

## USA HEALTH: DEPARTMENT of EMERGENCY MEDICINE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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### SUBJECT: Sedation Limitation

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Performing prolonged or inappropriate procedures in the ED is generally not allowed. This is consistent with USAH policy, "Procedure Disallowed in the Emergency Department" (Policy Stat ID#8880098).

It is at the discretion of the ED attending physician to allow procedures requiring deep sedation for longer than 20 minutes. This decision should be based on ED conditions and resources, including patient volume, to allow the ED to continue to provide efficient and safe patient care for all ED patients. The decision may also include elements of resident education and training value.

If a procedure requiring deep sedation has taken longer than 20 minutes and ED conditions or resources do not allow continuation of the sedation, the ED attending will inform the service line performing the procedure that the sedation cannot continue. Together, the ED and service line performing the procedure will find a safe stopping point in the procedure.

If ED conditions and/or resources do not allow for deep sedation to be safely performed, or if a procedure is anticipated to last longer than 20 minutes, the service line performing the procedure should consult Anesthesia. The procedural service line and Anesthesia will discuss and decide, based on resources, the safest way to proceed. This can include, but is not limited to, the procedure being posted for the OR through the usual process or Anesthesia providing staff to assist with sedation in the ED.

#### Notes:

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