

GA vs no GA

Opinion

A study I conducted a few years ago in order to detect the tendency to refer young patients to the hospital to perform a Comprehensive Dental Treatment (CDT) under General Anesthesia (GA). The survey included 38 Dentists Specialists used to practice CDT under GA and the Intravenous (IV) sedation technique I choose to divide the practitioners into 2 age groups. The first group is the young age 40 or less and the second one is the old age group 40 plus. The child patients are divided into 3 groups:

1. Up to 5 years old
2. From 5 to 8 years old
3. 8 and up

The assumed selected patients should follow specified criteria, they are uncooperative children” classified Frankl IV” and the number of teeth to be treated should not be less than 4 one of them in

Table I At what percentage do you estimate the need for GA?

Doctors in favor of the GA patients age groups	Group A 40Y.O. Or Less	Group B + 40y.O
Group I	54%	63%
Group II	47%	57%
Group III	32%	41%
2-How do you evaluate the clinical outcome of the GA cases?	90% v. good	75% v. good
3-How many cases required a redo GA?	less than 1%	1 to 1,5%
4-how many cases required clinical visits for new treatment soon after the GA?	12%	11%

What are the hurdles limiting the number of the GA cases?

- a. All agree on:
- b. The High cost
- c. The parents acceptance/refusal of the GA
- d. Ignorance and/or exaggerating the risk factors in a negative way

I will not conclude my study with any recommendation or statistics; I will leave it to the reader’s judgment.

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critical condition or suffering from bad esthetic. Clear GA cases like “Children with special needs and extreme urgent cases” are excluded.

At what percentage do you estimate the need for GA?

The result shows the following (Table 1)

The big remaining question is;

Is the IV sedation technic a good and reliable solution?

The answer needs new studies and open discussions.

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None.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.