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Type D Type E Figure 18.1 Anatom

ical variations in tracheoesophageal fistula with or without oesophageal atresia. In Type C, the upper pouch ends in the neck or upper chest but occasionally it reaches the fistula where muscle fibres are shared.

Robert L Replogle , 1931–2016, Chicago, the last trainee of Robert E Gross. A nasogastric tube coiled in the upper oesophageal pouch on a chest radiograph suggests the diagnosis. A nasal or oral sump Replogle tube is placed to drain saliva and prevent aspiration. Positive airway pressure is avoided as air passing through the fistula causes gastric distension, compromised ventilation, and risks perforation (Figure 18.2). If pressure support is needed, perhaps because of RDS, prompt fistula ligation is needed. Types A and B typically have a long gap and may require oesophageal replacement; options include colonic or jejunal interposition or gastric transposition some months after a cervical oesophagostomy and a gastrostomy . In many cases the ends can be brought together by progressive traction and delayed anastomosis. In types C and D, the fistula is divided through a right y or thoracoscopically . If the neonate is stable thoracotomy and the gap favourable, an anastomosis is fashioned over a ly feeding. If a primary trans-anastomotic tube, facilitating ear anastomosis is not possible, then options include a delayed anastomosis after a few weeks of growth, or the use of traction sutures and an earlier anastomosis, or a much later interposition. Traction sutures can be internal or external. Nutrition is supported through a

gastrostomy . Complications after a repair include anastomotic leaks, oesophageal strictures and refistulation. Minor leaks often settle without intervention, strictures need dilating with a bougie or a balloon, and refistulation needs repair. Type E is an isolated 'H'-type tracheoesophageal fistula. The fistula is usually found in the neck on a without atresia. Treatment chest infection - contrast swallow . Type E presents with recurrences or coughing after feeds and is usually repaired in the neck.

infants. Airway Intubation can be challenging as the occiput flexes the neck, the tongue is large and the epiglottis is long, angulated and positioned high and close to the soft palate. A straight blade laryngoscope, an uncuffed tube and a neutral position for the neck.

Abdomen The liver is large and fragile and the bladder rises out of the pelvis. The abdomen must be entered carefully. The umbilical vein is patent for many days after birth and is ligated before being

divided. Respiratory (respiratory distress syndrome [RDS], chronic lung disease) Preterm delivery, gestational diabetes and birth asphyxia all lower pulmonary surfactant levels, resulting in decreased lung volume and compliance and promoting airway collapse on expiration and atelectasis. Fewer type 1 muscle fibres in the diaphragm and intercostals increases early fatigue. Chronic inflammatory lung disease with scarring is seen in preterm babies from prolonged ventilation, overinflation, high

pressures and oxygen toxicity.
Surfactant, oxygen, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) or mechanical ventilation
Cardiovascular A fall in pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR) at birth helps establish the postnatal circulation. In the early postnatal period, hypoxia, stress, high P_{CO_2} or metabolic acidosis may raise PVR; if the ductus arteriosus and foramen ovale are open, blood shunts R to L causing hypoxaemia An underdeveloped baroreceptor reflex means unchecked blood loss leads rapidly to hypotension Fluids and

electrolytes Excess total body water and extracellular fluid are excreted after birth in a physiological diuresis. Insensible losses increase with low birth weight and low gestational age. The immature kidney loses sodium, bicarbonate, glucose, amino acids and phosphates. Low glycogen stores at birth promote hypoglycaemia, particularly in the preterm. Use local neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) protocols. Maintenance fluids need 10% glucose and appropriate electrolytes Watch for

hyperglycaemia with
hypernatraemia, which increases
the risk of intraventricular
haemorrhage in the preterm
Replace nasogastric losses or
stoma losses (>15 mL/kg/day)
with 0.9% NaCl, 0.15% KCl
Nutrition Reserves are deficient
in the premature and postnatal
starvation affects neurological
development. Start central
parenteral nutrition as a matter of
urgency Thermoregulation A high
surface area to bodyweight ratio
increases heat loss; particularly

during exposure for anaesthesia (exacerbated by vasodilation) and surgery, there is an inability to shiver. Low temperatures promote coagulopathy, which is compounded by the acidosis from poor peripheral perfusion and myocardial depression. Warm incubators, limit exposure for procedures, warm theatre, warm fluids Figure 18.2

Tracheoesophageal fistula/oesophageal atresia with gastric perforation in a 28-week gestation, 1000-g baby. Note the endotracheal tube (ET), Replogle

tube in the upper pouch, the umbil

ical venous catheter (UVC), free abdominal air around the liver and either side of the falciform ligament above the UVC and patchy lung fields of respiratory distress syndrome.

Figure 18.3 Double bubble in duodenal atresia (gastric and first part of the duodenum). Note the umbilical cord and clamp in the lower part of the image.

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