

# DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT OF CEREBRAL VASOSPASM AFTER SAH

**Erich Schmutzhard**

**Department of Neurology, NICU**

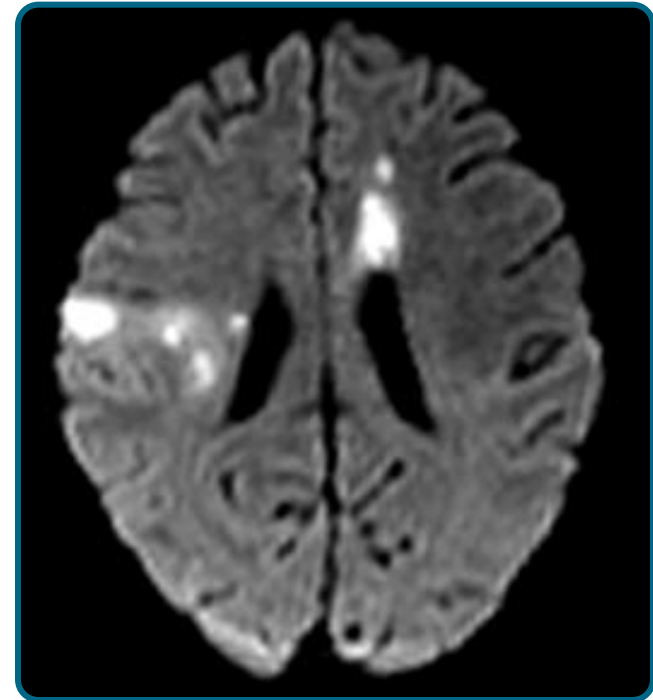
**Medical University Hospital**

**A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria**



## ➤ Definition and Epidemiology

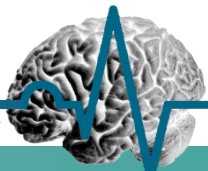
- **Transitory arterial vasoconstriction**, which is seen **72 hours or later after the hemorrhage with a maximum around day 7**  
it lasts usually no **more than 15** (rarely 20) **days**
- **50–75%** of angiographies: narrowing of th lumen



## – *"Delayed cerebral ischemia" (DCI)*

## ➤ *"Delayed ischemic neurological deficit" (DIND)*

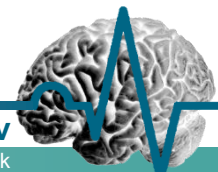
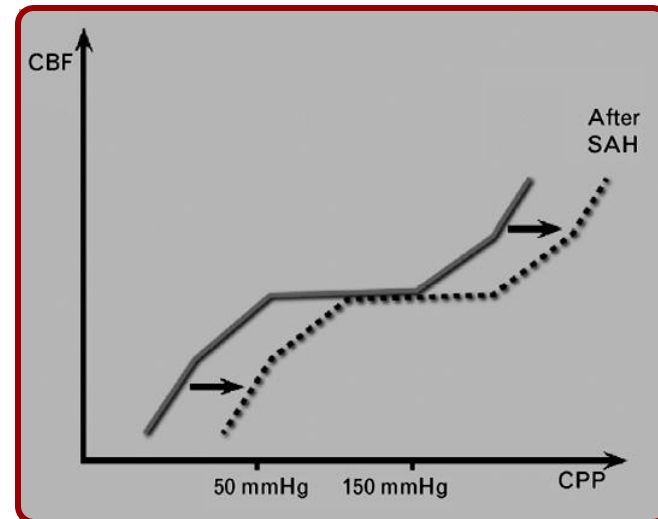
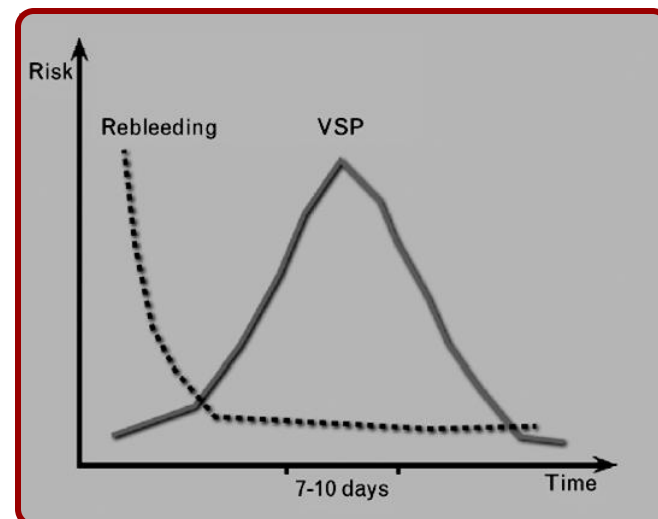
- This vasoconstriction manifests clinically only **in ca. 30–50%**
- Not all patients develop a vasospasm (**complex pathophysiology**)
- DCI causes in **25% permanent neurological sequelae or, even, death**



## ➤ Pathophysiology

- Delayed and reversible **vasculopathy**
- **Disturbance of regulatory mechanisms of the vasculature-tone**  
(Imbalance of endogenous vasodilators and endogenous vasoconstrictors)
- **Liberation of "spasmogenic" substances** when subarachnoidal blood is lysing
- **Impaired capacity of autoregulation** (CBF-reduction)
- **Hypovolemia** (reduction of regional CPP)
- (Local) **activation of** coagulation cascade leading to formation of **microthrombi**

