General Anesthesia

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General anesthesia

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It is complete unconsciousness produced by a process of controlled, reversible intoxication of C.N.S. in which there is muscle relaxation and diminished to external stimuli.

Premedication (Sedation)

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Administration of drug before induction of anesthesia to prepare the patient which give :

- ≪ In combination with local anesthesia.
- As an adjunct to general anesthesia.

Such as (Anticholinergic drug, Benzodiazepines, Phenothiazine, Butyrophyenones and Alpha 2 Agonist)

Route of Administration



- 1. By inhalation.
- 2. By injection of nonvolatile or nongaseous anesthetics.
- Sometimes may be given by intra peritoneal, intramuscular or other routes.

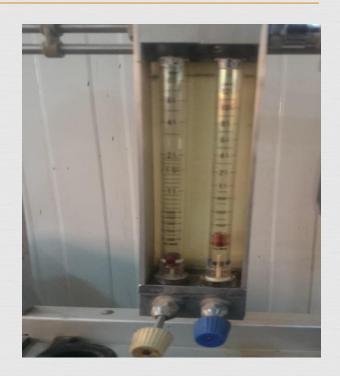
By combination of injectable and inhalation with or without pre-anesthetic.

Inhalation Anesthesia device









Halothane Vaporizer

Flowmeter O₂ N₂O





Air bag

Facial mask





corrugated tube

Smooth tube





canister

N2O bottle (Blue color)





O2 bottle (black color)

Endotracheal tube



Pressure gage

Pharmacokinetics

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General anesthesia is produced by the action of an anesthetic on the brain and spinal cord. Although demonstrated that significant quantities of some inhalation anesthetics are metabolized within the body, for practical purposes they are primarily exhaled. Small amounts are eliminated in feces and urine or diffused through the skin and mucous membranes.

Injectable agents depend on redistribution within the body, biotransformation, principally in the liver, and excretion via the kidneys.

Anesthetics are commonly administered by intravenous injection and occasionally by intramuscular, intrathoracic, intraperitoneal, subcutaneous, and even oral or rectal routes.

Stages of General Anesthesia

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For descriptive purposes, the levels of CNS depression induced by anesthetics have been divided into four stages depending on neuromuscular signs exhibited by patients . It should be emphasized that no clear division exists between stages.

Stage I

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This is termed the stage of voluntary movement and is defined as lasting from initial administration to loss of consciousness.

Nervous animals are bound to resist restraint. Excited, apprehensive animals may struggle violently and voluntarily hold their breath for short periods.

Epinephrine release causes a strong, rapid heartbeat and pupillary dilation. Salivation is frequent in some species, as are urination and defecation. With the approach of stage II, animals become progressively ataxic, lose their ability to stand, and assume lateral recumbency. Initially, they can turn or lift the head without support.

Stage II

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This is called the stage of delirium or involuntary movement. As the CNS becomes depressed, patients lose all voluntary control. This feature marks the change from stage I. By definition, this stage lasts from loss of consciousness to the onset of a regular pattern of breathing.

Patients react to external stimuli by violent reflex struggling, breath holding, tachypnea, and hyperventilation. Continued catecholamine release causes a fast, strong heartbeat, cardiac arrhythmias may occur, and the pupils may be widely dilated. Eyelash and palpebral reflexes are prominent. During this stage, animals may whine, cry, bellow, or neigh, depending on the species concerned. In some species, especially ruminants and cats, salivation may be excessive; in dogs, cats, and goats, vomiting may be evoked.

Stage III

This is the stage of surgical anesthesia and characterized by unconsciousness with progressive depression of the reflexes.

Muscular relaxation develops, and ventilation becomes slow and regular. This stage divided into planes: light, medium, and deep.

- Medium anesthesia is characterized by progressive intercostal paralysis, and deep anesthesia by diaphragmatic respiration. A medium depth of unconsciousness or anesthesia has traditionally been considered a light plane of surgical anesthesia (stage III, plane 2) characterized by stable respiration and pulse rate, abolished laryngeal reflexes, a sluggish palpebral reflex, a strong corneal reflex, and adequate muscle relaxation and analgesia for most surgical procedures.

○ Deep surgical anesthesia (stage III, plane 3) is characterized by decreased intercostal muscle function and tidal volume, increased respiratory rate, profound muscle relaxation, diaphragmatic breathing, a weak corneal reflex, and a centered and dilated pupil.

If CNS depression is allowed to increase further, patients will progress to stage IV.

Stage IV.

In this stage, the CNS is extremely depressed, and respirations cease. The heart continues to beat only for a short time. the pupils are widely dilated. The anal and bladder sphincters relax. Death quickly intervenes unless immediate resuscitative steps are taken.

Dosage Calculation

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Dose * Weight / Concentration

Dose of some anesthetic and per-medication drugs

Drugs/ Animals	Xyalzine mg/Kg	Acepromizine mg/Kg	Diazepam mg/Kg	detomidine mg/Kg	Propfol mg/Kg	Ketamine HCL mg/Kg
Dogs	1-2	0.1-0.2	4-5	0.01-0.02	5-6	5-15
Cat	1-2	0.1-0.2	4-5	0.01-0.02	4-6	15
Horse	2	0.2	0.02-0.08	0.02 - 0.04	2-4	2
Cattle	0.05-0.2	0.2	0.5-1	0.03-0.06	4-5	2

™ Note:

1- Concentration was found on vial as mg or percentage (1% = 10 mg, 100% = 1000 mg)

2- Signs of stages and planes of anesthesia in details: https://faculty.uobasrah.edu.iq/uploads/teaching/1678453540.pdf

Thanks