

Title: Catering to your frequent flyers: Meeting sedation needs on an individual basis.

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Introduction: Pediatric patients requiring frequent sedated procedures can develop specific needs or intolerances to sedation necessitating specialized approaches. An organized method of communicating these individual sedation needs to each sedation provider is required. As a result of a need to communicate the requirements of our frequent flyer pediatric sedation patients, and the difficult task of sifting through past paper records, our pediatric sedation service developed a method of tracking and communicating the customized sedation plans for patients requiring care that fell outside the usual sedation approach.

Methods: Sedating physicians determine if a patient needs an individualized plan and information about the patient and the sedation plan is placed into a RedCap database. An up-to-date list from the database is kept in the sedation unit. Patients are identified on our daily schedule with the notation “see sedation plan” so the sedation team knows to reference the plan.

Results: Individualized sedation plans were developed for a variety of reasons; patients needing additional sedative agents, anti-emetics, and patients needing anticholinergics are the most common. Our frequent flyer patients receive tailored treatment each time they come to be sedated, the sedation team is aware of the past and potential complications each patient has and the sedation team, patient and family are aware of what the specific plan is for preventing and/or treating those complications. Our rate of inability to provide adequate sedation did not decrease, since it was already very low. (pre 0.3%, 7 of 2516 patients, post 0.4% 10 of 2774 patients, $p = \text{NS}$).

Discussion: Creating individualized sedation plans for frequently sedated patients is pertinent to providing safe, efficient, and patient/family centered care. It is especially important that sedation providers be aware of individual patient needs since, regardless of procedure, each child tolerates sedation in their own unique way.