Lackner et al , 2010



## ➤ Diagnostic procedures

- in awake patients: clinical - neurological exam
- **Technical diagnostic means in patients with impaired consciousness or when analgosedated**

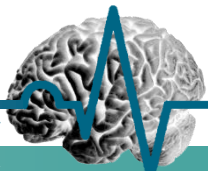
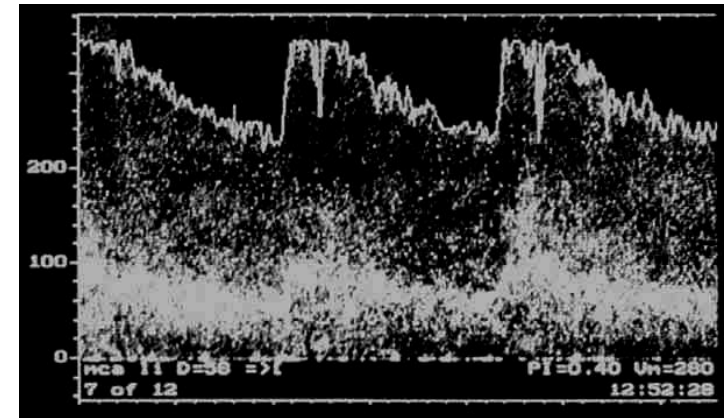
## ➤ cerebral panangio

## ➤ CT- , MR-Angiography (incl. Perfusion-CT/MR)

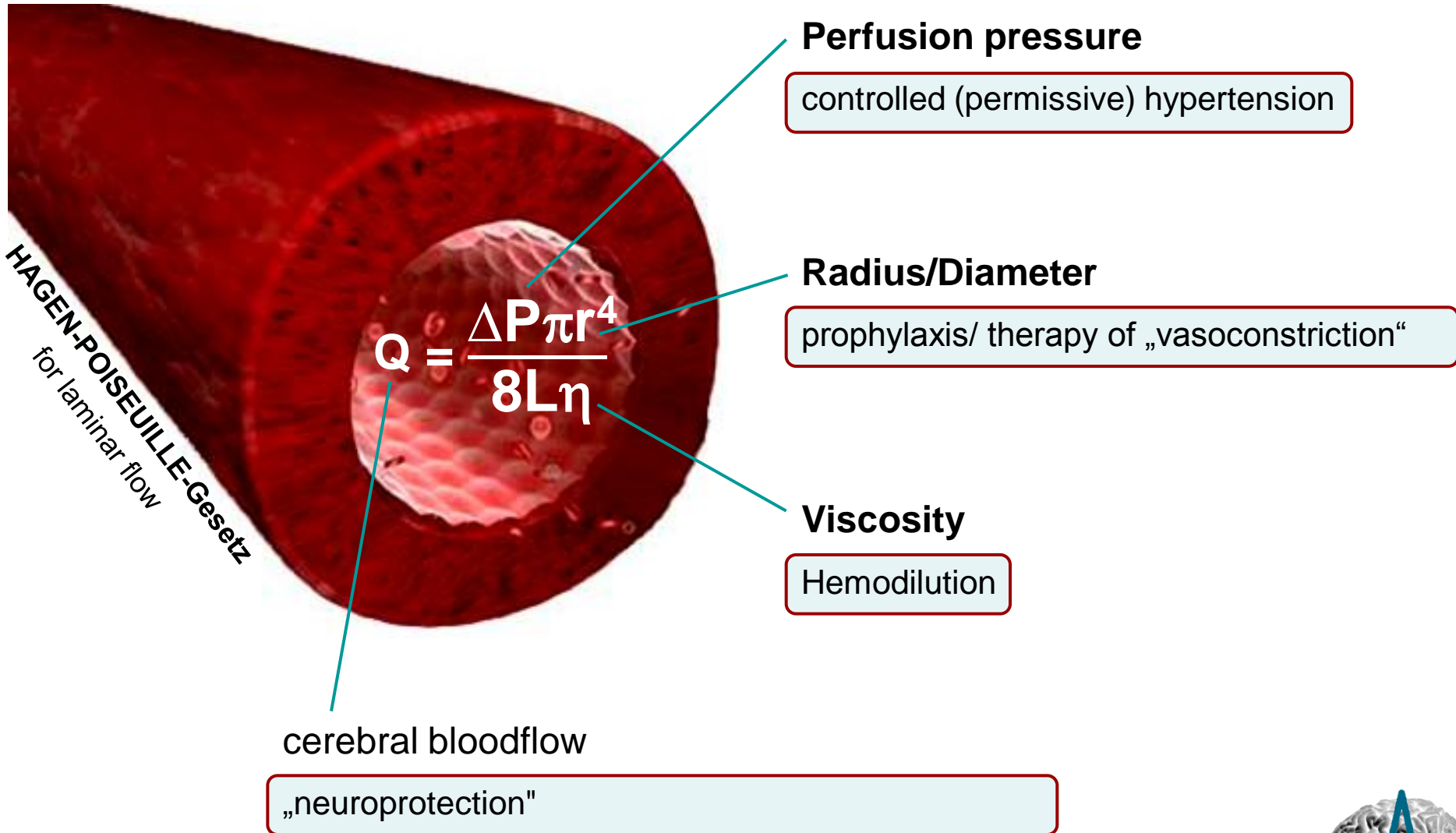
## ➤ Neurosonography (TCD)

- **increased mean bloodflow velocity**  
( $v_{\text{mean}} > 120 \text{ cm/s}$ )
- **increase of  $v_{\text{mean}} \geq 50\%$**
- **MCA/ICA (LINDEGAARD)-Index  $> 3$**

## ➤ further monitoring methods cerebral microdialysis, ptiO<sub>2</sub>, PET



## ➤ possibilities of intervention



**HAGEN-POISEUILLE-Gesetz**  
for laminar flow

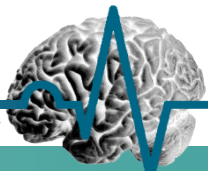
$$Q = \frac{\Delta P \pi r^4}{8 L \eta}$$

**Perfusion pressure**  
controlled (permissive) hypertension

**Radius/Diameter**  
prophylaxis/ therapy of „vasoconstriction“

**Viscosity**  
Hemodilution

cerebral bloodflow  
„neuroprotection“



## – ►Prophylaxis of Vasospasm

- **Reduction/ Cleaning** of subarachnoid blood/hematoma
  - mechanically (e.g. rinsing during surgery)
  - pharmacologically
  - fenestration of the lamina terminalis, lumbar drainage
- **Modulation of inflammatory mechanisms**
- **Inactivation / blockade** of spasmogenic substances
  - free radical scavengers, anti-oxydants
  - iron chelating agents
  - Endothelin-receptor antagonists**
- **Blockade of constriction** of muscles of the blood vessels
  - (Systemic) Calcium-channel blocking agents
  - (Local) "*prolonged-release*" polymers

Efficacy

?

?

?

Theory

(+)/ –

?

+++

(+)

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Efficacy

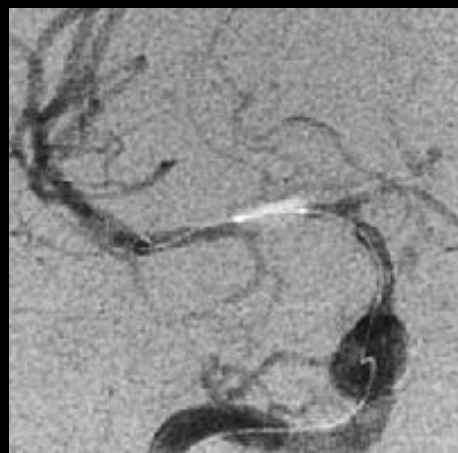
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## → Transluminal **Balloon-Angioplasty**

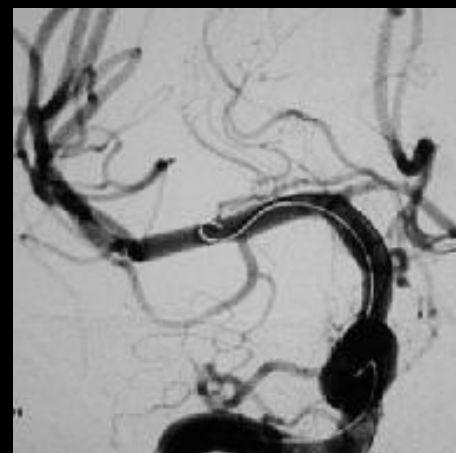
- **Technical limitations**, only possible in large-diameter vessel portions (ICA, M1, BA, VA, A1)



Ausgangsbefund



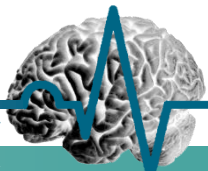
Intervention



Befund nach PTA



- In **ca. 90%** prolonged effect
- **rapid re-constriction** seen in **ca. 10%**
- **thromboembolic events** (ca. 5%) und **rupture of the vessel** (!!)  
as substantial complications – **therefore abandoned**

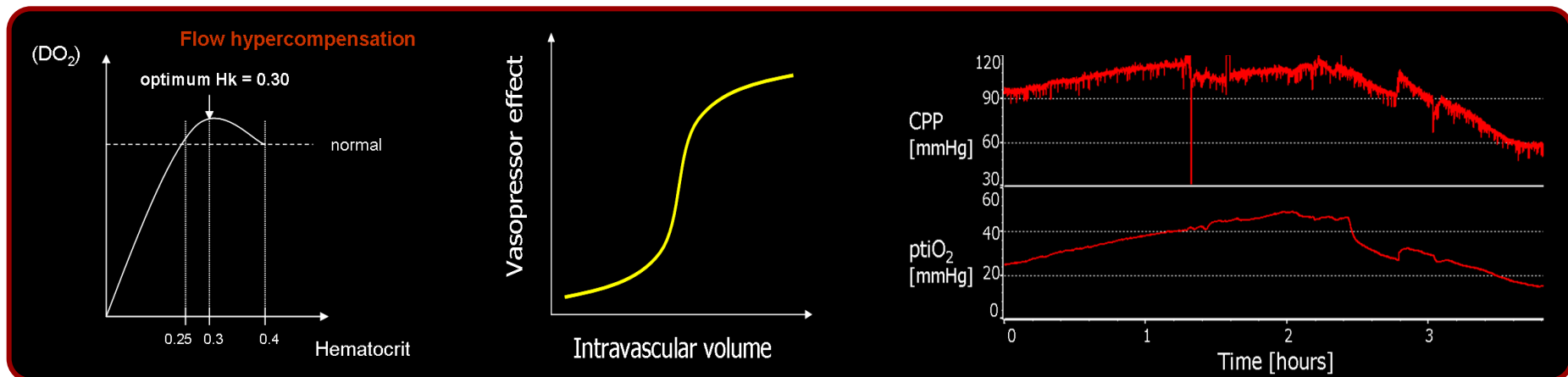


- **Intra-arterial** pharmacologic **Vasodilatation (as bolus)**
  - temporary effect
  - various agents with different mode of actions, e.g. Papaverin, **Nimodopin (i.a.pressure pump delivery over 24 h – persisting effect)**, Verapamil, Milrinon, Fasudil
  - Optimisation of cerebral hemodynamics (**HHH-therapy**)

Efficacy

+++

(+)



- Therapeutic **Hypothermia – targeted temp. management**

?





