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Post operative analgesia for cardiac surgery

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Cardiac surgery is done through sternotomy or thoracotomy which both of them is painful procedures. Postoperative pain can make disability and distress for patients. It is necessary to have intra and post-operative pain management plan. In other hand, pain control may result better pulmonary function. Some considerations are important for this manner. One of the important aspects of postoperative pain control is the explanation of procedure for patients before surgery. Effective communication between patient and medical service may reduce anxiety and pain. Sternotomy and sterna retraction would strength, nerve endings and damage them and this would be reason of pain after sternotomy or thoracotomy. Drains insertion, saphenous vein harvesting site and multi needling sits like central venous catheterization are other reason for pain sensation. There are a wide variety of strategies for pain control including opioids and non-opiate drugs like ketorolac or non-steroids (diclofenac, naproxen and ibuprofen) and some procedures such as using of PCA or PCAI pumps. One of the techniques that we are using for postoperative pain control for patients who had thoracotomy is thoracic epidural catheter insertion. We use morphine, fentanyl or sufentanil through epidural catheter and it helps the patient to be calm and pain less and facilitates early ambulation.

Biography

Mehdi Fathi is a fellowship of cardiac anesthesia. He is Associated Professor in Imam-Reza hospital, which is a central hospital of Mashhad University, Mashhad, Iran. He was trained short course of regional blocks. He is also an international Lecturer in the hypnosis field and he is Secretary of Iranian scientific society of clinical hypnosis.