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Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Rehabilitation

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Commentary

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a global challenge with enormous socioeconomic consequences. The current understanding of TBI's pathophysiology has led to a systematic approach to management in prehospital, operating room, and critical care settings. The goal of early treatment is to prevent secondary harm to the brain. TBI is a group of illnesses, and determining the proper surgical solution requires early radiological detection of the underlying pathology. Most modern centres use intracranial pressure and cerebral perfusion pressure focused medicines as part of perioperative management. Decompressive craniectomy can help control medically refractory intracranial hypertension and minimise mortality; nevertheless, it has a wide range of outcomes and is still a contentious topic. Finally, there is overwhelming evidence that TBI is a lifelong condition, with higher rates of cognitive and behavioural abnormalities, neurodegenerative disease, and increased mortality even beyond first stages of the injury.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a distinct concern in the medical, social, and economic realms, posing diverse challenges in industrial and developing countries alike. TBI has a massive effect, with estimates ranging from 10 million to 13 million people suffering from it worldwide, with up to 14,000 people dying from it every day in Europe and North America alone. TBI is under-reported, according to many authors. It is today and in the foreseeable future the most prominent cause of neurodisability, and its global impact is increasing. TBI appears to change all the time, as evidenced by rising motor vehicle use in lowand middle-income countries and declining rates among an ageing population in high-income countries.

Road traffic accidents and falls continuing to be the most common cause of TBI in high-income nations, accounting for more than half of all injuries, while sports-related TBI is becoming increasingly prevalent, particularly among young people. Across all age groups, men are more likely than women to suffer from TBI. Since the 18th century, the pathophysiology of TBI has been explained in relation to the Monro-Kellie hypothesis; however, with the advancement of neuroimaging and knowledge of neurochemical cascades, it is obvious that a solely mechanical view of TBI pathophysiology is inadequate. Nonetheless, a biomechanical basis is required to develop successful treatment options targeted at reducing the damage caused by TBI and subsequent secondary brain injury. Force can be delivered to the cranial cavity in a number of ways when a person suffers a traumatic brain injury. Rotational force, accelerationdeceleration force, or both can be used to transmit force. Penetration can also result in damage and force transmission, as shown in missile injuries. As force is transmitted into the cranial cavity, neural and vascular structures stretch and strain, causing direct injury to brain tissue (axonal stretch injury) or blood vessels (causing blood extravasation, resulting in intracranial haemorrhage and varying factors in intracranial blood volume).

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In order to maintain a constant intracranial pressure (ICP), the Monro-Kellie doctrine holds that any increase in volume of one of the skull's contents, namely the brain, blood, and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), must be compensated by a decrease in volume of one or both of the other two contents. The ICP starts to climb exponentially inside the fixed volume of the closed cranium as compensating mechanisms become exhausted and the volume of one component increases. The pressure of arterial blood perfusing the brain is lowered as the ICP rises, and the brain may herniate between intracranial compartments or via a wide skull foramen. By subtracting ICP from mean arterial blood pressure, cerebral perfusion pressure (CPP) is derived as a proxy measure of cerebral blood flow. CPP can be maintained as ICP rises due to compensatory autoregulatory mechanisms, but as autoregulation wears out, CPP will diminish as ICP rises, putting the patient at danger of additional hypoxic brain injury. Herniation syndromes are well-known, and they can cause secondary brain injury as a result of artery compression, territorial ischaemia, or direct brainstem compression.

Following a TBI, the volume of any of the skull contents can increase; however, the most likely increase is in the amount of blood, which manifests as haematoma, or the amount of brain, which manifests as cerebral oedema, or both. We can adjust ICP and CPP to prevent herniation syndromes and decrease secondary brain injury by addressing the abnormal volume increase following TBI. The cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in TBI-induced neuroinflammation are less well understood. Microglia activation, increased extracellular levels of excitatory amino acids like glutamate, accumulation of abnormal protein plaque aggregates such as b-amyloid precursor protein (APP) or phosphorylated-tau (P-tau), activation of reactive oxygen and nitrogen species, and other less understood neuroinflammatory cascades could all be involved in these pathways. There could also be genetic factors that influence the cellular response to TBI, which could explain why patients with seemingly comparable pathologies and brain injuries have such disparate clinical outcomes [1-5].

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