



## A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ONDANSETRON AND GRANISETRON WITH DEXAMETHASONE IN PROPHYLAXIS OF POST OPERATIVE NAUSEA AND VOMITING

### Anaesthesiology

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** The most common and distress in symptom is nausea and vomiting after surgery (PONV). The prevalence of PONV is 20-30 % in general anaesthesia<sup>1,2</sup>. It is more in ocular, middle ear, gynecological surgeries and laparoscopic procedures<sup>2</sup>. PONV causes harm to surgical site sutures, anastomosis<sup>3</sup>. It increases intraocular, intra-cranial pressure and may also cause tachycardia, electrolyte imbalance, wound dehiscence, oesophageal tears and aspiration pneumonia. The goal of this study was to compare the 5HT<sub>3</sub> receptor antagonists Granisetron and Ondansetron with Dexamethasone in the prevention of PONV in patients undergoing laparoscopic surgeries under general anaesthesia. **Materials And Methods:** After approval from the ASRAMS Institutional Ethics Committee, the procedure was clearly explained to patients and informed written consent was obtained. The study was conducted during the period, April 2023- March 2024 at ASRAM General and Super-Specialty Hospital, Eluru, Andhra Pradesh. Patients were randomly allocated into 2 groups, each containing 40 members. Patients of Group A will receive Ondansetron 4mg IV with dexamethasone 8mg IV and patients of Group B receive Granisetron 2mg IV with dexamethasone 8mg IV. With in the event of 1 or more episodes of vomiting, rescue antiemetic Inj. Metoclopramide 10 mg IV was given. **Results:** There was a statistically significant difference between ondansetron, dexamethasone group and granisetron, dexamethasone group in incidence of nausea, retching, vomiting, and the requirement for rescue antiemetic also. Granisetron in combination with dexamethasone prevents PONV better than Ondansetron with dexamethasone. **Conclusion:** Consistent with the findings of this study, Granisetron at an intravenous dose of 2mg together with Dexamethasone 8mg is safer and more effective than 4mg intravenous Ondansetron together with Dexamethasone 8 mg for antiemetic prophylaxis in surgeries done under general anaesthesia.

### KEYWORDS

Ondansetron, Granisetron, Dexamethasone, Laparoscopic surgeries

### INTRODUCTION

Nausea is the subjective sensation of experiencing an urge to vomit, in the absence of expulsive muscular movements; when severe, it is associated with increased salivary secretion, vasomotor disturbances, and sweating. Nausea is described as a painless unpleasant feeling that vomiting is imminent<sup>6,7</sup>.

Vomiting is defined as the expulsion of contents of the gastrointestinal tract through the oral cavity. This forceful expulsion of gastro-intestinal contents is the end product of contraction of the upper gastrointestinal musculature and synchronous contraction of the muscles of the thoracoabdominal wall. PONV is described as "the big little problem" that complicates postoperative recovery.

Advances in the field of anaesthesia with better techniques in addition to development of newer anti-emetics and shorter acting anaesthetics decreased the overall incidence of PONV in the first 24 hours. However high-risk patients have an incidence of up to 80% following surgery. These risk factors can be divided into 4 categories.

#### 1. patient Related Risk Factors:

- Young age
- Female gender
- Non smoker
- History of previous postoperative emesis
- History of motion sickness

#### 2. Anaesthesia Related Risk Factors:

- General Anaesthesia > Epidural > SAB > PNB
- Drugs: Opioids, Volatile agents, Nitrous oxide

#### 3. High Risk Surgical Procedures:

- Strabismus surgery
- Ear surgery
- Laparoscopy
- Orchidopexy
- Tonsillectomy
- Breast surgery

#### 4. Risk Factors In The Post Operative Period:

- Post operative pain
- Hypotension

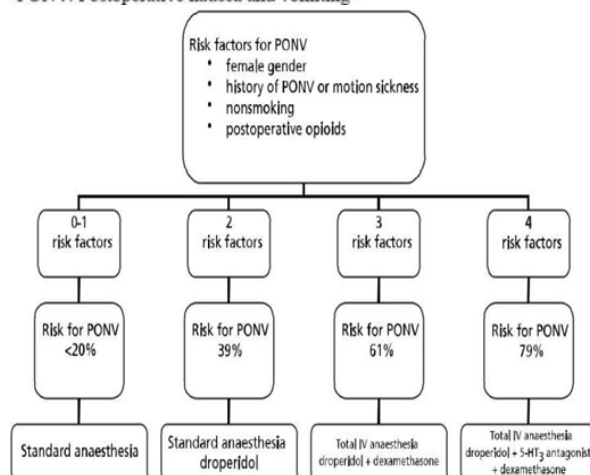
The etiopathogenesis of nausea and vomiting following laparoscopic surgeries is not fully understood. Long periods of CO<sub>2</sub> insufflation, intraoperative use of isoflurane, fentanyl, glycopyrrrolate, female sex, phase of menstrual cycle, and post operative use of PCA morphine

may contribute to these episodes.

#### Apfel's Simplified Risk Score For Ponv

| Risk factors          | Points |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Female gender         | 1      |
| Nonsmoker             | 1      |
| History of PONV       | 1      |
| Postoperative opioids | 1      |
| Total                 | 0-4    |

PONV: Postoperative nausea and vomiting



### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### It Is A Randomised control Study Conducted In 40

Patients undergoing laparoscopic procedures at Alluri Sitarama Raju Academy of Medical sciences, Eluru West Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh during the period April 2023-March 2024. After obtaining permission from the ASRAMS institutional ethics committee the study subjects selected by a simple random sampling method. A written consent was taken from the study subjects after explanation about the purpose of the study to them. All patients were evaluated one day prior to surgery and necessary investigations sent and reviewed. All patients pre-medicated and IV study drugs were given. After preoxygenation for

3 minutes, patients were induced and tracheal intubation done with appropriate size oral endotracheal tube.

