Commentary Report
Volume 4:2, 2021

Journal of
Anaesthesiology and Pain Research

Open Access

Dexmedetomidine: A Pain Medication

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Commentary

Dexmedetomidine is a strong 2-adrenoceptor agonist with an affinity for the receptor that is 8 times greater than clonidine. After intravenous treatment to healthy volunteers or postsurgical patients in the intensive care unit, dexmedetomidine exerts sedative, analgesic, and anxiolytic effects. In postsurgical patients, dexmedetomidine caused a predicted haemodynamic drop (dose-dependently lower arterial blood pressure and heart rate), which coincided with lower plasma catecholamin levels. Dexmedetomidine 0.2 to 0.7 g/kg/h generated clinically effective sedation and greatly reduced analgesic requirements in postsurgical ventilated critical care unit patients in phase III clinical trials. After the assisted ventilator was turned off, there was no clinically noticeable respiratory depression. Dexmedetomidine (Precedex) is a selective a2-adrenergic receptor agonist that is a pharmacologically active dextroisomer of medetomidine. In the United States, it is approved for the sedation of mechanically ventilated adult patients in an intensive care unit, as well as non-intubated adult patients before to and/or during surgical and other procedures. The pharmacological characteristics, therapeutic efficacy, and tolerability of dexmedetomidine in these indications have been studied in randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter investigations. The pharmacological characteristics, therapeutic efficacy, and tolerability of dexmedetomidine in these indications have been studied in randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter investigations. Dexmedetomidine has unique features when compared to other sedative and analgesic medicines, prompting us to reconsider its use in the perioperative period and in the ICU. This agent's putative brain-protective qualities are unique and could have a wide range of uses. The idea of reducing the frequency of long-term negative consequences including cognitive impairment and posttraumatic stress disorder in ICU patients due to sedation presents a particularly intriguing challenge. The risk of severe bradycardia and hypotension when dexmedetomidine is given to people who cannot improve their sympathetic tone, such as those with severe left ventricular failure, is still a big worry. Dexmedetomidine has been demonstrated to have a favourable pharmacological profile, including drowsiness, sympatholysis, and analgesia without respiratory depression. Dexmedetomidine has unique sedative qualities, allowing for dose-dependent moderate sedation and ready engagement with the patient up to an anaesthetic state suited for surgical procedures. When compared to clonidine, it has better pharmacokinetic qualities, and its pharmacological profile predicts side effects. Several elements of its pharmacology suggest that it will be beneficial not only for ICU sedation but also for the perioperative phase. The availability of specific a2-adrenoceptor antagonists such as atipamezole (not approved for huma) has proven for years that a2-adrenoceptor agonists are safe agents for analgesia and sedation as mono-anaesthetics or more commonly as adjuncts, and the availability of specific a2-adrenoceptor agonists like atipamezole (not approved for huma) has proven. Dexmedetomidine is a strong, highly selective, and specific agonist of the 2-adrenoreceptor with sedative and analgesic properties. Clonidine, a 2-adrenoreceptor agonist, was first created as a nasal decongestant in the 1960s for its locally acting -adrenergic vasoconstrictor activity, but it was later released into the market as a strong hypertension medication in 1966. The pharmacology of 2-adrenoreceptor agonists is complicated since they operate on both pre- and postsynaptic adrenoceptors. The human 2-adrenoreceptors are divided into 3 subtypes: 2A, 2B, and 2C adrenoceptors. These receptor subtypes are found all over the body, and each one may be responsible for a different action of 2-agonists.

How to cite this article: Khuong Lahn. "Dexmedetomidine: A Pain Medication". *J Anesthesiol Pain Res* 4 (2021): 125.

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Received 22 February, 2021; **Accepted** 01 March, 2021; **Published** 17 March, 2021