The idea of partial MAC values has become part of the clinical jargon, and it is—more or less—an accurate reflection of partial potency because the slopes of the relationships for sevoflurane and isoflurane are quite similar. Moreover, it is common practice for patients as well as animals to use MAC multiples to compare the effects of various inhalational anesthetics on a wide variety of physiologic endpoints—for example, brain acetylcholine level, cerebral blood flow, vasoconstriction, cardiac function, and hemodynamics. In fact, many reviewers insist on the use of MAC multiples.

As Dr. Cross suggests, in terms of equal points on two separate dose-response curves for our study, a more precise fact, many reviewers insist on the use of MAC multiples.

References


Complications of C1-C2 Facet Injection

To the Editor:
The case report by Edlow et al.1 is a valuable example of the vascular nature of the C1-C2 facet injection. However, the most valuable picture that would have shown whether the complication that occurred was truly because of an unusual complication of the procedure or whether it was because of simple misplacement of the needle was not included. The anteroposterior view would show how lateral the needle was placed; instead, only the lateral view is provided. The picture of dye spread from the lateral view shows significant spread, much more than what would be expected if the injection occurred purely intraarticular. The classic needle location in an anteroposterior view should show the needle placed in the lateral two-thirds of the joint. Any other picture would explain why this complication occurred. Live fluoroscopy was not used and may have spared this patient from a complication.

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Reference


It Is Time to Abandon Atlanto-Axial Joint Injections: Do No Harm!

To the Editor:
We applaud Edlow et al.1 for publishing the case report of posterior circulation stroke after C1-C2 intraarticular facet steroid injection with evidence of diffuse microvascular injury. The same mechanism involved with cervical transforaminal epidural injections may be implicated in this case with vertebral artery penetration and embolic phenomenon, as the authors described. Complications at this level are not only related to vertebral artery penetration and similar to...