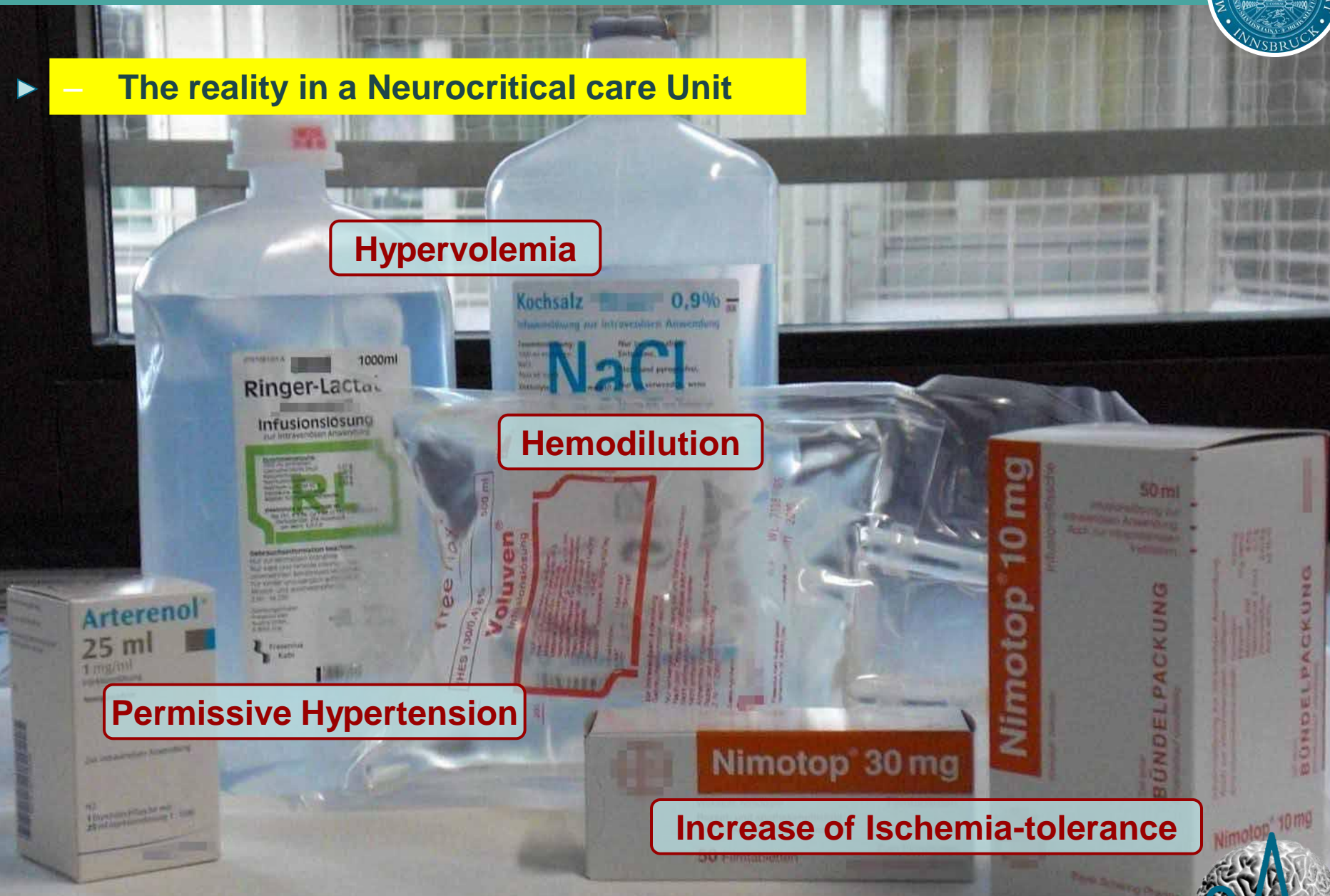
▶ – The reality in a Neurocritical care Unit

Hypervolemia

Hemodilution

Permissive Hypertension

Increase of Ischemia-tolerance



## ➤ General therapeutic management

- Admission to **(N)ICU with advanced systemic and cerebral (neuro-) monitoring**
- Maintenance and reestablishment of appropriate **oxygenation, perfusion and metabolic Homeostasis**
- **Prevention of hypovolemia, fever, hypo- and hyperglycemia and electrolyte derangements**
- **Prophylaxis and therapy of infections**

## ➤ Prophylactic administration of the calcium channel blocker **Nimodipin** (Nimotop®)

- Recent studies prove the equal efficacy of **oral** (5–6mal 60 mg/d) and **intravenous application** (continuous 1–2 mg/h) .  
**HOWEVER: CAVE malabsorption**
- **Cave: hypotensive effect of nimodipine** → sufficient MAP/CPP is essential

