Reduction of pain during propofol injection: a comparison between thiopentone pretreatment and lidocaine-propofol mixture.

Thongsukh V., M.D., Viengteerawat S., M.D., Saengkaew T., M.D.

Department of Anesthesiology, Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok 10400

We performed the study to compare propofol injection pain between pretreatment with thiopentine prior to induction of anesthesia with propofol and lidocaine-propofol mixture. The 120 unpremedicated patients ASA class 1 or 2 were allocated to 4 groups. Group 1 was injected with NSS 2 ml before propofol injection. Group 2 was pretreated with 2.5% thiopentone 2 ml 2 min before propofol injection. Group 3 was injected with 2.5% thiopentone 2 ml immediately before propofol injection. Group 4 was injected with lidocaine-propofol mixture(propofol 180 mg and lidocaine 20 mg). These patients were assessed with verbal rating sclae for injection pain during administration of propofol. The number of patients showing pain in each group were 93,70,40 and 30% respectively. We concluded that group 3,thiopentone just before propofol,could reduce injection pain significantly. However,when compared with group 4,lidocaine plus propofol, it did not differ. Pretreatment with thiopentone is another choice in reducing propofol injection pain other than adding lidocaine to the drug.