Positive Correlation Between Regional Cerebral Oxygen Saturation and Mixed Venous Oxygen Saturation During Off-Pump Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery

Zheng Guan MD, Jing-Jie Liu MD, Hui Yuan MD, and Yan-Feng Gao

BACKGROUND: The balance of oxygen delivery and consumption is essential in patients who are critically ill. Mixed venous oxygen saturation ($S_{\bar{v}O_2}$) is a standard method to evaluate oxygen delivery and consumption during anesthesia. However, $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ is monitored through a pulmonary artery catheter, which is invasive. Regional cerebral oxygenation ($rScO_2$) reflects oxygen saturation in a small region of the frontal lobes and is monitored noninvasively through near-infrared spectroscopy. In the present study, the correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was calculated during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery to determine whether a positive correlation exists between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$. METHODS: A total of 56 subjects were consecutively enrolled in the study. Then $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ were simultaneously monitored. The parameters were recorded at 5 time points: T_1, 10 min after intubation (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min); T_2, 20 min after intubation (0.60 F_{IO_2} for 10 min); T_3, at the end of the revascularization of the left anterior descending artery (0.60 F_{IO_2}); T_4, after protamine infusion (0.60 F_{IO_2}); and T_5, 10 min after protamine infusion (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min). The correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and the variation trend between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ when F_{IO_2} increased from 0.60 to 1.0 were analyzed. RESULTS: There was a significant positive correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ at these 5 time points ($r^2 = 0.77, 0.81, 0.70, 0.83$, and 0.92, respectively). There also was a significant positive correlation between $\Delta rScO_2$ and $\Delta S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ ($n = 112$, $r^2 = 0.72, P < .001$). Linear regression analysis revealed that $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ had a positive correlation with $rScO_2$ and cardiac output ($r^2 = 0.68, P = 0.013$). CONCLUSIONS: There was a positive correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery, and there also was a positive correlation in the variation trend between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$. *Key words: near-infrared spectroscopy; pulmonary artery catheterization; off-pump coronary artery bypass.* [Respir Care 0;0(0):1–•. © 0 Daedalus Enterprises]

Introduction

Maintaining adequate oxygen saturation is essential for patients who are critically ill. Mixed venous oxygen saturation ($S_{\bar{v}O_2}$) remains the accepted standard during anesthesia to evaluate the balance of oxygen delivery and consumption, especially during cardiac surgery.[1] $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ is monitored through the pulmonary artery catheter, but many complications are associated with pulmonary artery catheter placement, such as bleeding, arrhythmia, and pulmonary artery rupture.[2] Hence, this cannot be routinely used during anesthesia. A noninvasive tool to monitor systemic oxygen balance would have a much wider application.

Drs Guan, Yuan, and Gao are affiliated with Department of Anesthesiology, the First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, Shaanxi, China. Dr Liu is affiliated with Department of Neurology, the Second Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, Shaanxi, China.

Correspondence: Jing-Jie Liu MD, Department of Neurology, The Second Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, No. 157 of Xiwu Road, Xincheng District, Shaanxi 710004, China. E-mail: liujingjie0923@163.com.

Near-infrared spectroscopy can noninvasively and continuously estimate the regional oxygen delivery-consumption balance in an underlying tissue. It is based on oxyhemoglobin and deoxyhemoglobin each having their own particular optical absorption characteristics.[3] Near-infrared spectroscopy can monitor regional cerebral oxygen saturation ($rScO_2$),[4] which reflects oxygen saturation in a small region of the frontal lobes. Furthermore, $rScO_2$ has been used in preterm and term neonates,[5] in patients during cardiac surgery[6] neurosurgery, and in patients with head trauma.[7] Moreover, $rScO_2$ can detect disturbances of regional tissue perfusion and oxygenation,[8] and predict low output syndrome,[9] cognitive decline, and a prolonged hospital stay after cardiac surgery.[10]

Results of one study indicated that $rScO_2$ is useful for indicating global oxygen delivery and consumption,[11] and the correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ has been studied in adult and pediatric cardiac surgery patients.[12,13] To determine whether $rScO_2$ can be a noninvasive technique to reflect systemic oxygen balance, we investigated the correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ in off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery under both 0.60 and 1.0 F_{IO_2} during mechanical ventilation. The purpose of this study was to determine whether both $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ could be applied, instead of one or the other.

