

Pediatric Perioperative Clinical Pearls and Guidelines: An “Induction” to Anesthesia Education and Collaboration Among Pediatric Specialties

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Abstract Background Information: As the complexity and acuity of pediatric health care continues to evolve, more conditions and treatments are identified, resulting in the growth of pediatric subspecialty surgical and perioperative programs. The perioperative pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) exhibits expertise through extensive care coordination, education, and anticipatory guidance while ensuring optimization of the pediatric patient undergoing surgery. The role of the pediatric-focused APRN in anesthesia preparation is essential in identifying potential risk factors in order to avoid adverse anesthesia and surgical outcomes. The anesthesia-focused education and guidance provided to patients, families, and colleagues during this stressful time of uncertainty allows for collaboration, support, and advocacy. To enhance this team-based approach, the dissemination of pediatric anesthesia clinical pearls and guidelines by the pediatric-focused APRN with colleagues throughout all pediatric specialties is necessary to ensure seamless perioperative care.

Objectives of Project:

- Be able to recognize the importance of perioperative anesthesia education and collaboration among all pediatric specialties.
- Be able to describe potential perioperative testing, clearances, and anesthesia risk factors during a review of pediatric perioperative case studies.
- Be able to recognize the essential subspecialty role of the pediatric APRN across all specialties during the perioperative period to ensure optimal pediatric anesthesia and surgical outcomes.

Process of Implementation: The implementation occurs through dissemination of pediatric anesthesia clinical education, clinical pearls, and guidelines to pediatric colleagues throughout all practice settings through an oral PowerPoint presentation and/or a poster presentation at the 2025 ASPAN National Conference.

Statement of Successful Practice: The pediatric-focused APRN is able to successfully provide perioperative education through a review of clinical pearls and guidelines to pediatric colleagues throughout all practice settings to ensure safe and seamless perioperative pediatric care.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: The pediatric perioperative APRN role allows for a full comprehensive review of a child's medical history and collaboration among all areas of the child's care to ensure safe surgical and anesthetic outcomes. Anesthesia-focused education and perioperative care is an area of practice that involves teamwork and communication throughout all pediatric specialties, making it a very important topic to review with pediatric colleagues.