Continuous Infusion Toxicity Studies in Rats; General Considerations

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Edwin Spoelstra, MSc Sales Director Europe November 3, 2012 Bangalore, India



The equipment behind the science.



Rat Infusion Model

- Jugular vein
- Femoral vein

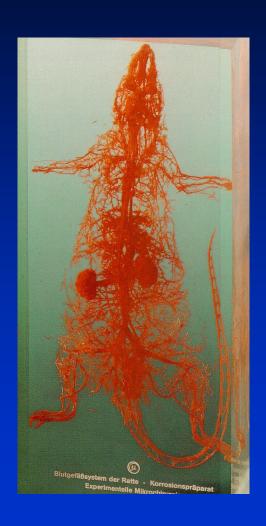
Infusion Equipment

- Catheter
- Animal connection (tethered model)
- Infusion setup

Catheterize or not?

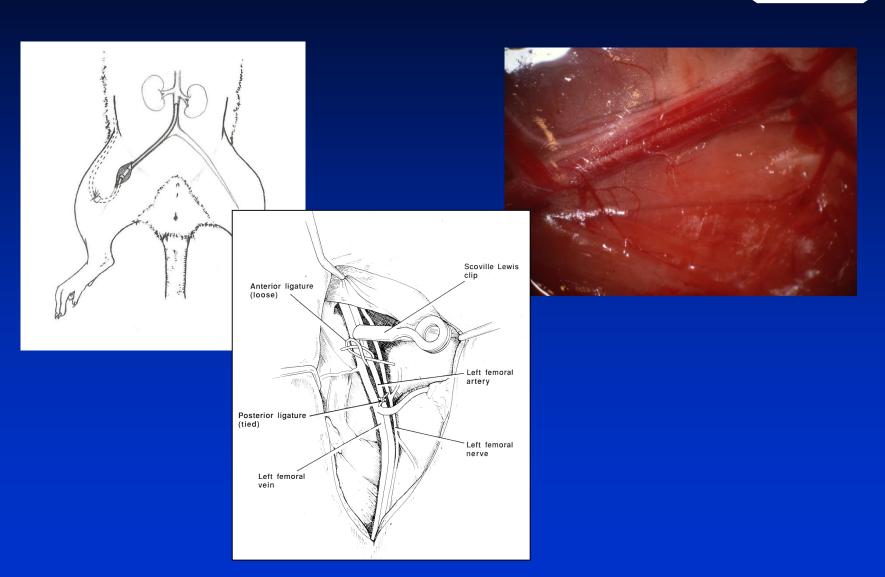
Sampling method	Anesthetic	Age/sex	NE	В	NE+E	Reference
Decapitation	ND	20/m,f	-	_	46.1±4.8	[12]
Decapitation	ND	ND/ND	59.7±7.1	79.7±6.6		[17]
Cardiac puncture	Ether	2/ND	10.3 ± 1.4	3.1 ± 0.7		[2]
Cardiac puncture	Asphyxia	16-32/ND	124.1 ± 20			[14]
Cardiac puncture	Tribromoethanol	ND/ND	21.5±2.8			[5]
Tail vein	ND	12/ND	13 ± 1.4	0.9 ± 0.1		[11]
Retro-orbital	ND	12/m	17.7	21.8		[10]
Retro-orbital	ND	1232/ND	13.5±0.7	13.4 ± 0.8		[9]
Retro-orbital	Pentobarbital	914/ND	1.4 ± 0.6	-1.36 ± 0.1		[3]
Retro-orbital	Pentobarbital	10/m	6.6 ± 1.4	0.5 ± 0.1		[15]
Carotid catheter	ND .	16-32/ND			4.7 ± 0.8	[13]
Carotid catheter	Tribromoethanol	ND	3.8 ± 0.6			[7]
Decapitation	No	12–18/m.f	24.6 ± 2.7	27.3±3.8		Present study
Retro-orbital	Halothane	12-18/m,f	5.8 ± 0.8	0.4 ± 0.1		Present study
Carotid catheter	No	12-18/m,f	4.1±0.5	1.1±0.3		Present study

