

Intra-operative hypertension

Critical Incidents

Name:	P Knapp	Observations at start		CRT:	S2
D.O.B.	07/05 (45Y)	RR:	14 (as per vent)	Temp:	36.5
Address:	(Insert local address)	ETCO2:	5.2	BM:	5.6
		Sats:	98%	Weight:	80Kg
Hospital ID:	774 662 8146	Heart rate:	98	Allergy	NKDA
Ward:	Elective admissions unit	BP:	170/90		

Ward: Elective admissions unit BP:	170/90	
Background to scenario	Specific set up	
An episode of intra-op hypertension during elective surgery The operation can be any type performed at your organisation You may choose a cause for the hypertension to	Mannequin on theatre table Intubated and ventilated Cannulated with fluid attached Draped for surgery, surgeons just starting Anaesthetic chart and drugs available	
simulate depending on the level of participants (see QRH handbook)	Anti-hypertensives as available in your area	
Required embedded faculty/actors	Required participants	
ODP	Anaesthetist	
Surgeon	ODP/surgical team can be participants in MDT sim	

Past Medical History

HTN – treated. Smoker 15/day.

No previous anaesthetics, no airway concerns

Admitted for elective ear microsurgery

Drugs Home	Drugs Hospital
Ramipril – if checked not taken this am	Induction drugs Anaesthetised on agent of choice

Brief to participants

You have just started a case for ear microsurgery.

The patient is as above. Intubation was uneventful. Surgeons have just started the case. You have come into the anaesthetic room/stepped away from the patient to take a call when the ODP alerts you to a high blood pressure alarm

	Scenario Direction					
Stage 1, 0– 5 minutes						
Α	Intubated and ventilated					
В	RR as per ventilator. Sats 98% FiO2 0.4 ETCO2 5.2					
С	C HR 98 BP 170/90					
DE	Temp 36.5, Pupils small, central, equal and reactive. MAC 0.8 BM 5.6 Observations normalise when hypertension treated/cause eliminated Cause: inadequate depth of anaesthesia, paralytic or analgesia, inadequate oxygenation, other underlying causes (se QRH handbook for list)					
Rx	Recognise hypertension, declare incident, call for help as appropriate for stage of training Perform assessment of A-E to rule out life threatening causes and treat any cause found Communicate with surgical team and stop/reduce surgical stimulus when appropriate Differentials for underlysing causes and treatment options					

Guidelines

Association of Anaesthetist QRH Handbook – Hypertension

Treatment options to reduce blood pressure

https://anaesthetists.org/Portals/0/PDFs/QRH/QRH_2-5_Hypertension_v1.pdf?ver=2018-07-25-112713-283

After incident – consideration of debrief and support for members of team

Guidance for	Patient Role	
Opening lines/questions/cues/key responses Under GA	Relevant HPC / PMH	
Concerns	Actions	
Guidance for ODP role	Guidance for surgeon	
Opening lines/questions/cues/responses/Concerns The blood pressure alarm has just gone off, it's quite high!	Unaware of issue till declared After this, can stop/support in diagnosing/treating cause	
Actions Support with exclusion of causes Call for help/suggest this if necessary/not been done		
Guidance for Role e.g. ITU/Anaesthetic Senior	Additional challenges	
Expectations/actions Available to support in person or by phone depending on level of participant		

Session Objectives		
Clinical	Recognition, forming differentials and treatment of intra-operative hypertension	
Non-technical skills	Ion-technical skills	
Teamworking	Coordinating activities of team in emergency, exchanging information with surgical team/supervising anaesthetist, supporting team after incident	
Task management	Working through differentials in logical order, prioritising treatment options, using guidelines, identifying resources of knowledge and skill	
Situational awareness	Gathering information to form differentials and treat, anticipating next steps	
Decision making	Identifying options, balancing risks and selecting treatment options, continuous re- evaluation	

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