



Environmental Sustainability in Anesthesia Departments in Israel

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Understanding the common practices may reveal strategies to help Israel anesthesiology departments implement environmental sustainability initiatives. Electronic survey was emailed to all twenty-six anesthesiology departments affiliated with the Israeli Society of Anesthesiologists (ISA).



Twenty-two /26 (85%) department directors, 27-unit directors and a total of 104 seniors (70%), and 45 residents (30%) answered the survey. (Figure1)

- Three (3/22, **14%**) departments use pre-filled medication syringes
- Four (4/22, **18%**) have a recycling program
- Five (5/22, **23%**) educate to consider carbon footprint for inhaled anesthesia
- Six (6/22, **27%**) appointed physician responsible for sustainability
- Eight (8/22, **36%**) use reusable products (gowns, LMA, anesthesia circuits, etc.)

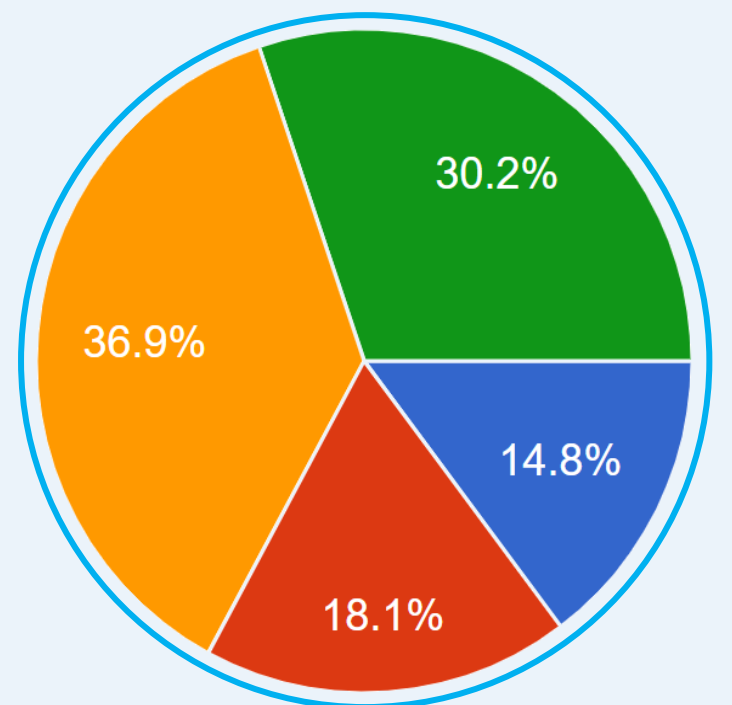


Figure 1

- Department Director - 22
- Unit Director - 27
- Senior - 55
- Resident - 45

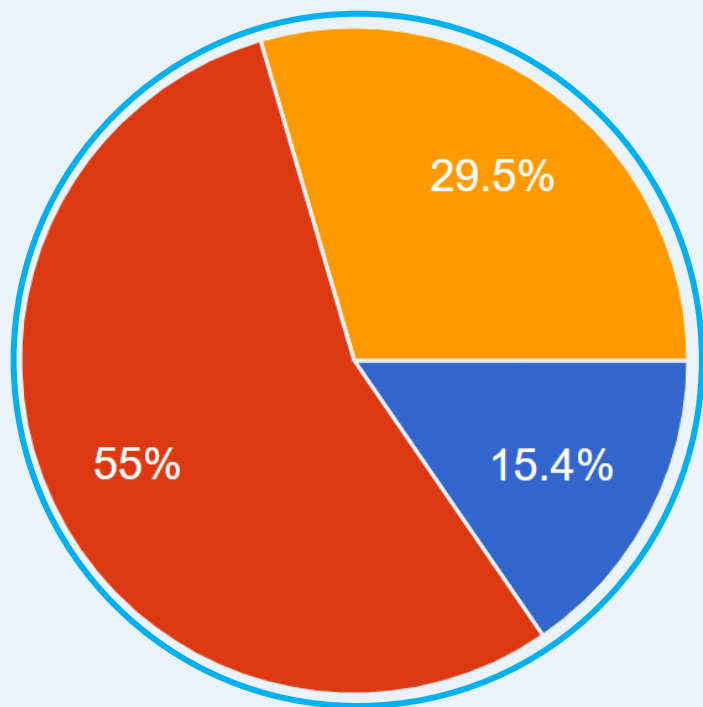
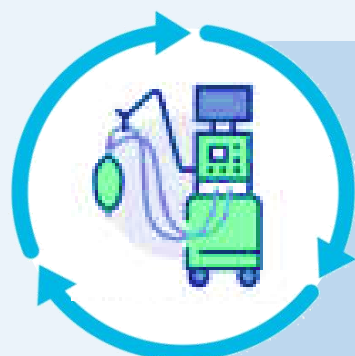


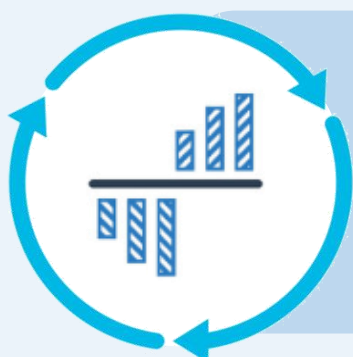
Figure 2

- Yes - 23
- No - 82
- Not sure - 44

- Twenty (20/22, **91%**) departments educate for the use of low fresh gas flow anesthesia
- Seniors reported more use of low-flow 60% vs 40% p=0.015 (OR=2.4, 95%CI [1.2-4.9])



- Nineteen (19/22, **86%**) instructed their physicians to turn off the fresh gas flow and electricals at the end of the work shift
- Twelve (12/22, **55%**) included agenda items on the topic of environmental sustainability in departmental meetings last year
- Third (44/149) of the responders are unaware if their department have a recycling program (Figure2)



- This is the first survey in Israel regarding sustainability in anesthesia
- Few have an official program (<20%) and appointed physician (<30%)
- Most include items on the agenda (55%) and >90% promote low flow
- The survey results will be published nationally to encourage action