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## Transnasal sphenopalatine ganglion block for persistent hiccup treatment: Case report

**Vakhtang Shoshiashvili***TSMU First University Hospital, Georgia***Statement of the problem:**

Hiccups are an involuntarily powerful spasm of the diaphragm, followed by a sudden inspiration with a closure of the glottis. Persistent and intractable hiccups can cause dehydration, insomnia, depression, gastroenteric disorders, such as gastroesophageal reflux and even death. Treatment options are multiple including conservative treatment and nerve blocks.

**Case Presentation:**

Case 1: 50 years old man had persistent hiccups during 10 days with insomnia, depression, gastrointestinal disorders. Patient was drug abused, former military person. He had chronic hepatitis C. He was treated with chlorpromazine without any result. After two sided transnasal sphenopalatine ganglion block with 2% lidocaine application during 5 minutes hiccup improved without relapse, No additional treatment was needed.

Case 2: 67 years old men with hiccups, insomnia and depression during 7 days. No specific treatment before hospital admission. Concomitant disease is controlled arterial hypertension, ischemic stroke 3 years ago without neurological consequences. As a result of two sided transnasal sphenopalatine ganglion block with 2% lidocaine application during 5 minutes hiccup improved,

but after two hours hiccup relapsed with less intensiveness and sphenopalatine ganglion block repeated. Hiccup improved without relapse. No additional treatment was needed.

**Conclusion:**

Sphenopalatine ganglion block is an effective tool for the treatment of persistent hiccup. Due to its simplicity, safety and effectiveness it can serve as a first treatment option of hiccups. In case of relapse it can be repeated.

**Biography**

Vakhtang Shoshiashvili has completed his PhD at the age of 30 years from All Union Cancer Research Center, Moscow. He is assistant professor, Department of [anesthesiology](#) and intensive care, TSMU, Tbilisi, Georgia. He has published more than 40 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member in international medical journals such as Acta Scientific Medical Sciences (India), RACT, Scivision publishers (USA), BMMS.Ge (Georgia, European University). He is an Organizing Committee Member in International conferences and was keynote speaker of those scientific events.

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