Optimizing Vancomycin Dosing for Peri-operative Prophylaxis in High-risk Orthopedic Surgery Patients: Time for a Change

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ABSTRACT (modified)

Background: Since 2008 all patients at our institution undergoing arthroplasty and spine fusion have been screened for Staphylococcus aureus nasal colonization and vancomycin (VAN) is added to all if methicillin-resistant S. aureus (MRSA) is detected. Optimal VAN timing and dosing prior to surgery in MRSA colonized patients is critical to minimize post-operative surgical site infections (PSIS). We assessed potential benefits of VAN weight-based (WB) dosing as compared to the 1g dosing in these high-risk patients.

Methods: We included patients with positive MRSA nasal screen and arthroplasty or spine fusion performed between January 2009 and January 2012. All patients received VAN 1g within 1 hour prior to incision. VAN dose (15mg/kg) of actual body weight (ABW) rounded to the nearest 250mg, maximum 2g was calculated for each patient. Patients were classified as underdosed or overdosed. We used pharmacokinetic formulas to estimate VAN levels at the time of wound closure based on duration of procedure (optime). Percent of patients with estimated VAN levels <10mg/L, and <15mg/L at the time of wound closure were compared for each dosing regimen.

Results: Among 216 patients, 68% underwent arthroplasty (knee n=75, hip n=66, shoulder n=43). 24% spine fusion and 8% arthroplasty and spine fusion performed between January 2009 and January 2012. All patients received VAN 1g within 1 hour prior to incision. VAN dose (15mg/kg of ABW) rounded to the nearest 250mg, maximum 2g was calculated for each patient. Patients’ weight was 66 kg (range 29-87 kg). Mean age was 60 years, ABW was 86kg (68% of patients had ABW >20% of ideal BW) and creatinine clearance was 79mL/min. Mean VAN dose and half-life were 12mg/kg and 10h, respectively. VAN 1g dose was appropriate in 21% of patients, 10% were overdosed by 250mg and 69% were underdosed (44% by 125mg, 32% by 500mg, 17% by 75mg, 7% by 1000mg). Estimated VAN level at the end of procedure was <10mg/L in 9% of patients with 1g dose compared to 2%, (p=0.002) with WB dose. Estimated VAN level at the end of procedure was <15mg/L in 60% of patients with 1g dose compared to 12%, (p=0.005) with WB dose. Nine patients developed PSIS, and 6/9 had positive cultures with MRSA (2/6 VAN MIC of ≤0.5mg/L, 4/6 VAN MIC of 1mg/L). All 6 patients with MRSA PSIS were underdosed with VAN 1g dose and 5/6 had estimated level <15mg/L, at the time of wound closure.

Conclusion: VAN WB dosing could provide a higher rate of adequate levels at the time of wound closure. Our surgical prophylaxis guidelines have been changed to recommend VAN WB dosing.

BACKGROUND

• Post-operative surgical site infections (PSIS) lead to increased morbidity and mortality, longer hospital stay and higher health care cost

• Between 2006 and 2008 PSIS were reported nationally in ~0.58 – 2.3 per 100 procedures in patients undergoing joint and spine surgery

• S. aureus accounts for 48% of all PSIS

• An increasing number of infections are caused by MRSA

• Prevalence of MRSA strains with elevated vancomycin (VAN) MIC is rising

• Since 2008 all patients at our institution undergoing arthroplasty and spine fusion are screened for S. aureus nasal colonization and VAN is added to all if MRSA is detected

• Optimal VAN timing and dose prior to surgery in MRSA colonized patients is critical to minimize PSIS

• For effective prophylaxis VAN serum concentrations should remain above the minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) for entire surgical procedure: i.e. from the time of incision until complete wound closure

• To increase likelihood of attaining an adequate VAN concentration recent guidelines on surgical antimicrobial prophylaxis recommend VAN levels at the time of wound closure. Our surgical prophylaxis guidelines suggest the following guidelines

METHODS

• Single-center study (orthopedic specialty hospital)

• Patients with positive MRSA nasal screen undergoing total joint and spine surgical procedures between January 2009 and January 2012 were included

• Patient’s gender, height, weight, serum creatinine (SCr) were prospectively collected

• All patients received traditional VAN 1g dose within 1 hour prior to incision

• VAN WB dose (15mg/kg of ABW) rounded to the nearest 250mg, maximum 2g was calculated for each patient

• Patients were classified as

  • Underdosed: calculated WB dose <1g

  • Overdosed: calculated WB dose >1g

• Pharmacokinetic formulas were used to estimate VAN levels at the time of incision (peak level) and time of wound closure based on duration of procedure (optime).

RESULTS

• Percent of patients with estimated VAN levels <10 mg/L and <15 mg/L at the time of wound closure for VAN WB compared to VAN 1g dosing

  • Statistical analysis via SPSS v20

  • McNemar’s test for matched pairs of levels with 1g and WB dosing

Table 1. Patient Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Frequency (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age, years</td>
<td>60±14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male gender, n (%)</td>
<td>103 (48)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comorbidities, n (%)</td>
<td>33 (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>12 (36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulmonary disease</td>
<td>10 (30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological disease</td>
<td>8 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malignancy</td>
<td>7 (21)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes mellitus</td>
<td>3 (9)</td>
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Table 2. Vancomycin Pharmacokinetic Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Value (mean ± SD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clearance, L/h</td>
<td>4.71±1.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volume of distribution, L</td>
<td>60.5±15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woodworking rate, h</td>
<td>0.081±0.0374</td>
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<tr>
<td>Half-life, h</td>
<td>104±16</td>
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Table 3. Patients with MRSA Postsurgical Infections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Value (mean ± SD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vancomycin administered dose (mg)</td>
<td>51.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dose administered, mg/k</td>
<td>12±3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated level at incision, mg/L</td>
<td>17.6±4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated level at wound closure, mg/L</td>
<td>14.5±3.9</td>
</tr>
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RESULTS (cont)

• Overall, 60% of patients had estimated VAN level at the time of wound closure of <15mg/L, with 1g as compared to 2% with WB dosing, (p=0.0005)

• VAN WB dosing will provide higher rate of adequate VAN concentration for entire surgical procedure

• Estimated VAN level >20mg/L at the time of incision

  • 26% of patients with 1g vs. 82% with WB dosing

• Estimated VAN level within 15-20 mg/L, range at the time of wound closure

  • 29% of patients with 1g vs. 70% with WB dosing

CONCLUSION

• Our analysis demonstrated that due to patient variability in weight and the increasing VAN MIC of MRSA, traditional 1g dose could result in underdosing and inadequate dosing in the majority of patients

• VAN WB dosing may provide a higher rate of adequate VAN concentration for entire surgical procedure: from the time of incision until complete wound closure

• Our surgical prophylaxis guidelines have been changed to recommend VAN WB dosing

REFERENCES


American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and the Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2008 Jul 1;65(13):1197-216