**Group A** - 40 patients will receive Ondansetron 4mg IV with Dexamethasone 8mg IV and

**Group B** - 40 patients will receive Granisetron 2mg IV with Dexamethasone 8mg IV.

The incidence of nausea, vomiting and retching was studied after extubation for a total period of 24hrs post operative

## RESULTS:

There was no significant difference in patient demographics and general characteristics between the two groups.

### 1) Incidence Of Nausea:

**Table 1: Incidence of Nausea in two groups at different time intervals**

|                                              | Nausea  | 0-2 hours | 2-12 hours | 12-24 hours | % change |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|
| <b>Ondansetron with Dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | Absent  | 31(77.5%) | 33(82.5%)  | 38(95.0%)   | 18.0%    |
|                                              | Present | 9(22.5%)  | 7(17.5%)   | 2(5.0%)     | -18.0%   |
| <b>Granisetron with Dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | Absent  | 37(92.5%) | 39(97.5%)  | 40(100%)    | 8.0%     |
|                                              | Present | 3(7.5%)   | 1(2.5%)    | 0(0%)       | -8.0%    |
|                                              | Pvalue  | 0.061     | 0.071      | 0.152       | ----     |

Chi-Square test/Fisher Exact test

### 2) Incidence of Retching:

**Table 2: Incidence of Retching in two groups at different time intervals**

|                                              | Retching | 0-2 Hours | 2-12 hours | 12-24 hours | % change |
|----------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|
| <b>Ondansetron with dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | No       | 35(87.5%) | 38(95%)    | 40(100%)    | 13.0%    |
|                                              | Yes      | 5(12.5%)  | 2(5%)      | 0(0%)       | -13.0%   |
| <b>Granisetron with dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | No       | 38(95%)   | 39(97.5%)  | 40(100%)    | 5.0%     |
|                                              | Yes      | 2(5%)     | 1(2.5%)    | 0(0%)       | -5.0%    |
|                                              | Pvalue   | 0.235     | 0.551      | 1.00        | ----     |

Chi-Square test/Fisher Exact test

### 3) Incidence Of Rescue Antiemetic Requirement

**Table 3: Incidence of Rescue antiemetic requirement in two groups at different time intervals**

|                                              | Rescue antiemetic | 0-2 hours | 2-12 hours | 12-24 hours | % change |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|
| <b>Ondansetron with Dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | No                | 33(82.5%) | 36(90%)    | 40(100%)    | 18.0%    |
|                                              | Yes               | 7(17.5%)  | 4(10%)     | 0(0%)       | -18.0%   |
| <b>Granisetron with Dexamethasone (n=40)</b> | No                | 38(95%)   | 39(97.5%)  | 40(100%)    | 5.0%     |
|                                              | Yes               | 2(5%)     | 1(2.5%)    | 0(0%)       | -5.0%    |
|                                              | Pvalue            | 0.071     | 0.165      | 1.00        | ----     |

Chi-Square test/Fisher Exact test

### 4) Incidence of adverse reactions:

**Table 4: Adverse Reactions in two groups of patients studied**

| Adverse Reactions | Ondansetron with dexamethasone |      | Granisetron with dexamethasone |      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
|                   | No                             | %    | No                             | %    |
| No                | 33                             | 82.5 | 35                             | 87.5 |
| Yes               | 7                              | 17.5 | 5                              | 12.5 |

P=0.531, Not significant, Chi-Square test.

## DISCUSSION:

During a prospective, randomised study, the efficacy of intravenous Ondansetron 4 mg and Granisetron 2 mg in conjunction with intravenous 8 mg Dexamethasone for reducing postoperative nausea and vomiting in people under going procedures under general anesthesia was compared. During the tutorial year from April 2023 to March 2024, 40 patients of either sex of ASA grade I and II, ranging

from 18 to 70 years, underwent laparoscopic procedures under general anesthesia at ALLURISITARAMARAJU ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, ELURU.

The patients were randomised into two 40-person groups (A and B) randomly. Each patient received either 4mg i.v. Ondansetron or 2mg i.v. Granisetron and both groups received i.v. Dexamethasone 8mg, before induction of general anesthesia.

Both groups given a uniform anaesthetic method. At intervals of 0-2 hours, 2-12 hours, and 12-24 hours after surgery, patients were monitored for bouts of nausea, retching, and vomiting, also in view of need for the rescue antiemetic.

With the event of 1 or more episodes of vomiting, rescue antiemetic Inj. Metoclopramide 10 mg IV was given. The drug's side effects, like headaches, dizziness, and constipation, QT prolongation were noticed.

## The Findings Of Our Research Revealed That

- At 0-2 hours, 2-12 hours, and 12-24 hours postoperatively, there was a statistically significant difference between Ondansetron, Dexamethasone group and Granisetron, Dexamethasone group in incidence of nausea, retching, vomiting, and the requirement for rescue antiemetic also. Granisetron in combination with dexamethasone prevents PONV better than Ondansetron with dexamethasone.
- Ondansetron and Granisetron were both well tolerated, with little side effects; one of the most common side effect was constipation. In terms of negative impacts, there was no significant difference between the 2 groups.

## CONCLUSION:

Granisetron at an intravenous dose of 2 mg together with Dexamethasone 8mg is safer and more effective than 4mg intravenous Ondansetron together with dexamethasone 8 mg for antiemetic prophylaxis in surgeries done under general anaesthesia.

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