



Romanian Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care

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How to improve sustainability in anesthesia and intensive care: situational awareness and national initiatives



Do you have national guidelines on sustainability?

At this moment, the guidelines endorsed by Romanian Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care are dedicated to patient safety and improving patient care.

Future recommendations related to reducing impact on the environment are on the SRATI committees agenda.



Are there any exemplary cases of sustainability in centres in your country?

At this moment many centers are implementing these strategies, without having pilot centers in this field.

Romanian Ministry of Health will start the construction, in the near future, of GREEN HOSPITALS, equipped with green energy producing capabilities and zero emissions.



Does technology allow you to follow existing guidelines?

World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiology recommended a bundle of measures in order to reduce the impact on environment. These recommendations are in practice in Romania:

- ▶ Promoting REGIONAL ANESTHESIA
- ▶ Inhalatory General anesthesia performed under LOW FLOW ANESTHESIA
- ▶ TOTAL INTRAVENOUS ANESTHESIA with EEG control on depth of anesthesia
- ▶ Extremely rare use of Nitrous oxide (only in general anesthesia for cesarean section)
- ▶ Desflurane is not anymore in use in Romania

General recommendations are also applied:

- ▶ Hospital waste: recyclable household waste has to be separated from infectious waste which must be destroyed by incineration.
- ▶ The recycling of non-contaminated and non-infectious waste (such as glass, paper or plastic) is applied in a continuously increasing percentage in romanian operating theaters.
- ▶ Use of reusable staff clothing.
- ▶ Use of reusable sterilized equipment.
- ▶ Using streaming seminars and conferences to reduce staff mobility.



What barriers have you encountered to sustainable practice?

- ▶ Lack of KNOWLEDGE of the real impact of the impact of activities in operating theatre on the environment.
- ▶ Lack of motivation, assuming that patient safety comes first.
- ▶ Lack of education of medical staff about environmental sustainability.

