Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Network update

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The Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Network (PRAN) continues to grow at a rapid rate. This project, which was formed as a research network and highly audited case registry, is supported by SPA and by the contributions of the participating research centers and endorsed by the AAP Section on Anesthesiology and Pain Management. We seek to learn more about risks, complications and practice patterns in regional anesthetics in infants and children. There are now over 36,000 cases in the database.

Participating centers commit to collecting data on every regional anesthetic that is performed by an anesthesiologist at their institution on children 18 years and younger. It is critical that accurate and complete collection of all cases occur in order to determine the true denominators. Audits of all anesthesia records are performed to ensure that cases are not missed, and random audits of 10 percent of the entered cases (or 10 per month if less than 100 cases are done in a given month) are be carried out to confirm accuracy of the data. All data entry is done on line over a secure Internet connection to a centralized database.

There are now 15 centers submitting data to PRAN (see Table 1).

One paper has been published and numerous abstracts have been presented in the last academic year at national and international meetings (see Table 2). The “reference” manuscript describing the detailed methodology of the network and the results of the initial cohort was submitted to Anesthesia and Analgesia, and is in review at this time.

We encourage any department interested in participating in this project to contact us- we hope to expand the network to enable us to develop the largest database of regional anesthetics in children in the world. Large numbers are necessary to get meaningful data about uncommon events. The PRAN database also enables your department to benchmark your institution against large national norms for quality improvement. Please contact David Polaner ([david.polaner@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:david.polaner@childrenscolorado.org)) and our project manager Christie Wolf ([christiew@axioresearch.com](mailto:christiew@axioresearch.com)) for more information.

**Table 1: PRAN Participating centers as of November 2011**

- Seattle Children’s Hospital
- Children’s Hospital Colorado (Denver Children’s)
- Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth
- Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago
- Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University
- Children's Medical Center, Dallas
- Columbia University
- The Cleveland Clinic
- Children's Hospital, Boston
- Texas Children’s Hospital
- University of Texas, Houston
- University of New Mexico
- Oregon Health Sciences University/ Doernbecher Children’s Hospital
Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH

Table 2: Recent Publications and abstracts:


Abstracts:


meeting of the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia and American Academy of Pediatrics
Section on Anesthesiology and Pain Management, San Diego, CA, 2012