Methods

The study protocol of this prospective observational study was approved by the ethics committee of the First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University. Written informed consent was obtained from all the subjects. From January to December 2015, a total of 56 subjects were enrolled into this study. Inclusion criteria were the following: age >18 y and elective off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery for coronary heart disease. Exclusion criteria were the following: combined other cardiac surgeries, contraindication of pulmonary artery catheter placement, stroke, cerebrovascular disease, intra-aortic balloon pump or other ventricle support devices used during the operation, failure to insert the pulmonary artery catheter, and death during the operation. The enrollment procedure is shown in Figure 1.

Anesthesia Management

The subjects were routinely monitored by electrocardiogram, pulse oxygen saturation, arterial blood pressure, and central venous pressure. Anesthesia was induced by 0.05–0.10 mg/kg midazolam, 0.5–1.0 μg/kg sufentanil, 0.2–0.3 mg/kg etomidate, and 0.9 mg/kg rocuronium, which was maintained by 1.0–1.5% sevoflurane and 4–8 mg/kg/h propofol, muscle relaxation was achieved by rocuronium. Mechanical ventilation was performed in the volume control mode with a breathing frequency of 10 breaths/min and a tidal volume of 6–12 mL/kg. The tidal volume was adjusted to

QUICK LOOK

Current knowledge

Mixed venous oxygen saturation ($S_{\bar{v}O_2}$) is a standard method to evaluate global oxygen delivery and consumption balance during anesthesia. The regional cerebral oxygen saturation ($rScO_2$), which can be noninvasively monitored by near-infrared spectroscopy, indicates the regional cerebral oxygen saturation and provides information on regional cerebral oxygen delivery and consumption balance. Previous studies showed that the $rScO_2$ could indicate global oxygen delivery and consumption, and there was correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ under some condition, but whether the correlation was existed during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery was not explored.

What this paper contributes to our knowledge

$rScO_2$ would be adequate in reflecting $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and the variation trend of $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery, the change in F_{IO_2} can simultaneously influence the $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ value, and the variation trend of $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was consistent.

maintain the end-tidal carbon dioxide pressure at 35–45 mm Hg. F_{IO_2} was 1.0 during anesthesia induction. This was reduced to 0.60 at 10 min after intubation and increased to 1.0 again after protamine infusion.

$S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and $rScO_2$ Measurements

$S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and $rScO_2$ were simultaneously monitored in all the subjects. After anesthesia induction, the pulmonary artery catheter (Swan-Ganz Continuous Cardiac Output Thermodilution catheter, Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, California) was inserted via an 8.5 French sheath placed in the right internal jugular vein for all the subjects. $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was continuously measured through the pulmonary artery catheter connected to a Vigilance II monitor (Edwards Lifesciences). The location of the pulmonary artery catheter was verified by pressure curve analysis. The $rScO_2$ was continuously measured by near-infrared spectroscopy. The near-infrared spectroscopy sensors (at a wavelength of 700–900 nm) were placed on the right side of the forehead with a flexible, self-adhesive bandage wrapped around the head. These sensors were connected to a EGOS-600A cerebral oximeter (EnginMed, Suzhou, China).

Data Collection

Next, $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ were recorded at 5 time points: T_1, 10 min after intubation (mechanical ventilation with
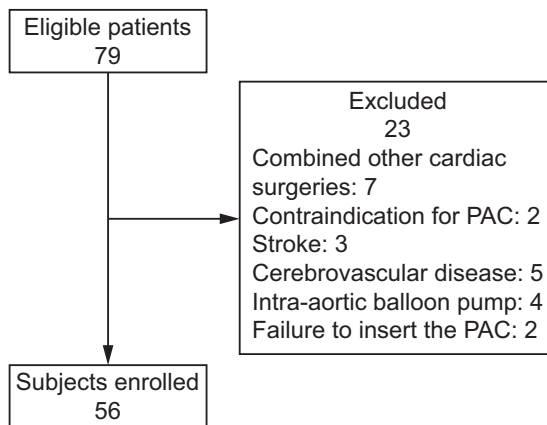
Fig. 1. Flow chart. PAC = pulmonary artery catheter.

