

Nadroparin calcium

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Subacute spinal subarachnoid haematoma: case report

A 32-year-old woman developed a subacute spinal subarachnoid haematoma after receiving nadroparin calcium [Fraxiparine].

The woman underwent routine combined spinal-epidural anaesthesia for high-ligation and left saphenous vein stripping. Accidental paraesthesia occurred in her left leg while the spinal needle was being inserted; a second needle insertion attempt was successful. Bupivacaine was injected through the spinal needle, and an epidural catheter was inserted. After surgery, she received an SC injection of Fraxiparine 5000IU for venous thrombosis prophylaxis 8 hours after the spinal injection. On the second postoperative day, she reported a mild headache, vomiting and lower back pain. She received analgesics and antiemetics. On the seventh postoperative day, she presented with lower back pain, urinary discomfort and nuchal rigidity. She was admitted for control of symptoms. An MRI revealed a mass-like lesion in the intradural space, indicative of a spinal subarachnoid haematoma at the level of L4–S1.

Conservative management was advised. Over the following 2 weeks, the woman's symptoms resolved. A follow-up MRI showed that the haematoma had been completely absorbed. Three weeks after lumbar puncture, she recovered completely.

Author comment: *"In the present case, the subarachnoid hematoma may have been the result of the two attempts at spinal puncture, injuring the radicular vessels in the subarachnoid space, followed by the administration of single dose of [low molecular weight heparin] 8 hours after spinal anesthesia."*

Luo F, et al. Subacute spinal subarachnoid hematoma following combined spinal-epidural anesthesia treated conservatively: a case report. *Journal of Clinical Anesthesia* 24: 519-20, No. 6, Sep 2012. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinane.2011.10.016> - China

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