

The New Paradigm: Procedural Sedation in the COVID-19 Era

Um Novo Paradigma: Procedimentos com Sedação na Era COVID-19

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Afiliação

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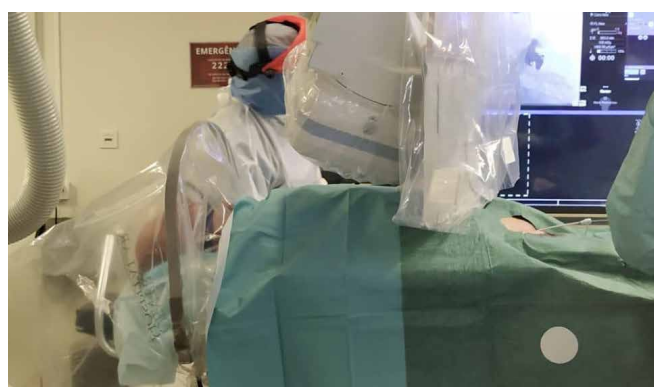
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Keywords

Analgesia; Conscious Sedation; COVID-19

Palavras-chave

Analgesia; COVID-19; Sedação Consciente



The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has dramatically changed our clinical practice. Although elective procedures were initially postponed,¹ medical departments had to create conditions for a safe return to routine activity as well as increasing the safety of urgent procedures. These images refer to a left atrial appendage (LAA) closure with a *WATCHMANFLX* device, in a 76-year-old man with atrial fibrillation and cerebrovascular disease (and contraindication to anticoagulation/high bleeding risk). It was performed with transesophageal echocardiography under deep sedation and spontaneous ventilation, similar to our preferred anesthetic technique for this type of patients and procedure. Strategies to minimize virus dispersion, as personal protective equipment, low flow oxygen therapy and plastic boxes, have been described to minimize virus dispersion.² Although in our institution, barrier boxes have been used in the operating room for endotracheal intubation, they do not have compatible configuration for cardiac catheterization lab. Thus in order to carry out these procedures, an arch with plastic protection was specifically created to be placed around the patient's airway, providing maximal protection to the health care team. This device allows the procedures and projections to be carried out safely without interfering with the anesthetic plan. Ongoing Heart Team activity and communication are vital to provide the best outcome.¹

Ethical Disclosures

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Financing Support: This work has not received any contribution, grant or scholarship.

Confidentiality of Data: The authors declare that they have followed the protocols of their work center on the publication of data from patients.

Patient Consent: Consent for publication was obtained.

Provenance and Peer Review: Not commissioned; externally peer reviewed.

Responsabilidades Éticas

Conflitos de Interesse: Os autores declaram a inexistência de conflitos de interesse na realização do presente trabalho.

Fontes de Financiamento: Não existiram fontes externas de financiamento para a realização deste artigo.

Confidencialidade dos Dados: Os autores declaram ter seguido os protocolos da sua instituição acerca da publicação dos dados de doentes.

Consentimento: Consentimento do doente para publicação obtido.

Proveniência e Revisão por Pares: Não comissionado; revisão externa por pares.

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Received: 21st of January, 2021 | Submissão: 21 de janeiro, 2021

Accepted: 02nd of March, 2021 | Aceitação: 02 de março, 2021

Published: 22nd of March, 2021 | Publicação: 22 de março, 2021

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