Regional Anaesthesia PBLD: Professional Golfer for Left Shoulder Rotator Cuff Repair under GA, with Interscalene Block for Postoperative Analgesia

A healthy professional golfer plans to have a left shoulder rotator cuff repair surgery under general anaesthesia. You wish to offer an interscalene block for postoperative pain relief.

Questions:
1. What do you tell the patient about risks and benefits and how do you consent the patient? How would you address potential neurologic injury from the block?
2. The block was performed using 20 mL 0.5% bupivacaine + epinephrine 1/200,000 + dexamethasone 2 mg; now 24 hours postop and the operative arm and hand remain paralyzed.
3. Question: What are your differential diagnosis? How to manage this patient?

Professional Golfer for Left Shoulder Rotator Cuff Repair under GA, with Interscalene Block for Postoperative Analgesia

Kris Vermeylen, Belgium

Regional Anaesthesia PBLD: Very Anxious Man with COPD Gold Stage 2, Home Oxygen, CREST Syndrome and Lumbar Laminectomy for Amputation Lower Leg

A 76 years old man presents for amputation of his lower leg because of chronic osteomyelitis. His medical history is significant for severe respiratory disease (COPD GOLD stage 2), home oxygen use at night & CREST syndrome. He also had lumbar laminectomy in the past. The patient is extremely anxious for the procedure.

1. Would you discuss preoperatively with the patient about his anxiety?
2. What is important for the team to know about anxious patients?
3. Would you let the patient anxiety influence your choice of anaesthetic technique?
4. If you choose a regional technique, what are the options? Which one would you choose?
5. If you choose regional anaesthesia, would you be happy to sedate this patient?
6. Other than sedation, what other non pharmacological options can you offer this patient for anti-anxiety?
7. What is the rational approach to choose these options?

Very Anxious Man with COPD Gold Stage 2, Home Oxygen, CREST Syndrome and Lumbar Laminectomy for Amputation Lower Leg

Barbara Breebaart, Belgium