Inhaled Gases for Neuroprotection in Neonates with HIE

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Disclosures

• iNO for this study has been provided by Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals
Learning objectives

1. Identify new therapeutic inhaled gases for neuroprotection in neonates with HIE
2. Comprehend the mechanism of action of the inhaled gases as it relates to pathophysiology of HIE
3. Discuss ongoing clinical trials for inhaled gases as neuroprotection for HIE
HIE Background

- Incidence: 20 per 1000 live births
- Whole body hypothermia is standard of care for HIE
- 1/8 will will have normal neurologic function
- There is room for improvement in survival without significant neurologic impairment

Xenon
Xenon

- Noble gas
- One of the most studied inhaled gases
- Expensive to manufacture
- Lacks fetotoxicity
- Antagonizes NMDA, AMPA and CaMKII


Petzelt C. PARTICIPATION OF THE Ca2+-CALMODULIN-ACTIVATED KINASE II IN THE CONTROL OF METAPHASE-ANAPHASE TRANSITION IN HUMAN CELLS. Cell Biol Int. 2001
Moderate hypothermia within 6 h of birth plus inhaled xenon versus moderate hypothermia alone after birth asphyxia (TOBY-Xe): a proof-of-concept, open-label, randomised controlled trial

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Short research report

Anticonvulsant effect of xenon on neonatal asphyxial seizures

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Xenon

• TOBY-Xe study (NCT 00934700)
  – Randomized, open label, parallel group trial in UK. Completed in 2014
  – Moderate to severe HIE
  – Compared 72h of hypothermia alone to 72h hypothermia + 30% xenon for 24h
  – Primary outcome: reduction in Lac/NAA ratio on magnetic resonance spectroscopy or preserved fractional anisotropy measured on diffusion weighted magnetic resonance imaging


Xenon

- CoolXenon3 (NCT02071394)
  - Randomized open label study. Phase II is currently recruiting
  - Estimated completion in 2019
  - Comparing 72h of hypothermia alone to 72h hypothermia + 50% xenon for 18h
  - Primary outcome: Death or severe disability (Baily III)
  - Secondary outcome: Brain MRI and aEEG grading
Argon
Argon

- Noble gas
- More abundant and less expensive than xenon
- GABA receptor antagonist
- Upregulates HO-1 and bcl-2
- Decreases NF-kB activation

- No clinical studies of argon

Helium
Helium

- Noble gas
- Heliox is used for deep diving
- Helium is used to cool MRI machines
- Promotes endogenous NO production and activates NrF2 pathway

- There are no current clinical studies looking at helium as a neuroprotective agent

Hydrogen
Hydrogen

- The most abundant element in the universe
- Binds free radicals formed by oxidative stress
- Reduces of caspase-3 and caspase-13 activity

- There are currently no ongoing or completed clinical studies using hydrogen for neuroprotection


Carbon Dioxide
Carbon Dioxide

- Fourth most common gas in atmospheric air
- Regulates minute ventilation and cerebral blood flow
- Hypocapnia increases risk of PVL and IVH
- Permissive hypercapnia shown to decrease incidence of BPD
- In animal studies mild hypercapnia and normocapnia at time of hypoxia-ischemia preserves cerebral blood flow in contrast to hypocapnia and severe hypercapnia

Carbon Dioxide – Clinical trials

- Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy Therapy Optimization in Neonates for Better Neuroprotection with Inhalative CO2 (HENRIC) - NCT02700854
  - Hungarian single center, open label study, actively recruiting
  - Estimated completion in 2020
  - Using low concentration CO2 gas mixture (5% CO2 + 95% air) in mechanically ventilated term infants
Primary Outcome Measures:
- Percentage of time spent in the desired pCO2 range of 40-60 mmHg (temp. corrected) during CO2 inhalation

Secondary Outcome Measures: Number of seizures, either detected clinically or by amplitude integrated EEG monitoring
- Time until the end point of metabolic acidosis (BE > -5 mmol/L)
- Time until the end point of acidosis (pH > 7.25)
- Severe hypotension (mean arterial pressure less than 25 mmHg), despite full inotrope support and volume replacement.
- Intracranial hemorrhage detected by MRI
- Reduction in Lac/NAA ratio on magnetic resonance spectroscopy
- Preserved fractional anisotropy measured on diffusion weighted MRI
- Death
Carbon Monoxide
Carbon monoxide

- Neuroprotective at low concentrations
- Upregulates Bcl-2
- Reduces capase-3 cytochrome 3 release
- Promotes NrF2 dissociation and binding to ARE

- There are currently no ongoing or completed clinical studies utilizing carbon monoxide for neuroprotection


