Prevalence of venous thromboembolism associated peripherally inserted central catheters: a cohort of more than 700 patients.

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Introduction

The use of peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC) has increase substantially in daily practice.

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a possible major complication of PICC. Reported prevalence is very wide (2 to 75%), depending of the study population. Rate of VTE is one of the standards of good practice. Objective of this study was reported the prevalence of VTE in our institution.

Methods

Restropective cohort study. Data was extracted from the flow sheets full filed by PICC team and from review of the patients eletronic medical records.

Results

Between January 2012 and August 2017, 953 PICC were used in 778 patients (1,22 catheter per patient; range 1 to 8). Mean age of patients was 64,3 years-old (SD±20,3). PICC was inserted main lyon righ tupper arm (97,1%), on first attempt (67,5%)and by indication for use of antibiotics (82,4%). Groshong PICC was the most common catheter (84,8%). Venous thrombosis was suspected in 54 patients. Venous Doppler ultrasound detected new superficial vein thrombosis (balisic or cephalic vein) in seven patients (0,73%)and deep vein thrombosis (axillary or subclavian vein) in four patients (0,42 %). Full anticoagulation was prescribed for four patients. No pulmonary embolism was diagnosed in the follow-up.

Conclusion

Venous thromboembolism associated PICC was low in our institution, assuming a good practice. These results should be confirmed in a prospective study.