

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Perceptions Toward Locoregional Anesthesia Among the Adult Population in Saudi Arabia: A Cross-Sectional Survey

Supplementary File 1: Survey (English Version)

Participant Information and Informed Consent

Dear Participant,

We invite you to participate in this research study conducted by a research team from the Colleges of Medicine and Applied Medical Sciences in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This study aims to assess the level of awareness and attitudes toward locoregional anesthesia techniques (such as epidurals or nerve blocks) among the adult population across the five major administrative regions of the Kingdom.

Important Information:

Participation: This study is entirely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw at any time without providing a reason.

Privacy: All responses are anonymous. No personally identifiable information will be collected. Results will be used for scientific research and publication purposes only.

Expected Duration: Approximately 3–5 minutes.

Certification of Ethics Number: IRB/SUR/BU-FM/2025/15

Consent to Participate

By selecting 'Yes, I agree,' you confirm that you have read and understood the above information and voluntarily consent to participate in this study.

- ☐ Yes, I agree. (Proceed to survey)
- ☐ No, I do not agree. (End)

Section A: Demographic Information and Medical History

1. Sex

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

2. Age group

- ☐ 18–29 years
- ☐ 30–44 years
- ☐ 45–64 years
- ☐ 65 years or above

3. Region of residence

- ☐ Central provinces
- ☐ Western provinces
- ☐ Southern provinces
- ☐ Eastern provinces
- ☐ Northern provinces

4. Highest level of education obtained

- ☐ Elementary school or lower
- ☐ Middle school
- ☐ High school
- ☐ Diploma
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Postgraduate studies

5. Employment status

- ☐ Student
- ☐ Employed
- ☐ Unemployed
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Other

6. Have you ever undergone surgery?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

7. If yes, what type of anesthesia did you receive? (Select all that apply; skip if unsure)

- ☐ General anesthesia (complete loss of consciousness)
- ☐ Locoregional anesthesia (numbing a specific region of the body while remaining conscious or lightly sedated, e.g., spinal, epidural, or nerve block)
- ☐ Simple local anesthesia (numbing a very small area at the procedural site, e.g., dental anesthesia)

Section B: Knowledge of Locoregional Anesthesia

8. Based on your knowledge, indicate whether each of the following is a type of locoregional anesthesia:

	True	False	I do not know
Spinal anesthesia <i>Injection of anesthetic drug through a needle into the back, used during childbirth and lower-body procedures</i>	☐	☐	☐
Epidural anesthesia <i>Injection of anesthetic drug through a catheter (tube) placed in the back, used during labor and after major surgeries</i>	☐	☐	☐
Simple local anesthesia <i>Injection of anesthetic drug at the procedural site, e.g., dental anesthesia or wound suturing</i>	☐	☐	☐
Peripheral nerve block <i>Injection of anesthetic drug around a specific nerve supplying the surgical site, used to prevent pain transmission in the limbs</i>	☐	☐	☐
General anesthesia <i>Complete loss of consciousness and memory during the procedure</i>	☐	☐	☐

9. Locoregional anesthesia is commonly used in the following procedures:

	True	False	I do not know
Caesarean section (C-section)	☐	☐	☐
Appendectomy	☐	☐	☐
Knee and hip surgeries	☐	☐	☐
Relieving labor pain	☐	☐	☐

10. Regarding the benefits of locoregional anesthesia compared to general anesthesia, indicate whether each statement is true or false:

	True	False	I do not know
Complete loss of consciousness and memory during the procedure	☐	☐	☐
Faster recovery and earlier return to daily activities	☐	☐	☐
Less postoperative nausea and vomiting	☐	☐	☐
Suitable for all types of surgical procedures anywhere in the body	☐	☐	☐
Lower risk of airway complications	☐	☐	☐
Better postoperative pain control	☐	☐	☐

11. Regarding potential risks or complications of locoregional anesthesia, indicate whether each statement is true or false:

	True	False	I do not know
Temporary weakness or numbness	☐	☐	☐
Headache following spinal anesthesia	☐	☐	☐
Permanent paralysis	☐	☐	☐

Section C: Attitudes and Perceptions

12. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Regional anesthesia is preferable to general anesthesia if both are available and clinically safe	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I trust the anesthesiologist's decision to choose the most appropriate type of anesthesia for my case	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I trust the anesthesiologist's competence when performing locoregional anesthesia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I would prefer to remain awake during a procedure performed under locoregional anesthesia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Doctors should explain the benefits and risks of locoregional anesthesia in detail before the procedure	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Locoregional anesthesia is safer than general anesthesia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I would choose locoregional anesthesia if I needed surgery in the future	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

13. What might make you hesitant to accept locoregional anesthesia? (Select all that apply) *

- ☐ Fear of needles
 - ☐ Fear of paralysis
 - ☐ Not wanting to see or hear events during the operation (fear of intraoperative awareness)
 - ☐ Fear of anesthesia failure or inadequate pain control
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