

DECREASE OF PRACTICE VARIABILITY IN PROCEDURAL SEDATION AND ANALGESIA IN SPANISH PEDs

Clinical Working Group of Analgesia and Sedation of the Spanish Society for Paediatric Emergencies (SEUP).

The aim of the study is to evaluate the impact of a Clinical Working Group and the spread of practical guidelines in the practice variability in procedural sedation and analgesia in Spanish PEDs in the last decade

Methods: comparative study of the practice of the paediatric emergency physicians, members of the Spanish Society for Paediatric Emergencies (SEUP), using an electronic questionnaire in 2004 and 2010.

Results: in 2004, we received 72 questionnaires from 22 PEDs and 73 from 33 PEDs in 2010. In both years, all of them considered necessary to use analgesia and sedation for procedures in the PED. The use of analgesia and sedation increased significantly between 2004 and 2010: lumbar puncture (66.7% vs 95.9%), lacerations (75% vs 93.2%), fractures reduction (65.3% vs 83.6%) and diagnostic tests (68.1% vs 87.7%).

In 2004, 22.2% of the physicians had never used analgesia-sedation for procedures (vs 1.4% in 2010; $p<0,01$), 27.8% did not use topical anaesthesia in 2004 (vs 2.7% in 2010; $p<0,01$). In 2004, 13 (18.1%) had applied Nitrous oxide (vs 53, 72.6% in 2010; $p<0,01$).

In 2010, all the physicians, except for 3 should use analgesia-sedation for procedures (vs 16 in 2004), although the selected option varied among physicians. Of the 33 PEDs, 20 had analgesia-sedation protocols (vs 7 of 22 in 2004, $p=0,03$).

Conclusions: the analgesia-sedation for procedures in Spanish PEDs has improved in the last years although some issues have to be improved.