

## Sigma's 29th International Nursing Research Congress

### Lived Experiences of Perioperative Nurses Dealing With Pediatric Emergence Delirium: A Pilot Study

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to explore, describe, and analyze the lived experiences of perioperative nurses dealing with pediatric emergence delirium and how that affects their quality of work and quality of life as nurses.

**Methods:** The study will utilize the qualitative research method, with qualitative descriptive phenomenology using Grounded Theory techniques as the methodology. Perioperative nurses with more than 2 years experience and have knowledge about pediatric emergence delirium are the target participants (N = 10).

Professional participants will be recruited through word of mouth recruitment via professional colleagues. Professional colleagues will help distribute recruitment flyers, and information letters regarding the study. Data collection using the interview approach which can be face-to-face, telephone, or video (Skype or Zoom) will take place in a mutually agreed upon time, and/or location that is quiet, private, and conducive to audio recording. The principal investigator will conduct the interview using an interview guide. Data analysis will be done after each interview.

**Results:** Preliminary findings from the five recruited participants (women, n = 4; men, n = 1) produced the following themes identified by the data analysis: (1) physical effects of emergence delirium, (2) collaborating with team members, (3) fears, emotions, and stress, (4) trying to avoid injury; (5) risks and contributing factors, and (6) identifying safety measures for pediatric emergence delirium. There is a real risk for injury that nurses take on while trying to manage the care of a child experiencing emergence delirium. Whether the nurses are aware of it or not, the potential for harm or hurt is always present when providing care to a child who is not aware of what he or she is doing.

**Conclusion:** The study is still in progress. The targeted number of participants (N = 10) is not achieved. Although initial results from data analysis offered promising results, data analysis of ten participants would provide a much richer supporting data for the themes identified.

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#### **Title:**

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#### **Keywords:**

Emergence Delirium, Pediatric Nursing and Perioperative Nursing

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### **Abstract Summary:**

The purpose of this study is to explore, describe, and analyze the lived experiences of perioperative nurses dealing with pediatric emergence delirium and how that affects their quality of work and quality of life as nurses.

### **Content Outline:**

**Aim:** The purpose of this study is to explore, describe, and analyze the lived experiences of perioperative nurses dealing with pediatric emergence delirium and how that affects their quality of work and quality of life as nurses.

**Background:** Pediatric emergence delirium is a temporary state of unpleasant and disturbing behaviors that some pediatric patients exhibit immediately upon awakening from general anesthesia. Typical behaviors include thrashing, kicking, or flailing without any physical or mental awareness of the situation. Restlessness, combative behavior, and incoherence are also common. Perioperative nurses are usually the first to witness the symptom clusters of pediatric emergence delirium. They are the first health care providers to begin systematic assessment to initiate the diagnostic process.

**Method:** The study will utilize the qualitative research method, with qualitative descriptive phenomenology using Grounded Theory techniques as the methodology. Perioperative nurses with more than 2 years experience and have knowledge about pediatric emergence delirium are the target participants (N = 10). Professional participants will be recruited through word of mouth recruitment via professional colleagues. Professional colleagues will help distribute recruitment flyers, and information letters regarding the study. Data collection using the interview approach which can be face-to-face, telephone, or video (Skype or Zoom) will take place in a mutually agreed upon time, and/or location that is quiet, private, and conducive to audio recording. The principal investigator will conduct the interview using an interview guide. Data analysis will be done after each interview.

**Results:** Preliminary findings from the five recruited participants (women, n = 4; men, n = 1) produced the following themes identified by the data analysis: (1) physical effects of emergence delirium, (2) collaborating with team members, (3) fears, emotions, and stress, (4) trying to avoid injury; (5) risks and contributing factors, and (6) identifying safety measures for pediatric emergence delirium. There is a real risk for injury that nurses take on while trying to manage the care of a child experiencing emergence delirium. Whether the nurses are aware of it or not, the potential for harm or hurt is always present when providing care to a child who is not aware of what he or she is doing.

**Conclusion:** The study is still in progress. The targeted number of participants (N = 10) is not achieved. Although initial results from data analysis offered promising results, data analysis of ten participants would provide a much richer supporting data for the themes identified.

**Clinical Relevance:** Identifying safety measures for pediatric emergence delirium is an important topic for members of the health care team. There is so much to learn about the lived experiences of nurses managing the care of a child with emergence delirium. This pilot study is spearheading that learning.

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