



European Society of
Regional Anaesthesia
& Pain Therapy

ESRA ITALIA

ESRA *Cè*

XXIX

CONGRESSO NAZIONALE

ESRA Italian Chapter
CESENA, Cesena fiere

Presidente del congresso
Vanni Agnoletti
Domenico Pietro Santonastaso
Andrea Tognù

*7-9
Novembre
2024*



 **MZ**
EVENTS



Armi non convenzionali: il ruolo di Ketamina, Dex e Steroidi

Giulia Pedini

S.C. Anestesia e Rianimazione Cardiotoracovascolare e Medicina del Dolore

A.O.U. Santa Maria della Misericordia Perugia



Azienda Ospedaliera di Perugia



Uncontrolled pain can cause:

- ↓ patient satisfaction,
- ↑ pulmonary and cardiac complications,
- Delayed ambulation,
- Delirium
- Chronic pain,
- ↑ morbidity and mortality





Table 1 Risk factors for chronic pain syndromes

Surgery

- Intraoperative nerve damage
- Open surgical approach vs. laparoscopic approach
- Surgery duration > 3 h
- Volatile general anesthesia

Chronic opioid use, opioid-induced hyperalgesia (OIH)

- High-dose opioid use

Patient factors

- Pre-existing pain syndromes
 - Genetic predispositions (i.e., polymorphisms of voltage-gated Na⁺, Ca⁺ channels)
 - Mood disorders, anxiety
 - Personality disorders
 - Female
 - Obesity
 - Young age
-



Opioids:

- Sedation
- Respiratory depression,
- Nausea and vomiting (PONV),
- Constipation,
- Pruritus,
- Secondary hyperanalgesia,
- ↑ hospitalization



Opioid-free anaesthesia:

multimodal or
balanced
analgesia

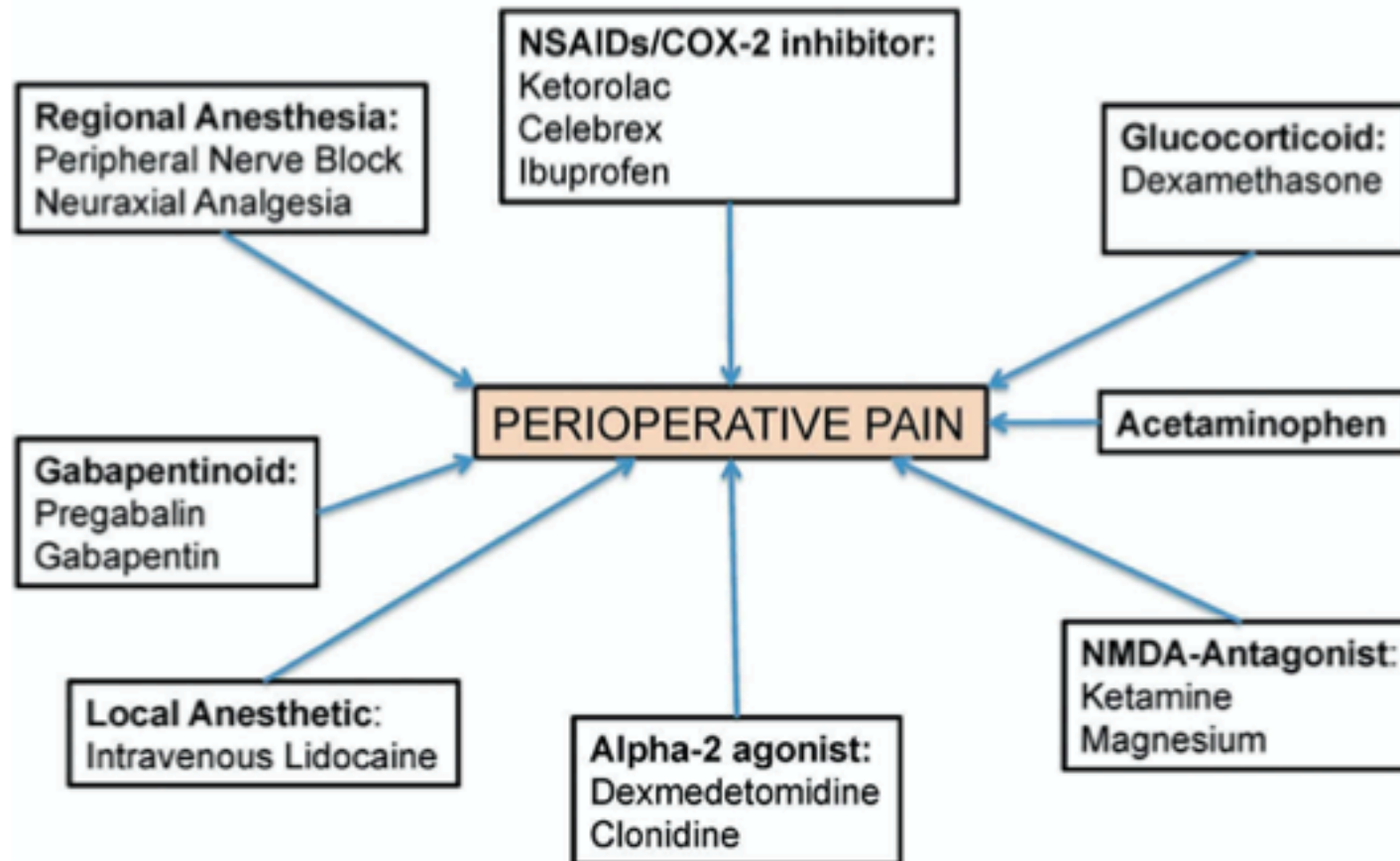


ERAS protocols:

