

The timing and dose of dexmedetomidine on postoperative delirium

Submission date 02/02/2018	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 06/02/2018	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 05/02/2018	Condition category Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Delirium is a state of mental confusion that can occur after surgery. This is very common in elderly patients undergoing major surgery including cardiac surgery, and is a relatively frequent and serious complication. Previous studies have reported that sedation with the medication called dexmedetomidine (a medication that can reduce anxiety or used as a sedative) can be associated with a lower incidence, duration, and severity of postoperative delirium. The aim of this study is to examine three different types and timing of dexmedetomidine dosages on stress in older patients who are undergoing surgery.

Who can participate?

Adults aged 65 and older who are scheduled for a major non-cardiac surgery and will be undergoing general anaesthesia.

What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to one of three groups. Those in the first group receive dexmedetomidine from the start of anaesthesia to the end of the surgery. Those in the second group receive dexmedetomidine 15 minutes before the end of surgery. Those in the last group receive saline for 15 minutes before the end of surgery. Participants are assessed for their delirium for five days after surgery.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants may benefit from improvements in their symptoms. There are small risks of discomfort and bleeding when providing blood samples.

Where is the study run from?

Wonkwang University Hospital (South Korea)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

February 2016 to June 2017

Who is funding the study?

Wonkwang University (South Korea)

Who is the main contact?
Professor Cheol Lee (Scientific)
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number
N/A

Study information

Scientific Title
The effect of the timing and dose of dexmedetomidine on postoperative delirium in elderly patients after laparoscopic major non-cardiac surgery

Study objectives
Various dexmedetomidine dosage and timing regimens would vary the concentration of stress hormones and systemic inflammatory response to surgery. The changes in the concentrations of stress hormones and inflammatory mediators released in response to surgery would be affected the incidence and duration of postoperative delirium.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Institutional review board of Wonkwang University Hospital, 05/04/2016, ref: Registration No. 3001

Study design
Randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Patients >65 years of age undergoing laparoscopic major non-cardiac surgery under general anesthesia

Interventions

Participants are randomly assigned following simple randomization procedures (computerized random numbers) to 1 of 3 treatment groups:

1. Group D1 receive dexmedetomidin in a 1 µg/kg bolus followed by 0.2 to 0.7 µg/kg/ h infusion from induction of anesthesia to the end of surgery
2. Group D2 receive dexmedetomidine in a 1 µg/kg diluted to a total volume of 10 mL in saline [0.9%] over a 10 min period) at 15 min before the end of surgery
3. Group S receive an equivalent volume of saline 15 minutes before the end of surgery.

Participants are blinded to the anesthetic agent; however, anesthesiologists and nurses are not because they needed to adjust the timing and dose of dexmedetomidine. The researchers who assess the outcomes are, however, blinded.

Participants are assessed for delirium for 5 days after surgery.

Intervention Type

Drug

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

Dexmedetomidine

Primary outcome(s)

The incidence of delirium is measured using the confusion assessment method (CAM) for 5 days after surgery.

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Duration of delirium is measured using the confusion assessment method (CAM) up to five days after surgery
2. Cortisol levels are measured using saliva samples at one and 24 hours after surgery
3. C-reactive protein (CRP), and cytokine (tumor necrosis factor [TNF]-alpha, interleukin [IL]-1β, IL-2, IL-6, IL-8, and IL-10) levels measured using blood samples at one and 24 hours after surgery

Completion date

10/06/2017

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Patients > 65 years of age
2. Classified as class I or III according to the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA)
3. Scheduled for laparoscopic major non-cardiac surgery under general anesthesia

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Patients with a history of kidney or liver disease
2. History of allergy to the drug being studied
3. Cognitive impairment
4. Use of antipsychotic alpha-2 agonists or antagonist medications
5. Use of anti-inflammatory drugs

Date of first enrolment

01/05/2016

Date of final enrolment

30/05/2017

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Korea, South

Study participating centre

Wonkwang University Hospital

Muwang-ro 895

Iksan

Korea, South

54538

Sponsor information**Organisation**

Wonkwang University Hospital

ROR

<https://ror.org/0183m5185>

Funder(s)

Funder type

University/education

Funder Name

Wonkwang University

Alternative Name(s)

Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Universities (academic only)

Location

Korea, South

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be stored in a non-publicly available repository at the Institutional Review Board for five years after finishing the study.

IPD sharing plan summary

Stored in repository

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes