



Association of Dental Anaesthetists
Winter Meeting, February 8th 2007

DENTAL ANAESTHESIA AND SEDATION:
LESSONS FROM THE COURTS AND ETHICAL ISSUES

at the Association of Anaesthetists of
Great Britain & Ireland, London

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The Association of Dental Anaesthetists Winter Meeting 2006 has been organised by the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain & Ireland.

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Welcome message from the President of the Association of Dental Anaesthetists

“It is my pleasure to welcome to the 2007 Winter Meeting of the Association of Dental Anaesthetists. I am delighted that we continue to enjoy the use of the facilities here allowing us to have a fixed venue for our winter meetings. We have changed the day of our winter meeting to a Thursday, as there were some objections to a meeting on a Saturday. The Council will be pleased to hear whether you feel this is an improvement or not!

The themes of the meeting today are ethical and medicolegal issues. There is no doubt that both issues are of increasing importance. There have been significant changes in the rules for GMC and GDC hearings. We are very fortunate to have Tom Hayes, who is a Senior Partner in the firm that acts for the GDC speaking to us. The changes in the Ethical Approval process have also been an area of major concern.

I hope that by the end of this meeting we will have an increased awareness of some of the issues in these areas.

If you find today’s meeting of value, please tell your colleagues who are not here!! If there are things we could do better, then please tell one of the Council members!

Finally I would like to thank the staff of the AAGBI, particularly Thomas and Busola for their help with this meeting and Diana Terry, our Honorary Secretary for organising the programme. Our next meeting is in South Yorkshire in June. I look forward to welcoming that meeting!!”

Dr Nigel Robb
President, the Association of Dental Anaesthetists

Scientific Programme

09:15 *Registration and coffee*

09:50 **Introduction**
Dr Nigel Robb, President, the Association of Dental Anaesthetists

10:00 **Ethics considerations in sedation research**
Dr Avril Macpherson, Assistant Clinical Director, Special Care & Sedation Lothian Salaried Primary Care Dental Service

The 'Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004', and its 2006 amendments, have arrived in the UK to implement the 'EU Clinical Trials Directive 2001/20/EC'. The legislation aims to provide public assurance that the rights, safety and well being of trial subjects are protected and that the clinical trial data are credible.

Most sedation research will be covered by these regulations since they apply to all research investigating a medicinal product or a medical device. The Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency is the UK Competent Authority for authorising clinical trials. Investigators must ensure that their trial is registered with European Clinical Trials Database (EudraCT), a Sponsor is agreed and that ethical approval, NHS Research & Development approval and MHRA Clinical Trial Authorisation have all been obtained before patients are recruited. The Good Clinical Practice (GCP) standards must be adhered to throughout the trial.

Clinical trials will only be accepted for publication by most international & national peer reviewed journals if the study has been registered with the Clinical Trials Protocol Registration System before patient enrollment.

10:30 **Building on improvement: establishing a National Research Ethics Service**
*Ms Charlotte Rose, Central Office for Research Ethics Committees
Head of Operations for the South and London*

The presentation will highlight some of the key areas in "Building on Improvement: Implementing the recommendations of the *Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on the Operation of NHS Research Ethics Committees*". The presentation will look in detail at some elements within 'Building on Improvement' such as the proposed screening functions for early provision of advice and the fast track review process. The presentation will also describe other areas of work within the COREC business plan and in particular the forthcoming launch of the National Research Ethics Service

Building on Improvement available at: <http://www.corec.org.uk/recs/consultation.htm#implementation>

Ad Hoc Review Report: <http://www.corec.org.uk/recs/consultation.htm#implementation>

COREC Business Plans: <http://www.corec.org.uk/applicants/Businessplan.htm>

11:00 *Tea and coffee break*

- 11:30 **Case reports and implications for future practice**
*Dr Chris Holden, Immediate Past President, Society for the
Advancement of Anaesthesia in Dentistry*
Dr Chris Wright, Associate Specialist, Birmingham Dental Hospital
Dr Michael Wood, Principal Dentist, Leagrave Dental Sedation Clinic

Medico-legal cases often display trends of patient care and practitioner behaviour. This presentation portrays a few of the cases experienced by me in the last twenty years. In that time many cases have been outrageous, some laughable and a few terrible. All have caused suffering, anxiety and unhappiness at best.

This presentation investigates cases involving allegations of negligence, inappropriate practice and sexual assault.

Risk assessment, risk management, good note taking and plain common sense could have avoided all but the plainly criminal. These are not the only lessons. The outcome of criminal and civil cases is always uncertain but however well intentioned; the outcome of professional conduct cases can be all but a lottery.

