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EDITORIAL

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Need for Training of the Young Neurosurgeon for Vascular Surgery

There are three major complications of the ruptured aneurysms, one is re-bleed, which is maximum during the first two weeks, and the second one is vasospasm which is maximum during day 3 to day 10 after the ictus. The third complication is hydrocephalus, which may be acute or delayed.

In Neurosurgery, for the treatment of an aneurysm two procedures are being done, coiling of the aneurysm and clipping of the aneurysm. Both procedures are done depending on the environment and the availability of the facilities. It is the need of the hour that young neurosurgeons should be trained to perform clipping of the aneurysm because it is cheaper as compared to coiling. It can be easily done by any neurosurgeon if he is well-trained. Clipping is long-lasting and permanent because it has less risk of refilling the aneurysms. However, the surgery of the clipping must be done after two weeks after the incident, when the vasospasm is over. From day 4 to day 10, there is a period of vasospasm. Surgery for clipping during this period can have complications like infarcts. So, after 2 weeks, the patient's blood vessels are normal and the chances of infarcts are less and then this patient will have a better outcome. If a patient has re-bleed we can proceed with the clipping of the aneurysm even before 2 weeks.

In coiling, there is a risk of refilling, infarct and it is very expensive as well. It costs about 7-10 lacs to purchase the coils for one patient. The distant infarcts are more in the middle cerebral artery aneurysms. So, we the senior neurosurgeons should arrange training for the skills for the clipping of the aneurysms among the young neurosurgeons so that, this treatment can be offered to the poor patients. Clipping can be done free for poor patients for example, at the Punjab Institute of Neurosciences (PINS), clips are purchased in bulk by the hospital and do not charge any amount from the patients for the clip, so clipping is done free at the PINS Lahore. So, in poor countries, this treatment of clipping is extremely important and our young neurosurgeons should be well-trained in this field.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Chaudary

Chief Editor

Ex-Head of Department Neurosurgery Unit II, (PINS), Department of Neurosurgery, Faroog Hospital, Lahore – Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Saman Shahid

(National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences (NUCES), FAST Lahore)