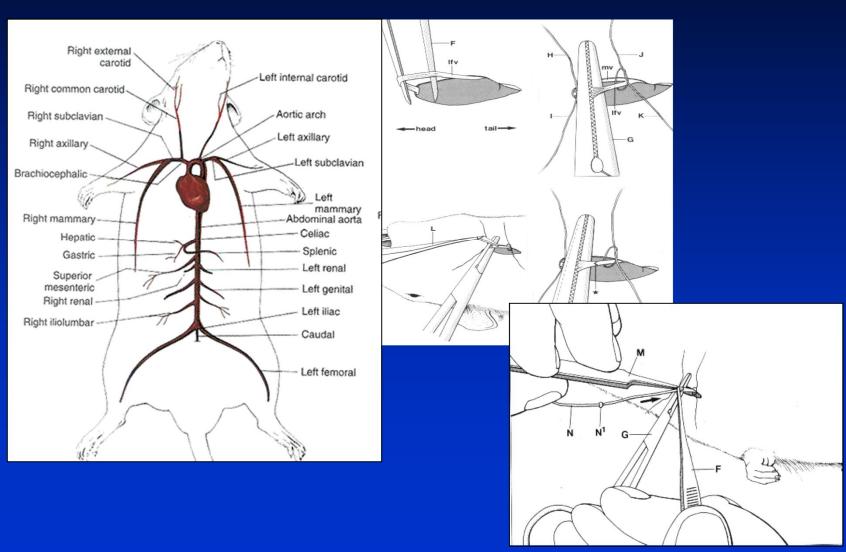
Grouzmann E, et al. Blood sampling methodology is crucial for precise measurement of plasma catecholamines concentrations in mice. *Pflugers Arch* 447: 254-258, 2003.



Which vessel to catheterize?

- Effect on pathology?
 - Surgery
 - Trauma
 - Reaction to materials
 - Site of drug entry
 - Stress (animal welfare)
- Practical aspects?
 - Animal dropouts (interruption of infusion)
 - Compound related e.g. absorption tubing
 - Efficiency e.g. daily weighing
 - TK blood sampling







Considerations for Vascular Catheterization

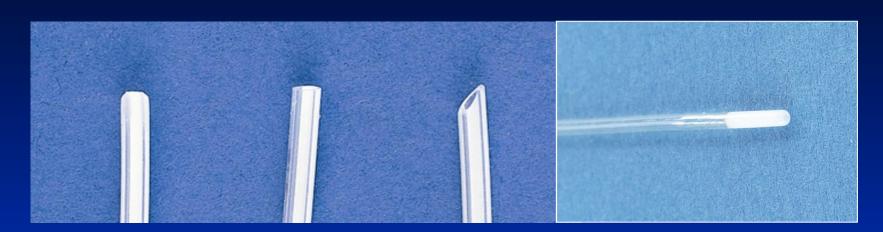
- Protocol; duration and frequency
- Surgical Expertise; multi disciplinary
 - Pre operated models?
 - Learning curve
- Validation of Techniques and Materials
 - Good Laboratory Practice?
 - Good Surgical Practices; aseptic technique
 - Animal Welfare; AALAC?