Table 1. Demographic Data and Details of Operations of the Subjects

Parameter ($N = 56$)	Value	Range
Age, mean $\pm$ SD y	58.5 ± 7.0	45–67
Males/females, n	41/15	
BMI, mean $\pm$ SD kg/m^2	24.3 ± 3.4	19.4–29.4
Preoperative LVEF, mean $\pm$ SD %	58.8 ± 12.2	35–73
Comorbidities, n		
Hypertension	33	
Diabetes	24	
Kidney injury	5	
Operation duration, mean $\pm$ SD min	215.7 ± 57.2	150–340
Grafts, mean $\pm$ SD n	4.4 ± 1.2	2–6

BMI = body mass index
LVEF = left-ventricle ejection fraction

1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min); T_2, 20 min after intubation (mechanical ventilation with 0.60 F_{IO_2} for 10 min); T_3, the end of the revascularization of the left anterior descending artery (mechanical ventilation with 0.60 F_{IO_2}); T_4, after protamine infusion (mechanical ventilation with 0.60 F_{IO_2}); and T_5, 10 min after protamine infusion (mechanical ventilation with 1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min). The demographics were recorded for all the subjects. Mean arterial blood pressure, central venous pressure, mean pulmonary artery pressure, cardiac output ($\dot{Q}_T$), P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2}, P_{aCO_2}, and hemoglobin concentration were also recorded at these 5 time points.

Statistical Analysis

Continuous variables are presented as mean $\pm$ SD, and categorical variables are presented as numbers. Repeated-measures analysis of variance was used to assess the difference of mean arterial blood pressure, central venous pressure, mean pulmonary artery pressure, $\dot{Q}_T$, P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2}, P_{aCO_2}, hemoglobin, rScO$_2$, and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ among the time points. The correlation between Δ rScO$_2$ and Δ $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was evaluated by using the Pearson correlation coefficient. Linear regression analysis was calculated among $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and rScO$_2$, $\dot{Q}_T$, mean arterial blood pressure, central venous pressure, mean pulmonary artery pressure, hemoglobin, P_{aCO_2}, and P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2}. Data were analyzed by using SPSS 17.0 for Windows (SPSS, Chicago, Illinois). Statistical significance was defined as $P < .05$.

Results

Subject Demographics and Details of the Operation

From January to December 2015, a total of 56 subjects were enrolled into the present study. Subject demographics and operation details are shown in Table 1.

Hemodynamic Data and Arterial Blood Gas Analysis at 5 Time Points During Off-Pump Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting Surgery

There was no significant difference in P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2}, P_{aCO_2}, and hemoglobin among the 5 time points. The central venous pressure, mean arterial blood pressure, and mean pulmonary artery pressure were significantly higher at T_3 than at the other time points, and $\dot{Q}_T$ was significantly lower at T_3 and significantly higher at T_5 than the other time points. These data are shown in Table 2.

Correlation Between rScO$_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ Among the 5 Time Points

$S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and rScO$_2$ were significantly higher at T_5 than at the other time points. There was a positive correlation between rScO2 and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ at the 5 time points. The data are presented in Table 3.

Correlation of the Variation Trend Between rScO$_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ Under Different F_{IO_2}

rScO$_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ decreased when F_{IO_2} decreased from 1.0 to 0.60 (T_1 to T_2), and increased when F_{IO_2} increased from 0.60 to 1.0 (T_4 to T_5). The Δ $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was defined as $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ (T_1) − $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ (T_2) and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ (T_5) − $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ (T_4), whereas Δ rScO$_2$ was defined as rScO$_2$ (T_1) − rScO$_2$ (T_2) and rScO$_2$ (T_5) − rScO$_2$ (T_4). The mean $\pm$ SD Δ $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was 4.7 ± 4.1, and the mean $\pm$ SD Δ rScO$_2$ was 2.5 ± 2.5. The variation trend between rScO$_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was consistent ($r^2 = 0.72$, $P < .001$) (Fig. 2). Linear regression analysis was performed to examine the variables that best predict $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$. Then rScO$_2$, $\dot{Q}_T$, mean arterial blood pressure, central venous pressure, mean pulmonary artery pressure, hemoglobin, P_{aCO_2}, and P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2} were used in the model.

