PERSPECTIVE

Comparison of an archival grass force transducer mechanomyograph and a modern digital mechanomyograph

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ABSTRACT

The classic gold standard research method for quantifying neuromuscular blockage is mechanomyography. The isometric force produced by the thumb in response to ulnar nerve stimulation is directly measured by mechanomyography. Since commercially produced mechanomyographs are no longer accessible, researchers must build their own. It was assumed that the train-of-four ratios recorded on each device would be equal, therefore a mechanomyograph was built, and its performance was evaluated against an archival mechanomyography system from the 1970s that used an FT-10 Grass force transducer.

Key Words: *Digital mechanomyograph; Archival grass force transducer*

INTRODUCTION

Train-of-four ratio measurements were made using an archive mechanomyograph system that used an FT-10 Grass force transducer, and they were compared to measurements made using a fresh mechanomyograph on a contralateral arm. Although two mechanomyographs were designed approximately 50 years apart, the results were very comparable, with a bias of 3.8% and limits of agreement ranging between 13% and 21%. Peak amplitude and area under the curve of peaks-derived train-of-four ratios were identical. The new mechanomyograph was more precise, sensitive, and had better resolution because to advancements in technology. It is important to maintain the status of echanomyography as the gold standard measurement for assessing neuromuscular blockade and to use it to verify the accuracy of acceleromyograph and electromyograph neuromuscular blockade monitors. For assessing the twitch response to ulnar nerve stimulation, mechanomyography is the preferred method for a number of reasons. First, a sensor (force transducer), whose function can be evaluated and confirmed ex vivo at the benchtop in the laboratory, is used to directly measure the force of isometric muscle contraction. Second, the transducer's signal is strong and resistant to interference from electrical noise, which is common in operating rooms. higher-volume anesthesiologists. There is a correlation between lower clinician-level variance in inotrope use and higher attending anesthesiologist case volume. Because electromyography directly measures muscle action potential and seldom exhibits "overshoot" in the train-of-four ratio, it is a compelling alternative. The electromyogram, however, is a tiny electrical signal that is extremely prone to electrical distortions that might impede interpretation. Therefore, the techniques employed to control noise, which differ from device to device, will have a significant impact on the accuracy of electromyography. Mechanomyography has thus been suggested as the gold standard for determining neuromuscular blockage.

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