- Neuraxial anaesthesia
- Peripheral nerve blocks
- Non-opioid adjuncts



Multimodal Opioid-Sparing Analgesia





- ✓ Chemical compatibility with LA
- ✓ ↓ in effective LA's dose
- ✓ Dose – response relationship
- ✓ Independent analgesic activity
- ✓ ↑ pain relief and ↓ opioid doses
- ✓ ↓ onset-time of motor and sensory blockade
- ✓ ↑ quality of sensory blockade
- ✓ ↑ duration of sensory blockade, but **NO prolongation of motor blockade**
- ✓ ↑ duration of analgesia
- ✓ Absence of systemic adverse effects (chondrotoxic, myotoxic and neurotoxic)





Local anaesthetic adjunct	Evidence
Midazolam	Limited effectiveness on perineural administration <i>in vivo</i> er
Fentanyl	perineural ivacaine ardia and
Morphine	perineural r systemic
Tramadol	perineural r systemic
Ketamine	Lack of effectiveness on perineural administration Neurotoxicity demonstrated <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> Side effects include drowsiness, hallucinations and nausea
Neostigmine	Lack of effectiveness on perineural administration Neurotoxicity demonstrated <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> Side effects including nausea and vomiting



Agent	Criteria for Inclusion ¹	Strength of Study Evidence ² : a- Quality/Quantity; b-Consistency; c-Significance	Summary/Recommendations	Grade of Recommendation (level of evidence) ³
Epinephrine	Attestation	a- 3/3; b- 66%; c- low (no more than 1h)	May prolong blockade by a minimal amount (45–60min). High doses can result in systemic absorption, tachycardia, and hypertension. Avoid use in patients with preexisting neurovascular	A (1b)
Clonidine	Attestation	a- 6/7; b- 43%; for bupivacaine	Does not her block. ision,	A (1a, 1b)
Dexmedetomidine	IND; Attestation	a- 7/7; b- 100%	m 1–8h etic. nificant.	A (1a, 1b)
Dexamethasone	IND; Attestation	a- 6/6; b- 50% (control, 0% with c- moderate (1-	s nerve nilar ay ith high ars blocks s.	A (1a, 1b)
Tramadol	Attestation	a- 8/8; b- 50%; (40–160min, 3 studies); high with ISB (7h, 1 study).	analgesia or nerve blockade. Not recommended due to lack of evidence of clinically significant efficacy and potential to increase sedation and PONV.	A (1b)
Magnesium	Attestation	a- 3/5; b- 100%; c- low for brachial plexus (1–2.5h, 4 studies); high for FNB (10h for analgesic request, 1 study)	Consistently shown to prolong PNB but likely not clinically significant for brachial plexus blocks. One study of moderate quality (Jadad III) suggests significantly increased duration of analgesia for FNB. Further high-quality studies needed to determine toxicity profile and minimal effective dose. Concern for PONV at 200mg dose. Not recommended at this time.	A (1b)





Table 3. Comparison of the characteristics of an ideal local anaesthetic adjunct with perineural dexamethasone and dexmedetomidine

Characteristics of an ideal local anaesthetic adjunct	Dexamethasone	Dexmedetomidine
Available as a preservative-free preparation	+	+
Chemically compatible with local anaesthetics	+ ^a	+
Plausible mechanism of action	+	+
Effective for all peripheral nerve blocks	+	+
Evidence of dose response relationship	+	–
Increase in the duration of sensory blockade	+	+
No prolongation of motor blockade	–	–
Differential sensorimotor blockade prolongation	+	–
Increase in the duration of analgesia	+	+
No significant systemic adverse consequences	+	–
No chondrotoxic, myotoxic and neurotoxic side effects	+	?

?, unclear; –, no; +, yes.

^aDexamethasone has been shown not to have *in vitro* compatibility with ropivacaine.



DEXAMETHASONE

High-potency, long-acting glucocorticoid
(little mineralocorticoid effect)

Long-term treatment is associated with many
side effects (adrenal insufficiency, hypertension,
osteoporosis, delayed wound healing,
hyperglycaemia, diabetes mellitus)



