

Therapeutic plasma exchange in neuromuscular disorders

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Therapeutic plasma exchange (TPE) is frequently used in the treatment of neuromuscular disorders. This talk considers all the neuromuscular indications with variable degree of evidence for TPE. The neuromuscular disorders with the best data on efficacy of TPE include Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP), myasthenia gravis (MG), paraproteinemic polyneuropathies (IgG/IgA) and Lambert-Eat myasthenic syndrome (LEMS). TPE is rarely indicated for multifocal motor neuropathy (MMN) and anti-MAG neuropathy. With current evidence, TPE is not indicated for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), POEMS, inclusion body myositis (IBM), polymyositis (PM) and dermatomyositis (DM). GBS/MG is the most common neurological indications for TPE. As with any treatment, the availability, potential risk, benefits and cost must be weighed out among the prospective therapies.

Speaker Biography

Fatimah Alqarni has completed her Clinical fellowship in Neuromuscular Disorders and Electro Diagnostic Medicine from McMaster University, Canada (2008-2010). She has completed Mitochondrial Diseases Clinical Fellowship at McMaster University, Canada (2010–2011). She has completed her American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine (ABEM) in April 30th, and in 2011, Master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology from University of Newcastle, Australia, graduated in 2015. She has worked as Program Director of Comprehensive Neuromuscular Disorders Program at National Neuroscience Institute in King Fahad Medical City (KFMC) from October 1st, 2011 till January 27th, 2016. She's taken the lead in Commissioning Neuromuscular Program established in-patient and out-patient neuromuscular service at KFMC. In April 2016, she has joined in King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz University Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as Neurology Consultant. Currently, she is the Director of Medical Operations at King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz University Hospital in Riyadh, governmental organization.

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