

Editorial

This has been a very busy year for the South African Society of Anaesthesiologists (SASA) guidelines subcommittee. The first edition of the Acute Pain Guidelines was published in March. The fourth edition of the Adult Sedation Guidelines was revised this month and will soon be available electronically, on the SASA and SAJAA websites. The correspondence in this edition of our journal on issues pertaining to sedation relates to the third edition of the guidelines published earlier this year, which has now been revised. Finally, in November, the first edition of the Paediatric Sedation Guidelines will be launched at the PACSA congress in Johannesburg, and will be available in hard copy format for SASA members and PACSA attendees, and electronically on both the SASA and SAJAA websites.

The article on Entropy of the EEG in this edition of the journal produced much correspondence and debate amongst members of the editorial board and the authors of the article, and I am grateful to Jeff Coetzee and Mike James for their guest

editorial clarifying some of the issues that sparked the debate.

The perception of anaesthetists by patients in Nigeria seems to be very similar to that in our own country, depending on one's practice. A few years ago we realised that the only captive population groups that we can target from the patient education point of view are those patients in hospital, about to have an anaesthetic. This makes life very challenging, particularly in the private sector, where pre-operative time with one's patient is already at a premium. Perhaps pre-operative assessment clinics are the answer?

Our three case reports are from very varied anaesthetic practices, and hopefully have something of interest for all of our readers. Enjoy this edition of our journal.

Christina Lundgren
Editor-in-Chief