

Prospective Detection of Tissue Ischemia During Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest Using Visible Light Spectroscopy

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Summary: Visible light spectroscopy (VLS) is a real-time, quantitative monitor of tissue ischemia. We used VLS to detect tissue oxygenation in CPB.

Introduction: Reduced jugular venous saturation (SjO₂) following circulatory arrest (DHCA) suggests an accumulated oxygen deficit; however, such information becomes available only after the ischemic event. Non-pulsatile visible light spectroscopy (VLS) is a minimally-invasive quantitative recent technology that allows for real-time early detection of tissue ischemia. Compared to near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), VLS can measure through small catheters and probes, allowing tissues such as the brain, esophagus, colon, and liver to be monitored. Our hypothesis was that cerebral perfusion during cardiac arrest would offer systemic tissue perfusion as well, and this could be monitored using a VLS probe.

Methods: We used VLS Oximetry (T-Stat™) to monitor esophageal mucosal oxygen saturation (StO₂) as a marker of systemic perfusion in a neonatal piglet model of cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) with DHCA + ACP. Continuous hemodynamic, StO₂, and SvO₂ data were collected. Student's t-test was used for between group differences and significance set at p<0.05.

Results: Data are presented as mean + SD. Figure 1 Shows StO₂ changes in the DHCA and DHCA+ACP groups. At baseline the 2 groups had similar StO₂ however the DHCA +ACP group had significantly higher StO₂ during the arrest. Figure 2 shows SvO₂ was maintained after rewarming in the DHCA+ACP group.

Figure 1: Saturation Falls with Global Ischemia

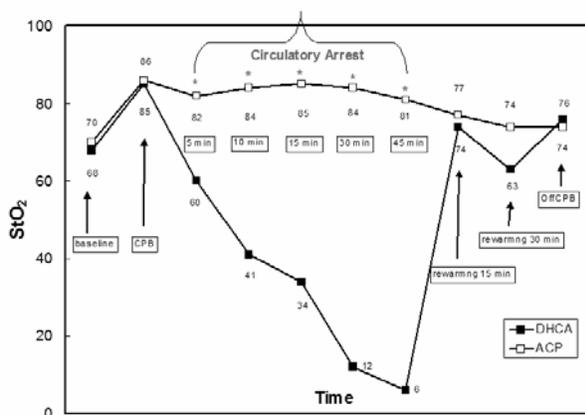
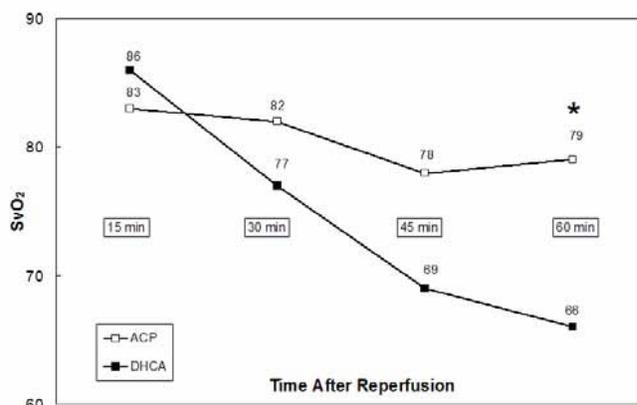


Figure 2: Ischemia leads to Persistent Hypoxia



Conclusion: This study confirmed that StO₂ can be measured noninvasively using VLS. During rewarming SvO₂ declined significantly in the DHCA group suggesting accumulated oxygen deficit. StO₂ may be a valuable monitor in the real-time detection of tissue ischemia during periods of altered circulatory flow. Trials of this probe in children are underway to validate their clinical use.