

Comparison of the effects of sedation and general anesthesia in surgically assisted rapid palatal expansion

To the Editor

I have a comment on the interesting study by Satilmis et al.¹ The author concluded that sedation for outpatient surgically assisted rapid palatal expansion (SARPE) is superior to general anesthesia in the aspect of lower pain scores, analgesic consumption, and greater patient satisfaction with the exception of nausea. In this study, nausea of sedation group was statistically higher than that of the general anesthesia group ($p=0.035$). The side effect like nausea and vomiting was recorded, as whether the symptom occurred or not. However, this method is simply dependent on the incidence of emetic episodes. Rhodes and McDaniel² recommended the Rhodes index of nausea, vomiting and retching (RINVR) for qualifying nausea and vomiting, objectively in patients who receive chemotherapy. The RINVR consists of 8 5-point self report questionnaire at 6 hours after surgery. It is very reliable for estimating postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV), especially in ambulatory surgery.³ Non-smoking is a risk factor of PONV in inhalational anesthesia, therefore smoking history has to be identified before operation.⁴

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Reply from the Author

No reply was received from the Author.

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