

Pentobarbital coma therapy for super-refractory status epilepticus and in-hospital mortality: an observational study

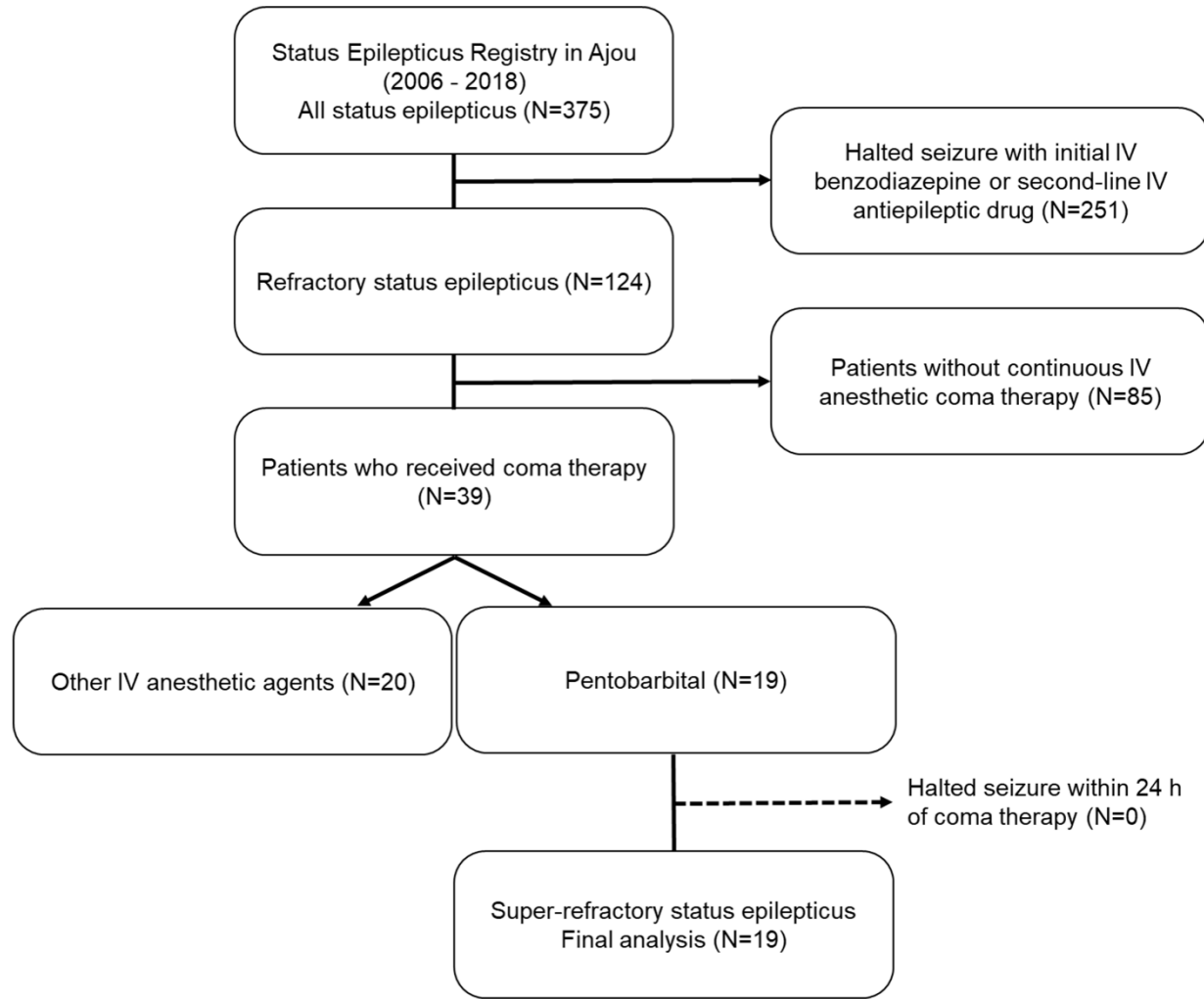
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- Treatment of super-refractory status epilepticus (SRSE) is associated with various complications of anaesthetic coma therapy.
- Previously known complications of pentobarbital coma therapy:
 - ✓ Cardiorespiratory depression
 - ✓ Paralytic ileus
 - ✓ Immunosuppression
 - ✓ Electrolyte imbalance
 - ✓ Hepatic dysfunction
 - ✓ Peripheral neuropathies



Overall outcome

- In-hospital mortality: 26.3%
- Good outcome (mRS: 0-2): 36.8%
- Median discharge mRS: 3
- Median 3-month mRS: 3

- **Higher pentobarbital infusion dose** was observed in the mortality group than in the survivor group (4.4 ± 1.0 mg/kg/h vs. 2.9 ± 1.4 mg/kg/h).
- The high-dose pentobarbital infusion group (> 3.75 mg/kg/h) exhibited **longer periods of mechanical ventilation** and more frequent **positive blood cultures**, suggestive of septicemia.
- Systematic treatment strategies focusing on infectious complications should be established and implemented.

