What Physiological Parameters we need to observe during Head Up Tilt Table test?

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Introduction

- Vital organs' functions are related to adequate perfusion of oxygen and nutrients
- Maintenance of the blood supply to vital organs during postural change is complex and involve several systems (Neuro, Cardiac, Endocrine, Renal and vascular)
- Upright posture represents a challenge to human vascular system
- Cardiac blood output needs a balanced pre load, myocardial muscle contractility and arterial after load

Physiology of Upright Posture

Circulation



Cerebral flow in relation to Systolic Blood Pressure



Gravity effect on Intravascular Plasma distribution



Mechanical and Baroreptors



Renin- Angiotensin- Aldosterone System (RAAS)





Muscular-Venous pumps





Negative Intra thoracic pressure with Inspiration



Neurocardiogenic Syncope Precipitating Events Standing Stationary Dehydration Hot Room Viral Illness Urination Sight of Blood Pain Emotional Stress

Types of syncope

- reflex (neurally-mediated) syncope
- vasovagal
- carotid sinus syndrome
- orthostatic hypotension
- Partial seizures
- Psychiatric

Increased Venous Return to the Heart leads to improve Cardiac Output and Blood Pressure



The physiological Hemodynamic Head up Tilt Table Test (HUTT)



Conventional tilt table test started in mid 1980's



Continuous BP monitor



More physiologic parameters HUTT



Trans- thoracic impedance to measure Stroke volume(SV)



CNsystem Task Force monitor



HUTT in our center



Typical screen display during monitoring



Neurally Mediated Syncope Tilt Test Responses



Vasodepressor response



Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS)



Mixed POTS and Vasodepressor



Sutton and Bloomfield Am J Cardiol 84, 1999

Cardio-inhibitory Response



POTS with decreased Stroke Volume



Cardiac asystole during HUTT



Near Infra Red Regional Saturation (NIRS)





Optical array eliminates effect of shallow blood & surface variations and isolate measurement of cerebral cortex





NIRS of the Bilateral Head, upper muscles (Deltoid) and lower muscles (Calf)



Cerebral Perfusion in Normal subject depicted by NIRS



Cerebral Perfusion in "Syncope" subject depicted by NIRS



Brain NIRS in two different patients with more severe symptoms during HUTT



Heart rate variability during HUTT



Sympathetic and parasympathetic tones during different stages of HUTT



EEG Recording in Neurocardiogenic Syncope

E. Vicenzini a S. Pro a S. Strano b P. Pulitano a M. Altieri a V. Di Piero a G.L. Lenzi a N. Accornero a O. Mecarelli

More abundant and pronounced delta-theta activities and alpha slowing were found in patients than in control subjects

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Summary

- Adequate blood perfusion of vital organs is necessary to maintain their functions
- Blood/Plasma volume significantly affected by gravitational forces
- Circulation and perfusion is tightly controlled by neuro-hormonal mechanisms involved sympathetic/parasympathetic tone, Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone system, Baro and mechanical receptors, negative chest pressure and musculoskeletal pumps.
- Derangement of this tight control can involve one system or multiple systems.
- In evaluating these derangements, it is important to study the hemodynamic and autonomic nervous system.
- Treatment of these derangements should be directed towards the defected physiology

