

TO COMPARE THE HAEMODYNAMIC CHANGES BETWEEN COLLOID PRELOAD AND CO-LOAD IN PREVENTING MATERNAL HAEMODYNAMIC CHANGES DURING SPINAL ANAESTHESIA FOR ELECTIVE CAESAREAN DELIVERY.

ABSTRACT:

Spinal (subarchanoid) anaesthesia is considered as the “Gold standard” technique for caesarean section. Hypotension is the most common side effect of neuraxial blocks in the obstetric patients. Prehydration is being commonly used as a preventive measure for hypotension. Colloid remains for a longer period within the intravascular space and colloid preload provides a sustained increase in central venous blood volume and cardiac output. The present study was aimed to compare haemodynamic changes following colloid preload and colloid co-load in patients who undergo elective caesarian section in preventing maternal hemodynamics following spinal anaesthesia.

After approval from IEC and obtaining informed consent from the participants, 75 (seventy five) parturient of ASA (American Society of Anesthesiologist) – I and II who were scheduled to undergo caesarean section under spinal anaesthesia were taken for this study and divided in to 3 groups based on receiving colloid preload, co-load and crystalloid drip. Data collected were analyzed using SPSS version 16 software for statistical significance and $p < 0.05$ was regarded as significant.

Clinicodemographically all three groups were comparable. The incidence of hypotension with either Colloid Preload or Co-load is lower than the Control Group who received crystalloid drip (28% & 8% vs. 64% $X^2 = 18.12$ and $p < 0.05$. However difference between Colloid Preload (28%) and Colloid co-load (28%) was not statistically significant ($p > 0.05$).

KEYWORDS: Spinal anaesthesia, Hypotension, Prehydration, Colloid, caesarian section.

1. INTRODUCTION

Caesarean section is very common and accounts for 7 to 32 per 100 hospital deliveries¹. Spinal (subarchanoid) anaesthesia is considered as the “Gold standard” technique for caesarean section. Hypotension is the most common side effect of neuraxial blocks in the obstetric patient with an incidence rate reported is as high as 83%². This has remained a significant concern for the anesthesiologist during management of such patients. Prevention of hypotension has also been attempted over the years and colloid, crystalloid preloading has been used for this. Recent research supports decreased use of crystalloid prehydration and ephedrine and increased use of cohydration, colloids.³ Subsequently co-loading of fluid has also been tried. It is known that colloid remains for a longer period within the intravascular space and colloid preload provides a sustained increase in central venous blood volume and cardiac output.⁴ based on this, the present study was designed to evaluate haemodynamic changes following colloid preload and colloid co-load in patients who undergo elective caesarian section to find out which method is more effective to prevent hypotension following spinal anaesthesia and compare it with crystalloid prehydration.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the Department of Anaesthesiology, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital, Imphal, Manipur, India. After approval by the Institutional Ethical Committee (IEC), 75 (seventy five) parturient of ASA (American Society of Anesthesiologist) – I and II who are scheduled to undergo caesarean section under spinal anaesthesia were taken for this study. Written informed consent was obtained from all patients. The study group were divided into 3 (three) groups of 25 (twenty five) parturient in each group. Group P (n = 25) – preloaded with 500 ml of 6% HES (Hydroxy ethyl starch solution 130/0.4) 15 to 20 minutes before giving spinal anaesthesia, Group C (n = 25) – were co-loaded with 6% HES after identification of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and Group CT (n=25) – were control group and had a ringer’s lactate on flow.

Preanaesthetic examination was done for all the parturient the day before the operation. Women with hypotension or hypertension, asthma, diabetes mellitus, cardiac diseases, coagulopathy, neuropathy, renal or liver diseases, local infection or septicemia were excluded. All parturient received oral premedication with tab. Ranitidine 150mg the night before the operation. On the day of operation, intravenous line was started in the pre-operative room. Intravenous injection of Metoclopramide 10 mg and intravenous injection. Ranitidine 50 mg was given few minutes prior to the surgery in all the groups.

ASA standard monitoring were applied in all parturient. Base line blood pressure, heart rate and SPO₂ were recorded. For the subarachnoid block, lumbar L₃-L₄ interspace was used in each patient for all the groups with the midline approach. Using Quinke's needle (spinocaine) B' Braun 25G, dural puncture was confirmed by the identification of CSF. After confirming the free flow of the CSF 2ml of 0.5% Bupivacaine (heavy) was injected into the subarachnoid space at the rate of 0.2 ml/sec.

Immediately after the procedure is finished, the parturient were made to lie supine. The level of block was checked and operation table were adjusted to slight head down position to make the level of block up to T₅₋₆.

In the meantime blood pressure readings and heart rate and SPO₂ were taken by the machine automatically every 2 minutes till the next 10 minutes, followed by every five minutes till the end of surgery that was usually extending up to 40 to 50 minutes. Left uterine displacement was done by placing a wedge under the right buttock. If there is persistent fall in blood pressure towards the end of the surgery after adequate hydration is being given then the foot end of the table was raised by adjusting the table to increase the venous return.

