Sedation & Comfort Score

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Overview

- The link between sedation and comfort score is well known.

- Patients tend to perceive their procedures to be more comfortable with higher dosages of sedation.

- This can be detrimental to patient safety.

- The overall skill of a procedure should be judged on a combination of the ability to achieve a good comfort score while using low levels of sedation and still completing the assessment.
Issues

• Achieving high comfort scores by using higher than recommended sedation
  o Not instantly visible from individual KPIs

• Excessive sedation is considered to be an important contributor to cardio-respiratory deaths following endoscopy in high risk patients
  o Particularly in patients aged over 70

• Data shows a link between units using high dosages of sedation and some units with high particularly high comfort scores
Colonoscopy - Midazolam Dosages in Patients 70 and Older - Percentage of Cases per Hospital

Endoscopist Target Median: <=3mg

- <=3mg
- >3mg and <=5mg
- >5mg and <=7mg
- >7mg and <=10mg
- >10mg
Data for Comfort Score

Colonoscopy - Percentage of Cases by Comfort Score by Hospital
Patients Over 70
Questions

1) What can be done to reduce this risk?

2) How is sedation recorded in your unit?

3) tbc
Thank you