

Training in TIVA: A survey of anaesthetic trainees in Merseyside and the Northwest

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Introduction:

Total Intra-Venous Anaesthesia (TIVA) is often overlooked during anaesthetic training. Prior to developing a course to teach the technique, we wished to document the current perception of TIVA among trainees in our region. We surveyed anaesthetic trainees to evaluate their perception of training in this technique.

Results:

94 trainees were surveyed. 30/94 (31.9%) were SHOs, 64/94 (68.1%) SpRs.

All the respondents had used TIVA (59.6% supervised; 35.1% only solo).

65/94 (69.1%) received their sole training in TIVA during consultant led teaching list

Only 5/94 (5.3%) learnt to use TIVA on a course.

9/94 (9.6%) received no formal training.

24/94 (25.5%) perceived their training to be inadequate. Of these, 19(79.2%) perceived this was due to the lack of suitable trainers.

43/94 (45.7%) reported that they would not be confident in using TIVA unsupervised.

78.7% of trainees agreed that formal training in the use of TIVA would be valuable.

40 (42.5%) trainees were unaware of the existence of Society of Intravenous Anaesthesia (SIVA) UK.

Discussion:

TIVA remains a relatively neglected aspect of anaesthetic training. This is in spite of the fact that TIVA is recognised by RCoA as a core skill in the CCT in anaesthesia competency based training for the Intermediate level (ST 3,4) and higher/advanced level (ST 5-7)^{1,2}.

We suggest that achieving competency in TIVA should be a part of core competency skills to be attained by Intermediate/Higher level trainees and conducting courses/workshops on TIVA is required to meet these educational needs.

There is a role for SIVA UK to play in defining what constitutes competency in TIVA and advising on the content of courses for trainees.

References:

- 1 CCT in Anaesthetics III (A-30) Competency Based Intermediate Level (Years 3 and 4) Training and Assessment. A manual for trainees and trainers (August 2008).
- 2 CCT in Anaesthetics IV (A-3, 5, 21) Competency Based Higher and Advanced Level (Years 5, 6 and 7) Training and Assessment. A manual for trainees and trainers (August 2008).