

Subdural Block—From a Spinal? A Case Report

S Y Chan,**MBBS, M Med (Anaes)*, E L Ong,***MBBS, M Med (Anaes)*

Abstract

Introduction: Multicompartmental blocks are commonly described in epidurals but not spinals. We describe a case of subarachnoid block performed in an obese patient which resulted in a clinical presentation resembling that of a subdural block. **Clinical picture:** A 29-year-old woman, scheduled for saucerisation of thigh carbuncle, was administered 2.1mL of hyperbaric bupivacaine. The spinal resulted in a late onset of sensory block that extended to the neck and upper limbs. There was no sympathetic or motor blockade. **Treatment/Outcome:** The block receded spontaneously without causing any cardiovascular or respiratory compromise. **Conclusions:** The diagnosis of subdural block must be considered in patients with unusual presentations after a spinal anaesthetic. Factors affecting spread of hyperbaric bupivacaine are also highlighted.

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* Registrar

** Associate Consultant

Department of Anaesthesia

Changi General Hospital

Address for Reprints: Dr Chan Sher Yi, Department of Anaesthesia, Changi General Hospital, 2 Simei Street 3, Singapore 529889.