

SHOCK MANAGEMENT

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CONTENTS

- Review the causes of Neurogenic shock
- Describe the presentation of Neurogenic shock
- Summarize the treatment options for the Neurogenic shock
- Review the causes of Inflammatory shock
- Management of Inflammatory shock

NEUROGENIC SHOCK

INTRODUCTION

- Patients with **TSCI** (**traumatic spinal cord injury**) require intensive medical care and continuous monitoring of vital signs, cardiac rhythm, arterial oxygenation, and neurologic signs .
- **The causes of TSCI in the United States are:**
 - **Motor vehicle accidents:** 48 percent
 - **Falls:** 16 percent
 - **Violence (especially gunshot wounds):** 12 percent
 - **Sports accidents:** 10 percent

- The primary assessment of a patient with trauma in the field follows the **ABCD** prioritization scheme:

Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability

(neurologic status).

Cardiovascular complications

- Neurogenic shock is a devastating consequence of spinal cord injury (SCI).
- It manifests as hypotension, bradyarrhythmia, and temperature dysregulation due to peripheral vasodilatation following an injury to the spinal cord.

ETHIOLOGY

- Sudden **loss of sympathetic tone**, with preserved parasympathetic function, leading to **autonomic instability**.
- Neurogenic shock is mostly associated with **cervical and high thoracic spine injury**.
- Neurogenic shock should be differentiated from **hypovolemic shock**; the latter is often associated with **tachycardia**.
- **Other causes of neurogenic shock** include spinal anesthesia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, autonomic nervous system toxins, transverse myelitis, and other neuropathies.

- Neurogenic shock is not to be confused with a **spinal shock** which is the **flaccidity of muscles and loss of reflexes** seen following spinal cord injury.
- An adequate blood pressure is believed to be critical in **maintaining adequate perfusion to the injured spinal cord** and thereby limiting secondary ischemic injury.

- Guidelines currently recommend **maintaining mean arterial pressures of at least 85 to 90 mmHg .**
- Patients with multiple injuries often receive large amounts of IV fluids for various reasons. **Excess fluids cause further cord swelling and increased damage.**

History and Physical

- Neurogenic shock can be **a difficult diagnosis** to make and requires meticulous investigation.
- Neurogenic shock is most commonly associated with a **blunt cervical spine injury**.
- Neurogenic shock should be considered only **after a hemorrhagic shock has been ruled out** in a traumatic patient
- The presence of vertebral fracture or dislocation raises the concern for a neurogenic shock.
- **Bradycardia, hypotension, flushed warm skin** are the classic signs associated with neurogenic shock

Treatment / Management

- Initial management of neurogenic shock is focused on **hemodynamic stabilization**.
- Hypotension should be treated first to prevent secondary injury.
- The first-line treatment for hypotension is **intravenous fluid resuscitation**.
- If hypotension persists despite euvolemia, **vasopressors and inotropes** are the second lines.

Treatment / Management

- **Phenylephrine** is commonly used as it is a **pure alpha-1 agonist** that causes peripheral vasoconstriction to counteract the loss of sympathetic tone.
- **Norepinephrine** has both alpha and beta activity, aiding both hypotension and bradycardia.

Bradycardia

- Bradycardia may require external pacing or administration of atropine.
- This complication usually occurs in severe, high cervical (C1 through C5) lesions in the first two weeks after TSCI.

- Methylprednisolone and corticosteroids showed promise in animal models.
- However, this has not been displayed in clinical trials, and steroids raise the risk for complications such as infection and are not recommended by multiple societies.
- Surgical intervention may be required for decompression of spinal injury and improvement of neurogenic shock.
- Symptoms of neurogenic shock have been reported to persist for as long as 4 to 5 weeks.

Autonomic dysreflexia

- Autonomic dysreflexia is usually a **later complication** of TSCI (SCI **above T6**) requiring acute management .
- This phenomenon is characterized by **episodic paroxysmal hypertension with headache, bradycardia, flushing, and sweating.**
- Medications often used in this setting:
nitrates, nifedipine, hydralazine IV, labetalol IV

Respiratory complications

- including respiratory failure, pulmonary edema, pneumonia, and pulmonary embolism, are the most frequent category of complications
- Weakness of the diaphragm and chest wall muscles leads to impaired clearance of secretions, ineffective cough, atelectasis, and hypoventilation.

