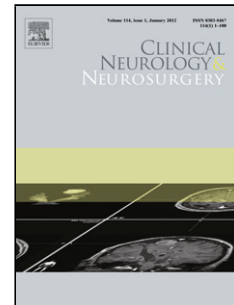


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Subacute Combined Degeneration of the Spinal Cord Following Nitrous Oxide Anesthesia: A Systematic Review of Cases

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Highlights

- Nitrous oxide (N₂O) inhibits Vitamin B12, which can result in spinal cord injury
- Patients with gastrointestinal comorbidities are particularly at risk for injury
- Screening for B12 status prior to N₂O anesthesia may decrease morbidity

ABSTRACT

Objective: Vitamin B12 deficiency can lead to subacute combined degeneration (SCD). Nitrous oxide (N₂O) is an anesthetic which oxidizes the cobalt ion of vitamin B12, interfering with its function as a coenzyme. In this study, we conduct a systematic review of reported cases of SCD following nitrous oxide anesthesia.

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