- 1) Catheter
- 2) Animal connection
- 3) Infusion setup

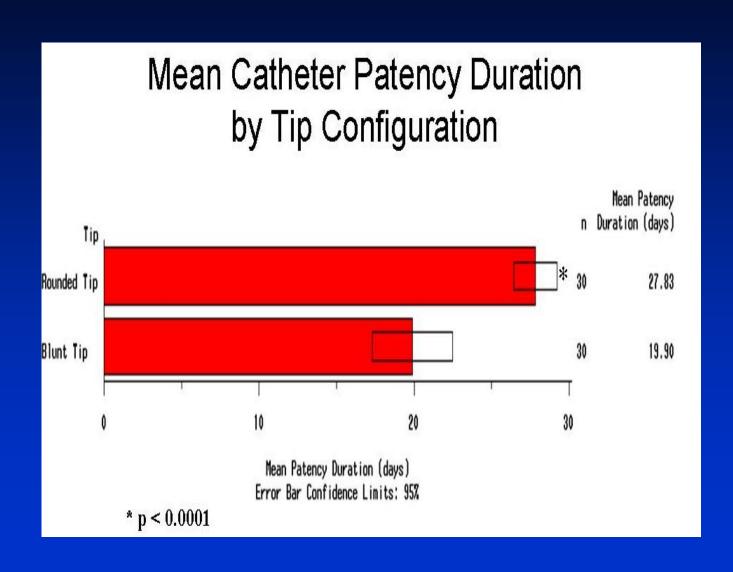
	Silicone	Polyurethane	Polyethylene	PVC
Biocompatibility	Excellent	Excellent	Fair	Fair
Compound compatibility	Possible reactivity	Possible reactivity	Inert	Possible reactivity
Stiffness	Soft	Soft	Stiff	Soft or stiff
Ease of insertion	Difficult	Moderately easy	Easy	Easy
Sizes available	Many	Many	Many	Few
Ease of bonding	Excellent	Fair	Poor	Fair
Memory	Excellent	Poor	Poor	Poor
Tear strength	Poor	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Sterilization	EtO, steam	EtO	EtO, steam	EtO, limited steam

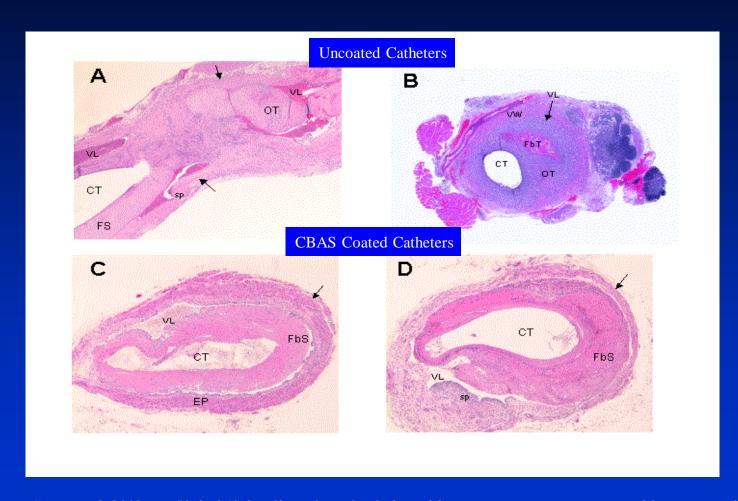


Design

- Tip Geometry
- Material
- Size
- Implantation length
- Biocompatibility (Heparin Coating, CBAS)







Comp Med. 2002 Jun;52(3):243-8. Effect of covalently bound heparin coating on patency and bio-compatibility of long-term indwelling catheters in the rat jugular vein. Foley PL, Barthel CH, Brausa HR.



Animal Connection Device

- Covance Harness
- Dacron Button
- Subcutaneous Access Port
- Tail Cuff
- Dental Cement; head attachment













Considerations for Vascular Catheterization

- Connection method
 - Efficient; e.g. weighing
 - Aseptic
- Tethering setup
 - Sterile kits; disposable
- Tubing
 - Medical grade
- Caging
 - Dedicated?

References



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- Healing, G. Smith, D. 2000. Handbook of Pre-Clinical Continuous Intravenous Infusion, Taylor & Francis Inc.
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- **4) Foley, P., Barthel, C., Brausa, H.** 2002. Effect of Covalently Bound Heparin Coating on Patency and Biocompatibility of Long-term Indwelling Catheters in the Rat Jugular Vein. Comparative Medicine, Vol 52, No3.
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Questions?