

Neonatal Nursing Congress 2018: Complications of long-term Prostaglandin E1 use in newborns with Ductal-Dependent critical congenital heart disease- M Terese Verklan- University of Texas Medical Branch, USA

M Terese Verklan

University of Texas Medical Branch, USA, E-mail: mtverkla@UTMB.EDU

Abstract

Prostaglandin E1 (PGE1) has been used for decades in the medical treatment of ductal dependent critical congenital heart disease in neonates. We report a retrospective evaluation of the long-term effects of PGE1 in a neonatal intensive care unit in Saudi Arabia. There were 22 subjects with a wide spectrum of cardiac defects maintained on PGE1 for a mean of 38 days (range: 6-200 days). The majority of complications included hypokalemia, hypotension and apnea/bradycardia.

Pseudo-Barrett syndrome and gastric outlet obstruction were also found. While long-term administration of PGE1 in North America is rare, it is important to be aware of possible adverse effects of fluid and electrolyte imbalance, gastric outlet obstruction and feeding difficulties.

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