Case Report

Rare Outcome of Lecompte’s Maneuver: SVC Compression due to Retro Aortic Innominate Vein

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Abstract

The impact of Lecompte’s maneuver on superior vena cava (SVC) has never been mentioned before. We think that in certain anatomical subsets, Lecompte’s maneuver can result in superior vena cava narrowing. We present a case report of patient with Tetralogy of Fallot with absent pulmonary valve with retro-aortic innominate vein who developed SVC thrombosis after Lecompte’s maneuver.

Keywords: Lecompte’s maneuver; SVC narrowing; congenital heart disease; Tetralogy of fallot with absent pulmonary valve

Introduction

Lecompte’s maneuver is widely being used these days in variety of complex congenital cardiac repairs [1]. However, its implication on superior venacaval (SVC) dynamics has never been considered. Our intent is to discuss specific situations where Lecompte’s maneuver can increase the risk of SVC thrombosis, so that appropriate preventive measures can be taken.

Case Report

A 5-week-old female was intubated at a peripheral medical center, in view of respiratory distress and shifted to our hospital for further management. On physical examination, patient was acyanotic with insignificant general examination. On cardiovascular examination, S1 was normal and P2 was absent. There was grade II crescendo decreasing murmur in pulmonary area. Echocardiographic examination revealed Tetralogy of fallot with absent pulmonary valve. CT pulmonary angiography revealed aneurysmal dilatation of the mid RPA resulting in significant compression of the right bronchus. Note was also made of a retro-aortic innominate vein. Plan was made for intracardiac repair and Lecompte’s maneuver to relieve right bronchial compression. Consent was taken for surgery. On induction Right femoral arterial and venous access was obtained. After instituting cardiopulmonary bypass and achieving good diastolic arrest, trans RA Dacron patch closure of VSD was done. Lecompte’s maneuver was done after dividing aorta, bringing RPA anterior and inferior with respect to right bronchus. RVOT was reconstructed using pericardium. It is increasingly being used in patients of tetralogy of fallots with absent pulmonary valve with airway obstruction [1]. The anterior translocation of MPA and antero-inferior realignment of branch pulmonary arteries with respect to bronchus, helps in relieving airway obstruction in these patients following Lecompte’s maneuver. The impact of displacement of great vessels on SVC-innominate complex has hardly been ever addressed. The anterior and inferior displacement

Figure 1: Leptom’s manoeuvre result in anterior and inferior movement of MPA and branch pulmonary arteries along with lateral rotation of SVC-innominate vein complex. RPA: Right Pulmonary Artery; IV: Innominate Vein; MPA: Main Pulmonary Artery.

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Received April 28, 2017; Accepted May 26, 2017; Published May 29, 2017


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Going by the above rationale, we think that similar SVC flow issue probably may occur in patients with IVC interruption and large azygous SVC connection. The large azygous may limit lateral mobilization of SVC and possibly lead to SVC narrowing and propensity for thrombus formation. However, we have not come across the second entity yet. Keeping this in mind, while performing Lecompte’s maneuver with relatively immobile SVC situation, may help prevent serious postoperative problems due to SVC thrombosis.

We strongly believe in our hypothesis, as known causes of SVC thrombosis like presence of central line, traumatic cannulation of SVC were less likely in our patient. Central venous access was obtained in right femoral vein and not in SVC at the start of surgery. SVC was smoothly cannulated with 12F angled venous cannula before institution of cardiopulmonary bypass. Moreover, we have performed 130 Lecompte’s maneuver for various indications, but this is our first case where we encountered retro-aortic innominate vein as well as SVC thrombosis.

We think that while performing Lecompte’s maneuver the anatomical substrate for SVC narrowing should also be addressed. First, the retro-aortic vein should be divided and brought anterior to aorta, to enable greater lateral mobilization of SVC. Second, the RPA reduction should be done to minimize the compression of SVC by it. Third, wedge resection of greater curvature of aorta, where feasible, can decrease the anterior displacement of right pulmonary artery. Fourth, low cannulation of SVC (below innominate junction) cans possible lead to presence of intact endothelium at site of narrowing, thereby leading to decrease propensity for thrombus formation.

References