Lidocaine Versus Ketamine Pretreatment on Propofol Injection Pain

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Abstract
Propofol is commonly used intravenous anesthesia induction drug but it causes ache upon use, many method with different results, have been suggested to prevent this pain, the current research was concluded in order to investigate the impact of lidocaine, ketamine in reducing the ache on giving intravenous propofol. This study is randomized controlled clinical trial lasting from June 2015 to November 2015 during which 107 consenting (ASA1 and ASA2) patients were prepared for elective operation with general anesthesia. They randomly split to three subgroups, A cannula (size20) used in the dorsum hand veins, standard monitor was established patients received either 2mL (40 mg) of lidocaine or 2mL (20mg) of ketamine and 2 mL of saline 1 min before injection 2.5 milligram per kilogram propofol. ache severity observed by using four number pain scal, zero = none, one= mild pain, two = moderate pain, and three = intense pain. Atracurium used for indotracheal intubation, isoflurane and fentanyl for anesthesia maintenance. There were no variations between the study groups regarding ASA status, Sex, age. The incidence of ache when injecting propofol were observed in the normal saline group was 86.5% and it was more than ketamine group 6% and lidocaine group 20%
(p=0.0002). In the normal saline pretreatment group 8.1% of the patient experienced severe pain, compared with 0% in the lidocaine and ketamine. It can be concluded that intravenous ketamine and lidocaine were equally effective in preventing Ache during propofol injection.

Keywords: propofol, pain, lidocaine, Ketamine.

1. INTRODUCTION

Propofol is the most frequently used intravenous anesthetic agent for anesthesia induction and maintenance, providing a smoother induction and quicker recovery compared to all other drugs such as thiopental [1]. Propofol consist of a phenol ring substituted with two isopropyl. It is not soluble in water, groups, includes 1% propofol, 5% soybean oil, and 0.6% egg lecithin. Propofol is nearly isotonic, non-hyperosmolar and has a pH of 6 to 8.5. So, pain on propofol injection is due to contact of propofol to the endothelial wall of vein and may cause irritation of adventitia and mediators release such as kininogen from kinin cascade. Propofol induction of general anesthesia may involve facilitation of inhibitory neurotransmission mediated by gamma aminobutyric acid (GABA) receptor binding. This receptor is coupled to a chloride channel, and activation of the receptor lead to hyperpolarization of the nerve membrane [2].

Propofol on injection often causes mild to serious pain or discomfort [1], the occurrence of pain differs with regards to ages, which may be due to lower veins in children, more in children and teenagers. But in term of gender, the occurrence of propofol injection pain does not differ [3]. Propofol induce pain because contain phenol that can irritate the skin, mucous membrane. Another cause of pain due to, osmolality differences, and PH and the activation pain mediators [1]. Pain is believed to be caused by direct stimulation of venous nociceptive receptors after injection of propofol, the nerve impulse being transferred by myelinated A delta fibers [4]. The quality of pain has been defined as highly sharp, painful, or burning. Propofol injection pain after 10–20 s is immediately delayed. The instant pain is caused by irritation of the vein endothelium, while the delayed pain is caused by the release of mediators from the kinine cascade [1].

The propofol lipid solvent activates the kallikrein kinin plasma system that generates bradykinin that changes the local vein injected. This peripheral vein alteration can improve the contact between the aqueous phase propofol and the free nerve endings of the vessel, leading to propofol aggravation, caused pain [5].

There appear to be many variables affecting the incidence of pain on propofol injection. These include the site of injection, vein size, velocity of injection, aqueous propofol concentration and the buffering impact of blood and concomitant use drug such as local anesthetics [6].

Propofol pain can be decreased or avoided by injection into a big vein, changing the speed of injection, propofol solution mixed with 5% dextrose, normal saline injection before propofol or intravenous injection of lidocaine with or without tourniquet, ketamine, Pethidine, metoclopramide and dexamethasone [1, 5, 6].

Lidocaine is a short acting local anesthetic and antiarrhythmic agent widely used by injection and for surface application, the duration of action increase by adding vasoconstrictor [7]. For every form of local anesthetic operation, lidocaine has been used safely and efficiently, it has no uncommon function and is also a normal antiarrhythmic. Lidocaine used for percutaneous us infiltration in concentrations of 0.5–1.0 percent but for peripheral nerve blocks of 1.5 percent.

