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REVIEW ARTICLE

813 Intracellular Signaling Mechanisms Underlying the Expression of Pro-inflammatory Mediators in Airway Diseases

Chuen-Mao Yang, PhD; Hsi-Lung Hsieh, PhD; Chiang-Wen Lee, MS

Cytokines exert as potent stimuli in inflammatory responses through up-regulation of many gene expressions in airway resident cells. The mechanisms underlying actions by cytokines may be integrated into the signaling networks that augment airway inflammation by recruiting leukocytes and leading to airway remodeling. Many genes regulated by MAPKs are dependent on NF- κ B for transcription. NF- κ B has also been shown to be involved in target protein expression at the transcriptional level in various cell types. We will review the mechanisms underlying the intracellular signaling involved in several target protein expressions induced by cytokines in airway resident cells.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

824 An Appropriate Indicator for Diagnosing Gestational Diabetes

Jui-Hung Sun, MD; Lai-Chu See, PhD; Tsung-Hong Chiu, MD; T'sang-T'ang Hsieh, MD; Miao-Ju Huang, MD

The aim of this study was to simplify the diagnostic procedure for gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM). Plasma glucose levels, obtained 1 hour following a 50 g oral glucose challenge test (GCT) and at multiple timing following a 100 g oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT), were used to plot receiver operative characteristic curves to determine an appropriate indicator for diagnosing GDM. In 973 pregnant women with a positive GCT result, a 2-hour plasma glucose level above 165 mg/dl revealed a sensitivity and specificity of 91.2% and 90.3%, respectively. Therefore, we suggest that a 2-hour plasma glucose level above 165 mg/dl after a 100 g OGTT might be an appropriate indicator for diagnosing GDM in women with a positive GCT result.

829 Weaning of Long-Term Mechanically-Ventilated Patients Following Video Bronchoscopy-Guided Percutaneous Dilatational Tracheostomy

Chien-Tung Chiu, MD; Yu-Hsiu Chung, MD; Hung-I Lu, MD; Meng-Chih Lin, MD

A total of 107 consecutive patients receiving percutaneous dilatational tracheostomy (PDT) were enrolled. The average duration of trans-laryngeal intubation was 27.8 ± 18.4 days, which was longer than those reported in previous studies. An overview of procedure-related complications shows bleeding was the most frequent adverse complication. Only one patient (0.9%) was a procedure-related death. The rate of successful weaning was related to the duration of trans-laryngeal intubation ($p = 0.02$), and a positive correlation existed between the duration of trans-laryngeal intubation and the time needed for successful weaning ($r = 0.49$, $p < 0.001$). Hence, in patients on long-term mechanical ventilation, the duration of trans-laryngeal intubation played an important role in determining the success of weaning.

837 Usefulness of Transesophageal Echocardiography for Transcatheter Closure of Ostium Secundum Atrial Septum Defect with the Amplatzer Septal Occluder

Chun-Yu Chen, MD; Chun-Hui Lee, MD; Min-Wen Yang, MD; Hung-Tao Chung, MD; I-Chiang Hsieh, MD; Angie CY Ho, MD

Transcatheter closure of a single secundum atrial septal defect (ASD_{II}) using an Amplatzer septal occluder is an accepted alternative to surgical repair. The use of transesophageal echocardiography guidance can facilitate device placement. It can provide continuous visualization of the defect and its margins to ensure that the occluder is well-seated during device deployment in all ASD_{II}.

846 Antioxidant Profiles in Full Term and Preterm Neonates

Yuan-Shun Lee, MD; Yi-Hung Chou, MD

In this study, we aimed to establish the normal range of antioxidants in healthy full term neonates at birth, including appropriate-for-age and small-for-age infants, and to investigate the antioxidant profiles in older (33-37 weeks gestation) and younger uncomplicated premature infants (< 33 weeks gestation) at birth. Intrauterine growth retardation and prematurity may influence antioxidant imbalance and free radical damage. In addition, such data for healthy full term and preterm infants may be used as a reference when evaluating antioxidant deficiency in high-risk neonates.

852 Pneumatic Displacement of a Dense Submacular Hemorrhage with or without Tissue Plasminogen Activator

Po-Min Yang, MD; Hsi-Kung Kuo, MD; Min-Lun Kao, MD; Yung-Jen Chen, MD; Hsih-Hao Tsai, MD

A total of 24 patients with submacular blood were treated with pneumatic displacement. Our case series indicated that, after a mean follow-up of 15.5 months, pneumatic displacement, with or without intravitreal injection of tissue plasminogen activator, seems to be useful in displacing dense submacular blood and facilitating visual improvement. In patients with age-related macular degeneration, more treatable choroidal neovascular membrane may be detected on postoperative fluorescein angiography.

CASE REPORTS

860 Real-Time and Power Doppler Imaging of Fetal Adrenal Hemorrhage

Ching-Chang Hsieh, MD; An-Shine Chao, MD; Jenn-Jeih Hsu, MD; Yao-Lung Chang, MD; Liang-Ming Lo, MD

Accurate localization of an adrenal mass is feasible using power Doppler imaging (PDI) before birth by determining its blood supply from the middle suprarenal artery. Otherwise, fetal adrenal hemorrhage can be demonstrated as an avascular mass, which is the major difference from an adrenal tumor.

866 Laser Chorioretinal Venous Anastomosis for Progressive Nonischemic Central Retinal Vein Occlusion

Chih-Hsin Chen, MD; Chien-Hsiung Lai, MD; Hsi-Kung Kuo, MD

The use of high or medium-intensity lasers to create an anastomotic connection between a retinal vein and a choroidal vein for the treatment of nonischemic central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO) has shown encouraging results. We established communication between an obstructed retinal vein and the choroid using a modified laser application in the eye of a 17-year-old boy with progressive nonischemic CRVO with macular edema and achieved excellent anatomic and visual results.

872 Migrating Fish Bone a Deep Neck Abscess

Shih-Wei Yang, MD; Tsung-Ming Chen, MD; Tai-An Chen, MD

A migrating fish bone is an uncommon event but may cause serious complications. An adult woman suffering from deep neck infection resulting from accidental ingestion of a fish bone is reported. A definite diagnosis was made with computed tomography (CT). Transcervical neck exploration was done to drain the abscess, and the fish bone was successfully removed. The purpose of this case report is to highlight the role of CT and to remind clinicians of the possibility of a migrating fish bone.

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