

Learning Objectives

Optimizing Analgesia in the Critically Ill

1. Apply validated instruments to patient-specific scenarios for the assessment of pain in the critically ill.
2. Compare and contrast analgesic agents used for the management of severe pain.
3. Evaluate cost-effective strategies for analgesic selection in the intensive care unit.
4. Effectively employ the analgesedation approach in the management of agitation in mechanically ventilated patients.

Optimizing the Use of Sedatives in the ICU: An Evidence-Based Approach

1. Use available tools and methods to assess the level of agitation or sedation.
2. Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of lorazepam, midazolam, propofol, and dexmedetomidine.
3. Analyze and interpret the most recent literature comparing sedative agents as well as strategies to minimize sedation.
4. Employ strategies to help avoid excessive sedation.

Approaches to the Prevention, Identification, and Management of Delirium

1. Define delirium and distinguish the consequences of it.
2. Assess the risk factors for, and the causes of, delirium in the ICU.
3. Evaluate the patient for delirium using available diagnostic tools.
4. Recommend the most appropriate preventive and treatment options for delirium.

Patient Cases and Panel Discussion

1. Given a patient case, (a) use available tools to assess pain, agitation, and delirium (PAD); and (b) recommend the most appropriate management strategy for PAD.