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Statement Supporting Drug Concentration Standardization May 2019

The American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAAA) supports the proposed Drug Concentration Standardization for adult and pediatric patients. This initiative of standardizing drug concentrations stems from a workgroup of physician anesthesiologists led by the American Society of Anesthesiologists Committee on Quality Management & Departmental Administration (QMDA). Much research has gone into creating the standardization of these common anesthetic drugs with the objective to reduce patient harm from the possibility of medication errors.

The AAAA is committed to patient safety and promoting communication and safety among providers who contribute to patient care throughout the perioperative period. The AAAA believes drug concentration standardization can help improve patient safety and reduce the possibility of medication errors due to different concentrations. Facilities which standardize such concentrations within drug libraries can potentially reduce the potential risk of patient harm.

The AAAA is dedicated to excellence in patient care through education, advocacy, and promotion of the Anesthesia Care Team. We value teamwork, leadership, communication, and professionalism. The AAAA represents the interests of the profession and instills confidence in the public by adhering to established ethical norms and legal constraints. Accordingly, the AAAA believes that standardizing and creating the fewest number of drug concentrations will provide safer clinical care for patients.