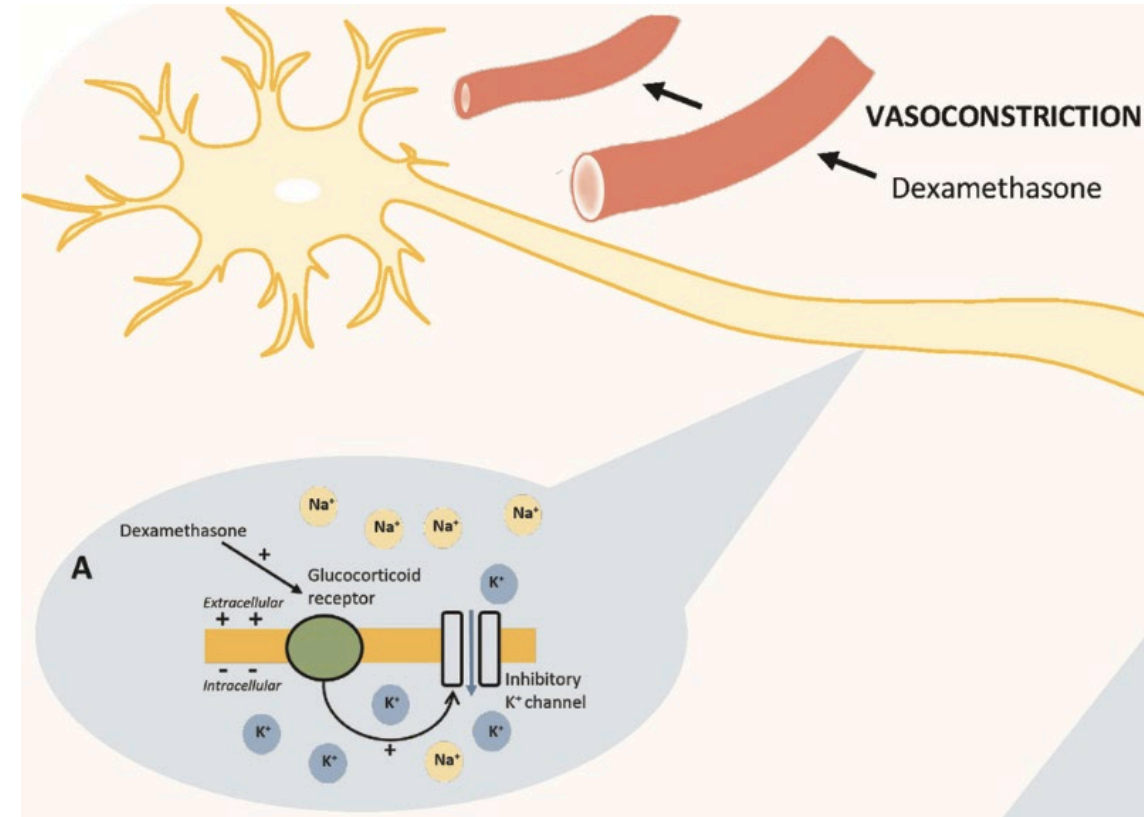


↓ nociceptive C-fibre activity:

- Direct effect on glucocorticoid receptors
- ↑ the expression of inhibitory K⁺ channels

Local vasoconstrictive effect:

- ↓ LA absorption
- ↓ systemic inflammation (TNF- α , IL-1 β , PCR)
- ↓ prostaglandin synthesis by inhibiting PL enzyme and COX-II
- ↓ excitability of nerve cells (↓ glutamate release and ↑ release of γ -aminobutyric acid)





European Society of
Regional Anaesthesia
& Pain Therapy
ESRA ITALIA

ESRA Italian Chapter

YVIV CONGRESSO
E

7-9 Novembre 2024

CESENA, Cesena fiere



REVIEW ARTICLES

Co-administration of dexamethasone with peripheral nerve block: intravenous vs perineural
systematic review, meta-analysis,
sequential analysis

Comment

Epub 2016 Jun 3.

Acta Anaesthesiol Scand. 2016 Aug;60(8):1465-1471. doi: 10.1111/1558-9447.1270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678.

Weeks², R. Rossaint⁴ and

Dexamethasone following knee

controlled study

A A Sherif¹, H E Elersy¹

Hand (N Y). 2024 Sep 11:15589447241270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678. doi: 10.1177/15589447241270678.

Efficacy of Direct Versus Peripheral Dexamethasone on Duration and Quality of Spontaneous Breathing Opioid-Free

Reg Anesth Pain Med. 2023 Jun 9:rapm-2023-104646. doi: 10.1136/rapm-2023-104646. doi: 10.1136/rapm-2023-104646. doi: 10.1136/rapm-2023-104646.

Addition of dexamethasone to prolong peripheral nerve blocks: a ChatGPT-created narrative review

Christopher L Wu^{1 2 3},
Edward R Mariano^{8 9}

Brian Cho⁴, Rodney Gabriel⁵, Robert Hurley⁶, Jiabin Liu⁷,
Stavros G Memtsoudis^{10 2}, Michael Conrad Grant⁴

David H Kim¹, Jiabin Liu¹, Jonathan C Beathe¹, Yi Lin¹, Douglas S Wetmore¹, Sang J Kim¹,
Stephen C Haskins¹, Sean Garvin¹, Joseph A Oxendine¹, Michael C Ho¹, Answorth A Allen²,
Marko Popovic¹, Ejiro Gbaje¹, Christopher L Wu¹, Stavros G Memtsoudis¹

Dexamethasone as an adjuvant to peripheral nerve block (Review)

Pehora C, Pearson AME, Kaushal A, Crawford MW, Johnston B
Mar 1;136(3):4.

M Madsen¹,
M F Leth¹,
C Zamany⁶, P Toussaint¹

ded Study

Armen Voskerijian^{3 4}, Mark L Wang¹, Pedro K Beredjikian¹

Case Reports > Cureus. 2024 Apr 16;16(4):e58394. doi: 10.7759/cureus.58394.
eCollection 2024 Apr.

Ultrasound-Guided Regional Anesthesia Using a Mixture of Dexamethasone, Dexmedetomidine, and 0.2% Levobupivacaine for Bilateral Breast Cancer Surgery: A Retrospective Cohort Study



Cochrane Library

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

10.1136/rapm-2023-104646

on of
ngle
or



- ↑ the mean duration of sensory blockade
- ↑ the mean duration of motor blockade
- ↑ the mean duration of analgesia
- ↓ pain score at rest and on movement
- ↓ post-operative analgesic consumption



> [J Med Imaging Radiat Oncol.](#) 2015 Oct;59(5):571-7. doi: 10.1111/1754-9485.12333.
Epub 2015 Jun 15.

Ropivacaine and dexamethasone: a potentially dangerous combination for therapeutic pain injections

[Trevor William Watkins](#)^{1 2}, [Simon Dupre](#)^{3 2}, [John Richard Coucher](#)¹



A multicenter, randomized comparison between 2, 5, and 8 mg of perineural dexamethasone for ultrasound-guided infraclavicular block

Daniela Bravo,¹ Julian Aliste,¹ Sebastián Layera,¹ Diego Fernández,¹
Prangmalee Leurcharusmee,² Artid Samerchua,² Amornrat Tangjitbampenbun,³
Arraya Watanitanon,³ Vanlapa Arnuntasupakul,⁴ Choosak Tunprasit,⁴ Aida Gordon,³
Roderick J Finlayson,³ De Q Tran³

- ✓ 5 mg provided a longer analgesic duration than 2 mg
- ✓ 5 and 8 mg provide clinically equivalent sensorimotor and analgesic durations

Co-administration of dexamethasone with peripheral nerve block: intravenous vs perineural application: systematic review, meta-analysis, meta-regression and trial-sequential analysis

M. Heesen^{1,*}, M. Klimek², G. Imberger³, S.E. Hoeks², R. Rossaint⁴ and S. Straube⁵

I.V. dexamethasone has also been shown to reduce pain at rest and with movement and opioid consumption after surgery when compared with placebo.

