

Physiological Principles of Shock

Liam Finlay for MESS Intensive Series – 18/8/2020





- I am an MD3 student with an interest in intensive care medicine, not a qualified intensivist
- Critical care is a rapidly evolving field. This lecture aims to provide a basic overview/framework but details may change in the future



What lands someone in the ICU?

• There are multiple reasons why someone may end up in intensive care

• The main one being – they require care that can't be delivered on the ward

• This care could include

- Ventilation requirements
- Vasopressor/inotrope requirements
- 1:1 nursing
- Deteriorating patient
- High risk patient (tied in with 1:1 nursing)
- Admission criteria will vary based on hospital
 - For example, in some hospitals patients may go to a specialty HDU followed a procedure rather than an ICU



What is Shock?

- Shock is a physiological state where perfusion to end organs is impaired
- O It presents as
 - (usually) Hypotension
 - End organ dysfunction
 - Raised lactate
- It can be due to a variety of causes



Shock - Overview

• SHOCANs

O Sepsis

- Haemorrhagic (hypovolaemic)
- Obstructive
- O Cardiogenic
- O Anaphylactic
- O Neurogenic
- Sepsis and Neurogenic can also be regarded as distributive shock
- We also talk about "warm" and "cold" shock



How to think about shock

- The heart is a pump which moves fluid through pipes
- We are worried about the pressure inside the pipes
- The pressure can change by
 - Changing the diameter of the pipes
 - O Changing the amount of fluid
 - Changing the pump





- You're the intern working in the ED when you're asked to see a Gemma, a 38 year old woman with a history of SLE, in fast track with a sore, swollen leg after recently returning from Europe
- As she walks into the treatment bay she seems unsteady on her feet and becomes short of breath
- You quickly take her vitals as she starts to become confused
 - RR 35, shallow. SpO2 85%
 - HR 140. BP 95/40. Pulse weak, tachycardic
 - O GCS 10 and falling
- What's your DDx and initial management?



Gemma

• Diagnosis – PE resulting in obstructive shock

 You're the intern working in the ED when you're asked to see a Gemma, a 38 year old woman with a history of SLE (risk of antiphospholipid syndrome), in fast track with a sore, swollen leg after recently returning from Europe

O All DVT RFs

 As she walks into the treatment bay she seems unsteady on her feet and becomes short of breath and has altered GCS

• Signs of an embolic event resulting in obstructive shock, as evident in her poor cerebral perfusion



• The pipe has a blockage

- Massive pulmonary embolism (saddle PE)
- Cardiac tamponade
- Tension pneumothorax
- No output -> vasoconstricted, "cold" shock





Adapted from https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Fig-21The-systemic-and-pulmonary-circuits-of-the-cardiovascular-system-21_fig1_306097538



Filling defects showing a saddle embolus blocking the pulmonary trunk



Case by Radswiki via Radiopaedia

Tamponade/Tension pneumothorax

- Similar pathophysiology
- Increased pressure surrounding the heart (within the pericardium for tamponade, within the thoracic cavity for TP) results in a filling defect
 - Tamponade and pneumothorax are primarily pathologies of **diastole**
- RA and RV collapse due to thinner walls/lower pressures
 - Unable to fill during diastole, therefore nothing to pump out in systole
- Increased thoracic pressure in a TP can also impede venous drainage into the RA





Adapted from https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Fig-21The-systemic-and-pulmonary-circuits-of-the-cardiovascular-system-21_fig1_306097538

0845HRS



This is an XR that shouldn't have been taken – tension PT is a clinical diagnosis



Case courtesy of Dr Andrew Ho via Radiopaedia

Cardinal sign of obstructive shock

O Raised JVP

• Unlike every other type of shock where venous pressures will likely be low, in obstructive shock there will be increased venous pressure resulting in a raised JVP

