



## Position Statement

### ESRA Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Working Group

#### Preamble

The European Society of Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Therapy (ESRA) Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Working Group is committed to advancing standards in Pediatric Regional Anesthesia through evidence-based practices, collaboration, and innovation. Recognizing the growing importance of regional anesthesia in pediatric care, the WG aims to identify and address gaps in knowledge, training, and clinical application to improve patient and practitioner outcomes.

The WG is dedicated to conducting large-scale, multicenter studies to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various regional anesthesia techniques and comprehensively analyze complication rates. The group seeks to establish robust standards and guidelines for Pediatric Regional Anesthesia by understanding these aspects. Furthermore, the WG aims to explore the concerns and limitations experienced by anesthesiologists in adopting these techniques, addressing these barriers through targeted initiatives and educational efforts.

*The primary goals of the WG include:*

- Establishing standards for pediatric regional anesthesia by identifying best practices
- Identifying important knowledge gaps
- Encouraging research in order to close these gaps
- Promoting the safe and effective application of regional anesthesia techniques in pediatric patients.
- Investigate the concerns among anesthesiologists and implement strategies to overcome these challenges.
- Encouraging the broader implementation of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia practices

Through these efforts, the ESRA Pediatric Regional Anesthesia WG reaffirms its commitment to advancing the field and ensuring that every pediatric patient benefits from the highest standards of care.

#### Vision

To encourage the global effort in standardizing and advancing Pediatric Regional Anesthesia, by spreading knowledge, skills, and confidence to deliver safe, sustainable and effective care. WG aims to improve Pediatric Regional Anesthesia worldwide.



## **Mission**

The ESRA Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Special Interest Group is dedicated to:

1. Conduct large-scale, multicenter studies to evaluate regional anesthesia techniques' efficacy, safety, and limitations in pediatric populations.
2. Establish evidence-based standards and guidelines to improve the quality, sustainability and consistency of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia practices.
3. Identify and address anesthesiologists' concerns and training needs through tailored educational programs and resources.
4. Promote the practice of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia by improving theoretical and practical skills.
5. Ensure that initiatives reflect the diverse needs of global pediatric populations.

## **Core Values**

1. Scientific Rigor: Committing to advancing the field through robust, evidence-based research and analysis.
2. Collaboration: Fostering partnerships among other international societies, practitioners, researchers, and institutions to drive innovation and excellence. new
3. Education: Empowering anesthesiologists with the knowledge and skills to confidently implement new Pediatric Regional Anesthesia techniques.
4. Inclusivity: Addressing disparities in access to education, training, and resources to ensure equitable opportunities for all practitioners.
5. Accountability: Ensuring transparency and measurable progress in achieving the group's goals.
6. Sustainability: When adopting new techniques the sustainability should be increased without decreasing quality or safety.

## **Goals and Objectives**

1. Standardization: Develop evidence-based guidelines for Pediatric Regional Anesthesia by analyzing data from high quality studies.
2. Safety and Efficacy: Identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing techniques and establish protocols to minimize complications.
3. Education and Training: Create targeted programs to improve anesthesiologists' knowledge, promoting the practice of Pediatric regional anesthesia.
4. Research and Advocacy: Conduct studies encouraging the Practice Pediatric Regional Anesthesia and advocate a broader implementation.
5. Global Collaboration: Partner with international organizations to align efforts and share knowledge,



ensuring a global impact.

6. Member Engagement: Provide platforms for open dialogue and collaboration, ensuring that all voices contribute to shaping the group's initiatives.

### **Suggested Strategies**

#### 1. Multicenter Research Initiatives

- Collaborate with leading institutions to conduct large-scale studies evaluating Pediatric Regional Anesthesia techniques' strengths, weaknesses, and complication rates.
- Publish findings of clinically important systematic reviews and meta-analysis in cooperation with international partners in high-quality open access journals.
- To establish evidence-based guidelines with other international groups and/or associations.

#### 2. Encouraging and improving the practice of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia

- Conduct surveys and focus groups to motivating anesthesiologists in adopting Pediatric Regional Anesthesia.
- Develop resources, such as fellowship, exchange or observer programs and simulation-based training, to encourage the practice of pediatric regional anesthesia.

#### 3. Educational Programs

- Design workshops and online courses to enhance practitioners' skills and confidence in using regional anesthesia techniques.
- Offer mentorship programs where experienced practitioners guide those new to the field.

#### 4. Promoting Safety and Innovation

- Introduce protocols for monitoring and managing complications
- Encourage research into emerging techniques, such as ultrasound-guided blocks and novel local anesthetic formulations, opioid-sparing effects.

#### 5. Expanding Access

- Organize regular live webinars led by experts in Pediatric Regional Anesthesia, focusing on topics such as advanced techniques, safety protocols, and case-based discussions. Include interactive Q&A sessions to address specific questions and challenges. Record and archive these webinars for on-demand access through a dedicated multilingual platform.
- Offer free downloadable resources on a dedicated webpage, such as guidelines and infographics. Include multilingual/translatable options to cater to a global audience.
- Develop a mobile app featuring quick-reference guides, video tutorials, and case-based discussions for easy



access to information at the point of care

#### 6. Data-Driven Progress

- Collect and analyze data on the adoption, safety and outcomes of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia practices.
- Publish annual reports to track progress and identify areas for further improvement.

#### Call to Action

The ESRA Pediatric Regional Anesthesia Special Interest Group calls on its members and the broader healthcare community to actively participate in shaping the future of Pediatric Regional Anesthesia. By improving knowledge, training, and clinical application, the SIG aims to ensure that every pediatric patient has access to the benefits of regional anesthesia.

Together, we can create a brighter future for Pediatric Regional Anesthesia, where every practitioner is empowered to deliver safe, sustainable and effective care and every patient receives the highest standard of treatment.