Effect of femoral arterial cannulation on the number of cerebral glucose hypometabolic areas

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Congratulations to the authors for this valuable study [1]. We want to put emphasis on some points. We re-evaluated the data in Table 3 associated with cerebral positron emission tomography scans investigating the glucose hypometabolic areas. We assigned one hypometabolic area as ‘+’, two hypometabolic areas as ‘++’ and diffuse hypometabolic areas as ‘+++’. These data were evaluated with Wilcoxon signed-rank test (SPSS for Windows version 16.0).

In the antegrade selective cerebral perfusion (ASCP) group, there were significant differences in terms of the number of glucose hypometabolic areas among preoperative (T1), postoperative 1st week (T2) and postoperative 6th month (T3) patients, unlike what the authors of the original article stated. We think that this situation is the result of femoral arterial cannulation and/or hypothermia and/or prolonged cardiopulmonary bypass time. Numbers of cerebral glucose hypometabolic areas are significantly different between coronary artery bypass operation and ASCP.

REFERENCE


Reply to Kestelli et al.

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We would like to thank Dr Kestelli et al. [1] for their comments on and interest in our paper [2]. We are also grateful for the analysis they carried out on the positron emission tomography results. However, some methodological inaccuracies have led them to incorrect conclusions. They classified patients into those with one hypometabolic area, those with two hypometabolic areas and those with diffuse hypometabolism. They found significant differences in terms of the number of hypometabolic areas within the Antegrade Selective Cerebral Perfusion (ASCP) group in the three different time periods (preoperative T1, postoperative T2 and follow up T3). The problem is that some patients had even more than two hypometabolic areas; for example, when we spoke about bilateral temporal–occipital lobes, the areas involved were four and not two. The labels that we used, to describe all the different areas involved in the glucose hypometabolism summarized a much larger number of...