O PE

- Signs of DVT/Risk factors
- O Acute onset
- Cardiac tamponade Beck's Triad
 - O Raised JVP
 - Muffled heart sounds
 - Hypotension
- Tension pneumothorax
 - Hyper resonant percussion
 - Absent breath sounds
 - O Tracheal deviation



George - 80

- You're working in a rural GP clinic when you get called to the waiting room to see George
- George is an 80yo smoker with a past history of diabetes, hypertension, previous IHD and 2x PCI stents 8 years ago. He came to the clinic today after waking up more short of breath than usual
- You were called to the waiting room because George seems confused and drowsy. Whilst your clinic manager calls an ambulance, you take some vitals
 - RR 20, SpO2 94%
 - HR 100bpm, BP 85/50. Pulse is weak and thready but regular
- What's your DDx and initial investigations/management?

George - 80

- George is an 80yo smoker with a past history of diabetes, hypertension, previous IHD and 2x PCI stents 8 years ago (he's an obvious vasculopathy with a high risk of AMI). He came to the clinic today after waking up more short of breath than usual (silent infarct resulting in APO)
- You were called to the waiting room because George seems **confused and drowsy (poor end organ perfusion)**. Whilst your clinic manager calls an ambulance, you take some vitals
 - RR 20, SpO2 94%
 - HR 100bpm, BP 85/50. Pulse is weak and thready but regular
- He's having an AMI, resulting in cardiogenic shock

Cardiogenic

• Failure of the pump

• Decrease in heart contractility means low output

- "Cold" shock
 - \circ MAP = CO x TPR
- O Causes
 - O Myocarditis
 - O Infarction
 - O Cardiomyopathy
 - Sepsis (although that usually causes distributive)
 - O Cardiac arrest



Amelia

• You're the intern on AMU

- Amelia is a 60yo woman with a CAP who has been admitted to AMU for a short course of intravenous antibiotics. She's only just been admitted and you haven't had a chance to meet her yet when the buzzer goes off for her room
- Amelia is short of breath, and her face seems swollen. She's drooling onto the pillow and you can here her wheeze as you enter the room
- As you watch she seems to become more and more drowsy
- You notice a bag with ceftriaxone which has just been started
- What are your DDx and initial investigations/management?

Amelia

- Amelia is a 60yo woman with a CAP who has been admitted to AMU for a short course of intravenous antibiotics. She's only just been admitted and you haven't had a chance to meet her yet when the buzzer goes off for her room
- Amelia is short of breath, and her face seems swollen. She's drooling onto the pillow (implying airway obstruction) and you can here her wheeze as you enter the room
- As you watch she seems to become more and more drowsy (poor cerebral perfusion)
- You notice a **bag with ceftriaxone** which has just been started **(in anaphylaxis, you always want to be thinking about what the trigger was so you can remove it)**
- What are your DDx and initial investigations/management?

Anaphylactic

- Pipes are getting bigger (and leakier) -> "warm" shock
- Fluid in the pipes might not have as much oxygen as it should
- Distinguished from distributive shocks because it also present an airway management issue and has its own distinct management plan (adrenaline)
- Defined as an allergic response affecting 2 or more body systems
 - O Angioedema
 - Swelling/tightness in the throat, stridor
 - O Dyspnoea, wheezing, cough
 - Vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain
 - O Hives, rash
- Treatment 500mcg adrenaline im (adults). ICU support required for intravascularly administered adrenaline



Haemorrhagic (hypovolaemic)

- The tubes don't have enough fluid in them
- Kids in particular can be vulnerable to dehydration related hypovolaemic shock
- Management stop the bleeding, replace the fluid
 - In haemorrhagic shock replace blood with blood! Replacing with crystalloid increases the risk of dilutional coagulopathy



Massive Haemorrhage in Trauma

- If you have a trauma patient who is tachycardic and hypotensive, you need to find the bleeding
- On the Floor, plus 4 more
 - O Chest
 - O Abdomen
 - O Pelvis
 - O Long bone
- Put a chest drain in, do a FAST/eFAST, apply a pelvic binder, reduce the fracture, **keep the patient warm**



