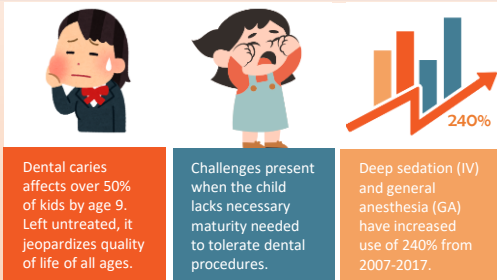




INTRODUCTION



- Deep sedation and general anesthesia are considered safe and effective modalities - it is essential to understand concerns and attitudes of parents who are presented with this option and whose children undergo such treatments.

OBJECTIVES

- Investigate parents' experience with deep sedation (IV) in office and general anesthesia (GA) in operating room
- Assess how the sedation setting, extent of treatment, and patient/parent demographics influence parental attitude towards the sedation experience
- Explores unique experiences with children with special needs in sedation settings



Figure 1: General anesthesia in operating room



Figure 2: IV sedation in office set up

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Descriptive study that utilizes a 13-question survey
- Survey is distributed during 2 week follow up appointments at the NCEP Pediatric Dental Clinic in Naples, FL
- Survey consists of 5 demographic questions and 8 perception-based questions about the sedation experience
- Responses are analyzed to identify correlations between data

Your age:

☐ 18-25 years old
☐ 26-40 years old
☐ 40-50 years old
☐ 51+ years old

Ethnicity:

☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
☐ Asian / Pacific Islander
☐ Black or African American
☐ Hispanic
☐ White / Caucasian

Relationship to child?

☐ Mother
☐ Legal Guardian
☐ Father

YOUR highest education level:

☐ Less than high school
☐ High school or GED
☐ Associates/trade school
☐ Bachelor's Degree
☐ Post graduate degree

Before your sedation appointment 2 weeks ago, had you or your children had any other IV sedation or general anesthesia experience (select all that apply to you)?

☐ Yes, myself
☐ Yes, my child
☐ No

Figure 3: Five demographic questions about parent and patient

- The dental treatment plan went as expected on the day of sedation.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- I felt comfortable asking questions and all of my questions were addressed.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- The sedation environment was as I expected.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- My child was afraid while waiting to be called back to the appointment.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- I felt comfortable with the anesthesiologist putting my child to sleep.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- I am satisfied with the way my child was put to sleep for the procedure.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- My child experienced pain/discomfort after the procedure.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree
- I had an overall good clinic or hospital experience.
☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree

Figure 4: Eight perception-based questions about sedation experience

RESULTS

- Average age of patients is 5.8 ± 3.58
- Majority of guardians are Hispanic (47.1%) and high school or GED educated (88%).
- About half of the population has medical needs or take medications (47.1%)
- 88% stated that they were satisfied with the way their child was sedated, 12% were neutral (all general anesthesia)
- 94% of the participants stated the environment was as expected.
- 12% of parents state that the child was afraid in the waiting room – these participants were part of the general anesthesia group, accompanied by a legal guardian and not the parent.
- 94% of participants stated they had a good experience.

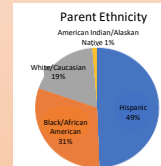


Figure 5: Parent ethnicity by percent

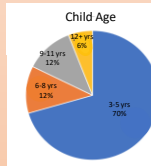


Figure 6: Child age grouping of sedated patients

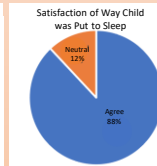


Figure 7: Question #6 of survey, way child was put to sleep (GA vs. IV)

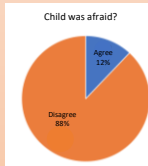


Figure 8: Question #4, parent perception of child fear in waiting room

CONCLUSION

- This is an ongoing project and will be continued through the 2025 year, and as number of surveys collected grow, more statistically significant correlations may come to light
- Parents' attitudes toward sedation methods are possibly influenced by various factors, including setting, extent of the procedure, and prior knowledge or experiences.
- Understanding these factors can help clinicians tailor options to patient needs and parental preferences, improving care-planning processes for children requiring sedation.