Anesthesiology: Core EPA #11

Providing perioperative anesthetic management incorporating a peripheral nerve block technique

Key Features:
- This EPA focuses on the management of all aspects of care including preoperative assessment, investigation/optimization if needed, appropriate patient selection, determination of surgical procedure compatibility, selection of anesthesia/analgesia technique, discussion of risks and benefits (informed consent), performance of the regional anesthetic technique and monitoring of the patient throughout the procedure.
- This EPA includes postoperative disposition and ensuring adequate follow-up.
- The assessment of this EPA includes review of the resident’s logbook

Assessment plan - recommendations

Part A: Management and procedure
Direct observation by supervisor

Use Form 1 or local alternative. Form collects information on:
- Location of block: upper limb; lower limb; trunk; other
- Type of block: interscalenic; supra-clavicular; infra-clavicular; axillary; peripheral block; transversus abdominis plane block; sciatic nerve; femoral nerve; popliteal sciatic; ankle block; other block

Collect observations from a large breadth of regional anesthesia experience with the expectations not all will be achieved, with a minimum of 10 observations of achievement
- At least 3 upper limb
- At least 3 lower limb
- At least 1 trunk block

Part B: Logbook
Submit logbook of regional anesthesia experience
Logbook tracks
- Location of block: upper limb; lower limb; trunk; other
- Type of block: interscalenic; supra-clavicular; infra-clavicular; axillary; peripheral block; transversus abdominis plane block; sciatic nerve; femoral nerve; popliteal sciatic; ankle block; other block

Relevant milestones

Part A: Management and procedure

1. ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of the pharmacology of local anesthetics with respect to mechanism of action, toxicity, kinetics and adjuvants, to the selection of appropriate pharmacologic agents
2. ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of anatomy to regional anesthesia technique
3. ME 2.2 Synthesize patient information to determine the most appropriate anesthetic
management plan

4 ME 2.2 Elicit a history, perform a physical exam and select appropriate investigations, and interpret their results for the purpose of determining prioritized anesthetic considerations and perioperative management plan.

5 ME 3.1 Select the most appropriate regional anesthesia technique in the context of local guidelines, the patient, the procedure and the surgeon.

6 ME 3.2 Obtain and document informed consent, explaining the risks and benefits of, and the rationale for, a proposed procedure or therapy.

7 ME 3.4 Demonstrate effective procedure preparation, including gathering required equipment, and patient monitoring and positioning.

8 ME 3.4 Establish and implement a plan for post-anesthesia care.

9 ME 3.4 Perform the anesthetic management and all related technical procedures in a skilful and safe manner, adapting to unanticipated findings or changing clinical circumstances.

10 ME 3.4 Perform peripheral nerve block regional anesthesia and all related technical procedures in a skilful and safe manner, adapting to unanticipated findings or changing clinical circumstances.

11 COM 1.2 Optimize the physical environment for patient comfort, privacy, engagement, and safety.

12 COM 5.1 Document all aspects of an anesthesia encounter in an accurate, complete, legible, timely, and accessible manner, in compliance with regulatory and legal requirements.

13 COL 1.3 Engage in respectful shared decision-making with physician and other colleagues in the health care professions.

14 HA 1.2 Use information booklets, websites, and other communication technologies to improve patient understanding of the planned regional technique and post procedure care.

15 S 1.1 Use technology or personal documentation to record, monitor, and report on your procedural log.

16 P 2.2 Demonstrate a commitment to patient safety and quality improvement through adherence to institutional policies and procedures.