Incidence of hypotension was recorded if fall of BP was to < 80% of baseline values. Injection Mephentermine 3 mg and an extra 100 ml of ringer's lactate were given for treating the hypotension. After delivery of the baby all parturient received injection Oxytocin 20 units/L in normal saline and injection Methylethergometrine 0.2 mg intramuscularly.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All the three groups were comparable in terms of age, weight, height and ASA physical status ($p > 0.05$) (Table 1). In the present study the incidence of hypotension in the Preloading Groups (P) was 28% and in the Co-loading Group (C) was 8% (Table 2).

The incidence of hypotension with either Colloid Preload (P) or Co-load (C) is lower than the Control Group (CT) (P 28%, C 8% and CT 64%: $X^2 = 18.12$ and $p < 0.05$ (Figure 1). However there was no statistically significant difference between Colloid preload (7/25; 28%) and Colloid co-load (2/25; 8%) with p value of 0.06. But when preload (P) or co-load (C) was compared with the Control (CT) groups the difference was highly significant ($p < 0.0001$). (Table 3)

The present finding is comparable to the findings of Siddik Syed *et al*⁵. In their study, they also found no difference in the incidence of Colloid Co-load and Preload for elective caesarean delivery under spinal anaesthesia.

Several previous studies were conducted in favor of using fluids as a means to correct hypotension after spinal anaesthesia for caesarean section. The rapid administration of crystalloid solution to correct established hypotension was first allocated by Greiss and Crandell in 1965⁶. They showed that 500ml of intravenous fluid partly restored uterine blood flow in gravid ewes under spinal anaesthesia. Two subsequent studies from Marx and co-workers⁷ demonstrated that hypotension could be eliminated by the use of 1 L of 5% glucose in Lactated Ringer's solution (D5RL) before spinal anaesthesia. Another study was conducted where a rolled up blanket was used under the right buttock along with fluid administration to correct hypotension. The authors concluded that the key to prevention of spinal hypotension was the use of prophylactic fluid administration.^{7,8} The first study conducted by Clark, Thompson and Thompson⁸ documented that lateral tilt and fluid preloading lowered the incidence of hypotension

but was still associated with a significant incidence of spinal hypotension.

On the other hand, several studies have questioned the value of crystalloid administration before the initiation of spinal anaesthesia for caesarian section; suggesting that it is relatively ineffective with up to 85% of patients developing hypotension.⁹ Preloading with crystalloid is relatively ineffective since it is rapidly redistributed^{9,10}. Since then studies comparing crystalloid Preload and Co-load were conducted. Some found that crystalloid Co-load had lesser incidence of hypotension others found that there was no difference^{11,12}.

Meanwhile Mac Lennan FM, and Mac Donald A F¹³ opined that while there were several advantages of crystalloid Preload and Co-load there were several disadvantages as well for example increased maternal risks, decreased fetal oxygen carrying capacity and the increased risk of pulmonary edema. Dyer RA¹¹ and Mojica JL¹² had conducted studies stating that a Co-load provides additional intravascular fluid at the time of maximum vasodilatation. Studies conducted by Malthru et al¹⁴, Baraka et al¹⁵ and Sharma et al¹⁶ had supported the superiority of colloid over crystalloid.

In the present study we have used 500 ml of 6% HES (130/0.4) colloid as preload 15 to 20 minutes prior to subarachnoid block, 500ml of 6% HES as co-load started at the time of subarachnoid block and a control group with plain Ringer's Lactate just to maintain patency of the cannula. The median time to hypotension was seen only after 20 minutes of the surgery.

In the present study there is an increase in the heart rate in the first 2 to 6 minutes and later part of the surgery after 20 minutes. This early rise in heart rate at 2 to minutes which is significant without significant fall in blood pressure could be explained by patient anxiety.

In the present study the Control Group (CT) had highly significant fall in blood pressure throughout the surgery and a significant rise in heart rate. This probably can be explained by one or more of these. It is postulated that higher fluid load dilutes plasma proteins lowering Colloid osmotic pressure to a greater extent than the smaller volume, thereby leading to a greater extravasation of fluid into the extracellular fluid compartment, causing hypotension. Furthermore with crystalloid administration central venous pressure increases in the first few minutes of preloading then declines by rapidly redistributing to the extra vascular space thereby causing fall in blood pressure¹⁷. The volume of crystalloid, colloid administered can lead to stimulation of atrial natriuretic peptide leading to vasodilatation.^{18,19}

The amount of vasopressor and fluid administered in both preload (P) and co-load (C) were not significantly different ($p > 0.05$). Whereas in the control group (CT), significantly high amount of fluid and vasopressor were required to treat hypotension compared with both P and C group ($p < 0.001$). Same was true even for bolus RL requirements for the treatment of hypotension. (Table 4) Limitation of the present study is that we have not included the cost factor, its effects on blood coagulation profile²⁰ and its potency for allergic²¹ reactions and effects on kidney function.²⁰

