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Title: Comparable efficacy of Water-soluble contrast agent(WSCA) in combination with Endoscopically placed naso-intestinal tube(eNIT) in conservative treatment of Adhesive Small Bowel Obstruction(ASBO).

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Topic: Emergency abdominal surgery

Background:

The use of endoscopically placed naso-intestinal tubes(eNIT) in conservative treatment of Adhesive Small Bowel Obstruction(ASBO)is the subject of many studies and is contrasted with the nasogastric tube (NGT) placement. Thus, according to the latest meta-analysis data made by XW Dong et al. 2018 – there are no data demonstrating that NITs are superior to NGTs in the treatment of ASBO. Therefore, routine NITs decompression in patients with SBO after admission is still debatable.

Beside this, according to meta- analysis made by M. Ceresoli et al. 2016, the use of water-soluble contrast agent (WSCA) seems to be safe, has a therapeutic effect and reduces the time for resolution of ASBO. However, there are lack of randomized-controlled trials(RCTs) dedicated to the question of directly comparing the efficacy of WSCA vs. barium sulfate contrast(BSC).

Thus, there is lack of data dedicated directly to efficacy of the combination of eNIT and WSCA.

Aim:

Determination of the effectiveness of the use of eNIT in combination with the WSCA in comparison with the NGT in combination with BSC as components of conservative treatment of ASBO.

Methods:

A comparative analysis of the use of eNIT in combination with WSCA versus NGT in combination with BCS in 104 patients with ASBO was held. Of these, 66 (63.5%) were treated with NGT + BSC approach, while 38 (36.5%) patients received eNIT + WSCA treatment.

Results: :

In the “eNIT + WSCA” group, ASBO was resolved conservatively in 31 out of 38 (81.6%); 7 of 38 (18.4%) patients were operated.

In the “NGT + BSC” group ASBO resolved conservatively in 40 out of 66 patients (60.6%); 26 out of 66 (39.4%) patients were operated.

The mean time of resolution of ASBO in “NGT + BSC” group was 14.4 hours, while in “eNIT + WSCA” group - 8.8 hours.



Discussion:

The use of eNIT with WSCA increases the efficacy of conservative treatment up to 20%, compared with the NGT with BSC approach.

ENIT with WSCA reduce the resolution of ASBO time, compared with the NGT with BCS on average by 38.9%.

The results are acceptable, further RCTs warranted.