## ➤ continuous administration of **Magnesium** → **normal Mg-level!** **Cave: Hypotension !!**



- **HHH-Therapy** (therapeutic **Hypertension**, **Hypervolemia** und **Hemodilution**) → **H(HH)**
  - in patients with **neurologic (focal) signs and symptoms** or newly developed **cerebral infarction** (cCT) =(DCI) due to vasospasm
  - **generous administration of volume** together with **vasopressors** (e.g. noradrenalin, phenylephrin) and **inotropic agents** (e.g.dobutamine)
  - **Hemodilution** (questionable efficacy) – colloidal infusions (e.g.HES)
  - **rate of complications: ca. 20–30%** volume overload, **pulmonary edema**, **cardiac insufficiency**, **derangement of coagulation and electrolytes**
  - advanced **cardiac**, **hemodynamic** and **pulmonary MONITORING** essential and obligatory, in particular in **patients at risk**



## ➤ Endothelin-Receptor-Antagonists

### Clazosentan to Overcome Neurological Ischemia and Infarction Occurring After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage (CONSCIOUS-1)

#### Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase 2 Dose-Finding Trial

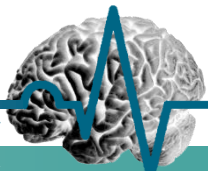
Table 2. Extended Glasgow Outcome Scale for the All-Treated Set\*

Characteristic	Placebo (n=96)	Clazosentan		
		1 mg/hour (n=107)	5 mg/hour (n=110)	15 mg/hour (n=96)
Death, vegetative, or severe disability	30 (31)	28 (26)	30 (27)	33 (34)
Exact 95% CI	22–42%	18–36%	19–37%	25–45%
Absolute risk reduction		–5%	–4%	3%
Exact 95% CI		–18–8%	–17–9%	–11–17%
P value (Fisher exact test)		0.44	0.54	0.76
Relative risk reduction		0.16	0.13	–0.10
95% CI (normal approximation)		–0.29–0.46	–0.34–0.43	–0.65–0.27

– **CONSCIOUS-2** (C2)(Clipping) and **CONSCIOUS-3** (C3)(Coiling)

mid 2010: C2 completed, End 2010: C3 prematurely terminated

Modified acc to Macdonald RL et al., Stroke 2008;39:3015–3021



## ➤ Erythropoietin

Acute systemic erythropoietin therapy to reduce delayed ischemic deficits following aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage: a Phase II randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

TABLE 2: Results of primary end points

Primary End Points	Total (%)	Placebo (%)	EPO (%)	p Value
vasospasm*				
yes	27 (33.8)	16 (40.0)	11 (27.5)	0.24
no	53 (66.2)	24 (60.0)	29 (72.5)	
ipsilat side				
yes	24 (30.0)	14 (35.0)	10 (25.0)	0.33
no	56 (70.0)	26 (65.0)	30 (75.0)	
contralat side				
yes	17 (21.32)	11 (27.5)	6 (15.0)	0.17
no	63 (78.8)	29 (72.5)	34 (85.0)	

TABLE 2: Results of primary end points

Primary End Points	Total (%)	Placebo (%)	EPO (%)	p Value
severe vasospasm†				
yes	14 (17.5)	11 (27.5)	3 (7.5)	0.037
no	66 (82.5)	29 (72.5)	37 (92.5)	
ipsilat side				
yes	11 (13.8)	9 (22.5)	2 (5.0)	0.014
no	69 (86.2)	31 (77.5)	38 (95.0)	
contralat side				
yes	6 (7.5)	4 (10.0)	2 (5.0)	0.43
no	74 (92.5)	36 (90.0)	38 (95.0)	

Days of Impaired Autoregulation‡	Total	Placebo	EPO	Difference	p Value
ipsilat side	5.0 ± 4.1 (4.1–5.9)	6.6 ± 4.3 (5.2–8.0)	3.5 ± 3.1 (2.5–4.4)	3.2 (1.5–4.9)	<0.001
contralat side	3.7 ± 3.6 (2.9–4.5)	4.3 ± 3.9 (3.1–5.6)	3.0 ± 3.1 (2.0–4.0)	1.3 (–0.2–2.9)	0.10

- **Erythropoietin alpha** (e.g. Erypo®) i.v. 30 000 U in 30 min for 3 consecutive days (total dosage 90 000 U)



## ➤ Statins

# A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Pilot Study of Simvastatin in Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

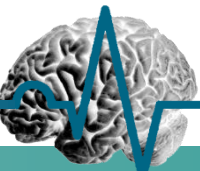
Table 3. Exploratory Analyses of VSP Indices and Clinical Outcome

	Placebo (n=20)	Simvastatin (n=19)	P
Conventional angiography for VSP	10 (50%)	7 (37%)	0.41
Conventional angiographic VSP	8 (40%)	5 (26%)	0.50
CT angiography for VSP	11 (55%)	12 (63%)	0.89
CT angiographic VSP	8 (40%)	10 (53%)	0.43
TCD PSV <sub>MCA</sub> >200 cm/sec and Lindegaard ratio >3*	10 (50%)	13 (68%)	0.24
No. of days PSV <sub>MCA</sub> >200 cm/sec (median, 25% to 75%)	1 [0–5]	4 [1.25–7.5]	0.11
Time to PSV <sub>MCA</sub> >200 cm/sec (days, ±SD)	4.8±1.4	5.9±2.0	0.15
Maximum PSV <sub>MCA</sub> , cm/sec±SD	227±84	253±49	0.3
No. of days of HH (median, 25% to 75%)	2 [0–7]	2 [0–7.75]	0.86
Endovascular intervention for VSP	6 (30%)	5 (26%)	0.71
Total intra-arterial nicardipine, mg±SD	7±13	11±21	0.48

