



SUMMARY

Recently, statistics show that psychotic disorders become one of the common medical diseases. The prevalence of psychotic disorders increase the likelihood that such disorders will be present as coexisting problems in patients requiring anesthesia.

Psychotropic drugs which are important in the treatment of such psychotic disorders can be classified as antidepressants as MAOIs, TCA for treatment of depression & phenothiazines for schizophrenia & BDZ for anxiety & and lithium for bipolar disorders.

Drug interaction between these drugs & anesthetic drugs is very important consideration in anesthesia of psychotic patient as may vary from mild interactions -as increase sleep time and CNS depression when accompanying MAOI or TCA with barbiturates or BDZ given as premedications up to severe potentially fatal interactions as severe sympathetic stimulation with intracranial hemorrhage and acute heart failure when giving MAOI or TCA with sympathomimetics.

So anesthetic management should include detailed history about the nature of the drugs used to treat the psychotic disorder, their doses, duration of taking these medications, and expected adverse effects. Also, premedication with BDZ, atropine better to be avoided. Smaller doses of



barbiturates used in patient treated with TCA and antipsychotic drugs. Succinylcholine could be used as intubating muscle relaxant in patients receiving antipsychotic drugs and TCA. Isoflurane is better to be used as inhalational anesthetic.

Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) is a known anaesthetic challenge, in which using a short acting intravenous drugs is accepted as simple and safe regimen for modified ECT.

Through the years, abuse of illicit substances has been escalating despite efforts in health education, prevention and different detoxification or rehabilitation treatment approaches. Even though as anesthesiologists we are generally not the primary care physicians of these patients, we encounter these patients as we administer anesthesia to them for emergency or trauma situations, obstetrics and even for regular elective surgeries. As anesthesiologists we need to be aware of the use of illicit drugs because of the long-term negative consequences that it may have on health and how it impacts on anesthetic care