In perineural group:

- ✓ ↑ duration of sensory block
- ✓ ↑ duration of motor block
- ✓ ↑ duration of analgesia (statistically significant)

No difference for opioid consumption in the first 24 h





DEXMEDETOMIDIN

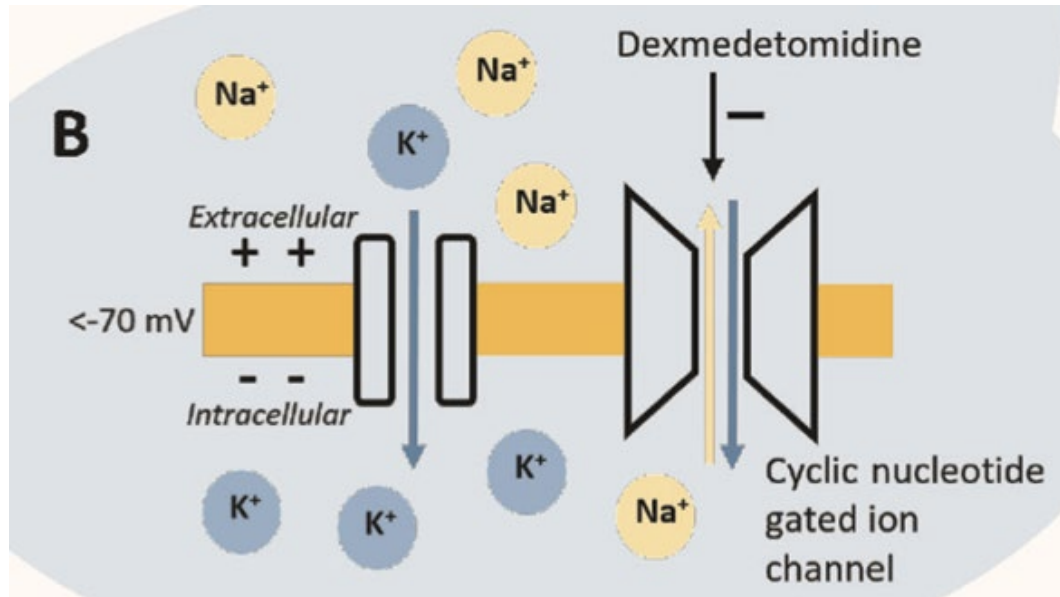
Highly **E**selective α_2 adrenergic receptor agonist

Effects:

- Sedative, hypnotic,
- Anxiolytic,
- Analgesic,
- Anti-inflammatory,
- Perioperative sympatholytic,
- Anesthetic-sparing

Adverse effects: bradycardia, hypotension and sedation





- ✓ Inhibition of hyperpolarization-activated nucleotide gated channels maintaining the neurone at a more negative potential and hyperpolarized state (inhibiting the next action potential in C and A δ fiber)
- ✓ Activating α 2-adrenoceptors in peripheral blood vessels: vasoconstriction, \downarrow absorption of LA and \uparrow their block time



- ✓ Analgesic effect: stimulation of α_2 -receptors in the dorsal horn of the spinal column, leading to the inhibition of nociceptive neurons and \downarrow in the release of substance P, glutamate and NA
- ✓ \downarrow sympathetic activity: activation presynaptic α_2 -adrenoceptors in the vasomotor centre of the brainstem
- ✓ \downarrow perioperative stress and inflammation and preserves immune function
- ✓ Hypnotic effect without ventilatory depression: hyperpolarization of the non-adrenergic neurons which leads to depression of neuronal firing in the locus ceruleus together with suppression of the release of NA because of the stimulation of the central adrenergic receptors

Randomized Trial

Dexmedetomidine Added to Bupivacaine versus Bupivacaine in Transincisional Ultrasound-Guided Quadratus Lumborum Block in Open Renal Surgeries: A Randomized Trial

Amin M. Alansary, MD¹, Atef Badawy, MD², and Marwa A.K. Elbeialy, MD³

Minerva Anestesiologica 2024; 74(1): 1-10
DOI: 10.23736/S0375-9393.17.11330-2

Alseoudy et al. BMC Anesthesiology
(2024) 24:120
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12871-024-02504-x>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Efficacy of US-guided transversus abdominis plane block and rectus sheath block with ropivacaine and dexmedetomidine in elderly high-risk patients

Lili XU^{1,2,3}, Zhiyong HU^{4*}, Jianjun SHEN³, Patrick M. MCQUILLAN⁵

Addition of dexmedetomidine to bupivacaine in ultrasonography-guided paravertebral blockade potentiates postoperative pain relief among patients undergoing thoracotomy

Cihangir Biçer^a, Esra Nur Ünalın^a, Recep Aksu^{id a,*}, Ömer Önal^b, Işın Güneş^a

Comparison of Intercostal Nerve Block with Ropivacaine-Dexmedetomidine versus Ropivacaine in Patients Undergoing Thoracotomy

Kamran Mahmoudi^{id 1}, Mahboobeh Rashidi², and Parisa Rashidi^{5,*}

Dexmedetomidine combined with ropivacaine in ultrasound-guided transversus abdominis plane block improves postoperative analgesia and recovery

The value of local dexmedetomidine as an adjuvant to ultrasound-guided wide awake local anesthesia no tourniquet (WALANT) in flexor tendon repair surgeries: a randomized controlled trial

Mahmoud Mohammed Alseoudy^{1*}, Elsayed Mohamed Abdelkarime¹, Khaled Nour² and May Elsherbiny Badr¹

