

REFRACTORY INCREASED INTRACRANIAL PRESSURE AND MORE

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Learning Objectives

- Review the main pathophysiological concepts related to intracranial hypertension and brain edema
- Interpret the value and limitations of intracranial pressure monitoring
- Discuss an algorithmic approach to treat raised intracranial pressure

Key Messages

- Intracranial hypertension and cerebral edema are treatable serious complications of many different neurocritical disorders that can cause deleterious effects through brain compression and ischemia
- Unilateral mass lesions can cause severe tissue shift (herniation) without major rise in global ICP
- Approaching intracranial hypertension in a stepwise, escalating manner is recommendable
- Although therapeutic alternatives are common to various forms of intracranial hypertension and brain edema, their relative value depends on the primary cause of brain injury

Selected References

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