



Uncertainty exists regarding the management of newborn infants with a bloodstream infection and a central venous catheter in place” Vasudevan et al (2016).

Abstract:

BACKGROUND: Uncertainty exists regarding the management of newborn infants with a bloodstream infection and a central venous catheter in place. The central venous catheter may act as a nidus for infecting organisms and observational studies have suggested that early removal of the catheter is associated with a lower incidence of persistent or complicated infection. However, since central venous catheters provide secure vascular access to deliver nutrition and medications, the possible harms of early removal versus expectant management also need to be considered.

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OBJECTIVES: To determine the effect of early removal versus expectant management of central venous catheters on morbidity and mortality in newborn infants with bloodstream infections.

SEARCH METHODS: We used the standard search strategy of the Cochrane Neonatal Review

Group. This included searches of the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL 2015, Issue 11), MEDLINE (1966 to October 2015), EMBASE (1980 to October 2015), CINAHL (1982 to October 2015), conference proceedings and previous reviews.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Randomised and quasi-randomised controlled trials that compared early removal versus expectant management of central venous catheters in neonates with bloodstream infections.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS: We used the standard methods of the Cochrane Neonatal Review Group.

MAIN RESULTS: We did not identify any eligible randomised controlled trials.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS: There are no trial data to guide practice regarding early removal versus expectant management of central venous catheters in newborn infants with bloodstream infections. A simple and pragmatic randomised controlled trial is needed to resolve the uncertainty about optimal management in this common and important clinical scenario.

Full Text

Reference:

Vasudevan, C., Oddie, S.J. and McGuire, W. (2016) Early removal versus expectant management of central venous catheters in neonates with bloodstream infection. The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 4:CD008436. .

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