*Dr Chris Holden, Immediate Past President, Society for the Advancement of
Anaesthesia in Dentistry*

Conscious sedation for dentistry alters the patient perception, both of the treatment being administered and the manner in which it is provided. This presentation looks at how sexual innuendo may be perceived by a patient under conscious sedation. Brief reference of some of the cases in which I have been involved will be used to illustrate the points made during the presentation. The presentation will include some discussion on how to prevent accusations of impropriety to safeguard the clinician and staff. It is hoped that this will encourage discussion within the meeting.

Dr Chris Wright, Associate Specialist, Birmingham Dental Hospital

- 13:00 **Discussion session with all speakers**
- 13:30 *Lunch*
- 14:30 **Changes in regulations and interesting recent cases**
*Mr Tom Hayes, Partner, Dispute Resolution, Capsticks Solicitors & Ms
Sophie Pearson, Capsticks Solicitors*

Tom will give an overview of the GDC's new procedures for the investigation and prosecution of fitness to practise cases. Sophie will present a case study concerning a 6 year old boy who suffered brain damage following the administration by an anaesthetist of multiple drugs for conscious sedation and the regulatory implications of this on the dentist involved in the treatment.

15:15 **Areas of concern for the GDC and GMC**
Dr Nigel Robb, President, the Association of Dental Anaesthetists

This paper presents an overview of the issues that recur throughout the majority of cases before the General Dental and General Medical Council hearings related to sedation for dentistry.

The presentation reviews the common problems in the areas of patient assessment, choice of sedative technique, discharge after sedation and documentation.

In mainly of the complaints there is not simply one failing, but frequently a combination of factors.

Problems with assessment include the patients or parents of patients feeling that they have insufficient information on which to make the decision. The area of whether a different amount of information is required when alternative techniques are used will be discussed.

The choice of sedative technique and the rationale for such choices is also an area of concern, particularly in paediatric sedation. The meaning of the appropriate sections on paediatric sedation from the General Dental Council and Standing Dental Advisory Committee documents are discussed.

The timing and state of the patients at discharge is a continual source of complaints. Frequently the documentary evidence and the patients' escorts' accounts are incompatible. There is a constant debate as to whether this is due to patients being discharged too early, or the escorts not realising the effects of sedation.

Other areas for discussion are the appropriate training and the responsibilities of the staff when sedation is provided.

16:00 **Discussion session with all speakers**

16:30 **Summary and close of meeting**
Dr Nigel Robb, President, the Association of Dental Anaesthetists

Meeting Information

Registration

All delegates are asked to ensure that they sign-in and collect a delegate pack and name badge on arrival at the meeting. Please note that there is an *additional* register specifically for GDPs wishing to claim London Deanery CPD Allowance (see below).

Continuing Medical Education

The ADA Winter Meeting 2007 has been accredited by the Royal College of Anaesthetists with 5 CEPD points and is also approved for CPDA by the London Deanery.

Certificates of attendance will be available from the registration area at the end of the meeting. Any certificates not collected at the meeting will be posted to delegates directly.

If you wish to claim the CPDA **you must** ensure that you sign the attendance register specific to GDPs. You should also complete the FP84 form enclosed in the delegate pack and return it to the Dental Practice Board.

The Meeting Venue

All lectures will take place on the 1st floor in the Intavent Suite. If the temperature is too low or too high please inform a member of staff. Please remember to switch off your mobile phone.

Lunch and all refreshments will be served in the restaurant in the basement of the building.

The Anaesthesia Heritage Centre

The Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland has brought together the Association's museum, archives and library to form the Anaesthesia Heritage Centre. The collections work together to help date, explain and illustrate each other and are a unique resource for research into the history of anaesthesia. A leaflet detailing the centre is included in the delegate packs.

Please feel free to browse the exhibits during the refreshment and lunch breaks.

Evaluation Forms

In order to identify speakers, sessions, and topics that have been of particular interest, delegates are asked to complete and return the evaluation form which can be found in the delegate pack.

Please hand your completed form either to a member of staff at the registration area or send/fax it to the conference organisers whose details can be found on the form.

Parking at 21 Portland Place

Please note that no private parking is available at the Association although it may be possible to find on street parking on the day. Alternatively there is an NCP car park at the Holiday Inn on Carburton Street approximately 10 minutes walk away.

Mobile Phones

Please would all delegates ensure that mobile phones are switched off while in the lecture hall.



Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes, spanning the width of the page.