Dexmedetomidine Added to Ropivacaine for Ultrasound-Guided Erector Spinae Plane Block Prolongs Analgesia Duration and Reduces Perioperative Opioid Consumption After Thoracotomy: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Study

Huixian Li, MD,* Shijing Wei, BSN,*
Zheng Ni, MD,* Li Sun, MD,† and Hui Zheng, MD*







- ↓ the mean time to onset of sensory blockade
- ↓ the mean time to onset of motor blockade
- ↑ the mean duration of sensory and motor blockade (?)
- ↑ duration of analgesia
- ↓ post-operative analgesic consumption
- ↑ patient satisfaction
- No dose – response relationship 0.5-1 mcg/kg (10 – 150 mcg)



Systematic Review

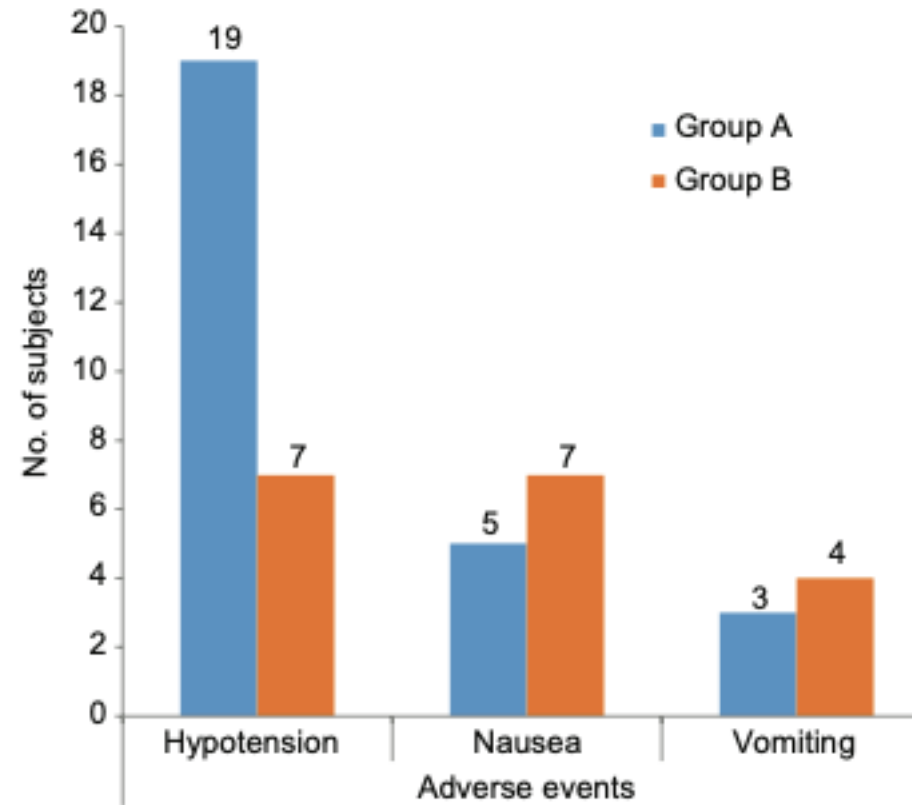
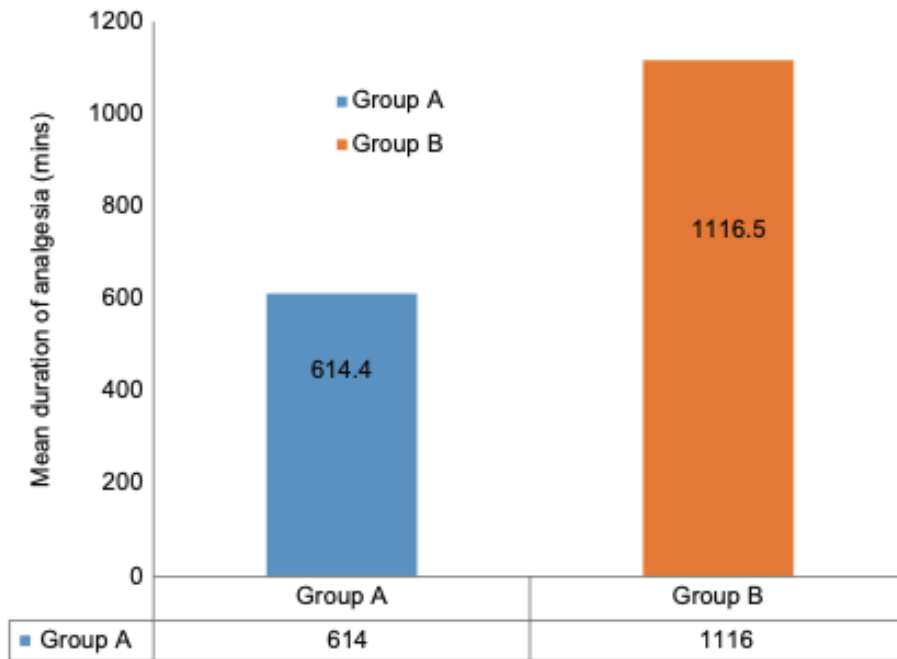
Dexmedetomidine as an Adjuvant to Nerve Block for Cancer Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Christrijogo Soemartono Waloejo¹, Dian Anggraini Permatasari Musalim², David Setyo Budi² ,
Nando Reza Pratama³ , Soni Sunarso Sulistiawan¹  and Citrawati Dyah Kencono Wungu^{4,5,*} 

- Protective effect on the incidence of postoperative delirium and POCD
- Significant ↓ in the incidence of PONV

A comparison of efficacy of parenteral and perineural dexmedetomidine with 0.25% ropivacaine for post-thyroidectomy analgesia using bilateral superficial cervical plexus block

Neena Jain, Pooja R. Mathur, Kriti Lakhina, Veena Patodi, Kavita Jain, Deepak Garg





