To the Editor—I read with interest Elias and Chakerian’s recent report1 in which they describe the use of a catheter technique for stellate ganglion block in a pediatric patient. The authors are to be commended for thus sparing the child the trauma and discomfort of repeated stellate blocks by separate injection.

However, although the authors state: "... to our knowledge, this is the first report of placement of a catheter to perform a series of stellate ganglion blocks, thereby avoiding repeated needle placements..." I published the first case report of a continuous catheter stellate ganglion block in this journal2 in 1967! Although my patient was an adult, the concept and goals were similar.

What may have been considered an innovative approach by the authors is a technique that, in fact, is almost 30 yr old.

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References


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