석 흥 열

계명대학교 의과대학 신경과학교실

Building up an Ideal Intraoperative Neurophysiologic Monitoring Team

Hung-Youl Seok

Department of Neurology, Keimyung University School of Medicine, Daegu, Korea

Intraoperative neurophysiologic monitoring (INM) is widely used to reduce the risk of postoperative neurological deficits in operations. In order that INM can serve that purpose adequately, it is important to build up an ideal INM team. The INM team is made up of three groups: monitoring team (clinical neurophysiologist, monitoring technician), surgical team, and anesthesia team. The monitoring team must be highly trained, be able to provide the surgeon feedback in real time, and work well with both the surgical and anesthesia teams. In addition, since different types of anesthesia can affect INM results, anesthesiologist should strive to understand the rationale behind monitoring and the basis of its utility. And, when the surgical team understand and facilitate monitoring team's responsibilities, the monitoring team is able to perform monitoring functions that promote the smooth flow of the surgical procedure and positive patient outcomes. Therefore, in order to build up an ideal INM team, it is important to build and maintain good communication between the monitoring team, and surgical and anesthesia teams.

Key Words: Intraoperative neurophysiologic monitoring, Team, Communication

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Hung Youl Seok

Department of Neurology, Keimyung University School of Medicine,
194 Dongsan dong, Daegu 700-712, Korea
Tel: +82-53-250-7840 Fax: +82-53-250-7840
E-mail: shy2354@gmail.com