INCIDENCE OF SIDE EFFECTS WITH INTRATHECAL MORPHINE

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Background and Aims:

Intrathecal morphine provides effective and stable analgesia during the first postoperative day, being used as a safe tool for pain control in different surgical procedures. The incidence of side effects such as nausea and vomiting, itching or respiratory depression are its main disadvantages because it can delay the recovery of our patients and diminish their general satisfaction.

Methods:

Local committee authorizes observational anonymous retrospective study without Ethics Committee approval, in which **123 cases** were analyzed using intrathecal morphine, in patients over 18 years old with recent surgery. We collected demographic data, dosage use and the appearance of side effects. In all our patients, we used the dosage of 80µg of intrathecal morphine.

The use of 80µg of intrathecal morphine is a very effective and safe technique for acute pain control during the first day of postoperative surgery.

Side Effects

Results

The average age was 54.05 years old. Most of them were ASA-II (41.55%). Most of our patients (77.23%) shown a VAS of 0 at resting. 42 patients (34.1%) had side effects: the most frequent was **pruritus** (50%), followed by **dizziness** (23.81%).

The incidence of side effects in gynecology and obstetrics was significantly higher than the rest of specialties ($p=0,005$), being pruritus (31,11%) and dizziness (20%), the two main complications.

54.5% of our patients expressed “very good” satisfaction for pain management, showing only “regular” satisfaction in 4.1%. None of our patients classified its satisfaction as “bad” or “very bad”.