Open Access Case
Report

DOI: 10.7759/cureus.10703

Synergistic Effect of Perineural Dexamethasone and Dexmedetomidine (Dex-Dex) in Extending the Analgesic Duration of Pectoral Type I and II Blocks

Robert P. Zusman¹, Ivan Urits², Alan D. Kaye³, Omar Viswanath⁴, Jonathan Eskander⁵



Case Report

Synergistic Effects of Dexamethasone and Dexmedetomidine in Extending the Effects of Pectoral I and Pectoral II Blocks for Postoperative Analgesia Following Total Mastectomy with Lymph Node Dissection

Ahish Chitneni¹, Jamal Hasoon^{2,*}, Ivan Urits², Omar Viswanath^{3,4,5,6}, Alan D. Kaye⁶ and Jonathan Eskander⁷

Open Access Case
Report

DOI: 10.7759/cureus.9473

Synergistic Effect of Perineural Dexamethasone and Dexmedetomidine (Dex-Dex) Prolong Analgesic Effect of a Preoperative Interscalene Block

Nazir A. Noor¹, Ivan Urits², Omar Viswanath³, Alan D. Kaye⁴, Jonathan Eskander⁵

Open Access Case
Report

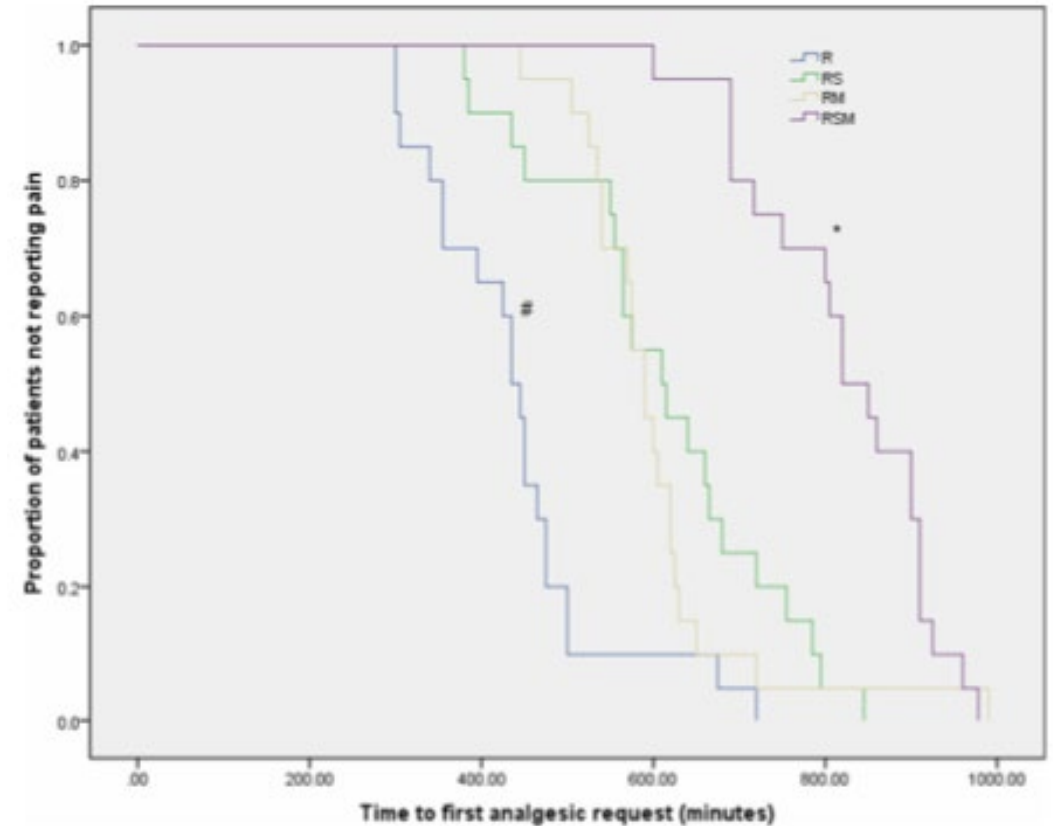
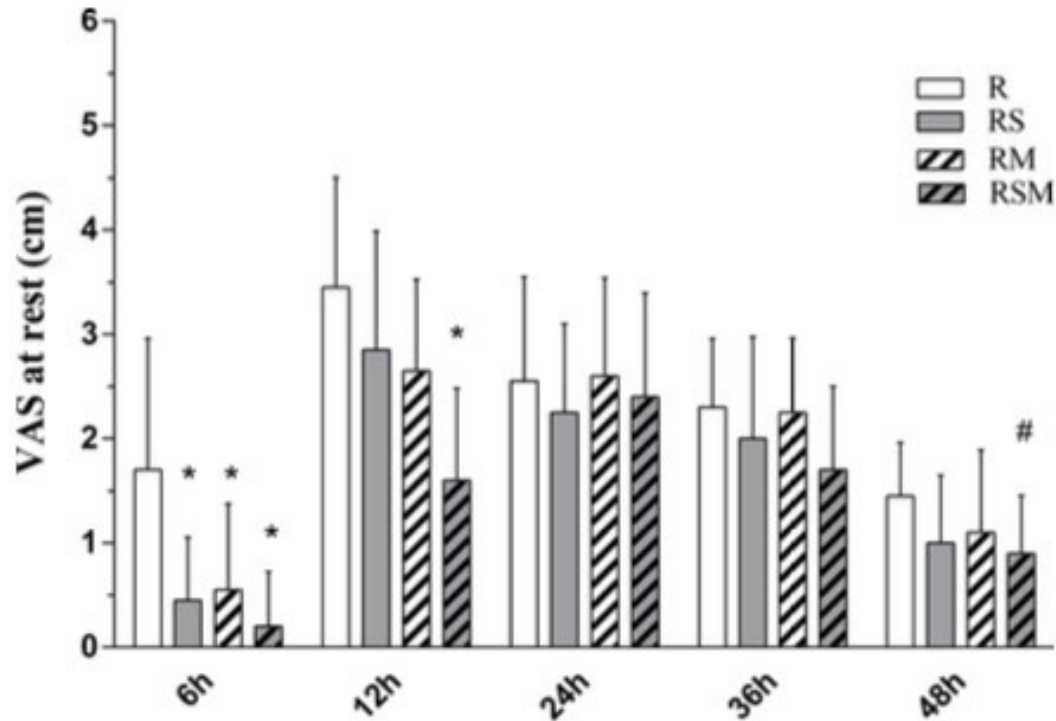
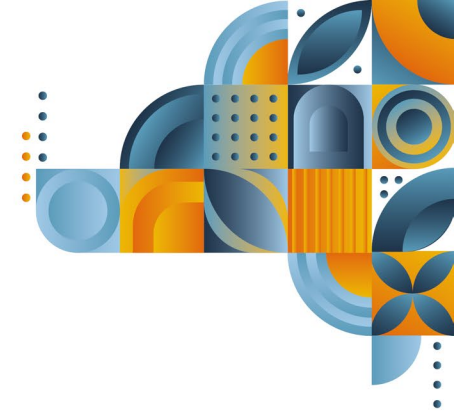
DOI: 10.7759/cureus.11917