Lidocaine 5% was used for anesthesia with subarachnoids, although the degree of spread is unpredictable and has a brief length of action. With a concentration of 1-2%, lidocaine generates
short-term epidural anesthesia. Lidocaine is also accessible as a 4% -10% spray, 5% cream, 5% medicated plaster for topical use [8]. Intravenous Lidocaine pretreatment has been used to reduce propofol injection pain; lidocaine has analgesic impact due to a local anesthetic effect, and inhibits the enzyme cascade leading to kinin release. Lidocaine has relaxed the vascular smooth muscle [9]. Different concentrations of lidocaine were used as a pretreatment of 2 ml of 2% (40 mg), 4 ml of 1% (40 mg) or 1 ml of either 1% (10 mg) or 2% (20 mg) of lidocaine mixed with 19 ml of propofol. Ketamine is a phencyclidine derivative that results in analgesic modulation at the neuronal stage via NMDA and μ-opiate receptors [8]. Ketamine has powerful analgesic and anesthetic characteristics at the local level. The decrease in propofol injection pain seems likely to have been the consequence of a peripheral action that attenuated the afferent pathways of pain. These receptors may be activated by ketamine as an NMDA receptor antagonist either in the vascular endothelium or in the central nervous system [8]. Ketamine's most significant pharmacological characteristics are its non-competitive N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonist and its analgesic action at sub-anaesthetic dose is thought to be mainly due to antagonism in the brain and spinal cord with the NMDA receptor. [7]. Ketamine may be given by multiple routes of administration including intravenous, oral, subcutaneous, intranasal, transdermal [10].

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2. METHODS AND MATERIALS

This is a normal saline–controlled randomized study that conducted at the anesthesia department in Sulaimani Teaching Hospital on patients undergoing general anesthesia for elective general surgery, between May 2015 and November 2015 after gaining local ethical committee acceptance. 107 consented patients with age range from twenty to sixty years old and ASA classification 1 and 2, patients randomly divided into three groups:

- **N**: 37 patients took 2ml 0.9% sodium chloride
- **L**: 35 patients took 2ml (40mg) of Lidocaine
- **K**: 35 patients took 2ml (20mg) ketamine
Exclusion criteria were patient with severe respiratory, cardiovascular, cardiac conduction defect, neurological or renal disease (ASA III, IV), patient with difficulty in communication, hemodynamically unstable patient, mallampati class (III, IV), patient had allergy to the study medications, analgesic drug or any sedative consumption in the preoperative period and Patient with difficult cannulation.

All patients were managed with an intravenous cannula (size 20) inserted on the dorsum of the patient hand, standard monitoring like electrocardiogram, temperature, blood pressure (noninvasive), and pulse oximeter was established. Research drug was given 1 minute from giving propofol (2.5 mg/kilogram), the propofol injected over 15 seconds, the ache level was evaluated and recorded, using four number rate scale, a score zero to three represents None (0), mild pain (1), moderate pain (2) and sever pain (3). Patients were questioned about the pain presence on injecting propofol their answers, facial responses, tears, hand withdrawal and all that recorded.

- If it was negative answer to the questions equal to none.
- If patient answered yes to pain on question and there were no other signs (behavioral) this equal to mild.
- If patient report pain spontaneously without asking or had behavioral signs this equal to moderate.
- If patient had strong vocal answer or his answer associated with grimacing of the face, tears or arm withdrawing this equal to sever

Tracheal intubation was facilitated with injection of atracurium (non- depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agent); fentanyl and isoflurane were used for maintenance. Anesthesia was maintained as per surgical requirement. Statistical Package for the Social Sciences version 22.0 where used to analyze the Data, Also, Analysis of variance test, T students test was used on the demographic data. Statistical significance set at p <0.05.

### 3. RESULTS

107 patients involve in this research, in comparing patients age, sex and ASA physical status we found no significant differences between study groups (Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>variable</th>
<th>ketamine (N=35)</th>
<th>lidocaine (N=35)</th>
<th>Normal saline (N=37)</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age(year) Mean ±SD</td>
<td>35.46 ±11.92</td>
<td>40.03 ±10.84</td>
<td>39.97 ±9.66</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender (M:F)</td>
<td>4/31</td>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>7/30</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASA (I:II)</td>
<td>31/4</td>
<td>21/14</td>
<td>24/13</td>
<td>0.084</td>
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</table>
While comparing the lidocaine group to the normal saline group, we found that there was significant difference between the two groups and the overall patients number having pain (mild, moderate, sever) was significantly less in lidocaine group. (Table 2, Figure 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain Score</th>
<th>Lidocaine N (%)</th>
<th>Normal saline N (%)</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no pain</td>
<td>28 (80%)</td>
<td>5 (13.5%)</td>
<td>0.003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>6 (17.1%)</td>
<td>19 (51.4%)</td>
<td>0.013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1 (2.9%)</td>
<td>10 (27.0%)</td>
<td>0.009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sever</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>3(8.1%)</td>
<td>0.092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No pain: Pain</td>
<td>28/7</td>
<td>5 /32</td>
<td>0.0002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Comparison of pain score, regarding of lidocaine and normal saline

Figure 1: shows differences in pain score between study groups.

