Risk Appraisal of Narcotic Sedation for Children.

Moore, Paul A. DMD, PhD, Goodson, J. Max DDS, PhD. Anest Prog. July/Aug 1985. 129-140.

Summary

Since the use of narcotics was initially advocated 28 years ago, serious adverse reactions, including fatalities, have been reported. At least four factors appear to contribute to these reactions: multiple drug administration, excessive dosage, inadequate monitoring, and ineffectual emergency care. Because of the relatively high incidence of life-threatening reactions and the complexity of the required emergency care, the routine use of pediatric sedation techniques that require large doses of narcotics cannot be advocated for use in the private office.