preventing to lie down for many hours were excluded. In the operating, the patients received a bolus dose of dexmedetomidine 1 µg/kg over 10 minutes followed by an infusion of 0.2- 0.7 µg/kg/hr (BIS target 60-80). Once the patients were sedated, scalp block was given with bupivacaine 0.25%. The data on hemodynamics at various painful stages of the procedure, intraoperative complications, nausea/vomiting, brain bulge, seizures etc., were collected. Total amount of fentanyl used, intravenous (IV) fluids required, blood loss and transfusion, duration of surgery, ICU and hospital stay were also recorded. Postoperatively, the patient's satisfaction was assessed using numerical rating scale. **Results:** A total of 13 patients underwent awake craniotomy during a period of one year. The mean age and weight was 38.7 years and 66.1kg, respectively. The intraoperative vitals remained stable in all patients. None of the patients experienced any episode of desaturation. One patient developed brain bulge and was managed with propofol. The average fentanyl consumption was 200 µg. The duration of surgery, ICU and hospital stays were 6 hours, 1 and 5 days, respectively. The overall patient satisfaction score was 8. **Conclusion:** The use of dexmedetomidine infusion with scalp block for awake craniotomies is a safe and efficacious. Absence of complications and high patient satisfaction score makes it close to an ideal agent for awake craniotomy.

5. Randomized controlled single blinded prospective study to evaluate the effect of bispectral index (BIS) guided sevoflurane on emergence in neurosurgical patients undergoing craniotomy over the conventional method

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Background: Smooth extubation, haemodynamic stability, rapid emergence from anaesthesia allow immediate neurological evaluation. We evaluated the efficacy of BIS guided use of sevoflurane till the head dressing on emergence in neurosurgical patients undergoing craniotomy over the conventional method. **Materials and Methods:** Sixty ASA I and II patients, aged 18-65 yrs, undergoing craniotomy under anaesthesia were randomly divided into two groups using computer generated table. The standard neuroanesthesia protocols and drugs were used for monitoring, induction and maintenance of anesthesia. Group C-patients given sevoflurane till the end of last

skin suture. Group S-patients given sevoflurane till the end of head dressing keeping BIS between 40-60. After surgery extubation was done with reversal of neuromuscular blockade. In both groups heart rate, mean arterial pressure were recorded until the extubation and 10 minutes post extubation. Patients' response to awakening time and response to verbal commands and aldrette score were also noted. **Results:** All data measured and analyzed using standard statistical tests (student's *t*-test, Chi-square, Fisher's Exact Probability tests, Man-Whitney, Wilcoxon rank test). A 'P' value of ≤ 0.05 was taken as significant. The mean arterial-pressure and heart rate were comparable in both groups. The need for rescue medications (nitroglycerine for hypertension, esmolol for tachycardia) was higher in C group. Extubation time and emergence time were comparable in both groups. **Conclusion:** There is no significant difference in hemodynamic response and emergence time in the BIS guided sevoflurane use till the head dressing over the conventional method.

6. Single low dose dexmedetomidine for attenuation of hemodynamic responses and airway reflexes during extubation following spine surgery - A randomized controlled prospective study

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Background: Smooth extubation, haemodynamic stability, rapid emergence from anaesthesia allow immediate neurological evaluation. We evaluated the efficacy of single low dose dexmedetomidine (0.25 mcg/kg) vs. normal saline for attenuation of hemodynamic responses and airway reflexes during extubation following spine surgery. **Materials and Methods:** Eighty ASA I and II patients, aged 18-65 years, undergoing spine surgery under anesthesia were randomly divided into two groups using computer generated table. The standard neuroanesthesia protocols and drugs were used for monitoring, induction and maintenance of anesthesia. After discontinuing sevoflurane, 5 minutes before end of surgery, patients in Group D received dexmedetomidine 0.25 mcg/kg and Group C received 20 ml normal saline intravenously over 5 minutes. With patient supine, extubation was done after reversal of neuromuscular blockade. Heart rate, oxygen saturation, Systolic and Diastolic Blood Pressure were recorded before administration of the drug and at 1, 3 and 5 minutes during drug administration, at completion of dressing, at the time of extubation, and at 1, 3, 5, 7 and

10 minutes after extubation. Attenuation of airway response and Extubation quality was rated using extubation quality scale. Adverse effects, Extubation and Emergence time were recorded. **Results:** All data measured and analyzed using standard statistical tests (student's *t*-test, Chi-square, Fisher's Exact Probability tests, Man-Whitney, Wilcoxon rank test). A '*P*' value of ≤ 0.05 was taken as significant. The systolic, diastolic blood pressure and heart rate were higher in group C than in group D. The need for rescue medications (nitroglycerine for hypertension, esmolol for tachycardia) was higher in group C. Extubation quality scores were superior in group D than group C. Extubation time and Emergence time were comparable in both the groups. **Conclusion:** Dexmedetomidine in a single dose of 0.25 mcg/kg is safe and efficacious in attenuation of hemodynamic responses and airway reflexes during extubation following spine surgery without prolonging emergence and extubation times.