In comparing the ketamine group to the normal saline group, we found that there were differences between those groups and it was statically significant and the overall patients number having pain (mild, moderate, sever) was significantly less in ketamine group. (Table 3, Figure 1)
Table 3: Comparison of pain score, regarding of ketamine and normal saline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain Score</th>
<th>Ketamine N (%)</th>
<th>Normal saline N (%)</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no pain</td>
<td>35(100%)</td>
<td>5(13.5%)</td>
<td>0.009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mild</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>19 (51.4%)</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>10 (27.0%)</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sever</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>3(8.1%)</td>
<td>0.092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No pain: Pain</td>
<td>35/0</td>
<td>5/32</td>
<td>0.0002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When comparing the ketamine group to the lidocaine group, we found that there were differences between the groups and those differences were significant in mild ache but in overall number of patients having pain to no pain was significantly less in ketamine group. (Table 4, Figure 1)

Table 4: Comparison of pain score, regarding of ketamine and lidocaine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain Score</th>
<th>Ketamine N (%)</th>
<th>Lidocaine N (%)</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no pain</td>
<td>35(100%)</td>
<td>28 (80%)</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mild</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>6 (17.1%)</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>1 (2.9%)</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sever</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No pain: Pain</td>
<td>35/0</td>
<td>28/ 7</td>
<td>0.006</td>
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4. DISCUSSION

This use of propofol as intravenous anaesthetic due to the high quality of anesthesia and fast recovery agent has risen quickly [9]. The injection pain caused by Propofol is linked to the quantity of free propofol in the aqueous stage. The free propofol contact with free nerve ending
of vessels activates the plasma kinin-kallikrein system, which release pain mediators locally. Pain caused by propofol injection can be immediate or delayed; instant pain is probable due to direct irritant impact whereas delayed pain is probable due to indirect impact through the kinin cascade [11].

It is extremely desirable to avoid pain with propofol injection; many techniques have been used to decrease the incidence of pain with variable outcomes on propofol injection [1]. Our randomized, focused on showing the efficacy of different medicines. Lidocaine and ketamine pretreatments were contrasted with placebo organizations to reduce the incidence and severity of propofol pain. Propofol injection without any medicine (placebo group) suffered pain in most of patients, some of them complaining of strong pain. But the impact of pain via pretreatment with lidocaine and ketamine decreases and no patient is having severe pain with ketamine and lidocaine. Thus, both ketamine and lidocaine pretreatment decreased incidence of pain on propofol injection and this was statistically significant. But Incidence of pain significantly less in ketamine group. This agree with the following studies 

Saadawi Ertok et al, after they conducted a study on 125 patients for evaluation of efficacy ketamine, lidocaine, meperidine, thiopental compared to placebo to minimize propofol injection pain. They reported that the incidence of pain in all treatment groups was considerably smaller than in placebo. However, pretreatment with ketamine was found to be the most efficient in attenuating propofol-related pain [12].

This agrees with Zahedi H et al, studied 500 patients compared ketamine, lidocaine to placebo groups in the Preventing propofol pain injection they recorded considerably reduced pain incidence and intensity in all study groups than the treatment group. And ketamine 100 microgram/kg group had the incidence of pain is considerably smaller relative to lidocaine group injection pain [10].

Seung –Woo Koo, sun jun cho et al, studied 240 patients and compared lidocaine, ketamine 3 different dose to placebo group, the results showed that a dose of ketamine 100mcg/kg the incidence of propofol induced pain relative to lidocaine and placebo can be reduced [13].

Bano F, Zafar S et al, studied 100 patients. They received 0.5mg/kg ketamine in volume 2ml and 2ml of lidocaine, the incidence of propofol pain in the ketamine group was smaller but remained statistically small and this differs from our study because they injected 25% of the calculated propofol dose with in 15 second and performed measurement while we injected the whole dose then performed measurement [14].

While Polat R, Aktay M, et al, studied 250 patients receiving remifentanil, lidocaine, ketamine, metoclopramide compared to placebo lidocaine or metoclopramide pretreatment decreased the incidence and severity of propofol caused pain fairly and substantially compared to pretreatment with ketamine and remifentanil. Although they agree with our study that lidocaine significantly reduces pain compared to placebo but disagree with our study in that ketamine is better than lidocaine probably because we used a higher dose of ketamine than this study [11].

