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THE PERFORMANCE OF PLETHYSMOGRAPHIC INDICES AS A PREDICTOR OF FLUID RESPONSIVENESS IN SPONTANEOUSLY BREATHING PATIENTS IN **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT: A PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY**





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INTRODUCTION

Hypovolemia is a common problem encountered in Emergency Department (ED). Fluid responsiveness is an important tool for initial fluid assessment for critically ill patients. Excessive volume expansion with positive fluid balance increases morbidity and mortality. Dynamic hemodynamic monitoring is more accurate than static measurement to predict fluid responsiveness. However, most of them are invasive and not readily available in ED.

MATERIALS & METHOD

This study aimed to determine the performance of respiratory variation in pulse oximetry plethysmographic waveform amplitude (APOP), pleth variability index (PVI) and collapsibility of inferior vena cava (cIVC) as noninvasive methods to predict fluid responsiveness in hypovolemic spontaneously breathing patients presented to ED Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz. This prospective observational study recruited 35 medical patients with class II and III hypovolemic shock who presented to ED. Initial assessment was done by the attending physician in which 250 milliliter of normal saline bolus was given to the patient over 10 minutes. Plethysmographic waveform was monitored and measured for its maximum and minimum amplitude. ΔPOP calculated as (POP_{max} – POP_{min})/[(POP_{max} + POP_{min}) x 0.5], where POP_{max} and POP_{min} represent the maximal and minimal amplitude respectively, of the pulse oximetry plethysmographic waveform (POP) over one respiratory cycle as shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.



Figure 1 : POP amplitude determination at baseline (1 indicates maximum amplitude value; 2, minimum amplitude value)



Figure 2 : POP amplitude determination after intravenous fluid bolus (1 indicates maximum amplitude value; 2, minimum amplitude value)

Digital pulse oximeter was used to measure the perfusion index (PI) before and after intravenous fluid bolus. The maximum and minimum PI was taken into consideration to measure PVI. PVI calculated as [(PI_{max} - PI_{min})/ PI_{max}] x 100, where PI_{max} and PI_{min} represent the maximal and minimal value respectively, of the plethysmographic PI over one respiratory cycle. Vital signs, cIVC, ΔPOP and PVI were measured before and after the intravenous fluid bolus was administered.



The result shows that there was significant mean difference for ΔPOP (p value <0.01*) and cIVC (p value <0.01*) at baseline and after the fluid bolus but not to PVI. It also demonstrates that the mean APOP difference after the intravenous fluid bolus was 13% as shown in Figure 3.

Variables	Baseline	After fluid bolus	P value
cIVC, %, mean(± SD)	52.08(15.62)	41.09(13.44)	<0.01*
Pl _{max} , mean(± SD)	0.77(0.77)	0.70(0.78)	<0.01*
Pl _{min} , mean(± SD)	0.57(0.52)	0.55(0.73)	<0.01*
PVI, mean(± SD)	25.84(9.43)	29.16(11.76)	0.53
POP _{max} , mm, mean(± SD)	70.97(16.44)	66.51(19.93)	<0.01*
POP _{min} , mm, mean(± SD)	41.51(14.00)	44.34(15.12)	<0.01*
ΔPOP, mean(± SD)	0.55(0.21)	0.42(0.20)	<0.01*

Figure 3 :Hemodynamic data at baseline and after intravenous fluid bolus

DISCUSSION

Acute circulatory failure is one of the most common diagnosis encountered in emergency setting. Hemodynamic monitoring is an integral part of managing hypovolemic patients in ED. Usage of plethysmography indices as part of hemodynamic monitoring in ED is proven as it is part of dynamic measurement for fluid responsiveness, noninvasive, not operator dependant and readily available in ED as shown in many studies. Our study found that POP_{max}, POP_{min} , and ΔPOP may predict fluid responsiveness in spontaneously breathing critically ill patients presented to ED. A reduction of 13% and above of $\triangle POP$ indicates fluid responsiveness. We may make an assumption that increment of 13% of \triangle POP may indicate patient is having hypovolemia.

CONCLUSION

APOP may predict fluid responsiveness in hypovolemic spontaneously breathing patients presented to ED. Its noninvasive, reproducible and readily available advantages may be a good parsimonious tool to be utilized in ED as part of dynamic hemodynamic monitoring in critically ill patients.

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICT FOR ALL AUTHORS

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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