15th International Conference on

Pediatrics and Pediatric Cardiology

February 19-20, 2018 | Paris, France

Implementation of a new protocol for patent ductus arteriosus medical closure in premature infants less than 28 weeks and 1000 grams: Practice in a French level-III hospital

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Pulmonary hemorrhage is frequently associated with hemodynamically-significant Patent Ductus Arteriosus (hsPDA) especially in premature infants, and considered a major risk for mortality and morbidities in this population. We have studied pulmonary hemorrhage incidence in extreme premature infants after the implementation of a new protocol of early ultrasonographic diagnosis followed by ibuprofen-based treatment. In 2016, a new protocol was introduced for early diagnosis and treatment within the first 24 hours of life of premature infants born less than 26 weeks of gestation and/or less than 1000 grams. Three of the 4 criteria present on cardiac ultrasound (12 to 24 hours of life) were needed to confirm hsPDA: Left atrium/Aorta ratio >1.5 mm, Ductus arteriosus diameter >1.5 mm, Transductal flow velocity <2 m/sec and mean left pulmonary artery velocity >0.2 m/sec. We realized a study divided into 2 parts. The first one was retrospective of children born from September 2015 to August 2016 (PDA-1) and the second prospective of children born from September 2016 to May 2017 (PDA-2). 55 premature infants were illegible for the study: 31 in PDA-1 cohort and 24 in PDA-2 group. We noticed a tendency to a reduction in the incidence of pulmonary hemorrhage in PDA-2 compared to PDA-1 cohort (4.3% vs. 29.1% respectively; p=0.055) but not statistically significant. The survival rate was increased by third in PDA-2 group (91.5% vs. 67.7%; p=0.033). Screening and early-treatment of hsPDA did not show a significant reduction of pulmonary hemorrhage incidence, but increased the survival rate of infants born less than 26 weeks of gestation and/or less than 1000 grams by third.

Biography

Elie Ghoussoub is a Lebanese Medical Doctor practicing Neonatology. He currently serves as a Neonatal Fellow at CHI-André Grégoire, Montreuil-France where he has worked since June 2017. He has completed his Residency in Pediatrics at CHU-NDS, Jbeil-Lebanon and Rafic Hariri University Hospital, Beirut, Lebanon. He has special interest in neonatal cardiology. His practice focuses on extreme prematurity and patent ductus arteriosus.

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