PARALLEL SESSION 5:
THORACIC & ABDOMINAL BLOCKS
TIME: 15:45 - 17:15

16:00 - 16:15

Anesthesia and Analgesia for Non-Intubated Thoracotomy

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Abstract:

Non-intubated video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (NIVATS) represents a contemporary approach in thoracic surgery, offering a minimally invasive alternative for both diagnosis and treatment of thoracic diseases. This method aims to mitigate the potential complications associated with tracheal intubation and general anesthesia by performing thoracoscopic procedures without the need for intubation.

Anesthetic management during NIVATS can be tailored to suit individual patient needs, ranging from a fully awake state to various levels of sedation, including minimal, deep, or general anesthesia. This flexibility allows for optimized patient comfort and safety throughout the surgical procedure.

Several regional anesthesia techniques are utilized in NIVATS to effectively manage pain and provide intraoperative anesthesia. These include local wound infiltration, which targets specific surgical sites, as well as more comprehensive approaches such as thoracic epidural analgesia (TEA), thoracic paravertebral block (TPVB), intercostal nerve block (ICNB), and serratus anterior block. Each technique offers distinct advantages in terms of pain control and minimizing systemic effects associated with anesthesia.

Furthermore, vagal blockade techniques can be used intra-thoracically or extra-thoracically to mitigate cough reflexes during surgery, which is particularly beneficial in select patient populations.

Overall, NIVATS enhances the surgical experience by reducing the physiological stress of traditional intubated procedures and expands the armamentarium of anesthesia options available to thoracic surgeons, ensuring tailored and patient-centered care.