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Reply to Engelhardt, Thomas; Wolf, Andy, regarding their comment

'Surveys and all – the role of pediatric anesthetic societies'

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We thank Drs. Engelhardt and Wolf for their insightful comments regarding our recent publication “Survey research: it’s just a few questions right?”¹ The authors make an important point regarding the responsibility of our anesthesia societies to provide a robust peer-review process for surveys that utilize membership mailing lists. Indeed, the primary purpose of our article was to provide an overview of survey research methods not only for investigators but also for potential reviewers at the society and journal level. We apologize if we had not addressed this important aspect in more detail. The Society for Pediatric Anesthesia (SPA) has for many years adopted a similar approach to that of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland in that all surveys requiring access to membership mailing lists must undergo peer-review and approval by members of the SPA’s Research Committee. Once approved by the Research Committee, all surveys are then sent to the Executive Committee for final approval prior to distribution to the membership.

As a final note, we also agree with Drs. Engelhardt and Wolf that well-conducted collaborative surveys between pediatric societies exploring such topical issues as anesthetic neurotoxicity will be important as a means to explore and understand differences in regional and international practice. Given these mutual interests, we look forward to future collaborative endeavors by our respective societies that will promote reliable and meaningful survey research.

References:

1. Tait AR, Voepel-Lewis T. Survey research it’s just a few questions right? *Pediatr Anesth* 2015;**25**:656-662