

Can supplementing vitamin D reduce infections in patients from neurosurgical ICU?

July 15 2013

Vitamin D influences many other physiological processes, including muscle function, cardiovascular homeostasis, nerve function, and immune response. Furthermore, accumulated evidence suggests that vitamin D also mediates the immune system response to infection. Infections are very common in patients from neurosurgical intensive care unit.

A recent study published in the *Neural Regeneration Research* (Vol. 8, No. 16, 2013) detected serum vitamin D level in 15 patients with clinically suspected infection and 10 patients with confirmed infection, who came from neurosurgical intensive care unit.

Serum level of 25-hydroxyvitamin D, the primary circulating form of vitamin D, was significantly decreased in patients with suspected or confirmed infection after a 2-week neurosurgical intensive care unit hospitalization, while serum level of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, the active form of vitamin D, was significantly decreased in patients after a 4-week neurosurgical intensive care unit hospitalization.

These findings suggest that vitamin D deficiency is linked to the immunological status of neurosurgical intensive care unit patients and vitamin D supplementation can improve patient's immunological status.

More information: Yi HJ, Jeong JH, Jin ES, Shin IY, Hwang HS,

Moon SM. Evaluation of vitamin D level in patients from neurosurgical intensive care unit. Neural Regen Res. 2013;8(16):1528-1534.
www.sjzsyj.org:8080/Jweb_sjzs/...ttachType=PDF&id=621

Provided by Neural Regeneration Research

Citation: Can supplementing vitamin D reduce infections in patients from neurosurgical ICU? (2013, July 15) retrieved 2 May 2024 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-07-supplementing-vitamin-d-infections-patients.html>

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