

APAGBI SURVEY AND AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE

Template Report for Surveys of the APA Membership

Survey Title: Parental Presence at Induction of Anaesthesia: Practices and Attitudes in the UK and Canada

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Brief Description of Purpose:

To assess the extent of the practice of parental presence at induction of anaesthesia (PPIA) in both UK and Canada

Assess the attitudes of paediatric anaesthetists towards the practice.

Are there differences between the UK and Canada in practices or attitudes?

Are there differences in attitudes between those who do and those who don't routinely practice parental presence at induction of anaesthesia?

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

UK members of APA

Members of Canadian Pediatric Anesthesia Society

Dates of Survey:

February 2012

Number of Responses:

UK - 281 started survey, and 251 completed

Canada - 141 started survey and 125 completed

Total - 422 started survey and 376 completed

Outline Findings of Survey:

99.6% UK paediatric anaesthetists routinely practice parental presence at induction of anaesthesia (272/273), compared with 60% in Canada (84/140). A wide geographical variation exists between the Canadian provinces ranging from 0-95.8%. In UK 95.6% have induction/anaesthetic rooms that are routinely used,

compared with only 10.5% in Canada. However of those in Canada who do practice PPIA routinely 93.9% do not have separate induction rooms. In the UK 67.2% allow one parent to be present and 32.8% allow both to attend, and the majority of parents (81.5%) do not have to change clothes or wear special attire. 75.9% of UK anaesthetists state that their institution provides written or audiovisual information to parents regarding the process of induction of anaesthesia, in Canada it is a similar proportion (71.5%) however a greater amount of audiovisual information is provided. Canadian paediatric anaesthetists identify circumstances when they would not allow a parent to be present significantly more frequently than those in the UK; 80-83% in Canada would not allow parents to be present if a child was cardiovascularly unstable, had a major haemorrhage or trauma, compared with just 12-18% in the UK. 37.2% UK paediatric anaesthetists do not feel there is an age where a parent should not be present, and those who do it is most frequently neonates (<44weeks) - 30.7%, followed by under 3 months - 11.9%. In Canada in comparison, 1 year is most frequently the age below which parents should not be present (51.9%) followed by 6 months (24.0%).

In relation attitudes 74.5% UK paediatric anaesthetists believe the child is less anxious with a parent present compared with only 29.6% in Canada overall; rising to 36.7% of Canadian anesthesiologists who practice PPIA. The same results were seen regarding the anaesthetist's perception that the parent was less anxious. In the UK 58.8% paediatric anaesthetists believe the child is more co-operative with a parent present compared with 28.8% in Canada. 57.3% UK anaesthetists believe PPIA reduces the child's anxiety in relation to future visits versus 21.26% in Canada; there was a similar result in relation to the anaesthetists view on the parent's anxiety to future visits.

Intended Publication/Presentation:

Canadian Journal of Anesthesia +/- Anaesthesia or British Journal Anaesthesia

APA Cambridge 2013 (poster presentation)

Canadian Pediatric Anesthetic Conference 2013 or Canadian Anesthesiologists Society Annual Meeting (poster presentation)

Follow up Actions Required:

Other Comments:

Date Submitted to Survey Lead: 30 August 2012

Submitted by: Dr. Helen Neary