Table 3. Exploratory Analyses of VSP Indices and Clinical Outcome

	Placebo (n=20)	Simvastatin (n=19)	P
DIND	10 (50%)	7 (37%)	0.41
Time to DIND, days, ±SD	5.4±1.9	6.2±2.6	0.41
VSP-related infarct on CT or MRI	5 (25%)	2 (11%)	0.41
No. of NICU days, ±SD	12±4	14±5	0.36
No. of hospital days, ±SD	18±9	20±12	0.74
Discharge home	7 (35%)	8 (42%)	0.65
Discharge modified Rankin Scale ≤2	10 (50%)	7 (37%)	0.41

- **Simvastatin** p.o. 40 mg/d or **Pravastatin** p.o. 40 mg/d



## ➤ Nicardipin "prolonged-release" Implantate

# Effect of Nicardipine Prolonged-Release Implants on Cerebral Vasospasm and Clinical Outcome After Severe Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

## A Prospective, Randomized, Double-Blind Phase Iia Study

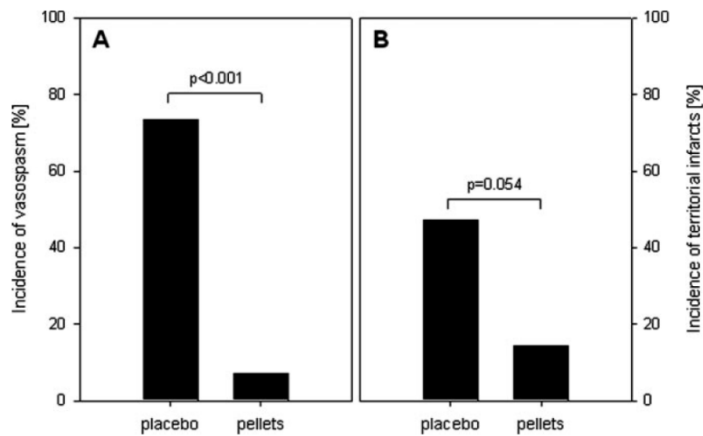
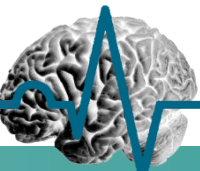


TABLE 3. One-Year Clinical Outcome

	Treatment Groups		P Value U test
	Control (%)	NPRIs (%)	
Modified rankin scale			
0–2 "good"	38.5 (n=5)	85 (n=11)	
3–4 "moderate"	7.7 (n=1)	7.5 (n=1)	
5–6 "poor"	53.8 (n=7)	7.5 (n=1)	0.0001
National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale			
0–4 "good"	71 (n=7)	100 (n=11)	0.0001

- **NPRIs** (10 Implants à 4 mg Nicardipin)





From: Schmutzhard, Beer, Vajkoczy, 2010)

➤ **Die Aufrechterhaltung eines ausreichenden arteriellen Mitteldrucks ist der **MAP !!!** Nimodipingabe vorzuziehen**

■ **Bei wachen Patienten wird die Diagnose eines DIND klinisch gestellt.**

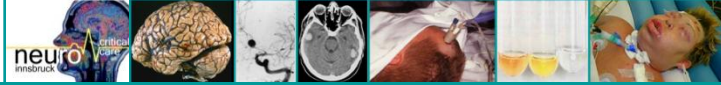
**Awake patient: clinical-neurological exam!!!**







**(DCI) DIND: is it only narrowing of the Lumen-  
(= „Vasospasm“)?**



*Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology*

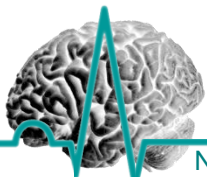
Vol. 12, No. 4, pp. 297–306

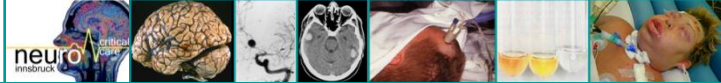
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# Ventricular Cerebrospinal Fluid and Serum Concentrations of sTNFR-I, IL-1ra, and IL-6 After Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

\*Andreas Gruber, \*Karl Rössler, \*\*Wolfgang Graninger, †Andrew Donner, †Udo M. Illievich, and \*Thomas Czech

*Department of \*Neurosurgery; Department of \*\*Internal Medicine I, Division of Infectious Diseases and Chemotherapy Research Laboratories; and †Department of Anesthesiology and General Intensive Care, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria*





# Stroke

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

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Heart Association



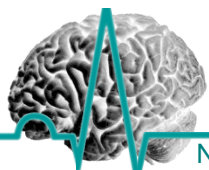
## **Cellular Microparticles as a Marker for Cerebral Vasospasm in Spontaneous Subarachnoid Hemorrhage**

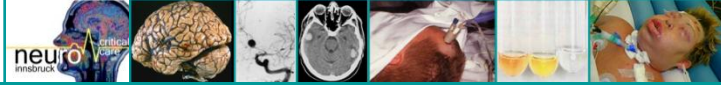
Peter Lackner, Anelia Dietmann, Ronny Beer, Marlene Fischer, Gregor Broessner, Raimund Helbok, Johannes Marxgut, Bettina Pfausler and Erich Schmutzhard

*Stroke* 2010, 41:2353-2357: originally published online September 2, 2010

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ISSN: 1524-4628





Fischer *et al.* *BMC Neurology* 2011, **11**:59  
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2377/11/59>

