Table 1. Characteristics of survey respondents

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Years in Practice (n=149)** | **n (%)** |
| 0 – 9 years | 45 (30.2) |
| 10 – 19 years | 47 (31.6) |
| 20 or more years | 57 (38.3) |
| **Location of Training (n=149)** |  |
| British Columbia | 9 (6.0) |
| Alberta | 20 (13.4) |
| Prairies (Saskatchewan, Manitoba) | 11 (7.4) |
| Ontario | 62 (41.6) |
| Quebec | 12 (8.1) |
| Maritimes (Newfoundland & Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island) | 14 (9.5) |
| United States | 3 (2.0) |
| Other | 5 (3.4) |
| Did not train in emergency medicine | 13 (8.7) |
| **Certification (n=149)\*** | **\* more than one response permitted** |
| CCFP-EM | 66 (44.3) |
| FRCP (Emergency Medicine) | 52 (34.9) |
| FRCP (Pediatric Emergency Medicine) | 5 (3.4) |
| ABEM (American Board of Emergency Medicine) | 10 (6.7) |
| CCFP | 6 (4.0) |
| Did not train in emergency medicine | 19 (12.8) |
| **Location(s) of Practice (n=149)\*** | **\* more than one response permitted** |
| British Columbia | 26 (17.4) |
| Alberta | 20 (13.4) |
| Prairies (Saskatchewan, Manitoba) | 17 (11.5) |
| Ontario | 61 (40.9) |
| Quebec | 6 (4.0) |
| Maritimes (Newfoundland & Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island) | 19 (12.8) |
| Territories (Yukon, Northwest, Nunavut) | 7 (4.6) |
| **Primary clinical setting (n=149)** |  |
| Academic hospital | 74 (49.7) |
| Community hospital | 59 (34.2) |
| Rural hospital | 16 (10.7) |
| Patient population (n=149) |  |
| Both adult and pediatric patients | 117 (78.5) |
| Adult patients only | 24 (16.1) |
| Pediatric patients only | 7 (4.7) |
| **ED Volume in patient visits/year (n=149)** |  |
| <20,001/ year | 7 (4.7) |
| 20,001 – 40,000 | 29 (19.5) |
| 40,001 – 60,000 | 29 (19.5) |
| 60,001 – 80,000 | 32 (21.5) |
| 80,001 – 100,000 | 22 (14.8) |
| >100,000 | 20 (13.4) |
| Not available | 10 (6.7) |
| **How often have you used any regional anesthetic technique in the past 10 shifts? (n=138)** |  |
| Median (Mdn) | 2 |
| Q1, 25th percentile | 0 |
| Q3, 75th percentile | 4 |
| Maximum | 20 |

Figure A1. Indications for using regional anesthesia procedures in the ED (%, n) (n=149)

Figure A2. Nerve blocks performed by emergency physicians in the ED (%, n) (n=149)

Figure A3. Perspectives on the impact of regional anesthesia in the ED, n (%)

Figure A4. Barriers and facilitators to use of regional anesthesia in the ED (n, %)

Figure A5: Survey Tool

Q1   
For the purposes of this survey, regional anesthesia refers to any peripheral nerve block.  
To what extent do you agree with the following statements about regional anesthesia in general.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | N/A |
| I am comfortable using nerve blocks in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have sufficient training in using nerve blocks in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Patients are receptive to the use of nerve blocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| My ED has adequate equipment for performing nerve blocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| My ED has point of care ultrasound available to assist with performing nerve blocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I find performing nerve blocks to be time consuming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I find performing nerve blocks to be technically challenging |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I am comfortable using point of care ultrasound to perform nerve blocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nurses are sufficiently knowledgeable about nerve blocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| My ED has a protocol in place for the use of regional anesthesia |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I am interested in using regional anesthesia more frequently in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Q2 What do you require to increase your use of regional anesthesia in the ED? Check all that apply.

