Wide awake hand surgery - a real revolution. It is possible to reduce the anesthetic doses?

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INTRODUCTION

Prof. Lalonde revolutionizes hand surgery by introducing local anesthesia without sedation and without tourniquet. (WALANT technique)

Good results, safety technique and patient’s full satisfaction made us ask ourselves “what are the limits of this technique?” and try to reduce the amount of anesthetic recommended by the author on a number of hand surgical interventions.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Our study used volumes of anesthetic solution:
- 8 mL to 20 mL for CTS
- 3 mL to 6 mL for trigger finger
- 8.5 to 15 mL per digital ray affected by DD

INTRAOPERATIVE bleeding
- yes 9
  - no 65
Surgeon comfort
- ++ 63
  - + 12
  - ± 1
Length of hospital stay (hours)
- 6 - 10 8
  - 11 - 15 8
  - >15 11

STATISTICS

Applying regression in analysis of variance(ANOVA), correlating the amount of anesthetic used in the whole study group with the onset of anesthesia resulted in a correlation coefficient value of 0.43, indicating a moderate but highly statistically significant correlation for p <=0.00001.

RESULTS

NO tourniquet, operatively incidents or accidents skin necrosis, complications to adrenaline solution, no sedatives

CONCLUSIONS

Walant technique is safe, easy, less expensive, assuring the necessary comfort for both the patient, as for the surgeon allowing a discretion in similar conditions of visibility as an exanguinated surgical field obtained using a tourniquet.

References:


