

“Efficacy of Doxapram for apnea of prematurity refractory to methylxanthines” by Dr Sanjeev Ahuja was published in Journal of Clinical Neonatology.

Objective:

To study the efficacy of doxapram in preterm neonates with recurrent apnea on aminophylline and/or caffeine therapy

Method/study design: All preterm babies born below 32 weeks of gestation having apnea and admitted in our NICU were initially started on caffeine or aminophylline. Those babies who continued to have apnea were included in this study and were started on doxapram. These cases were evaluated for reduction in the occurrence of apneic episodes while on doxapram infusion. The dose and any occurrence of adverse effects was also studied.

Conclusion: Our study showed that all babies who had apnea refractory to methylxanthines responded well to doxapram with no significant adverse effects.