Wang B, Cao W, Biswal S, Doré S. Carbon monoxide-activated Nrf2 pathway leads to protection against permanent focal cerebral ischemia. *Stroke*. 2011
Oxygen
Oxygen

- Reactive oxygen species are exaggerated by cellular injury like HIE
- Hyperbaric oxygen is controversial
- Resuscitating with 100% Oxygen is also controversial
Resuscitation With Room Air Instead of 100% Oxygen Prevents Oxidative Stress in Moderately Asphyxiated Term Neonates

Máximo Vento, Miguel Asensi, Juan Sastre, Fernando García-Sala, Federico V. Pallardó, José Viña

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Articles
Resuscitation of newborn infants with 100% oxygen or air: a systematic review and meta-analysis
Dr Peter G Davis MD *, & a, Anton Tan MRCPCH *, Colm PF O'Donnell MRCPCH *, & a, Prof Andreas Schulze MD

Impact of the Neonatal Resuscitation Program—Recommended Low Oxygen Strategy on Outcomes of Infants Born Preterm

Vishal S. Kapadia, MD *, Charitharth V. Lal, MD *, Venkat Kakkilaya, MD *, Roy Heyne, MD *, Rashmin C. Savani, MBChB *, and Myra H. Wyckoff, MD *
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Improves Outcome of Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy (NCT02894866)

- Ongoing Chinese multicenter, randomized trial
- The aim of study is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of hyperbaric oxygen in term infants with HIE
- The hyperbaric oxygen treatment will be administered for 60 min in a baby hyperbaric oxygen chamber pressured with 100% oxygen.
- The treatment will be administered once a day within 7 days after birth, 7 days is a course of treatment, at least for 4 courses.
Oxygen – Clinical trials

• **Primary Outcome Measures:**
  – Number of Death or Moderate to Severe Disability Which is Graded According to Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS)

• **Secondary Outcome Measures:**
  – Number of Infants with abnormal ambulatory electroencephalography monitoring Abnormalities
  – Number of Infants with Brain Magnetic Resonance Imaging abnormalities
  – Number of Infants with Brain-stem Auditory Evoked Potentials Abnormalities at 3 Months of Life
  – Neonatal behavioral neurological assessment
  – Bayley Scales of Infant Development
  – Gross Motor Function Classification System
  – Adverse Events That Are Related to Treatment
Nitric Oxide
Nitric Oxide

- Endogenous NO is a potent vasodilator, metabolized by oxyhemoglobin
- iNO is used widely to treat persistent pulmonary hypertension
- In contrary to common belief, iNO exerts effect beyond lungs due to its ability to bind to plasma proteins
- iNO activates antioxidant system through ARE-Nrf2-Keap1 pathway

Li YS, Shemmer B, Stone E, A Nardi M, Jonas S, Quartermain D. Neuroprotection by inhaled nitric oxide in a murine stroke model is concentration and duration dependent. Brain Res. 2013

Wang B, Cao W, Biswal S, Doré S. Carbon monoxide-activated Nrf2 pathway leads to protection against permanent focal cerebral ischemia. Stroke. 201
Nitric Oxide

- Concurrent iNO therapy (50 PPM) and focal ischemia (Rice Vannucci model) in rats was associated with decreased infarct volumes.
- iNO selectively dilates cerebral vessels in ischemic brain areas.
- iNO is associated with improvement of recovery from subarachnoid hemorrhage.

iNO as a Neuroprotective Therapy in HIE in Neonatal Mouse Model
Study Hypothesis

• iNO will improve the behavioral outcomes of HI in normothermic pups by preserving cortical tissue and by preserving white matter
Aim 1 Overview

Pups randomized on DOL 7

Naive Control n=8
No intervention

HI+NO 10 ppm 24 hours n=8
HI+NO 20 ppm 8 hours n=8
HI+NO 20 ppm 16 hours n=8
HI+NO 40 ppm 8 hours n=8
HI+NO 40 ppm 16 hours n=8

Developmental outcomes assessed
Short term outcomes- 72 hours after injury
Long Term outcomes- 7 and 24 days post injury

Pups sacrificed after 14 days outcomes
Tissue processed

HI n=8
No treatment

UFHealth
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HEALTH
Short Term Outcomes

Righting Reflex

24 hours post injury

Righting Reflex, 20 PPM, 8h

Righting Reflex, 40 PPM, 8h
Front limb Suspension

Front Limb Suspension, 20 PPM, 8h

Front Limb suspension, 40 PPM, 8h
Cliff Aversion

Cliff Aversion 20 PPM, 8h

Cliff Aversion 40 PPM, 8h
Long Term outcomes, Rotarod
Acknowledgments

• Michael Weiss, MD.
• Sylvain Doré, PhD.
• Candace Rossingol
• Livia Sura
• Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals for providing iNO for the study
Thank You!