

Parental Preferences of Opioid Use During Enteral Moderate Sedation; A Prospective Study



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INTRODUCTION

- Opioid epidemic has committed destructive actions across the U.S. since the early 1990's and recently became a public health concern
- Opioids are commonly used for pain management but can also be beneficial to increase the effectiveness of procedural sedation in pediatric dentistry
- Up to 20% of children in the dental office require sedation to complete routine operative dental work
- Enteral sedation can help to minimize physical discomfort and pain, control anxiety, minimize psychological trauma, and maximize the potential for amnesia
- Common drug classes administered: nitrous oxide, benzodiazepines, antihistamines, and opioids
- With the rising concerns and stigma surrounding opioid use, we hoped to determine guardian preferences toward the use of opioids in enteral moderate sedation

PURPOSE

- To understand if guardians of pediatric dental patients scheduled for enteral moderate sedation prefer an opioid or non-opioid sedation regimen

METHOD

- Prospective survey completed at El Rio Community Health Center Dental Clinics in Tucson, AZ from July to December 2022
- Guardians of ASA I or II patients aged 3-14 years old scheduled for enteral moderate sedation consultation appointment were invited to complete the survey
- Information regarding risks and benefits of opioid use were provided alongside the survey
- Survey questions included if the guardian had a preference whether their child received a drug regimen with or without an opioid, patient age, patient gender, previous sedation experience, and guardian education level were collected as part of the survey

FIGURE

		Overall (n (%))
n		71
Age	3-5 Years	22 (31.0)
	6-8 Years	44 (62.0)
	9-11 Years	5 (7.0)
Gender	Male	29 (40.8)
	Female	42 (59.2)
Previous Sedation Experience	No Response	1 (1.4)
	Yes	33 (46.5)
	No	37 (52.1)
Drug Regimen	No Response	1 (1.4)
	With Opioid	7 (9.9)
	Without Opioid	29 (40.8)
	No preference	34 (47.9)
Guardian Education Level	No Response	1 (1.4)
	Less Than High School	4 (5.6)
	High School	41 (57.7)
	Associates Degree	14 (19.7)
	Bachelors Degree	7 (9.9)
	Graduate Degree	4 (5.6)

RESULTS

- 71 surveys collected
- No statistical significance comparing patient age versus sedation drug regimen preference (p=0.572)
- No statistical significance comparing patient gender versus sedation drug regimen preference (p=0.63)
- No statistical significance comparing previous sedation experience versus sedation drug regimen preference (p=0.808)
- No statistical significance comparing guardian education level versus sedation drug regimen preference (p=0.398)

CONCLUSIONS

1. There was no correlation to patient age, gender, previous sedation experience, or guardian education level and enteral moderate sedation drug regimen preference (opioid or non-opioid).
2. Further research should be conducted to confirm or deny these results.

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