

Preoperative Anesthesia Considerations for HOCM: A Case on Laparoscopic Ivor Lewis Esophagectomy

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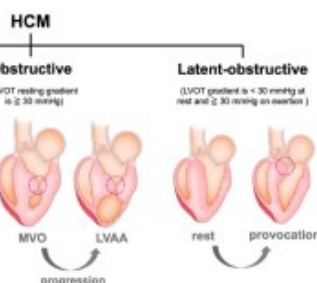
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INTRODUCTION

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is an autosomal dominant disease of myocardial disarray with varying degrees of obstruction, and at times, lethal arrhythmias have been demonstrated in Figure 1.

In obstructive HCM, patients have a narrow left ventricular outflow tract (LVOT), patients may have a murmur or have mild symptoms. In latent-obstructive HCM, symptoms include dyspnea, angina, and

an early diastolic murmur at the left sternal border or a mitral regurgitation of >15 mm, but definitive diagnosis is



of the left ventricular outflow tract. LVOTO = left ventricular outflow tract obstruction. LVAA = left ventricular apical aneurysm.

KEY CHALLENGES

The patient presented for esophagectomy and gastrostomy tube takedown (>30°) reverse Trendelenburg positioning, epidural placement, and treatment with Mavacamten for 2 months.

TREATMENT PLAN

Preoperative Management
 • Preinduction arterial line placement
 • Norepinephrine infusion at 0.02 mcg/kg/min started at induction
 • 9Fr 2-Lumen MAC introducer with Swan-Ganz catheter in R internal jugular vein to monitor heart function intraoperatively
 • Metoprolol 2 mg IV for heart rate control
 • Maintenance anesthesia with sevoflurane, fentanyl, and rocuronium
 • During reverse Trendelenburg, norepinephrine increased to 0.1 mcg/kg/min
 • After patient was leveled, norepinephrine weaned
 • Intraoperative epidural test dose neg; bupivacaine 0.125% started at 6 mL/hr
 • One-lung ventilation uneventful
 • At case end, hydromorphone 1 mg titrated to RR; emergence uneventful

TREATMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

Induction and Intraoperative Management

- Preinduction arterial line placement; induction with fentanyl and etomidate
- Norepinephrine infusion at 0.02 mcg/kg/min started at induction
- 9Fr 2-Lumen MAC introducer with Swan-Ganz catheter in R internal jugular vein to monitor heart function intraoperatively
- Metoprolol 2 mg IV for heart rate control
- Maintenance anesthesia with sevoflurane, fentanyl, and rocuronium
- During reverse Trendelenburg, norepinephrine increased to 0.1 mcg/kg/min
- After patient was leveled, norepinephrine weaned
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DISCUSSION

The goals for perioperative management of HOCM are to maintain normovolemia, normal sinus rhythm, normocardia, low inotropy, and high preload and afterload. Preoperatively, it is important to ensure the patient has taken a β -blocker, treat anxiety conservatively, and administer a fluid bolus. Surgical positioning is another important consideration that the anesthesiologist must plan for because certain positions like reverse Trendelenburg can cause decreased venous return and preload, which exacerbate HCM. For similar reasons, assessing and managing fluid status preoperatively is essential for optimal patient care in the operating room.

Induction is a critical time for these patients. It is recommended that a pre-induction arterial line is placed as well as a β -blocker like esmolol or metoprolol is given for rate control during intubation. In terms of maintenance, volatile anesthetic gases work well since they are myocardial depressants. Sevoflurane may be the best option because it has little to no effect on heart rate, though isoflurane may also be considered because it better preserves cardiac output—at the cost of increasing heart rate. There is some controversial evidence that suggests nitrous oxide may increase pulmonary arterial pressure, so it may be best to avoid using it for maintenance. One should also take extreme caution to monitor fluid status and surgical progress throughout the operation. It is also recommended to give the epidural test dose in the operating room, where there is an arterial line in place and pressors ready.

DISCUSSION (C)

Other intraoperative events that may occur include bradycardia and hypotension. For acute a-fib, cardioversion and beta-blockers are effective interventions. For hypotension, effective interventions include increasing preload and treatment with vasopressors. Two effective treatments for these scenarios are phenylephrine (α -1 agonist) and β -1 agonist. As the goals of intraoperative management are normovolemia, normocardia, low inotropy, and high preload, tachycardia, hypotension, low systemic vascular resistance, and excessive inotropy, there are tradeoffs to using these agents. Both are effective options.

In addition to the standard ASA monitoring, esophageal Doppler (TEE) when available is a critical advancement. It can assess intravascular status, evaluate the degree of obstruction, analyze myocardial function, and detect arrhythmias. TEE uses to consider are measurement of LVOT gradient in extreme

HOCM Periop Goals	
Normovolemia	
Normocardia	β -blockers
Low inotropy	Volatile anesthetics
High preload	
High afterload	Vasopressors
Anxiolysis	

Table 1. HOCM Perioperative Goals and Management

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