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Effectiveness of Transmucosal Sedation for Special Needs Populations in the Ambulatory Care Setting

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Purpose/Goal

To provide the learner with knowledge specific to providing perioperative care for patients receiving sedation medications via the transmucosal route of administration.

Objectives

- 1. Discuss the use of procedural sedation medications.
- 2. Discuss the perioperative nurse's role in procedural sedation.
- 3. Describe the use of transmucosal dexmedetomidine for procedural sedation.
- 4. Discuss the use of transmucosal midazolam for procedural sedation.
- Identify medications used to counteract the effects of overdose after administration of sedation medications.

Accreditation

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Ms Tetef has no declared affiliation that could be perceived as posing a potential conflict of interest in the publication of this article.

The behavioral objectives for this program were created by Rebecca Holm, MSN, RN, CNOR, clinical editor, with consultation from Susan Bakewell, MS, RN-BC, director, Perioperative Education. Ms Holm and Ms Bakewell have no declared affiliations that could be perceived as posing potential conflicts of interest in the publication of this article.

Sponsorship or Commercial Support

No sponsorship or commercial support was received for this article.

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ABSTRACT

Transmucosal is an alternative route for administering medications (ie, dexmedeto-midine, midazolam, naloxone) that can be effective for procedural or moderate sedation in patients with special needs when other routes are not practical or are contraindicated. Special needs populations include children, older adults, pregnant and breast-feeding women, and people with disabilities or conditions that limit their ability to function and cope. Understanding the perioperative nurse's role in the care of patients receiving medications via the transmucosal route can lead to better clinical outcomes. Successful use of the transmucosal route requires knowledge of when to administer a medication, how often and how much of a medication should be administered, the onset and duration of action, the adverse effects or contraindications, and the key benefits. In addition, a case study approach suggests that transmucosal sedation can decrease patient stress and anxiety related to undergoing medical procedures or surgery in the ambulatory care setting. *AORN J* 100 (December 2014) 652-666. © AORN, Inc, 2014. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.aorn.2014.04.019

Key words: transmucosal, intranasal, dexmedetomidine, midazolam, naloxone, pediatric, moderate sedation, procedural sedation, case studies, special needs populations, patients with special needs, ambulatory care setting.

he number of noninvasive and minimally invasive procedures performed outside the OR has grown exponentially during the past decades. Sedation may be needed preoperatively and for interventional or diagnostic procedures. Managing the care of patients with special needs who require sedation for a medical procedure or surgery continues to be a challenge for health

care providers. Special needs populations include children, older adults, pregnant and breast-feeding women, and people with disabilities or conditions that limit their ability to function and cope. Clinicians need to continually identify and manage barriers to providing care when a patient with special needs requires sedation. Patients with special needs may require additional emotional

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