative transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) was introduced from cardiology into cardiac anesthesia in the 1980s. Initially TEE was used mainly as a monitor of left ventricular ischemia, but now provides real-time dynamic information about the anatomy and physiology of the whole heart (**Wake et al., 2001**).

Its effectiveness as a clinical monitor to assist in the hemodynamic management of patients during general anesthesia and its reliability to make intra-operative diagnosis during cardiac operations has been well established (**Perrino et al., 1998**).

TEE has been recognized as a valuable modality for evaluation of the structures & functions of the heart & great vessels in the preoperative