INTRAOPERATIVE ADMINISTRATION OF BOTH DEXAMETHASONE AND ONDANSETRON REDUCES POST-OPERATIVE NAUSEA AND VOMITING FOLLOWING CAESARIAN SECTION UNDER SPINAL ANAESTHESIA, COMPARED TO ONDANSETRON ALONE OR NO ANTIEMETIC

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INTRODUCTION

- Spinal anaesthesia is the most common type of anaesthesia used for elective caesarean section.
- Long acting neuraxial opioids are commonly used to provide excellent analgesia after surgery.
- The use of intratechal morphine at doses of 100 to 200 mcg for post operative analgesia is the most common cause of post operative nausea and vomiting (PONV) in the first 24h.
- The objective of this study was to assess the prophylactic anti-emetic efficacy of dexamethasone and ondansetron compared with ondansetron only or NO prophylaxis at all.

METHOD

- **137 women who underwent elective caesarean** section under spinal anaesthesia where retrospectively reviewed after 24h.
- All patients received between 10 and 13 mg of Hyperbaric Marcaine, 20-25 mcg of fentanyl and 100-150 of intratechal morphine.

Patient Sample / Intraoperative PONV Prophylaxis

RESULTS

Combination of dexamethasone with ondansetron is quite effective in controlling PONV after lscs with spinal anaesthesia and intratechal morphine.

Proportion of each group which had PONV

DISCUSSION

Intrathecal opioids have proved to be reliable in relieving post-operative pain. However, associated PONV remains a major challenge.

Our aim was just to compare efficacy of both these antiemetic drugs to prevent nausea and vomiting after LSCS. Association of both Ondansetron and Dexamethasone administered in theatre after delivery reduces the incidence of PONV in the first 24h after LSCS compared to administration of Ondansetron only or no prophylaxis at all.

1 Ismail S. What is new in post operative analgesia after Caesarean sections? Anaesth,Pain and Intensive Care 2012; 16(2):123-126. / 2 S.Grape , I.Usmanova, K.R.Kirkham and E.Albrecht Intravenous dexamethasone for profilaxis of postoperative nausea and vomiting after administration of long-acting neuraxial opioids:a systematic review and meta-analysis. Anaesthesia 2018,73480 - 489.