Background: Paediatric anaesthesia, while well established in many countries is an emerging field in Kenya. There are many challenges faced by anaesthesiologists, which include limited resources both in equipment and personnel, and poverty. There is diversity between the private and public institutions and between the rural and urban setup in paediatric practice.

We present a cross sectional survey of how paediatric practice is carried out in 3 institutions in Kenya, showing the differences and similarities.

Method: A questionnaire method was developed and used to find out how paediatric practice is carried out in 3 hospitals in Kenya, a provincial public hospital, a district public hospital and a private institution. 2 of the hospitals are based in urban centers while one is located in a peri-urban area. The areas assessed were preoperative assessment, premedication, induction, monitoring, maintenance, pain management and perceived problems in administering anaesthesia.

There was no change dictated in the clinical practice of the anesthesiologists involved.

Conclusion: The presentation is a practical illustration of how paediatric anaesthesia is carried out in Kenya, a developing country. It shows what is practiced that conforms to the international standards for the safe practice of anaesthesia, adopted by the World Federation of societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA) in 1992 and highlights the problems perceived by most anaesthesiologists to be obstacles in their practice.

References


