## Indications and best practises for Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) and invasive hypo sedation.

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## **Description**

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) is a valuable diagnostic and therapeutic procedure that allows healthcare professionals to examine and treat conditions affecting the biliary and pancreatic ducts. To ensure the comfort and cooperation of patients during ERCP, invasive hypo-sedation, often involving the administration of sedative and anesthetic agents, is commonly employed. This article delves into the indications and best practices for ERCP and invasive hypo-sedation, highlighting the critical role of this sedation technique in improving patient outcomes.

ERCP is a specialized endoscopic procedure primarily used for the evaluation and treatment of various gastrointestinal conditions, including; in biliary duct disorders ERCP helps diagnose and treat conditions such as gallstones, biliary strictures, and biliary tract cancers. It is instrumental in the assessment of chronic pancreatitis, pseudocysts, and pancreatic duct leaks. Sphincterotomy, ERCP allows for the incision of the sphincter of Oddi, often performed to relieve obstructions or to facilitate stone extraction.

Invasive hypo-sedation is an integral component of ERCP, aiming to provide patient comfort and procedural cooperation while ensuring their safety. The key indications for invasive hypo-sedation during ERCP include; for anxiety and discomfort ERCP can be an uncomfortable procedure, and sedation helps alleviate patient anxiety and discomfort. Sedation promotes patient cooperation, which is essential for the successful completion of the procedure. ERCP can be painful due to the need for scope insertion and interventions. Sedation ensures that the patient experiences minimal pain.

ERCP may be a time-consuming procedure, and sedation helps the patient tolerate the extended duration. To optimize the use of invasive hypo-sedation during ERCP, several best practices should be followed.

A thorough pre-procedure assessment should be conducted to evaluate the patient's medical history, allergies, and comorbidities to ensure safe sedation. Patients should be provided with detailed information about the procedure, the sedation process, potential risks, and informed consent should be obtained. The choice of sedative and anesthetic agents should be based on the patient's individual needs, with consideration of their age, medical condition, and the expected duration of the procedure.

Continuous monitoring of vital signs, including blood pressure, heart rate, oxygen saturation, and ECG, is crucial throughout the procedure. Patients should be closely monitored in the recovery area following the procedure until they meet specific discharge criteria. Attention to detail and adherence to best practices help minimize complications, including over sedation, respiratory depression, and aspiration.

## Conclusion

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) is an essential procedure in the management of gastrointestinal conditions, and invasive hypo-sedation plays a pivotal role in ensuring its success. By addressing patient anxiety, discomfort, and pain, invasive hypo-sedation facilitates patient cooperation and improves the overall experience. Healthcare providers must carefully assess patients, choose appropriate sedative agents, and closely monitor them during the procedure to maintain safety and efficacy. In combining ERCP and invasive hyposedation, clinicians can provide a patient-centered approach that enhances diagnostic and therapeutic outcomes while prioritizing patient well-being.

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