Ultrasound-guided Axillary Block for Radial Osteosynthesis in a Patient with Unstable Angina

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Abstract : We report the anesthetic management of a patient with unstable angina who presented with a fracture of the distal radius. An 80-year-old woman was scheduled to undergo osteosynthesis of a fractured radius. The patient had experienced chest pain six times even at during the nine days after admission. Coronary angiography showed 90 % stenosis of the right coronary artery. Ultrasound-guided axillary brachial plexus block was selected to avoid any profound perioperative circulatory changes. The patient did not complain of any pain during the surgery. Although the heart rate was stable, the systolic blood pressure ranged from 190 to 220 mmHg, during the surgery. The patient should have received adequate sedation during the surgery to avoid an elevation of the blood pressure.

Key words: Ultrasound-guided axillary brachial plexus block, peripherally nerve block, Unstable Angina, Anesthesia