Table 2.   Hemodynamic Data and Arterial Blood Gas Analysis

Parameter	T_1	T_2	T_3	T_4	T_5	P
mABP, mmHg	76.9 ± 6.9	78.5 ± 9.0	82.5 ± 7.9	79.5 ± 7.3	77.9 ± 5.1	.44
CVP, cmH_2O	13.1 ± 1.2	13.2 ± 1.4	14.2 ± 1.3	12.7 ± 1.7	12.5 ± 1.0	.064
mPAP, mmHg	21.0 ± 4.9	21.5 ± 5.2	25.2 ± 5.1	23.1 ± 5.1	20.8 ± 1.8	.15
$\dot{Q}_T$, L/min	4.9 ± 1.4	4.5 ± 1.6	3.8 ± 1.1	4.7 ± 1.3	5.4 ± 1.1	.09
P_{aO_2}/F_{IO_2}, mmHg	335.4 ± 48.6	322.2 ± 47.4	300.4 ± 59.1	289.9 ± 51.5	321.5 ± 37.6	.21
P_{aCO_2}, mmHg	38.9 ± 2	39.2 ± 2.1	39.4 ± 2.2	39.2 ± 2.9	39.3 ± 2.1	.90
Hb, g/dl	13.0 ± 1.5	12.8 ± 1.4	12.4 ± 1.5	11.4 ± 1.5	11.8 ± 1.2	.058

All values are mean $\pm$ SD.
T_1 = 10 min after intubation (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
T_2 = 20 min after intubation (0.60 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
T_3 = at the end of the revascularization of the left anterior descending artery (0.60 F_{IO_2})
T_4 = after protamine infusion (0.60 F_{IO_2})
T_5 = 10 min after protamine infusion (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
mABP = mean arterial blood pressure
CVP = central venous pressure
mPAP = mean pulmonary arterial pressure
$\dot{Q}_T$, cardiac output
P_{aO_2} = arterial oxygen pressure
F_{IO_2} = fraction of inspired oxygen
P_{aCO_2} = arterial carbon dioxide pressure
Hb = hemoglobin

Table 3.   The Correlation Between $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and $rScO_2$

Time Point	$S_{\bar{v}O_2}$	$rScO_2$	r^2	P
T_1	79.3 ± 7	64.4 ± 3.8	0.77	<.001
T_2	74.7 ± 6.1	61.3 ± 3.6	0.81	<.001
T_3	74.8 ± 4.9	61.8 ± 3.1	0.70	<.001
T_4	78.9 ± 4.6	62.7 ± 3.1	0.83	<.001
T_5	83.5 ± 4.3	64.6 ± 3.0	0.92	<.001

All values are mean $\pm$ SD.
$S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ = mixed venous oxygen saturation
$rScO_2$ = regional cerebral oxygenation
T_1 = 10 min after intubation (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
T_2 = 20 min after intubation (0.60 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
T_3 = at the end of the revascularization of the left anterior descending artery (0.60 F_{IO_2})
T_4 = after protamine infusion (0.60 F_{IO_2})
T_5 = 10 min after protamine infusion (1.0 F_{IO_2} for 10 min)
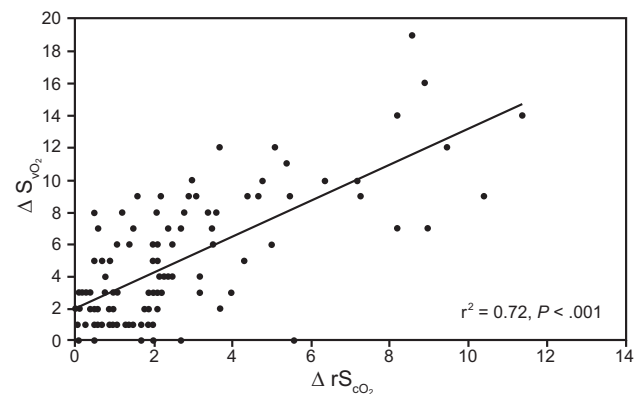

Fig. 2. Correlation between the change in the regional cerebral O_2 saturation ($rScO2$) and the change in the mixed venous O_2 saturation ($S_{\bar{v}O_2}$).

The linear regression analysis revealed that $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was positively correlated with $rScO_2$ and $\dot{Q}_T$ ($r^2 = 0.68$, $P = 0.013$). The regression equation was $S_{\bar{v}O_2} = -16.082 + 1.393 \times rScO_2 + 1.304 \times \dot{Q}_T$.

