ABSTRACT

A PROSPECTIVE DOUBLE BLINDED RANDOMIZED STUDY TO COMPARE SUPRACLAVICULAR Vs INFRACLAVICULAR BLOCKS FOR FOREARM SURGERIES UNDER NERVE STIMULATOR GUIDANCE

Background and objectives

A prospective double blinded randomized study to compare the time of onset of sensory and motor blockade, quality of blockade, duration of sensory and motor blockade with supra-clavicular versus infra-clavicular blocks for forearm surgeries under nerve stimulator guidance.

Methods

60 patients undergoing forearm surgeries were randomized to receive either a coracoid Infraclavicular plexus block or subclavian perivascular Supraclavicular plexus block 30 patients in each group under nerve stimulator guidance. Time of Onset of sensory and motor blockade was noted. The sensory block and motor blocks were evaluated and was graded 0, 1, 2. The results were tabulated and analysed.

Results

The time of onset of sensory blockade was earlier in group I [7.93± 6.48 minutes] compared to group S [11.37±5.81 minutes]. The time of onset of motor blockade in group S[12.38±5.95 minutes] is comparable to group I [11.97±11.08].The duration of block performance was longer in group I [9.44± 3.18 minutes] compared to group S [4.21± 1.72 minutes] The quality of blockade was satisfactory in 93.3% patients and 83.3% in group S and group I.

The duration of sensory blockade is 13.76±2.8 hours in group S compared to 12.67±5.8 hours in group I. Duration of motor blockade is 6.72±1.28 in group S and 6.94±3.02 in group I. No complications were reported.

Conclusion

Infraclavicular block using coracoid approach is a better alternative to supraclavicular block for forearm surgeries under nerve stimulator guidance.