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Comparison of the Effect of Methylprednisolone and Promethazine in the Treatment of Hyperemesis Gravidarum (2001-2002)

Abstract:

Objective: The purpose of this study was to compare the effect of methylprednisolone with promethazine for the treatment of hyperemesis gravidarum.

Materials & Methods: In this clinical trial, one-hundred patients with a normal appearing singleton pregnancy of <16 weeks gestation with hyperemesis gravidarum were admitted to the Obstetric Department of Emam Reza Hospital from September 2001 to November 2002. Patients were randomly (50 per group) assigned to receive oral methylprednisolone/ 5mg 3 times daily/ or promethazine 25mg 3 times daily. Patients from the group who continued to vomiting after 3 days discontinued the study medication and drugs were altered. Patients continued to take the remainder of the assigned medication after discharge and were followed up weekly.

Results: There were no significant differences between the groups with respect to maternal age/ gravidity/ parity/ gestational age at entry/ number of previous admission or body weight loss. 72% of patients in the promethazine group and 90% in the methylprednisolone group responded to therapy. There was significant difference between two groups. (p: 0.041). 17.8% of patients in the methylprednisolone group and 47.2 of patients receiving promethazine were recommended for readmission for hyperemesis; and after 2 weeks of discharge, there was significant difference between two groups. (p= 0.009)

Conclusion: A short course of methylprednisolone is more effective than promethazine for the treatment of hyperemesis gravidarum.

Key words: Corticosteroid, Hyperemesis Gravidarum, Nausea and Vomiting of pregnancy, Promethazine, Methyl Prednisolone.

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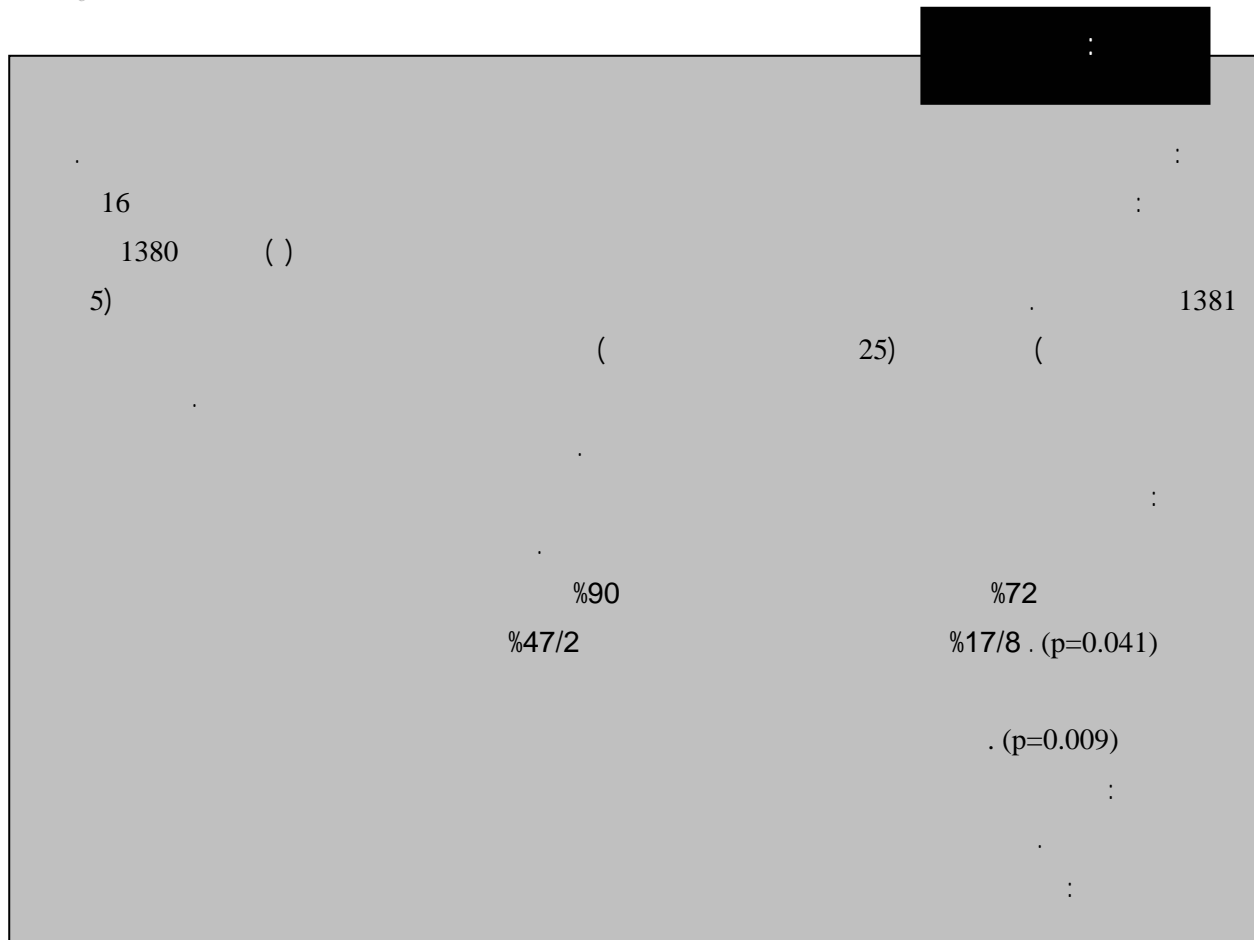
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