

Local infiltration and spermatic cord block for inguinal, scrotal and testicular surgery.

Magoha, G A

Abstract:

This was a prospective study involving 372 male patients. Surgical procedures including simple inguinal hernia repair, inguinal lymph node biopsy, hydrocelectomy, testicular biopsy, testicular fixation, orchidectomy and scrotal exploration were performed under local anaesthesia using various quantities of 0.5% xylocaine with adrenaline depending on the procedure, in the form of spermatic cord block and local infiltration nerve blocks. No premedication was given to any patient and only five patients (1.34%) were given intraoperative sedation due to anxiety. No complication directly attributed to the anaesthetic agent used or the technique of spermatic cord and nerve blocks were reported during the study. Three hundred and sixty patients (96.77%) were operated on as outpatients and were happy and satisfied to return home on the same day. This experience confirms that spermatic cord block accompanied by local infiltration with 0.5% xylocaine with adrenaline is simple, safe and effective technique that should be used more widely in outpatient urological and general surgical settings in this locality. It provides excellent intra-scrotal and inguinal anaesthesia. Furthermore, the technique is cost effective, and personnel effective since no anaesthetist is required for the procedure which is usually carried out by the surgeon. This would enable many more people to afford the surgical procedures