7. Effect of tranexamic acid on blood loss and quality of surgical field in trans-sphenoidal surgery

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Background: The aim of this study is to assess the effect of preoperative bolus followed by intraoperative infusion of tranexamic acid on intraoperative blood loss and the quality of surgical field in trans-sphenoidal surgery. **Materials and Methods:** A prospective randomized double blind study was carried out in 50 ASA grade I-II patients presenting for elective trans-sphenoidal pituitary surgery for pituitary tumors. One group received bolus intravenous dose of tranexamic acid (25 mg/kg) followed by infusion (1/mg/kg/hr) of the same till the end of surgery while the placebo group received normal saline in the same amount. All patients were analyzed for preoperative color perception, intraoperative hemodynamic monitoring, hematocrit, arterial blood gas values, quality of surgical field (Boezaart scale), amount of blood loss and anaesthetic requirements. **Results:** The demographic, hemodynamic and anesthetic parameters, duration of surgery, amount of intraoperative fluid and urine output were comparable in both the groups. The tranexamic group had significantly better quality of surgical field (Boezaart score 2.64 ± 0.638 vs. 3.08 ± 0.759 , $P = 0.031$) and lesser blood loss (334 ± 101 vs. 495 ± 226 ml, $P = 0.02$) than the placebo group. **Conclusions:** Despite widespread use in other surgical specialities, tranexamic acid is rarely used in neurosurgical operations. In standard doses, it is found to be effective in traumatic brain injury and spinal surgery. Therefore, unless

contraindications exist, tranexamic acid can be tried in neurosurgery. **Conclusion:** Intraoperative use of tranexamic acid improves the quality of surgical field as well as reduces bleeding in patients undergoing trans-sphenoidal resection of pituitary tumors.

8. Effect of dexmedetomidine as anaesthetic adjuvant in patients undergoing trans-sphenoidal pituitary surgery

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Background: We conducted a prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo-control study to evaluate use of dexmedetomidine as anaesthetic adjuvant in patients undergoing trans-sphenoidal pituitary surgery. We tried to find its effect in attenuating hemodynamic response to nasal speculum insertion and on early postoperative recovery profile and intra operative consumption of anaesthetic agents. **Materials and Methods:** After obtaining approval from ethics committee, we enrolled 60 adult patients of either sex belonging to ASA-status I and II planned to undergo elective trans-sphenoidal pituitary surgery. Routine investigations and preoperative assessment was done as a standard protocol and injection glycopyrrolate 0.2 mg intramuscularly was administered 30 min prior to surgery. In group D ($n = 30$) dexmedetomidine 1 mcg/kg over 10 minutes followed by 0.5 mcg/kg/hr was given in infusion while in group C ($n = 30$) normal saline ran in the same rate. Induction of anesthesia was achieved with sleep dose of propofol, fentanyl 2 mcg/kg and rocuronium 1mg/kg. Monitoring for heart rate, ECG, non-invasive and invasive blood pressure, oxygen saturation, end-tidal carbon di-oxide, BIS, along with neuromuscular monitoring was carried out. Peri-operative hemodynamic parameters were recorded and any fluctuation (increase or decrease) were treated as per protocol. The total dose of anesthetics, analgesics, muscle relaxant, and other drugs (anti-hypertensive's) used were noted. The duration of anesthesia, surgery, nasal speculum duration and intraoperative fluids, blood loss and urine output were also recorded. Any adverse event or complication if occurred was noted. After conclusion of surgery, neuromuscular blockade was reversed and recovery profile (emergence time, extubation, time for visual examination, time for first analgesic, modified aldrete score, VAS score, Ramsay sedation score, postoperative nausea and vomiting and shivering) were recorded. The data was compiled and analyzed using SPSS for Windows version 20. **Results:** Our study demonstrated that patient in dexmedetomidine group had significant reduction in hemodynamic response to nasal