



Quality & Safety Committee News - October 2016

The Quality & Safety Advisory (QSA) committee is a standing committee of the College

- Promoting and maintaining a culture of patient safety
- Providing leadership for patient safety
- Providing timely information to support patient safety

In this edition of our newsletter we include important information on:

- **European Board of Anaesthesiology (EBA) Safe Medicines Practice**
- **Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) Patient Safety Updates**
- **SALG M&M Toolkit**
- **WFSA SAFE -T Consortium**
- **Developing a National Anaesthesia Safety Network**

EBA Safe Medicines Practice

Medication errors are one of the most common classes of errors reported in anaesthesia and it is important that we are aware of the guidelines available to support safe practice in this area. The European Board of Anaesthesia have updated their recommendations for safe medication practice and these will be published in the near future in the European Journal of Anaesthesiology. You are encouraged to read them and share with your colleagues. They can be viewed by following the link.

<http://www.eba-uems.eu/resources/PDFS/safety-guidelines/EBA-Recommendations-for-Safe-Medication-Practice-2015.pdf>

Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) Patient Safety Updates

The Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) in the UK regularly publish Patient Safety Updates based primarily on adverse events reported to them. The latest update can now be viewed by following the link on the CAI website (***Safety - Patient Safety Updates***). In addition to statistics on the number and nature of reported incidents the update includes clinical vignettes as reported by anaesthetists. The latest update highlights a number of cases of local anaesthetic

toxicity and various complications of central venous catheters. You are encouraged to read these updates regularly.

SALG M&M Toolkit

The Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) have produced a toolkit designed to enable Departments of Anaesthesia maximize the learning and quality improvement opportunities from Morbidity & Mortality meetings. The key to this is to adopt a standardized approach and this tool kit tells you how. It can be viewed on the SALG page at RCoA or AAGBI or can be accessed via the following link.

<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/node/14842>

WFSA SAFE-T Consortium

We are pleased to announce that CAI has joined the World Federation SAFE-T Consortium - a global collaboration of organisations committed to the advancement of patient safety and the International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia.

Mission: To improve patient safety and access to safe anaesthesia worldwide.

Objectives: The SAFE-T Consortium brings together industry and patient focused organisations working in the field of anesthesiology and global health with the WFSA's global network of anaesthesia professionals to:

1. Demonstrate our joint commitment to advancing patient safety and the International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia
2. Share available data pertaining to meeting the International Standards globally
3. Identify opportunities to work collaboratively with the WFSA and other Consortium Members to improve the practice of and access to safe anaesthesia

Developing a National Anaesthesia Safety Network

The QSA Committee, the Irish Standing Committee of AABI and the National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesia have agreed to work closely together on a number of safety issues as we go forward. Ideally we would like to build a National Anaesthesia Safety Network where there would be a Clinical Lead for Safety & Quality (CLSQ) in each hospital or hospital group.

The purpose of this role is firstly to ensure that information and safety initiatives from CAI Q&S committee are communicated to all within the department. The CLSQ will also encourage reporting of safety concerns/near misses and feed these back (anonymised) to the Quality & Safety Committee. The objective is to develop a system whereby safety concerns and learning from events and near misses can be shared in a structured way with colleagues throughout the country. If you have an interest in this role or any suggestions on the above please contact Quality & Safety Committee chair Gerry Fitzpatrick at safety@coa.ie.

And Finally...

This is the third edition of the newsletter and to date we have no idea whether it is received and read or indeed if the contents are perceived to be relevant. We would really welcome your feedback. If you have any comments or questions in relation to the above or indeed to any matter related to safety or quality please contact us at safety@coa.ie

Gerry Fitzpatrick

Chair Quality & Safety Advisory Committee CAI