Discussion

In the present study, a moderate-to-strong positive correlation was found between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. There also was a positive correlation on the variation trend between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ when F_{IO_2} was changed.

The $rScO_2$, which can be noninvasively monitored by near-infrared spectroscopy, indicates the $rScO_2$ and provides information on $rScO_2$ delivery and consumption bal-

ance. $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ provides information on global oxygen delivery and consumption balance, and can be used as an indicator of the adequacy of whole-body oxygen, including venous saturation of the brain and of the upper and lower extremities.[14] However, the trend of using a pulmonary artery catheter to monitor $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ has declined due to complications.[15]

Although $rScO_2$ reflects oxygen saturation in the small region of the frontal lobes and depends on cerebral perfusion and metabolism, $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ represents the venous blood oxygen saturation of all organs and is dependent on whole-body oxygen delivery and consumption. Because blood in cerebral tissues mainly consists of the venous compartment, $rScO_2$ is correlated closer to venous saturation than to arterial saturation.[16] Hence, a positive correlation was

found between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ in the present study. Because the variation range was greater in $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ than in $rScO_2$, there was a different r^2 between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ at each time point.

Previous studies show that $rScO_2$ can reflect global oxygen delivery and consumption balance. Ginther et al[17] found that the correlation coefficient between cerebral near-infrared spectroscopy and superior vena cava oxygen saturation was 0.77 during cardiopulmonary bypass. During the varying hemodynamic conditions in subjects undergoing transapical transcatheter aortic valve implantation, $rScO_2$ could reflect $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$.[18] Furthermore, Schön et al[19] found a positive correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ in awake and spontaneously breathing subjects after cardiac surgery. Weiss et al[20] concluded that $rScO_2$ is associated with central venous oxygen saturation. Kirshbom et al[21] found that $rScO_2$ can reflect systemic perfusion in awake children with a single ventricle. Other studies found a positive correlation among $rScO_2$, $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and central venous oxygen saturation in pediatric cardiac surgery subjects.[22,23] Furthermore, a positive correlation between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was also found during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in a porcine model.[24]

Many factors can influence the $rScO_2$ value. Dullenkopf et al[12] found that there was a fair-to-moderate correlation in $rScO_2$ with hemoglobin concentration and the cardiac index in adult subjects after cardiac surgery. Jugular bulb oxygen saturation, which can indicate $rScO_2$,[25] decreased during coronary artery anastomosis in off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery.[26] Hu et al[27] found that $rScO_2$ was positively correlated to cerebral perfusion pressure (approximately equal to mean arterial blood pressure– central venous pressure). In the present study, we found that $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was positively correlated with $rScO_2$ and $\dot{Q}_T$, which indicated that the $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and $rScO_2$ could be interactional.

During anesthesia induction, F_{IO_2} was set to 1.0 to increase the oxygen reserve and to prolong the artificial ventilation suspending time during trachea intubation. A previous study revealed that 1.0 F_{IO_2} during anesthesia induction did not induce obvious atelectasis.[28] To avoid atelectasis during the operation, F_{IO_2} was reduced to 0.60 after endotracheal intubation. In addition, because hemoglobin, S_{aO_2}, hemodynamics, and oxygen consumption were relatively stable within 10 min during general anesthesia, we can only change F_{IO_2} to change the oxygen delivery, which further influences the values of $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$. A positive correlation on the variation trend between $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was also found.

There were limitations in the present study. First, the study was limited to 2 different clinical conditions, and we did not perform this study over a range of varying F_{IO_2} concentrations. Second, the hemodynamics was stable in all the subjects during the operation. However, there was no way to conclude whether the obtained correlations would be valid under unstable hemodynamic conditions. Third, these results were based on this condition, namely, that the oxygen supply and consumption function were normal; there would be different results when oxygenation and oxygen transfer capacity are impaired. Also, our study was limited by the relatively small number of subjects; as such, there may be some selection bias.

Conclusions

According to the present study, $rScO_2$ would be adequate in reflecting $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ and the variation trend of $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ during off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery. Furthermore, the change in F_{IO_2} can simultaneously influence the $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ value, and the variation trend of $rScO_2$ and $S_{\bar{v}O_2}$ was consistent, which has not been reported before.

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