Vida Ayatollahin et al, studied 140 patients receiving ephedrine, ketamine, lidocaine compared to placebo, they found that ketamine has the best results between the drugs but it was not statistically significant this because they used a lower dose than the dose we used [15].

Leena Jalota, Vicki Kalira, et al analyzed from 177 randomized controlled trials totaling 25260 adults. The general risk of propofol injection pain alone was approximately 60%. Statistically, they calculated that the two most effective procedures to decrease pain in the injection of propofol were the use of the antecubital vein or pretreatment with lidocaine in combination with venous occlusion when the hand vein was selected on the premise of autonomous efficacy [16].

In our study dose of lidocaine was (40mg) and most of the Patients had no propofol injection pain that was statistically important in comparison with placebo organizations. Because lidocaine has a local anesthetic impact or an inhibitory impact on the enzyme cascade that result in kinin release [4]. The result of the following studies supported the findings of our study.
Shreysai Ray et al, studied 63 patients, compared efficacies of lidocaine 40 mg with fentanyl pretreatment to reduce propofol injection pain, the result shown that lidocaine and fentanyl effectively reduce propofol injection pain compared to ordinary placebo saline [5].

Nathanson, Michael H et al, compared alfentanil 1mg, lidocaine 40mg to placebo group to reduce pain during propofol injection; the result showed that both lidocaine and alfentanil the incidence of pain was considerably smaller than the placebo group [17].

Pang WW, wang PY et al, researched 105 patients randomly assigned to receive tramadol, lidocaine 60 mg or normal saline as a pretreatment for pain reduction with propofol injection. The results showed that both tramadol and lidocaine considerably decreased the incidence and intensity of propofol injection pain relative to normal saline [18]. Although this study results agree with our study but still they used a much higher dose of lidocaine than our dose.

King Sharon Y et al, they studied 368 females, were allocated to one of four groups to received propofol mixed with different dose of lidocaine (5mg,10 mg ,20mg) compared to placebo, the result was shown that lidocaine 20 mg Reduces the incidence and severity of pain in propofol injection considerably. They got significant decrease in pain with 20mg lidocaine on propofol injection is much less than the lidocaine dose that we used, and this discrepancy may be because they mixed propofol with lidocaine and their research done only on female gender [19].

Ali pour M et al, studied 336 patients compared many drugs and lidocaine to placebo on reducing the pain of propofol injection, the result showed that lidocaine is more significantly reduces pain on propofol injection than the other groups [20]. MGupto, S Mishro et al, studied a 100 female patients for evaluation lidocaine, pethidine, dexamethasone compared to placebo group results to decrease the incidence of propofol pain showed that all pretreatment groups the incidence of propofol injection pain reduces considerably more than placebo [9]. Although this study result agrees with our study but still it was used a much lower dose of lidocaine than our dose, this difference may be related to gender (only female) and the patient received diazepam 5mg on night before surgery.

Similarly, ketamine (20 mg) pretreatment decreased the incidence of propofol injection pain and no anyone of patient felt pain, the distinction between ketamine and placebo group was statistically important. Ketamine acts on a variety of receptors in the central nervous system and vascular endothelium, it is a non-competitive N-methyl-D aspartic acid receptor antagonist and opioid i receptor agonist [11]. The following studies supports our results such as N kad, P Malik et al, studied 100 patients compared ketamine to placebo group reducing the incidence of pain in propofol injection with intravenous ketamine is an easy and secure way to decrease the incidence of pain in propofol injection [21]. Suzuki S et al, studied 43 patients, compared ketamine to placebo group for Prevention of pain injection with propofol. Ketamine pretreatment the incidence and severity of pain associated with propofol injection decreased considerably before propofol administration [22].

C.H. Tan, M. K. onsiong et al, studied 100 female patients and compared intravenous Ketamine (10 mg) 1 ml to normal saline 1ml pretreatment for propofol injection pain showed that 84% of the saline control patient had mild or severe discomfort compared to 26% of those who had pretreatment with ketamine. This difference from our study may be due to the higher dose of ketamine we used so that 0% had pain on propofol injection [23]. Hong SW, et al, studied on 225 patients, the patient received 2ml of normal saline, 2ml of ketamine 20 mg, 2ml of remifentanil at different dose the results showed that groups of ketamine experienced Much less frequent and intense pain than normal saline groups [24].

4. CONCLUSION

Pretreatment with either ketamine or lidocaine is an effective method for propofol pain prevention and Ketamine is superior on lidocaine. Further study on other drugs that may prevent pain during propofol injection.
REFERENCE