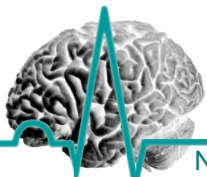


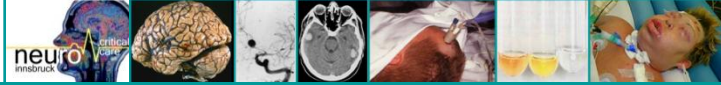
**RESEARCH ARTICLE**

**Open Access**

# Angiotensin-1 is associated with cerebral vasospasm and delayed cerebral ischemia in subarachnoid hemorrhage

Marlene Fischer<sup>1†</sup>, Gregor Broessner<sup>1†</sup>, Anelia Dietmann<sup>1</sup>, Ronny Beer<sup>1</sup>, Raimund Helbok<sup>1</sup>, Bettina Pfausler<sup>1</sup>, Andreas Chemelli<sup>2</sup>, Erich Schmutzhard<sup>1</sup> and Peter Lackner<sup>1\*</sup>



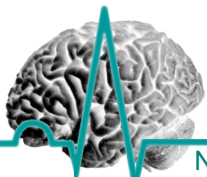


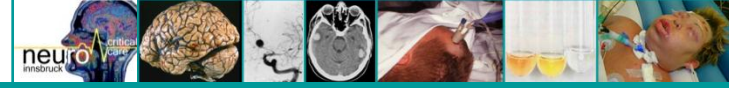
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# **Soluble Endoglin and Transforming Growth Factor- $\beta_1$ and the Development of Vasospasm after Spontaneous Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: A Pilot Study**

Anelia Dietmann Peter Lackner Marlene Fischer Gregor Broessner  
Bettina Pfausler Raimund Helbok Erich Schmutzhard Ronny Beer

Department of Neurology, Innsbruck Medical University, Innsbruck, Austria



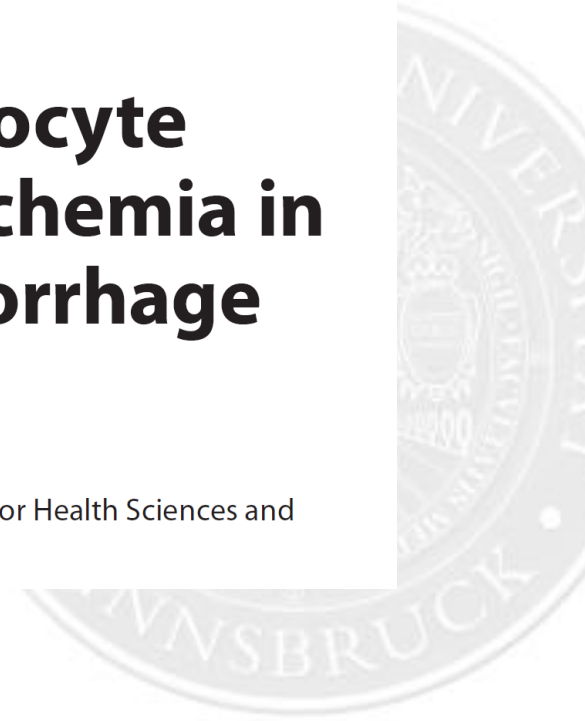
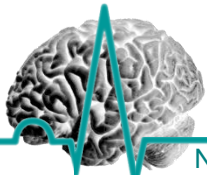


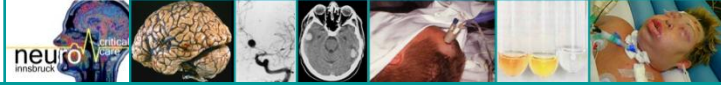
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# Association of Platelet and Leukocyte Counts with Delayed Cerebral Ischemia in Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

K.M. Kasius<sup>a</sup> C.J.M. Frijns<sup>a</sup> A. Algra<sup>a, b</sup> G.J.E. Rinkel<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Neurology, Rudolf Magnus Institute of Neuroscience, and <sup>b</sup>Julius Center for Health Sciences and Primary Care, University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands





neurocritical  
care  
society

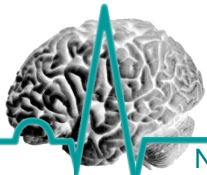
Neurocrit Care (2011) 15:211–240

DOI 10.1007/s12028-011-9605-9

REVIEW

# Critical Care Management of Patients Following Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: Recommendations from the Neurocritical Care Society's Multidisciplinary Consensus Conference

**Michael N. Diringer · Thomas P. Bleck · J. Claude Hemphill III · David Menon · Lori Shutter · Paul Vespa · Nicolas Bruder · E. Sander Connolly Jr. · Giuseppe Citerio · Daryl Gress · Daniel Hänggi · Brian L. Hoh · Giuseppe Lanzino · Peter Le Roux · Alejandro Rabinstein · Erich Schmutzhard · Nino Stocchetti · Jose I. Suarez · Miriam Treggiari · Ming-Yuan Tseng · Mervyn D. I. Vergouwen · Stefan Wolf · Gregory Zipfel**



# Insulin-related decrease in cerebral glucose despite normoglycemia in aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage

Florian Schlenk<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Graetz<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Nagel<sup>1</sup>, Maren Schmidt<sup>2</sup> and Asita S Sarrafzadeh<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Charité Campus Virchow Medical Center, Augustenburger Platz, 13353 Berlin, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, Charité Campus Virchow Medical Center, Augustenburger Platz, 13353 Berlin, Germany

