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Hamideh Hakimi et al., J Nurs Care 2018, Volume 7 DOI: 10.4172/2167-1168-C8-086

JOINT EVENT

49th International Congress on Nursing Care Plan & Health

50th World Congress on Men in Nursing

July 16-18, 2018 | Rome, Italy

The effect of body position of the patient on measuring intra-abdominal pressure among the patients admitted in ICU

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Statement of the Problem: Elevation of intra-abdominal pressure (IAP) is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among critically ill patients. The standard method of measuring IAP is measuring intrabladder pressure in supine position. Putting the patient in this position increases the risk of ventilator-associated pneumonia. The current study aimed to evaluate the effect of body position (head of the bed) on measuring IAP among the critically ill patients.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: IAP pressure was carried out each eight hours by Korn method with a water manometer on 76 patients admitted in medial and neurological intensive care unit (ICU) with head of bed (HOB) elevated at 0, 15 and 30 degree. Manometer zero reference was at the same level with the iliac crest in the mid-axillary line. HOB was measured by the existing index in the rail beside the bed from the horizon level in each condition.

Findings: At any condition, 228 times measurements were done and generally 684 IAP measurements were conducted. Intraabdominal hypertension was 18.42% and there was no case of abdominal compartment syndrome. There was a significant difference between IAP and HOB (P<0.0001). The results of Bland and Altman test showed that agreement limit between IAP0, IAP15 was -2.67 to 4.94, bias between two angles was 1.13 and agreement limit and bias between IAP0, and IAP30 was 1.66 to 6.89 and 2.66, respectively.

Conclusion & Significance: High HOB led into the significant increase of IAP. According to the unavoidable complications of supine position and the results of the study it was observed that the measurement of IAP in position 15° is better than position 30°. To achieve the right angle to measure IAP among ICU patients, further studies are required.

Biography

Hamideh Hakimi has her expertise in Intensive Care Unit. She has researched this issue after years of experience in patient care in ICU. Her experiences indicated that carefully measure of IAP is important in respiratory healing.

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