Parental Perspectives on Pre-Operative Counseling Regarding Pediatric General Anesthesia Exposure

Patrick Meade, Yvonne Chan, Ilina Rosoklija, Hubert Benzon, Eric Cheon, David Chu
Disclosures

• None
Parental Preferences on GA Counseling is Unknown

- Surgical interventions
- General anesthesia (GA)
- Pre-op counseling
What are Parental Preferences with GA Counseling?

• Aims
  – Understand which sources of information regarding GA were most helpful (especially surgeon vs anesthesia)
  – How parental preferences varied based on demographics or child characteristics
Survey of Parents in the U.S.

- Amazon Mechanical Turk
- Parents of children who had undergone GA prior to 6 years of age
- Invalid/incoherent responses excluded
Ranking Information Source About GA and Its Potential Effects

- **Surgeon**
- **Anesthesiologist**
  - Nursing staff
  - Friends/family
  - Internet
  - Social media
  - Other
Parent/Child Demographics and Parental Health Literacy

- Parental education
- Child age at GA exposure

- Health literacy
  - High health literacy = Extremely comfortable/Very comfortable

Based on the information you receive at your doctor's office, how comfortable are you making medical decisions?

* must provide value
Analysis

• Distribution of preferred source of information on GA

• Subgroup: surgeon versus anesthesiologist

• Logistic regression models assessed predictors of surgeon versus anesthesiologist
532/607 (88%) chose surgeon or anesthesiologist.
73% married

79% white

44% children less than 2 years
Half of the Parents Reported High Health Literacy
Most Parents Preferred **Anesthesiologists**

- Surgeon: 34%
- Anesthesiologist: 66%

n = 532
No association was found between surgeon/anesthesiologist preference and parental education or child age.
## Lower Health Literacy Associated With Surgeon Preference

### Multivariable Analysis for Counseling Source (Surgeon, vs Anesthesiologist)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Odds Ratio (95% CI) 95% CI</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Literacy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely comfortable</td>
<td>Referent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very comfortable</td>
<td>0.72 (0.39-1.32)</td>
<td>0.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately comfortable</td>
<td>1.26 (0.68-2.3)</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat comfortable</td>
<td>1.71 (0.89-3.27)</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not comfortable</td>
<td>1.27 (0.26-6.05)</td>
<td>0.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* p-value < 0.05
Conclusion

2/3 Anesthesiologist
1/3 Surgeon

Lower health literacy preferred Surgeons

GA counseling