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PhD in Medical Sciences
2020-2021

INVITATION to the Public defence of

Nadia NAJAFI

To obtain the academic degree of '**DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**'

Safety issues and barriers to be overcome in paediatric anaesthesia practice in- and outside the operating theatre.

The defence will take place on **Thursday, 12th November 2020 at 5 p.m.**

and will be organised **online** accessible through the following link:

Summary of the dissertation

Children presenting for a surgical or diagnostic procedure in- or outside the operating theatre require a multidisciplinary high quality of medical care, that is based upon the evidence based medicine and professional knowledge with the intention to increase the likelihood of achieving desired outcomes while improving overall patient safety and experience. Safety has a large dimension and many contributing factors can underlie improved care in paediatric anaesthesia practice. This thesis focuses on safety issues in certain domains such as perioperative pain management, fluid therapy, non-invasive temperature -control and -monitoring, and safe clinical conduct of monitored anaesthesia care for procedural sedation and analgesia. This work aimed to question existing myths, to highlight several challenges and barriers in clinical performance in order to achieve the desired outcome and safety goals, and wished to explore strategies and opportunities that could overcome these barriers, with the ultimate goal to improve care, monitoring and decision-making in the field of paediatric anaesthesia practices.

Curriculum Vitae

Nadia Najafi obtained her medical degree from the Free University of Brussels (Vrije Universiteit Brussel - VUB) in Brussels, Belgium in 1994. She then first completed her residency training in paediatrics at the University Hospital of Brussels (Universitair Ziekenhuis Brussel – UZBrussel) under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Yvan Vandenplas, followed by a 2.5 year training on NICU, PICU, Paediatric Cardiac Intensive Care, ECMO, and Children’s Acute Transport Service at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, UK under the supervision of Dr. Ian James. Subsequently, she completed her residency training on Anaesthesiology and Paediatric Anaesthesiology at the UZBrussel under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Frédéric Camu and Prof. Dr. Jan Poelaert. She then completed her training in Intensive Care Medicine under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Luc Hughens at the UZBrussel. From 2009 up to present, she serves as a consultant paediatric anaesthetist at UZBrussel.

She is currently the vice-president of the Belgian Association for Paediatric Anaesthesiology and is an executive board member at European Society for Paediatric Anaesthesiology. She has published several peer reviewed articles and chapter of book. She has organized and has given numerous oral and poster presentations at international and national symposia and congresses. She is an active member of Belgian Society for Anaesthesiology and Reanimation, Belgian Paediatric Pain Association, Belgian Vascular Access Network, and European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care.

More importantly, Nadia is married to Reza Fathi and is the mother of two wonderful sons: Omid and Sina who give her the courage to carry on working hard while enjoying little things in life.