Parameters	Group P (n=25)	Group C (n=25)	Group CT (n=25)	Statistical test value	p value
Age (years) (mean±SD)	28.68±4.46	27.20±6.03	28.08±4.72	ANOVA or 'F' test value of 0.53	0.59
Weight (Kgs) (mean±SD)	60.12±3.19	59.60±4.53	61.76±5.96	ANOVA or 'F' test value of 2.80	0.07
Height (Cms) (mean±SD)	159.4±3.77	158.11±3.64	158.18±3.18	ANOVA or 'F' test value of 0.94	0.40
ASA (I:II)	23:2	23:2	24:1	Chi-square value of 0.43	0.80

Table 1: showing the distribution and comparison of patient's demographic profile in the three groups. (P - Preload, C - Co-load, CT - Control, ASA - American Society of Anesthesiologist, SD- standard deviation)

Groups	Hypotension (Yes)	Statistical test value	'p' value
Preloading (P) (N=25)	7 (28%)	Chi- square value of 18.12	(p<0.05)
Co-loading (C) (N=25)	2(8%)		
Control (CT) (N=25)	16 (64%)		

Table 2: showing the distribution and comparison of hypotension in the three groups

Intergroup	Statistical test value	'p' value
Hypotension		
Group 'P' vs Group 'C'	Chi- square value of 3.38	0.06
Group 'P' vs Group CT	Chi- square value of 6.52	0.01
Group 'C' vs Group CT	Chi- square value of 17.01	0.0001
Vasopressor requirement		
Group 'P' vs Group 'C'	Independent t test 1.18	0.24
Group 'P' vs Group CT	Independent t test 3.76	0.0001
Group 'C' vs Group CT	Independent t test 4.41	0.0001
Ringer's Lactate bolus		
Group 'P' vs Group 'C'	Independent t test 0.92	0.36
Group 'P' vs Group CT	Independent t test 3.34	0.0001
Group 'C' vs Group CT	Independent t test 3.93	0.0001

Table 3: showing the intergroup comparison of hypotension, rescue Mephentermine and Ringers Lactate solution in the three groups.

parameters	Group P (n=25) (Mean±SD)	Group C (n=25) (Mean±SD)	Group CT (n=25) (Mean±SD)	P value
Vasopressor (mgs)	1.08±1.70	0.48±1.87	4.20±3.77	0.0001
Inj. RL (in ml)	56.00±112.10	25.00±122.47	224.00±216.56	0.0001

Table4: showing the distribution and comparison of rescue Mephentermine and RL requirement required in the all three groups.

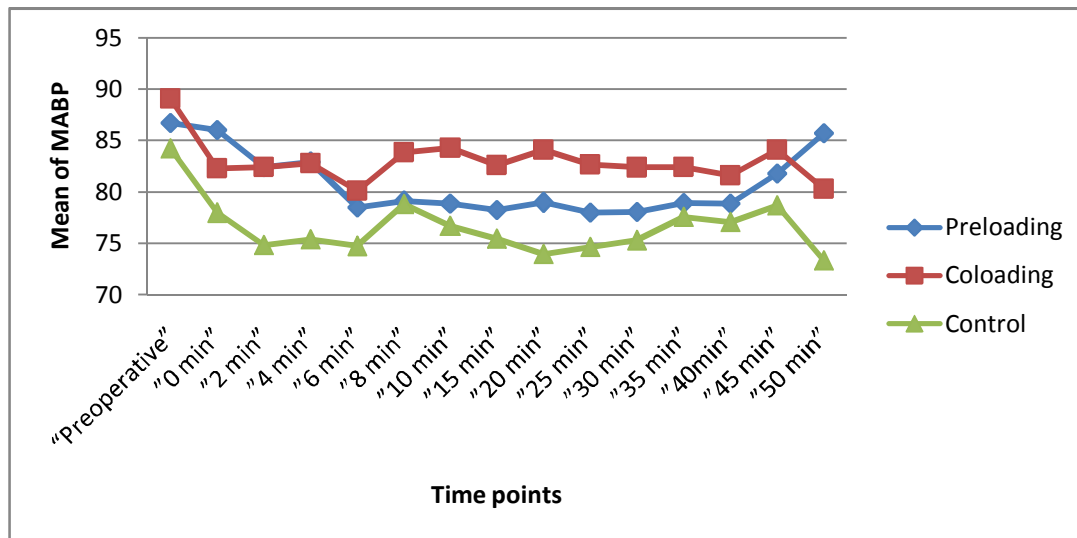


Figure 1: showing the distribution of mean arterial blood pressure (mm Hg) in the three groups

4. CONCLUSION

The Incidence of hypotension is similar after a Colloid preload versus co-load under spinal anaesthesia however it is significantly lower than crystalloid prehydration. Neonatal outcome was same in both the groups. Therefore a co-load with colloid can replace preload with colloid to shorten preparation time and avoid any delay in performing subarachnoid block which is more important in emergency cesarean section.

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