Corresponding author: Asita S Sarrafzadeh, asita.sarrafzadeh@charite.de

Received: 21 Aug 2007 Revisions requested: 5 Oct 2007 Revisions received: 1 Dec 2007 Accepted: 24 Jan 2008 Published: 24 Jan 2008


*Critical Care* 2008, 12:R9 (doi:10.1186/cc6776)

## Effective Glycemic Control With Aggressive Hyperglycemia Management Is Associated With Improved Outcome in Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

Julius Gene S. Latorre, Sherry Hsiang-Yi Chou, Raul Gomes Nogueira, Aneesh B. Singhal, Bob S. Carter, Christopher S. Ogilvy and Guy A. Rordorf

*Stroke* 2009;40:1644-1652; originally published online Mar 12, 2009;

DOI: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.108.535534

 neurocritical care society Neurocrit Care (2010) 12:181-187  
DOI 10.1007/s12028-009-9311-z

**Stroke**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

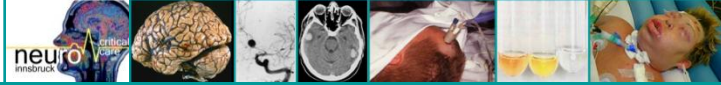
American Stroke Association  
A Division of American Heart Association 

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Moderate Hypoglycemia is Associated With Vasospasm, Cerebral Infarction, and 3-Month Disability After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

Andrew M. Naidech · Kimberly Levasseur ·  
Storm Liebling · Rajeev K. Garg · Michael Shapiro ·  
Michael L. Ault · Sherif Afifi · H. Hunt Batjer





This patient population presents many clinical challenges. Advances in our knowledge of pathophysiology and critical care management will continue to have substantial impact on patient care. Thus, the recommendations presented in this document should be reviewed on a regular basis to determine whether changes are warranted.



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# Critical Care Management of Patients Following Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: Recommendations from the Neurocritical Care Society's Multidisciplinary Consensus Conference

Michael N. Diringer · Thomas P. Bleck · J. Claude Hemphill III · David Menon · Lori Shutter · Paul Vespa · Nicolas Bruder · E. Sander Connolly Jr. · Giuseppe Citerio · Daryl Gress · Daniel Hänggi · Brian L. Hoh · Giuseppe Lanzino · Peter Le Roux · Alejandro Rabinstein · Erich Schmutzhard · Nino Stocchetti · Jose I. Suarez · Miriam Treggiari · Ming-Yuan Tseng · Mervyn D. I. Vergouwen · Stefan Wolf · Gregory Zipfel





REVIEW

## **Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Complications of Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage**

**Nicolas Bruder · Alejandro Rabinstein ·  
The Participants in the International Multi-disciplinary Consensus Conference  
on the Critical Care Management of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage**

REVIEW

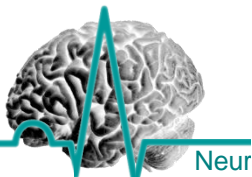
## **Spontaneous Subarachnoid Hemorrhage and Glucose Management**

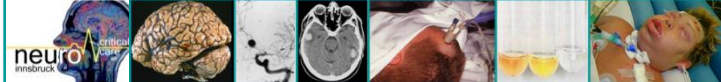
**Erich Schmutzhard · Alejandro A. Rabinstein ·  
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REVIEW

## **Fever Management in SAH**

**V. Scaravilli · G. Tincher · G. Citerio ·  
The Participants in the International Multi-disciplinary Consensus  
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# Medical Measures to Prevent Rebleeding Cardiopulmonary Complications

## Seizures and Prophylactic Anticonvulsant Use

### Monitoring Intravascular Volume Status

### Managing Intravascular Volume Status

### Glucose Management

### Magnesium

### Statins

### Delayed Cerebral Ischemia and Vasospasm

### Hemodynamic Management of DCI

### Endovascular Management of DCI    Delayed Neurological Deterioration

### Monitoring for DCI and Triggers for Intervention

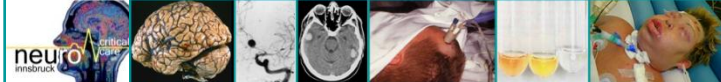
### Management of Hyponatremia

### Endocrine Function

### High Volume Centers

### Anemia and Transfusion





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→ **Glucose Management**

**Deep Venous Thrombosis Prophylaxis**

**Magnesium**

→ **Management of Pyrexia**

**Statins**

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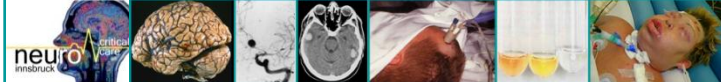
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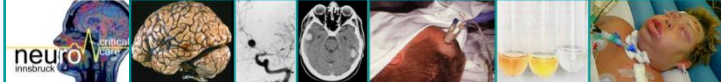
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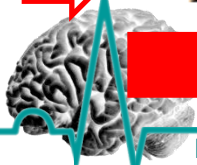
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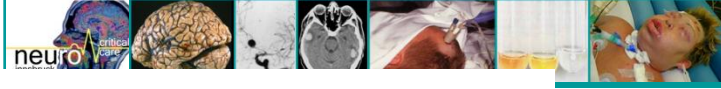
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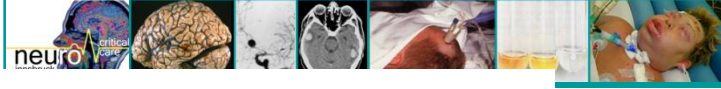
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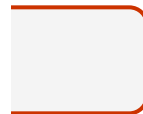
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**Thank you for your attention**

**and many thanks to my coworkers:**

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