TITLE: Monitoring of Patients during Ophthalmologic Procedures Involving Anesthesia: Guidelines

DATE: 29 June 2010

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What are the guidelines regarding the monitoring of patients receiving anesthesia during ophthalmologic procedures?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 6, 2010), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between Jan 1, 2005 and Jun 22, 2010. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, and guidelines. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by evidence-based guidelines.

The literature search identified one evidence-based guideline regarding the monitoring of patients receiving anesthesia during ophthalmologic procedures. No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, or meta-analyses were identified. Additional articles of potential interest, including two guidelines which did not provide information on their...
methodologies, are included in the appendix. Three of the non-randomized studies included in
the appendix focus on anesthesia safety issues during ophthalmologic procedures.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

A guideline produced by the Canadian Ophthalmological Society (2008)\(^1\) includes a section on
anesthesiology service for cataract surgery. The guideline recommends:

- All patients should be monitored during surgery; monitoring by nurses or respiratory
  assistants is acceptable, with availability of anesthesiologist input.
- Topical anesthesia with oral sedation without anesthetic monitoring is considered safe in
  healthy patients with routine cataracts, following pre-assessment by a health care
  professional.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED:

Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified

Guidelines and recommendations

1. Canadian Ophthalmological Society Cataract Surgery Clinical Practice Guideline
   Expert Committee. Canadian Ophthalmological Society evidence-based clinical practice
[cited 2010 Jun 22];43 Suppl 1:S7-57. Available from: http://article.pubs.nrc-
cnrc.gc.ca/RPAS/ryp?hm=HInit&calyLang=eng&journal=cjo&volume=43&afpf=i08-133.pdf
See: Anesthesiology service, p. 15

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Guidelines and recommendations


   See: Anesthesia section

Non-randomized studies


Review articles