ICU Care of Patients with Status Epilepticus



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Status epilepticus is one of the major neurological emergencies and a frequent diagnosis in intensive care units. There are various potential etiologies of status epilepticus; hypoxic brain injury after cardiac arrest, hemorrhagic or ischemic stroke, brain tumor, CNS infection, traumatic brain injury, etc. Patients with these etiologies commonly have elevated intracranial pressure and hemodynamic instability. Inversely, status epilepticus lead to elevation of intracranial pressure and increased cerebral blood flow. In addition, hemodynamic instability can be caused by many antiepileptic drugs in the management of status epilepticus.

Current neurocritical care aims for early detection and minimization of secondary brain injury. Intracranial pressure and hemodynamic monitoring and proper management are the best ways to realize these aims. In this session, we will discuss proper treatment and monitoring of intracranial pressure and hemodynamic instability.

Key Words: Status epilepticus, Neurocritical care, Neuromonitoring, Hemodynamic instability

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