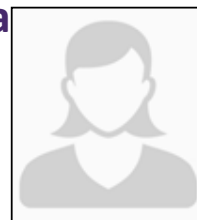


Current role of dexmedetomidine in pediatric cardiac anesthesia

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Abstract

Dexmedetomidine is a novel drug which is a selective α_2 -adrenoceptor agonist. It has unique properties of producing sedation, anxiolysis, amnesia and analgesia but at the same time without respiratory depression.

It provides a unique "conscious sedation" (patients appear asleep, but are readily roused), analgesia, without respiratory depression. It decreases central nervous system (CNS) sympathetic outflow in a dose dependent manner and has analgesic effects best described as opioid-sparing. There is the increasing evidence of its organ protective effects against ischemic and hypoxic injury, including cardioprotection, neuroprotection and renoprotection. This presentation is intended to highlight special situations in cardiac anesthesia (especially paediatric) where dexmedetomidine plays a crucial role.

Biography

Manjula Sarkar is the Professor and Head, Department of cardiothoracic and vascular anaesthesia in Seth G.S. Medical College and King Edward Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, India

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