Maria

• Maria is a 28yo woman, G2P1, who is currently in labour on your delivery ward

- The CTG is beginning to show a worrying trace and you're worried about foetal distress, so you take Maria to theatre for an emergency caesarean. As part of the caesarean, she receives a spinal anaesthetic
- Shortly after administration you notice Maria's blood pressure dropping. Her vitals are
 - RR 25, SpO2 98% on 4L O2
 - O HR 50, BP 85/40
- What is your DDx?



Maria

- The CTG is beginning to show a worrying trace and you're worried about foetal distress, so you take Maria to theatre for an emergency caesarean. As part of the caesarean, she receives a **spinal anaesthetic**
- Shortly after administration you notice Maria's blood pressure dropping. Her vitals are
 - RR 25, SpO2 98% on 4L O2
 - **O** HR 50, BP 85/40
- Hypotension with bradycardia -> you're thinking about neurogenic shock due to sympathetic blockade



Distributive

• "warm" shock

- Neurogenic -> Pipes are big
 - Associated with spinal shock/epidural
 - Blockade of the sympathetic trunk results in a loss of tone in vascular beds
 - May require fluid or vasopressors, usually short term

ANS Physiology and Pharmacology Overview | Review of Autonomic Nervous System



Marc Imhotep Cray, M.D.



Sepsis

• Pipes are big and leaky

- Cytokine release results in vasodilation and **increased vasopermeability**
- This vasopermeability is important -> fluid bolusing does have a role in fluid deplete patients, however third spacing becomes an important issue
- Usually considered a "warm" shock
 - HOWEVER -> geriatric and paediatric population can present peripherally shutdown due to associated dehydration
 - People can transition from a warm to a cold shock







Sepsis v Septic Shock

O Sepsis

O Fever

- O Tachycardia
- O Tachypnoea
- O Hypotension
- O Septic shock
 - Evidence of poor end organ perfusion
 - Rising creatinine, urea
 - Confusion/poor GCS
 - O Lactate >2



How do we treat it?

- O Find the source
- Remove the source
 - In ICU -> remove all lines and send for culture
- O Antibiotics
- Supportive care -> inotropes, vasopressors, fluids,

oxygen, ventilator



Questions?

• Some great questions from the night that weren't captured by the recording

- What is the difference between Perfusion Pressure and Mean Arterial Pressure?
 - Perfusion pressure refers to the pressure of blood actually getting to the organ to perfuse it
 - PP relies on the central venous pressure as well as the MAP. If the CVP is high, we're going to need a greater MAP to overcome the resistance and perfuse the organ
 - In many ways it's a similar concept to cerebral perfusion pressure, CPP = MAP ICP; however, in other organs it's PP = MAP – CVP
- What are the vital sign cut-offs for shock?
 - O I think this is a hard question to answer because really there isn't one
 - As you saw in neurogenic shock, you can be bradycardic, so HR isn't an accurate vital to solely base your diagnosis of shock
 - Blood pressure also isn't great you can have normotensive shock
 - There's also so much variation within people. Someone could be used to a BP of 170/100, and when we give them a bunch of antihypertensives their blood pressure might be 130/80, but they might be confused (sign of end organ perfusion), have a raised lactate, and be clinically shocked
 - Your vitals help paint a picture, but you still need the canvas -> you need to interpret your vitals in the context of your patient, what you'd expect to be normal for them, and your clinical assessment



More info

O <u>https://messunimelb.org/</u>

• Heaps of resources, links, twitter accounts, podcasts, and COVID19 specific resources

O I also like to use

- O <u>https://emcrit.org/</u>
- <u>https://emcrit.org/ibcc/toc/</u>
- <u>https://emergencymedicinecases.com/</u>
- o <u>https://litfl.com/</u>



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