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Intrathecal clonidine as an adjuvant for neuraxial anaesthesia during caesarean delivery: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised trials

S Crespo, G Dangelser, G. Haller

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1 **Intrathecal clonidine as an adjuvant for neuraxial anaesthesia during caesarean delivery: a**  
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4 S Crespo,<sup>1</sup> G Dangelser,<sup>2</sup> G. Haller<sup>3</sup>

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6 <sup>1</sup>*Department of Anaesthesia, Pharmacology & Intensive Care, Geneva University Hospital*  
7 *Switzerland*

8 <sup>2</sup>*Department of Anesthesia, Centre Medical de Kourou, Croix-Rouge Française, Guyane.*

9 <sup>3</sup>*Division of Clinical Epidemiology, Geneva University Hospital-University of Geneva,*  
10 *Switzerland*

11  
12 Correspondence to: Sophie Crespo, Department of Anesthesia, Pharmacology & Intensive Care,  
13 Geneva University Hospital, 4, Rue Gabrielle-Perret-Gentil, 1211 Genève

14 *E-mail address:* s.crespo@cmcnyon.ch

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16 **Keywords:** Caesarean delivery; spinal anaesthesia; clonidine; safety; alpha-2 adrenoreceptor  
17 agonist

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20 **ABSTRACT**

21 **Background:** Clonidine is used as adjuvant to local anaesthetics for spinal anaesthesia. Its  
22 potential harm and benefits have not been systematically reviewed in obstetrics, and medical  
23 regulatory authorities do not recommend its intrathecal administration. The aim of this study was  
24 to assess the safety and efficacy of intrathecal clonidine for caesarean delivery.

25 **Methods:** We conducted a systematic literature search in Medline, Embase, the Cochrane  
26 Library databases and trial registries for randomised trials assessing intrathecal clonidine as an  
27 adjuvant to local anaesthetics in patients undergoing caesarean delivery. Studies were assessed  
28 for quality, and data were extracted on study characteristics, safety and efficacy. Pooled data  
29 analysis using random-effects models was performed. Relative risk (RR) or mean difference with  
30 95% confidence intervals (CI) were used to analyse outcomes.

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