



Memo

TO: CDSBC Board Members

FROM: Dr. Toby Bellamy

DATE: November 23, 2018

SUBJECT: **Motion to Extend Pediatric Sedation Moratorium**

Background

In November 2016, the College Board moved to place a moratorium on pediatric moderate sedation in response to The Sedation and General Anaesthetic Services Committee's concerns regarding registrants' training for pediatric moderate parenteral sedation. Pediatric patients (12 years old and younger) are at greater risk of having a negative outcome from these procedures, as their health can be compromised in an extremely short period of time. The tragic case that transpired in Alberta involving a 4-year-old patient highlighted these risks and proved that these procedures must be performed with more precautionary measures.

Pediatric sedation at that time was not specifically addressed in the Standards and Guidelines, as the Committee expected only medical anaesthetists and dentists with substantive training and qualifications would provide this modality. Up until the emergence of "short-form" (i.e. less than one year) courses that offered moderate parenteral sedation, only multi-year programs attached to accredited programs offered this modality's training. Leading experts in the field from Canada and USA expressed grave concerns regarding the safety and efficacy of these "short form" programs; these apprehensions were also shared by the pediatric dentistry community and the Faculty of UBC. As a result, the Board motion below was carried:

That the College places a moratorium on the approval of certification to provide moderate sedation to patients 12 years old and under who have learned the modality in a short course format (i.e. less than one year). This would be in place for one year until further studies on the safety of this modality can be investigated.

This motion allowed the Sedation Committee to thoroughly analyze the situation and provide recommendations to the Board.

In November 2017, the Committee came back to the Board to request an extension of the moratorium. The Committee presented the Commission on Dental Accreditation's (CODA) requirements for advanced pediatric programs and explained they are significantly greater than those currently recognized in British Columbia. The Committee



stressed again that moderate sedation procedures for 12 years of age and under pose high risks for patients. Therefore, the motion below was carried:

That the Moratorium on new applications to register credentials to provide moderate pediatric sedation (patients 12 years of age and under) for dentists who have learned the modality in a short-course format (i.e. less than one year) be extended for a further year, or until the new criteria for the registration of qualifications have become a part of the standard.

The Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario has recently published their revised Sedation & General Anaesthetic Standards and Guidelines. It has mandated that only registrants who are authorized to administer deep sedation and general anaesthetic may provide moderate intravenous sedation to pediatric patients (12 years of age and under) in non-hospital settings.

To ensure that the public and patients are protected, the Committee requires further careful review to decide if they shall move forward with developing new criteria for the registration of qualifications to become part of the standard or to prohibit new registration of qualifications for pediatric moderate intravenous sedation.

Recommendation

The Committee requests the Board to approve the motion that the Moratorium on new applications to register credentials to provide moderate pediatric sedation (patients 12 years of age and under) for dentists who have learned the modality in a short-course format (i.e. less than one year) be extended until such time as the Committee determines new criteria for registration of qualifications and they have become a part of the standard. The Committee will be submitting a substantive input for the February Board meeting indicating the efforts being made and the direction the Committee is intending to go.