

OBA SAFETY MEASURES

FORMULATION and APPLICATION
of
PROTOTYPICAL SAFETY MEASURES
to
ADDRESS NOVEL PATIENT SAFETY
THREATS

MARCH 20, 2021
Stephen R. Smith MD

1

INITIAL MEASURES MUST SEEK ABSOLUTE SAFETY FOR PATIENTS AND STAFF

- Avoid Known Risks Entirely
 - Elective Cases
 - Non-Elective Cases
- Anticipate Potential Risks
 - Mechanism of Pathology
 - Mechanism of Risk Transmission
- Mitigate Unavoidable Risks
 - Minimize Exposure
 - Maximize Protective Measures

2

NEW MEASURES MUST EVOLVE TO REMAIN EFFECTIVE

- Process Evolution
 - Modifications required for effective implementation
- Outcome Evolution
 - Modifications required to achieve desired effect
- Knowledge Evolution
 - New information drives modifications
- Technology Evolution
 - New technology drives modifications
 - Equipment
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Laboratory

3

NEW MEASURES SHOULD NOT COMPROMISE EXISTING SAFETY MEASURES

- Fundamental Principles Remain
 - Principles of Physiologic Support
 - Principles of Pharmacology
- Novel Threats Seldom Are
 - Known Mechanisms of Pathologic Effect
 - Infectious Agent
 - Toxin
 - Physical Trauma
 - Physics
 - Unknown Mechanisms of Pathologic Effect
 - Not yet categorized as known mechanism
 - Truly Novel Mechanism

4

REFERENCES

- <https://www.asahq.org/about-asahq/newsroom/news-releases/2020/03/asahq-sccm-joint-statement-to-collaboratively-address-the-covid-19-pandemic>
- <https://www.asahq.org/about-asahq/newsroom/news-releases/2020/03/joint-statement-on-multiple-patients-per-ventilator>
- <https://www.asahq.org/about-asahq/newsroom/news-releases/2020/04/joint-statement-on-elective-surgery-after-covid-19-pandemic>
- <https://sambaha.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SAMBA-Statement-on-Resuming-Ambulatory-Anesthesia-Care-as-the-Nation-ReCOVERS-From-COVID-19-4-18-2020.pdf>
- <https://www.asahq.org/about-asahq/governance-and-committees/asa-committees/committee-on-occupational-health/coronavirus>

5