Efficacy and safety of paravertebral blocks in breast surgery: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials


There were two mistakes in the result section of the meta-analysis of this article:

1. In Table 2 (p. 847) the relative risks (RRs) for pneumothorax (RR: 0.01; 95% CI: –0.02 to 0.03; \( P=0.68 \)) and Horner’s/Harlequin’s syndrome (RR: 0.05; 95% CI: 0.02–0.09; \( P=0.02 \)) were not correct.

   The correct RRs are:
   - for pneumothorax (RR: 3.0; 95% CI: 0.13–68.26; \( P=0.49 \));
   - for Horner’s/Harlequin’s syndrome (RR: 12.82; 95% CI: 1.71–96.01; \( P=0.03 \)).

2. For the analysis of ‘Chronic postoperative pain (6 and 12 months)’ in the section entitled ‘Paravertebral blocks combined with GA vs GA’, p. 847, the authors included a trial by Moller et al.,\(^{26}\) which did not report any data regarding chronic postoperative pain. Therefore the text of this paragraph should be replaced with the following text:

Two trials\(^{22,24}\) including the data of 88 patients investigated the influence of PVB combined with GA compared with GA alone on the development of chronic postoperative pain. The RR for chronic pain was slightly lower in the PVB group 6 months after surgery (RR: 0.16; 95% CI: 0.02–1.13; \( P=0.07 \)). Twelve months after surgery, one trial reported a lower number of patients with chronic pain, when they had a PVB in addition to their GA (RR: 0.2; 95% CI: 0.0–0.84; \( P=0.03 \)).\(^{24}\) The worst postoperative chronic pain score (VAS/NRS) was reported only in one trial\(^{24}\) showing a trend for a better outcome 12 months after surgery (MD: –22.00; 95% CI: –24.68 to 0.68; \( P=0.14 \)).

Although these modifications change the results of the study, the overall implication of this review does not change.

The authors apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Neuropathic pain: a pathway for care developed by the British Pain Society

B. H. Smith, J. Lee, C. Price and A. P. Baranowski

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There were two errors in this article:

1. There was an error in the affiliations for John Lee. They should have read as follows:
   - 2Specialist in Pain Medicine, Cayman Islands Hospital, PO Box 915, Grand Cayman KY1-1103
   - 3University College London, London, UK

2. In the Acknowledgements section, one member of the working party, Dr Clare Daniel, was unfortunately missing.