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September 20, 2018

here are the APSS e-news.

Kindly assist us to disseminate the e-news to the members of Japanese Society for Spine Surgery and Related Research. Thank you.

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Journal Highlights

by ASJ Editorial Board Members

TRANSCRANIAL MOTOR-EVOKED POTENTIAL MONITORING FOR DETECTING NERVE ROOT INJURY DURING ADULT SPINAL DEFORMITY SURGERY

Intraoperative neuromonitoring for patients undergoing adult spinal deformity (ASD) surgery is mandatory because neurological compromise is estimated to occur in approximately 5%–10% of such patients. This article demonstrates the usefulness of transcranial motor-evoked potential (TcMEP) monitoring for detecting nerve root injury based on the findings of 6 true positive and 1 false negative case of nerve root injury. There was a change of >30% in the amplitude in TcMEP immediately following specific maneuvers, such as rod rotation and deformity correction, in all nerve root injury cases. Although several articles on this topic have reported debatable results regarding the usefulness of TcMEP, its use in ASD surgery can be recommended based on the present findings. However, as pointed out by the authors in the limitation section, the cutoff value for the amplitudes needs to be determined, and the changes themselves do not reflect the specific segmental nerve injury. However,

TcMEP can still

be considered an option to avoid permanent neurologic deficit, which did not occur in this study group.

Another conclusion drawn by the authors was that of a significant relationship between the changes in pelvic tilt and nerve injury. Although it is an interesting finding, it should be interpreted with caution. A major issue in the article is that the number of cases of nerve root injury is too small to perform a meaningful comparison. In this reason, analysis showed so wide range of 95% CI (1.994–153.560), which could be misleading. Therefore, the relationship between the sagittal parameters and intraoperative monitoring should be confirmed in a future study that involves a larger sample size. However, in this article, the attempt to reveal this relationship is very creative and informative.

Read the full article of the reviewed publication here

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Highlights

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