

PARALLEL SESSION 4: HEAD & SPINE BLOCKS

TIME: 15:45 – 17:15



15:45 - 16:00

Optimising Spinal Anesthesia for Parturients

Dr. Yoo Kuen Chan (Malaysia)

Anaesthesiology And Critical Care

University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur

Abstract:

Although spinals are relatively easy to perform, there are many occasions when we fail to perform a completely successful block for our patients. A good block requires us to administer adequate dose into the intrathecal region and not allow any amount to spill into the epidural space during the process of injection. It is imperative that we steady our hands against the parturient's back to ensure immobility and realize that connecting the syringe of medication to a successfully placed spinal needle, can also similarly push the bevel out of position if not done properly. Whilst we have always been taught taller patients need larger dose, vertebral height rather than the patient's full height correlates better with the dose required. In an era where we are having more obese parturients, ultrasound may help although intra procedure arrangement may need more providers to assist. We must also be mindful that the baricity of the drug is another consideration that needs to be considered and the positioning of the patient both during and after the procedure can affect the outcome of the block.