Use of Dexmedetomidine With Dexamethasone for Extended Pain Relief in Adductor Canal/Popliteal Nerve Block During Achilles Tendon Repair

Hisham Kassem¹, Ivan Urits², Omar Viswanath³, Alan D. Kaye⁴, Jonathan P. Eskander⁵

Dexamethasone and dexmedetomidine as adjuvants to local anesthetic mixture in intercostal nerve block for thoracoscopic pneumonectomy: a prospective randomized study

Panpan Zhang,¹ Shijiang Liu,² Jingming Zhu,² Zhuqing Rao,² Cunming Liu²





KETAMIN

E

- Non-competitive NMDA receptor antagonist
- Effects:
 - Analgesic,
 - Anti-hyperalgesic,
 - Prevents central sensitization,
 - ↓ opioid tolerance
- Side effects: neuropsychiatric, psychomimetic (hallucinations, vivid dreams, diplopia, blurred vision, nystagmus, or dysphoria), nausea and/or vomiting, sedation





- Applied topically or peripherally inhibit the sensory nerves
- ↓ pro-inflammatory cytokine formation (TNF- α , IL-6)
- Inhibits Na⁺ channels (local anesthetic characteristics)
- Glutamate activates NMDA receptors in the spinal cord causing central sensitization

Potentiates LA effect by ↓ the start of sensory and motor block, and at the same time it ↓ the duration and extent of motor block

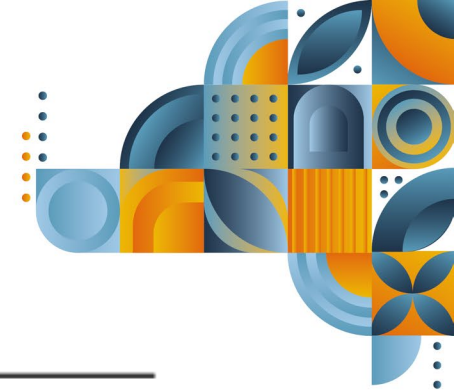


No enhancement of sensory and motor blockade by ketamine added to ropivacaine interscalene brachial plexus blockade

IL-OK LEE¹, WOO-KYUNG KIM², MYUNG-HOON KONG¹, MI-KYUNG LEE¹, NAN-SOOK KIM¹, YOUNG-SEOK CHOI¹ and SANG-HO LIM¹

30 mg of ketamine to 30 ml of 0.5% ropivacaine for an IBP block

- ✓ No improvement in the onset or duration of sensory block
- ✓ ↑ incidence of psychotomimetic adverse effects



Comparison of the Ketamine-Lidocaine and Fentanyl-Lidocaine in Postoperative Analgesia in Axillary Block in Upper Limb Fractures By Ultrasound Guidance

Reza Akhondzadeh¹, Mahboobe Rashidi^{1,*}, Mohammadreza Gousheh¹, Alireza Olapour¹ and Bahrammohamad Tasbihi¹

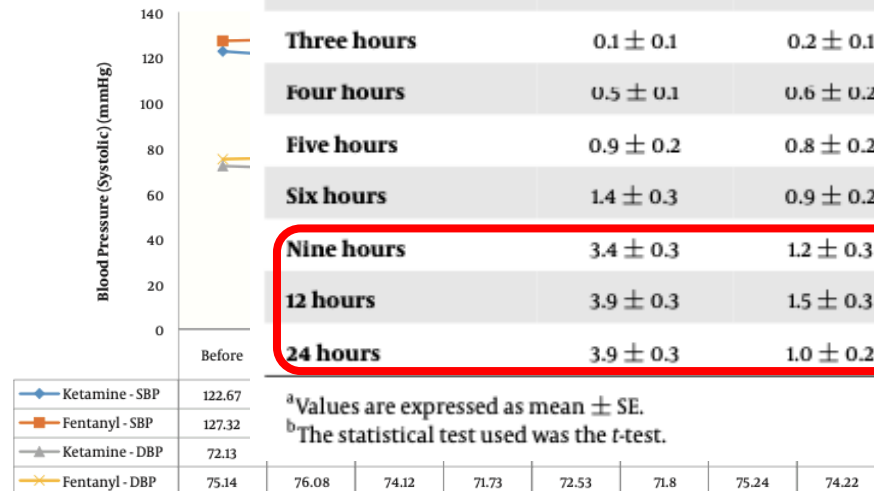
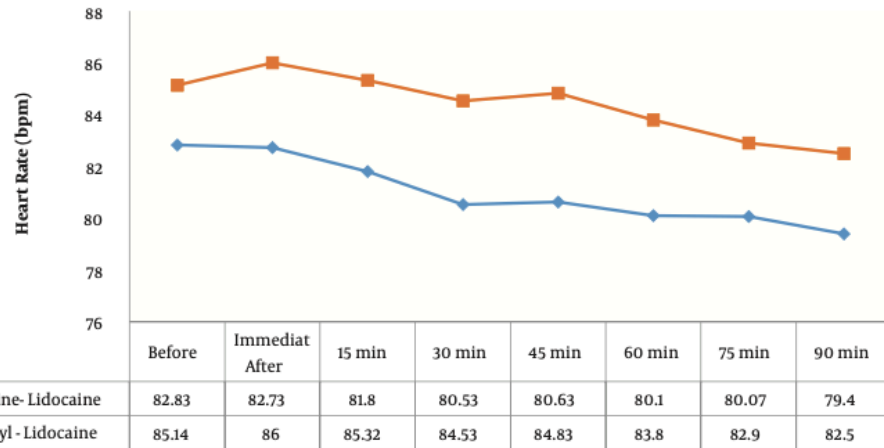


