

Establishment of Hospital-Wide Procedural Sedation Policy

Hsiu-Lan Weng^{1, 2}, Chien-Cheng Liu^{1, 2}, I-Ling Tsai¹, Shao-Ye Wang¹

1 Department of Anesthesiology, E-Da Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

2 Department of Nursing, College of Medicine, I-Shou University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Key Words : Hospital-Wide Consistency, Policy, Procedural Sedation

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INTRODUCTION

Procedural sedation involves the use of medications to alleviate anxiety, discomfort, and pain in patients undergoing invasive examinations and treatments. However, the use of sedatives carries risks of respiratory depression and hemodynamic instability. Particularly when procedural sedation is performed outside the operating room, the lack of standardized equipment and personnel qualifications may lead to unintended harm to patients during the procedure.

1. Developing the hospital's sedation policy and standard operating procedures
2. 100% of physicians and nursing staff performing medical procedural sedation outside the anesthesia department have met the qualifications and training requirements.

METHOD

The policy stipulates that deep sedation must be administered by an anesthesiologist. The Department of Anesthesiology is responsible for educating and monitoring the quality of procedural sedation performed by non-anesthesiologist physicians and nurses. For procedures conducted outside the operating room, management policies and standard operating procedures have been established. Key aspects include the qualifications of sedation personnel, sedation locations, procedural requirements, nursing requirements, equipment standards, and monitoring of medical quality and patient safety to ensure patient safety.

RESULTS

After on-site audits and guidance, as of 2023, all sedation locations meet the equipment qualification requirements, and all sedation procedures performed by non-anesthesiologist physicians and nurses have achieved a 100% completion rate of their emergency certification and related education and training.

Qualification Review Results for Non-Anesthesiology Physicians or Nurse Anesthetists

Item/Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Compliance Rate of Emergency Certification	92.3%	100%	100%	100%
Completion Rate of Educational Training	100%	100%	100%	100%

Emergency Certification Requirements	Non-anesthesiology physicians must hold an Advanced Life Support (ALS) certification. Non-anesthesiology nurse practitioners must hold a Basic Life Support (BLS) certification.
Educational Training Requirements	Relevant personnel must receive training related to sedation assessment, including familiarity with various sedation medications, sedation monitoring requirements, management of complications, use of antagonists, and post-sedation care.

Analysis of Medical Procedural Sedation Activities Hospital-Wide

Item/Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Pediatrics	267	181	193	220
Emergency Department	4	1	1	2
Cardiac Interventional Unit	1	1	9	0
Anesthesiology Department	5656	4261	5858	6859
Total	5928	4444	6061	7081
Percentage Performed by Anesthesiology Department	95.4%	95.9%	96.7%	96.9%

Units Performing Medical Procedural Sedation by Non-Anesthesiology Physicians	Pediatric Examination Room, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Pediatric Ward, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Cardiac Interventional Unit
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CONCLUSIONS

To maintain high sedation quality and ensure patient safety, our hospital established a policy in 2020 for procedural sedation performed outside the operating room by non-anesthesiologist physicians. The Department of Anesthesiology is responsible for the education, medical quality, and patient safety monitoring of procedural sedation conducted by non-anesthesiologist physicians. This aims to achieve consistency in procedural sedation across the hospital.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Hsiu-Lan Weng

Contact Email:

rr492536@gmail.com