Abstract:
PURPOSE: To describe our experience with the use of ultrasound-guided supraclavicular brachiocephalic vein approach for central vein catheterization in infants weighing less than 5 kg.

METHODS: A retrospective review was performed for infants who underwent ultrasound-guided central vein catheterization from January 2012 to November 2014. Infants weighing less than 5 kg with supraclavicular brachiocephalic vein access were included in the study. Indications for central venous access, venous access side, catheter type and complications were evaluated.

RESULTS: Thirty-four catheterizations in 34 infants weighing from 1.5 to 4.9 kg (median 3.48 kg) were included in the study (aged 11 days to 7 months and 10 days, weight range 1.5 to 4.9 kg). Technical success rate was 97% (33 of 34 infants). No technical or clinical major complications were observed.

CONCLUSIONS: Ultrasound-guided supraclavicular brachiocephalic vein access is a favorable alternative for central venous catheterization in low-weight infants with regard to high technical success rate and absence of major complications.

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