* We need to acquire our first ultrasound machine
* An additional ultrasound machine
* Dedicated space in the ED
* Departmental protocol
* Further training on regional anesthesia
* More assistance from ED support staff
* Dedicated supply cart
* Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the impact of regional anesthesia in general? Regional anesthesia…

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Unsure | Somewhat agree | Agree |
| Is safe to use in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reduces the need for procedural sedation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Improves patient satisfaction in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reduces the need for opioids |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reduces the need for NSAIDs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reduces length of stay in the ED |  |  |  |  |  |

Q4 For the purposes of this survey, regional anesthesia refers to any peripheral nerve block.

Please estimate the TOTAL number of times you used regional anesthesia in your last TEN emergency dept shifts? (You may enter zero, or a decimal value if less than once in ten shifts.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q5 What indication(s) do you consider regional anesthesia for? Check all that apply.

* Fracture pain management
* Soft tissue repair
* Reduction of fracture and/or dislocation
* Headache
* Abscess drainage
* Foreign body removal
* Back pain
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q6 Please identify modalities used in your training (during residency, professional development, conferences etc.) on regional anesthesia. Select all that apply.

* Didactic sessions
* Online modules/ handouts
* Hands-on sessions using phantoms
* Hands-on sessions using cadavers
* Supervised practice on real patients
* I did not receive any training in regional anesthesia
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q7 What is your current level of training?

* Medical student
* PGY1
* PGY2
* PGY3
* PGY4
* PGY5
* PGY6 or higher/Fellow
* Attending physician
* Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q8 Please select the option that best describes your current clinical practice. Select all that apply.

* Primarily emergency medicine
* Family medicine/ general practice
* Pediatric emergency medicine
* Critical care
* Surgery
* Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q9 Which type(s) of nerve block do you perform in the ED? Check all that apply.

* Nerve blocks of the face and mouth
* Dental nerve blocks
* Greater occipital nerve blocks
* Superficial cervical plexus blocks
* Intercostal nerve blocks
* Transverse abdominis plane blocks
* Paravertebral nerve blocks
* Supraclavicular brachial plexus blocks
* Axillary brachial plexus blocks
* Infraclavicular brachial plexus blocks
* Suprascapular nerve blocks
* Interscalene blocks
* Forearm nerve block
* Hematoma block for wrist fracture
* Sciatic nerve blocks
* Femoral nerve block
* Fascia iliaca block
* Popliteal sciatic blocks
* Lateral femoral cutaneous nerve blocks
* Digital nerve block
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q10 How long have you practiced emergency medicine?

* I am a medical student
* I am a resident or fellow
* Less than 5 years
* 5-9 years
* 10-14 years
* 15-19 years
* 20 or more years
* Not applicable (not practicing emergency medicine)

Q11 Where did you do your emergency medicine training?

* British Columbia
* Alberta
* Saskatchewan
* Manitoba
* Ontario
* Quebec
* Prince Edward Island
* Newfoundland and Labrador
* New Brunswick
* Nova Scotia
* Yukon
* Northwest Territories
* Nunavut
* USA
* I did not do emergency medicine training
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q12 In which province/ territory do you currently practice emergency medicine? Check all that apply.

* British Columbia
* Alberta
* Saskatchewan
* Manitoba
* Ontario
* Quebec
* Prince Edward Island
* New Brunswick
* Newfoundland and Labrador
* Nova Scotia
* Yukon
* Northwest Territories
* Nunavut
* Not applicable (I am not currently practicing)

Q13 What emergency medicine postgraduate training have you completed? Check all that apply.

* CFPC-EM
* FRCP in Emergency Medicine
* FRCP in Pediatric Emergency Medicine
* American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM)
* I have not completed training in emergency medicine
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q14 How would you describe your primary location of practice?

* Academic/ tertiary care hospital
* Community teaching hospital
* Community non-teaching hospital
* Rural hospital
* Not applicable (I am not currently practicing)
* Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q15 What patient population do you treat?

* Adult patients only
* Pediatric patients only
* Both adult and pediatric patients
* Not applicable

Q16 What is the annual ED patient volume in your primary location of practice?

* Less than 20,001/year
* 20,001- 40,000/year
* 40,001 - 60,000/year
* 60,001 - 80,000/year
* 80,001 - 100,000/year
* Greater than 100,000/ year
* Unsure