

21 NCAC 16Q .0202 GENERAL ANESTHESIA EQUIPMENT AND CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

(a) A dentist administering general anesthesia shall ensure that the facility where the general anesthesia is administered meets the following requirements:

- (1) The facility shall be equipped with the following:
 - (A) an operatory of size and design to permit access of emergency equipment and personnel and to permit emergency management;
 - (B) a CPR board or dental chair without enhancements, suitable for providing emergency treatment;
 - (C) lighting as necessary for specific procedures and back-up lighting;
 - (D) suction equipment as necessary for specific procedures, including non-electrical back-up suction;
 - (E) positive pressure oxygen delivery system, including full face masks for small, medium, and large patients, and back-up E-cylinder portable oxygen tank apart from the central system;
 - (F) small, medium, and large oral and nasal airways;
 - (G) blood pressure monitoring device;
 - (H) EKG monitor;
 - (I) pulse oximeter;
 - (J) automatic external defibrillator (AED);
 - (K) precordial stethoscope or capnograph;
 - (L) thermometer;
 - (M) vascular access set-up as necessary for specific procedures, including hardware and fluids;
 - (N) laryngoscope with working batteries;
 - (O) intubation forceps and advanced airway devices;
 - (P) tonsillar suction with back-up suction;
 - (Q) syringes as necessary for specific procedures; and
 - (R) tourniquet and tape.
- (2) The following unexpired drugs shall be maintained in the facility and with access from the operatory and recovery rooms:
 - (A) Epinephrine;
 - (B) Atropine;
 - (C) antiarrhythmic;
 - (D) antihistamine;
 - (E) antihypertensive;
 - (F) bronchodilator;
 - (G) antihypoglycemic agent;
 - (H) vasopressor;
 - (I) corticosteroid;
 - (J) anticonvulsant;
 - (K) muscle relaxant;
 - (L) appropriate reversal agents;
 - (M) nitroglycerine;
 - (N) antiemetic; and
 - (O) Dextrose.
- (3) The permit holder shall maintain written emergency and patient discharge protocols. The permit holder shall also provide training to familiarize auxiliaries in the treatment of clinical emergencies.
- (4) The permit holder shall maintain the following records for 10 years:
 - (A) Patient's current written medical history, including a record of known allergies and previous surgeries;
 - (B) Consent to general anesthesia, signed by the patient or guardian, identifying the risks and benefits, level of anesthesia, and date signed;
 - (C) Consent to the procedure, signed by the patient or guardian identifying the risks, benefits, and date signed; and
 - (D) Patient base line vital signs, including temperature, SPO2, blood pressure, and pulse.
- (5) The anesthesia record shall include:

- (A) base line vital signs, blood pressure (unless patient behavior prevents recording), oxygen saturation, ET CO₂ if capnography is utilized, pulse and respiration rates of the patient recorded in real time at 15 minute intervals;
 - (B) procedure start and end times;
 - (C) gauge of needle and location of IV on the patient, if used;
 - (D) status of patient upon discharge; and
 - (E) documentation of complications or morbidity.
 - (6) The facility shall be staffed with at least two BLS certified auxiliaries, one of whom shall be dedicated to patient monitoring and recording general anesthesia or sedation data throughout the sedation procedure. This Subparagraph shall not apply if the dentist permit holder is dedicated to patient care and monitoring regarding general anesthesia or sedation throughout the sedation procedure and is not performing the surgery or other dental procedure.
- (b) During an inspection or evaluation, the applicant or permit holder shall demonstrate the administration of anesthesia while the evaluator observes, and shall demonstrate competency in the following areas:
- (1) monitoring of blood pressure, pulse, ET CO₂ if capnography is utilized, and respiration;
 - (2) drug dosage and administration;
 - (3) treatment of untoward reactions including respiratory or cardiac depression;
 - (4) sterile technique;
 - (5) use of BLS certified auxiliaries;
 - (6) monitoring of patient during recovery; and
 - (7) sufficiency of patient recovery time.
- (c) During an inspection or evaluation, the applicant or permit holder shall demonstrate competency in the treatment of the following clinical emergencies:
- (1) laryngospasm;
 - (2) bronchospasm;
 - (3) emesis and aspiration;
 - (4) respiratory depression and arrest;
 - (5) angina pectoris;
 - (6) myocardial infarction;
 - (7) hypertension and hypotension;
 - (8) syncope;
 - (9) allergic reactions;
 - (10) convulsions;
 - (11) bradycardia;
 - (12) hypoglycemia;
 - (13) cardiac arrest; and
 - (14) airway obstruction.
- (d) During the evaluation, the permit applicant shall take a written examination on the topics set forth in Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule. The permit applicant must obtain a passing score on the written examination by answering 80 percent of the examination questions correctly. If the permit applicant fails to obtain a passing score on the written examination that is administered during the evaluation, he or she may be re-examined in accordance with Rule .0204(h) of this Section.
- (e) A general anesthesia permit holder shall evaluate a patient for health risks before starting any anesthesia procedure.
- (f) Post-operative monitoring and discharge shall include the following:
- (1) the permit holder or a BLS certified auxiliary under his or her direct supervision shall monitor the patient's vital signs throughout the sedation procedure until the patient is recovered as defined by Subparagraph (f)(2) of this Rule and is ready for discharge from the office; and
 - (2) recovery from general anesthesia shall include documentation of the following:
 - (A) cardiovascular function stable;
 - (B) airway patency uncompromised;
 - (C) patient arousable and protective reflexes intact;
 - (D) state of hydration within normal limits;
 - (E) patient can talk, if applicable;
 - (F) patient can sit unaided, if applicable;
 - (G) patient can ambulate, if applicable, with minimal assistance; and

- (H) for the special needs patient or a patient incapable of the usually expected responses, the pre-sedation level of responsiveness or the level as close as possible for that patient shall be achieved; and
- (3) before allowing the patient to leave the office, the dentist shall determine that the patient has met the recovery criteria set out in Subparagraph (f)(2) of this Rule and the following discharge criteria:
 - (A) oxygenation, circulation, activity, skin color, and level of consciousness are stable and have been documented;
 - (B) explanation and documentation of written postoperative instructions have been provided to the patient or a person responsible for the patient at time of discharge; and
 - (C) a person authorized by the patient is available to transport the patient after discharge.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-28; 90-30.1; 90-48;
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