

In this issue October 2015

Pharmacodynamic interaction models in pediatric anesthesia

Anesthesia is often described as the best example of applied pharmacology. Indeed you probably cannot be a good anesthetist if you do not have a good grasp of pharmacology. A key aspect to a good anesthetic is the skill of exploiting the favorable pharmacodynamic interactions between agents. This superbly written and easily understood review by Hannan and Anderson helps demystify the complex science behind these interactions.

A comparison of the post operative pain experience in children with and without attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder

Children with behavioural disorders are frequently excluded from research studies. This is clearly unsatisfactory as they form a large and challenging proportion of our practice. This important study by Rosander *et al.* found that while children with ADAH may have similar pain experiences they take longer to return to normal activity.

Procedural sedation for MRI in children with ADHA

Continuing the theme from above, Kitt *et al.* found that like pain, children with ADHD may not have higher sedative requirements for successful MRI scanning.

The nature and sources of variability in pediatric surgical case duration

This paper is a must read if you are ever have to manage surgical scheduling. It's also fascinating if you think that you always seem to end up with the slow surgeon.

Preoperative preparation workshop reduces postoperative maladaptive behavior in children

Hilly *et al.* find that a family centred preoperative preparation workshop reduces preoperative anxiety and post discharge behavior changes. This is more evidence that preparing families is a good thing. An accompanying editorial highlights some of the problems translating this into everyday practice.

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Editor-in-chief

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Orphan anesthesia: an initiative of the scientific working group of pediatric anesthesia of the German society of anesthesiology

www.orphananesthesia.eu

Many initiatives have been made to improve the care of patients with rare diseases. During anesthesia this group has a particular risk of complications, both due to their underlying disease and due to the lack of evidence for optimal management. There is a low incidence of the single rare disease but overall the number of rare diseases in children is high; as a group, rare disease is one of the commonest disease groups in pediatric medicine. No single anesthetist can be expected to know everything about all possible orphan diseases he might face during their professional life.

To address this problem, the Scientific Working Group of Pediatric Anesthesia of the German Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care created an open access, Internet-based, peer reviewed platform to concentrate the knowledge about anesthesia in patients suffering from rare disease. This Internet platform OrphanAnesthesia (www.orphananesthesia.eu) was launched in June 2011 and now has over 70 guidelines in four languages.

The overall aim of OrphanAnesthesia is to improve safety of patients with rare diseases undergoing anesthesia. Therefore, OrphanAnesthesia organizes the preparation and publication of concise recommendations for anesthesiologists as well as patients to help planning and performing anesthesia in patients suffering from rare diseases. OrphanAnesthesia actively recruits authors

and reviewers to work on recommendations to achieve this goal. These recommendations are peer reviewed, readily accessible, up-to-date, and reflect the best evidence available. With a better-informed team we hope patients with rare diseases and their families will have faster and safer treatment, with a lower incidence of anesthesia-associated complications.

OrphanAnesthesia is an international project. English is the main project language, but we are about to extend the project scope by adding additional languages such as Spanish, German, Italian, or Portuguese to attract an even higher number of readers worldwide. Our contributors come from all over the world. All OrphanAnesthesia recommendations are available free-of-charge without requiring special login data. Knowledge is the key for better patient care. By providing this knowledge, we consider OrphanAnesthesia to become another important milestone in the anesthesia safety concept.

If you are interested in being an author or reviewer for OrphanAnesthesia then please email us at info@orphananesthesia.eu

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