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International Conference on

HYPERTENSION & HEALTHCARE

August 11-12, 2016 Toronto, Canada

Butorphanol use in laboring patients with preeclampsia or chronic hypertension

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The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommends against the use of butorphanol in patients diagnosed with preeclampsia or chronic hypertension secondary to a theoretical concern that the drug will further elevate blood pressures. No study has examined the drug's potential to elevate blood pressures in laboring patients. In this retrospective cohort study, all chronic hypertensive and preeclamptic patients who underwent an induction of labor and delivered a viable, singleton pregnancy between the dates of 1/1/2013-12/31/2014 at a Single Academic Hospital were included. The use of butorphanol in chronically hypertensive patients during labor was not associated with the presence of severe range blood pressures during labor [OR=0.92, 95% CI: (0.04-19.34) P=0.96]. In preeclamptic patients, there was similarly no change in the frequency of severe range blood pressures with the use of the drug [OR=0.59, 95% CI: (0.19-1.83) P=0.36]. In laboring patients with chronic hypertension or preeclampsia, butorphanol is not associated with severe range blood pressures and therefore it is a reasonable option for providing pain relief in these populations.

Biography

Kelly Garrity has received her Doctor of Medicine from Pennsylvania State College of Medicine. She is currently working as an Obstetrics and Gynecology resident at Northwell Health in New York

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