Table 2. Comparison of Postoperative Pain Intensity at Different Times in the Two Groups^a




Different Time Points After Surgery	Pain Scores (Measured by VAS)		P Value
	Ketamine	Fentanyl	
15 min	0.00 ± 00	0.00 ± 00	-
30 min	0.00 ± 00	0.00 ± 00	-
One hour	0.1 ± 0.0	0.1 ± 0.1	0.82
Two hours	0.1 ± 0.1	0.2 ± 0.1	0.302
Three hours	0.1 ± 0.1	0.2 ± 0.1	0.64
Four hours	0.5 ± 0.1	0.6 ± 0.2	0.668
Five hours	0.9 ± 0.2	0.8 ± 0.2	0.685
Six hours	1.4 ± 0.3	0.9 ± 0.2	0.154
Nine hours	3.4 ± 0.3	1.2 ± 0.3	< 0.0001^b
12 hours	3.9 ± 0.3	1.5 ± 0.3	< 0.0001^b
24 hours	3.9 ± 0.3	1.0 ± 0.2	< 0.0001^b

^aValues are expressed as mean ± SE.

^bThe statistical test used was the t-test.



Efficacy of Ketamine versus Magnesium Sulphate as Adjuvants to Levobupivacaine in Ultrasound Bilevel Erector Spinae Block in Breast Cancer Surgery (a Double-Blinded Randomized Controlled Study)

Fatma Adel El Sherif ¹, Hamdy Abbas Youssef², Khaled Mohamed Fares¹, Sahar Abdel-Baky Mohamed¹, Ali Rabiee Ali ¹, Ahmed M Thabet ²

The median VASR and VASM scores did not differ between group C and groups M and K at any time point except for **36 h post-surgery** ($p > 0.05$). Also, when comparing M to K group at any time point

We showed that groups K and M had **significantly longer mean times for the first request of analgesia** than group C. Moreover, **total morphine consumption was significantly lower** in the K and MgSO₄ groups than in the control group.

Magnesium sulphate and ketamine seem to be **both effective** adjuvants to levobupivacaine in ESP blocks for post-operative analgesia in patients undergoing MRM, with **slightly better analgesia provided by magnesium** Mag Anesth.

Effect of Ketamine Added to Ropivacaine in Nerve Block for Postoperative Pain Management in Patients Undergoing Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: a Randomized Trial

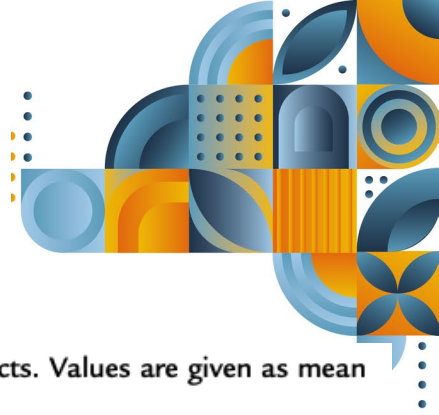


Table IV. Duration of blocks, postoperative analgesic consumption, and side effects. Values are given as mean (SD), median [interquartile ranges], or number of the patients.

Variable	Group R (n = 25)	Group RIK (n = 25)	Group RNK (n = 26)
Duration of motor block, min	357.6 (44.8)	368.4 (33.6)	367.7 (47.7)
Duration of sensory block, min	621.6 (56.3)	643.6 (62.2)	767.3 (69.4)*
Requiring rescue analgesic, no.	16	17	11*
Cumulative consumption of flurbiprofen axetil, mg	400 [300, 400]	400 [400, 500]	400 [300, 400]
Sleep disturbance at night 1, no.	6	14 [†]	5
Consumption of sufentanil in PCIA			
Sufentanil 0–8 h, ug	12.4 (1.8)	12.2 (1.8)	13.1 (2.3)
Sufentanil 8–24 h, ug	35.3 (3.4)	34.2 (3.8)	26.4 (2.0)*
Satisfactory score	7.20 (0.4)	6.72 (0.5) [‡]	8.35 (0.7)*
Side effect, no.			
Shivering	0	1	1
Hallucination	0	8 [‡]	1
Drowsiness	1	5	2
Pruritus	2	2	3
Postoperative nausea and vomiting	2	3	2
Fall	0	0	0

PCIA = patient controlled intravenous analgesia.

Group R received 40 mL of 0.375% ropivacaine; Group RNK received 40 mg of ketamine mixed with 0.375% ropivacaine in 40-mL volume; and Group RIK received 40-mL volume of 0.375% ropivacaine plus IV ketamine 40 mg.

* $P < 0.01$ indicates a significant difference, Group R compared with Group RIK.

[†] $P < 0.01$ indicates a significant difference, Group RNK compared with Group RIK.

[‡] $P < 0.05$ indicates a significant difference, compared with Group R.

