OBSERVATIONS REGARDING SOME REGIONAL HORSE ANESTHESIA TECHNICS

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SUMMARY

Local anesthetic in contact with nervous fibres or nervous fibres terminations; temporary suspends their functions resulting local insensitivity. These drugs have electivity for fibres and sensitive terminations; sometime they are able to substitute narcosis which in some situations could not be use.

Regional anesthesia it is a technique relatively easy to perform; efficient by pain suppression; cheap and it is possible to be applied at horses even in field conditions. She allows performing different surgical interventions; alone or in combination with general anesthesia; is useful in differential diagnosis of lameness on horses; and also in therapy.

Depending of our intention; the anesthetic blocks are: troncular blocks; plexus block; epidural block; paravertebral block and medullary block. To practice these techniques it is necessary being familiar with administration sites and procedure; besides knowing witch anesthetics are recommended to be use.

By regional anesthesia it is possible to block following nerves: frontal; ophthalmic; auriculopalpebral; infraorbitar; maxillary; mental; mandibulo-alveolar; lingual and hypoglossal; superior cervical; thoracoventral; intercostals; paravertebral and paralumbar; lumbosacral and sacral-coccygeal; median; musculocutaneous; ulnar; radial; tibial; fibular; palmar; plantar and digital nerves.

The analgesics used by us were Xiline 2%; Lidocaine 2%; Procaine 4% and Bupivacaine 0.75%; 10 ml dosage injected in vicinity of nerves. The analgesic effect last 30-40 min. for Lidocaine and Procaine; 30-90 min. for Xiline and 1-6 hours for Bupivacaine situation in which anesthetic effect began later; after 30-45 min.

We recommend regional anesthesia to be use in differential diagnosis of equine lameness and various surgical interventions or in association with general anesthesia and/or local anesthesia.