- **Signs of impending respiratory failure**, such as increased respiratory rate, declining forced vital capacity, rising pCO₂, or falling pO₂, indicate urgent intubation and ventilation with positive pressure support
- **Tracheostomy** is performed within 7 to 10 days, unless extubation is imminent.
- With a goal of preventing atelectasis and pneumonia, **chest physiotherapy** should be instituted as soon as possible; patients may also need frequent airway suctioning.

Venous thromboembolism and pulmonary embolism

- **DVT** is a common complication of TSCI, occurring in 50 to 100 percent of untreated patients, with the greatest incidence between **72 hours and 14 days**.
- All patients should receive prophylactic treatment.
- **LMWH, IPC** (Intermittent pneumatic compression)

INFLAMMATORY SHOCK

INTRODUCTION

- **Systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS)** is a clinical syndrome that is characterized by a robust inflammatory response, usually induced by a major body insult that can be **infectious** or **noninfectious**.

Examples of noninfectious conditions that can be complicated by SIRS :

- Pancreatitis
- Burns
- Hypoperfusion caused by trauma
- Amniotic fluid embolism
- Air embolism
- Fat embolism

Pancreatitis

- Acute onset of epigastric pain and elevated serum amylase and lipase.
- With supportive care many patients recover without any complications.
- **20 percent** have severe acute pancreatitis with organ failure.

Systemic complications

- Organ failure:
 - Activating cytokine cascade manifests clinically as a
SIRS
 - ARDS
 - Renal failure

BURNS

- **Multisystem organ dysfunction(MODS):**
 - Affects severe burned patients with or without infection
 - Severely burned patients develop MODS at two different distinct points: **early (due to hypoperfusion and under resuscitation) or late (due to sepsis).**
 - Increased risk with burn wounds **>20%** TBSA
 - The **burn wound or lungs** are the most likely sites for an infection

Specific organ failure

- ATN and AKI:
 - Immediate fluid resuscitation
 - Correcting electrolyte abnormalities
 - Correcting metabolic acidosis
 - Dialysis
- Pulmonary failure(ARDS)
- Cardiac failure
- Hepatic failure
- Hematologic failure(DIC)
- CNS failure
- GI failure

MANAGEMENT

- Immediate debridement
- Weaning from the ventilator and ambulated
as soon as possible
- Early enteral nutrition

Amniotic fluid embolism

- A catastrophic condition occurring during labor or within 30 minutes postpartum.
- May be due to a vasospastic, inflammatory, and/or immune reaction.
- Sudden cardiovascular collapse, hypoxemia and DIC during labor.

management

- Initial strategies should focus on **standard basic and advanced cardiac life support** maneuvers to treat shock and cardiopulmonary compromise so that adequate tissue perfusion for both mother and fetus can be ensured
- This typically involves **manual chest percussions, emergency airway management with supplemental oxygen and intubation, and the establishment of intravenous (IV) access, for fluid resuscitation and arrhythmia management.**
- **Vasopressors** should be administered to those whose shock is refractory to resuscitative measures

Air embolism

- Uncommon but catastrophic
- Entry of the air into the vasculature
- Most common causes: surgery, trauma, vascular intervention, barotrauma from mechanical ventilation, diving
- Clinical signs: sudden onset respiratory distress or neurological event
- Life-threatening cases: acute onset of RV failure, sudden loss of consciousness, hemodynamic collapse, cardiac arrest.

Management

- Airway stability, high flow oxygen, volume resuscitation, vasopressors
- For **venous** air embolism :Placing the patient in the left lateral decubitus head down position or trndelenburg
- For **arterial** air embolism: Placing the patient in the supine position
- **Hyperbaric oxygen** therapy for evidence of hemodynamic compromise.

THE END

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION