Audit 7

Pain sensation during image-guided interventions

This document provides suggestions and outline guidance for an audit/QI project and can be used with additional/local guidance to develop a formal template with locally agreed targets and solutions.

Methodology

- Pain during image-guided interventions may be monitored quantitatively by using the pain scale ranging from 1–10 after each intervention
- Patients undergoing interventions in the radiology department are asked to indicate a value on the pain scale
- All values are prospectively registered in the RIS
- Evaluation may be done in a detailed manner, taking into consideration the type of intervention, the different body regions, operators, etc.

Impact on improvement

- The results for each procedure can be evaluated periodically, thus allowing monitoring of specific procedures in the department
- Conclusions may result in specific measures, (e.g., improving patient information, specific interventional techniques, local anaesthesia, i.v. (pre-)medication, hypnosis, etc.)

Possible questions

Are you aware of the patient’s pain sensation in your department?
Do you monitor pain sensation?
Which are the procedures leading to an average pain sensation greater than 4?
What are the proposed measures to improve the results?