

## [NM-153] Current Practices in the Management of Post-dural Puncture Headache: Results of an SPA-approved Survey

Eisdorfer S, Agarwal R  
Children's Hospital Colorado , Aurora , CO, USA

---

Post-dural puncture headache (PDPH) is a well-known complication of dural puncture, whether intentional or unintentional. The overwhelming majority of the data regarding treatment of PDPH comes from the obstetric anesthesia literature due to the number of neuraxial procedures performed and the increased risk of PDPH in that population. Historically, it was believed that children did not experience post-dural puncture headaches, or at least not in substantial numbers. Recent research has suggested, however, that the rate of PDPH in children is similar to that in adults. Therefore, PDPH is likely an underappreciated phenomenon in children. Pediatric anesthesia providers are often intricately involved with these patients, either as the proceduralist performing a neuraxial block or more often as the consultant asked to aid in the treatment of a post-dural puncture headache. Given the paucity of data on the invasive treatment of PDPH in children, a survey was conducted to gain an understanding of the current common practices amongst pediatric anesthesiologists in the treatment of PDPH. Questions were aimed at determining approximate numbers of PDPH patients seen and number of epidural blood patches performed as stratified by age group. Questions about alternative therapies and blood patch location and technique were also asked.

The survey was completed by almost 400 respondents. Of these individuals, almost 60% had seen at least one patient with PDPH within the past year, and over 10% of respondents had seen over 10. Respondents performed close to 800 epidural blood patches over the past 5 years in a variety of locations and with varying degrees of sedation. Further results of the survey along with the most recent research on the subject of PDPH and epidural blood patches will be presented in this poster.

---