

WhatsApp group of obstetric anesthesia in Israel

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Introduction

The use of social media has been gaining momentum in recent years; one of the most commonly used apps being the WhatsApp professional groups. We present our experience in the WhatsApp group that includes professional discussions between experts in a relatively "narrow" field such as obstetric anesthesia.



Methods

A review of all group participants and all the discussions held by the Group since its establishment was carried out. Data were produced on the discussion topic, response time, number of participants in the discussion, number of responses to the discussion and type of discussion. In addition, we passed a questionnaire among the group members.



Results

The group was established in March 2017. The group consists of 31 expert anesthesiologists from 90% of Israel hospitals. Over two years, 193 discussions occurred; reaction time was 8.25 minutes. Average number of participants per session was 5.6 anesthesiologists. Comments average every discussion was about 9.75 comments. By segmenting the discussions by topic (Some of the discussions included 2 topics), 62 discussions were classified as clinical discussion. 52 dealt with unit organization. 16 discussions were defined as case discussion. 31 dealt with conferences. 67 dealt with articles in obstetric anesthesia. A high level of satisfaction was found in the group member's questionnaire.

Conclusion

We see that the WhatsApp group in which most of the obstetric anesthesiologists in Israel are partners is a simple, effective tool for improving work and knowledge both at the clinical level and at the organizational and management level.