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CORRELATION BETWEEN THE MEASUREMENTS OF SERUM AND ARTERIAL BLOOD GAS (ABG) ELECTROLYTES IN PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT KING ABDUL-AZIZ MEDICAL CITY, RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

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Background: The values of electrolytes are measured by both the arterial blood gas analyzer and the auto-analyzers, in arterial and venous blood respectively. Literature reports suggest controversies in comparisons between the results. Concerns have been increased about the precision of the instrument due to difference in results of laboratories, in addition to the time consumed. Materials and

Methods: This is a prospective observational study on serum and ABG electrolytes in samples from 53 (34 Male and 19 Female) patients admitted to ICU at King Abdul-Aziz Medical City (KAMC). The analysis was done in Central Laboratory. The results from patients' file were uploaded to SPSS from excel sheets and statistical analysis was done.

Results and Conclusion: The age of patients varied between 14 years and 87 years in both the sexes. The sex wise frequency was 64.151% (males) and 35.85% (females). The pathological reports showed highest incidence of post-Motor Vehicular Accidents (MVA) followed by Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) and Respiratory Failure (RF). Comorbidities were infrequent. However; the highest incidence was related to Diabetes (DM) + Hypertension (HTN), followed by HTN alone and subsequently DM alone. SPSS analysis showed correlation between serum electrolytes and ABG electrolytes was significant at 0.01 levels. Correlation between serum and arterial electrolytes was significant, however; related to time it was weakly negative. We conclude that critical decisions can be made by trusting the values obtained through both ABG and Serum levels of the electrolytes.

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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP: HANDS ON PROPOSAL WRITING

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An understanding of research is essential for all family physicians. A number of clinical research studies highlights the need for greater participation in research by physicians. Physicians face a variety of barriers with regard to participation in clinical research. Barriers to participation include lack of time, lack of resources, trial-specific issues, communication difficulties, conflicts between the role of clinician and scientist, inadequate research experience and training for physicians, and sometimes a scientifically uninteresting research question, among others. Strategies to encourage physician participation in clinical research include adequate training, research questions that are in line with physician interests and have clear potential to improve patient care. This workshop aims to train clinician's about an essential elements of research methodology. It begins with a broad overview of the clinical research and good practice in medicine. Subsequent sessions provide a stepwise guide to undertaking a research project, from posing a hypothesis through to writing the paper. The workshop has a strong interactive focus, and a mixture of topics such as Steps in the development of a research proposal, Setting hypotheses and formulation of objectives, Types of variables and scales of measurements, Types of research designs, Data Analysis, How to write manuscript and get your research published.

Objectives/ Topics to cover:

At the end participants will have gained a basic understanding of:

- Research Proposal
- Research Question
- Research Design
- Type of Data and Analysis
- Writing Manuscript

How to conduct/ Hands on Practice session:

After power point presentation, small groups will be invited to write a proposal out line and present in front of audience for feedback.

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