

**APAGBI SURVEY AND AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Template Report for Surveys of the APA Membership**

**Survey Title:**

**APA survey of attitude to Emergency Drug Preparation prior to routine Paediatric Anaesthesia.**

**Survey Authors:**

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**Brief Description of Purpose:**

**The aim of this survey was to examine the current practice of Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (APAGBI) members and their attitudes to pre-drawn emergency drugs prior to every routine paediatric anaesthetic list.**

**Does this practice rescue critical events or could it lead to a potential false sense of security and unnecessary waste?**

**Category of Membership Surveyed: (e.g. all, home, overseas, linkmen, trainee)**

**All**

**Dates of Survey:**

**December 2010**

**Number of Responses:**

**419**

**Outline Findings of Survey:**

**This survey has shown a wide variability in current practice amongst a representative sample of APA members.**

**The response rate was 42%. The majority (82%) of the respondents were consultant anaesthetists. Amongst the respondents 56% always, 25% sometimes and 19% never prepared emergency drugs prior to every paediatric anaesthetic case. Atropine (92%), suxamethonium (83%) and propofol (58%) were the**

**commonest drugs drawn up. 68% of respondents wanted these emergency drugs available in the operating theatre, whereas only 22% wanted them in the recovery / post anaesthesia care area.**

**54% of participants wanted the drugs predrawn in syringes, whereas 46% were comfortable with the agents remaining in the ampoule.**

**Atropine was used on 2 or more occasions per month by 13% of contributors, the comparative figure for suxamethonium was 2%.**

**4% of the respondents have had a critical adverse incident related to misuse of the pre-drawn emergency drugs; 12% cite experience of a critical event related to the non-availability of these drugs.**

**37% considered that drug wastage is a significant issue.**

**Intended Publication/Presentation:**

**Irish Paediatric Anaesthesia and Critical Care Society – April 2011 (Oral Presentation)**

**APA Annual Scientific meeting – May 2011 (Poster Presentation)**

**Intend to pursue Pediatric Anesthesia original paper report**

**Follow up Actions Required:**

**The divergence in clinical practice amongst paediatric anaesthetists in this potentially crucial area would suggest to us that a consensus expert position is required concerning the role of emergency drugs in routine paediatric anaesthetic practice.**

**Other Comments:**

**Date Submitted to Survey Lead: 1/6/2011**

**Submitted by: Brendan O' Hare / Solmaz Nakhjavani**