

Improving patient and family experience in pediatric procedural sedation: results from a survey of Society for Pediatric Sedation institutional members

Authors: AP Rogers, S Kost, CD Landers, PD Scherrer

Introduction: A key mission of the Society for Pediatric Sedation (SPS) includes ensuring the quality and equity of the patient and family experience in pediatric procedural sedation (1). To obtain further information about processes and systems to provide equitable patient and family centered care in pediatric procedural sedation, we specifically sought to query SPS institutional member programs regarding their current practices.

Methods: Each of the 53 SPS institutional members was invited to participate in a descriptive questionnaire evaluating many aspects of their sedation programs, including detailed questions regarding patient and family experience and effectiveness of procedural sedation. A total of 52 member programs responded to the survey.

Results: The majority (57%) of centers within the SPS include certified child life specialists (CCLS) as integral members of the pediatric sedation program and CCLS are present for the majority of sedation encounters. In most programs (82%), parents/guardians may be present for the induction of sedation and many may remain with their child during the sedated procedure when appropriate. SPS member institutions offer multiple scheduling options and contact methods for families including interpreter services, and the majority of programs attempt to group multiple procedures into the same sedation encounter when possible. SPS programs offer a variety of comfort measures to decrease pain associated with minor procedures as shown in Table 1, and patients, families, and staff are educated about these measures in numerous ways. Finally, many institutions (43%) are incorporating sedation effectiveness scores as well as seeking feedback from patients, families, and proceduralists on the effectiveness of the sedation regimen to ensure the highest quality experience for every stakeholder in the sedation process.

Discussion: SPS member institutions utilize a wide variety of processes to maximize the quality and equity of the patient and family experience. The broad spectrum of specific processes that are utilized offers significant opportunities for prospective evaluation of value and transferability.

References:

1. Connors JM, Cravero JP, Kost S, LaViolette D, Lowrie L, Scherrer PD. Great Expectations – defining quality in pediatric sedation: outcomes of a multidisciplinary consensus conference. *J Healthc Qual* 2015; 37:139-54.

Table 1 - Comfort measures

