

Evidence Review

The Guideline for Care of the Patient Receiving Local-Only Anesthesia was approved by the AORN Guidelines Advisory Board and became effective as of November 11, 2020.

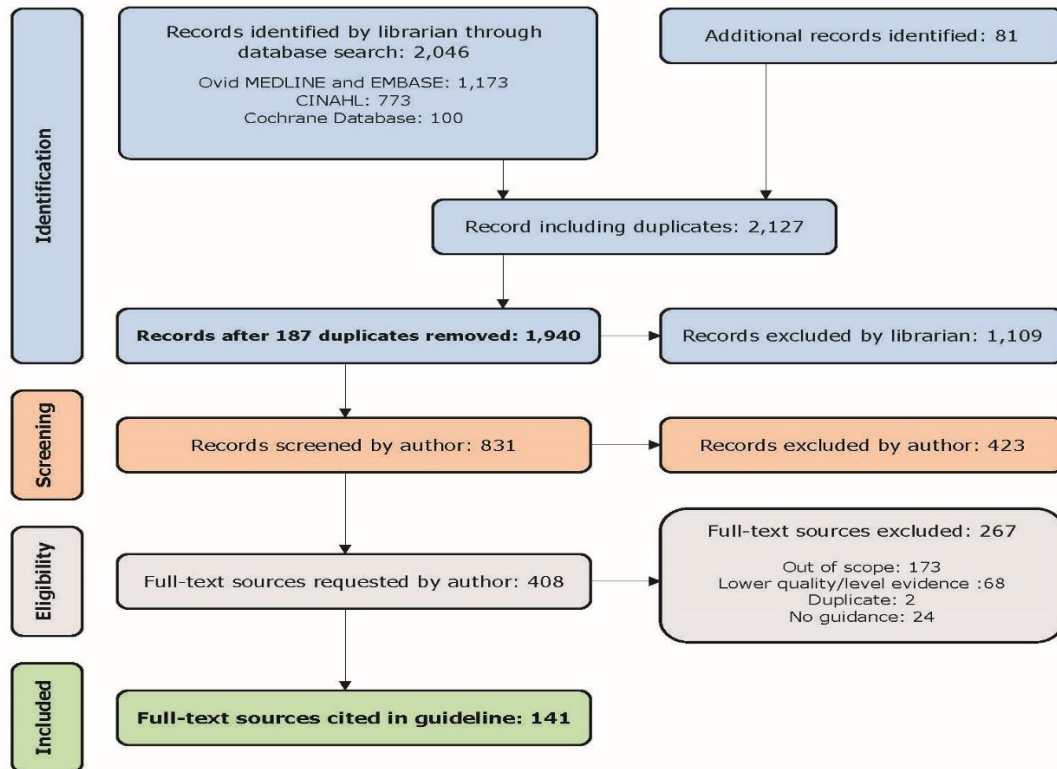
A medical librarian with a perioperative background conducted a systematic search of the databases Ovid MEDLINE®, Ovid Embase®, EBSCO CINAHL®, and the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. The search was limited to literature published in English from **January 2013 through August 2019**. At the time of the initial search, weekly alerts were created on the topics included in that search. Results from these alerts were provided to the lead author until **January 2020**. Additional articles were requested by the lead author that were not identified in the original search (ie, did not fit the search criteria) or were discovered during the evidence appraisal process. The lead author and the medical librarian also identified relevant guidelines from government agencies, professional organizations, and standards-setting bodies.

Search terms included *ACLS, ACLS certified, advanced cardiac life support, allergic reaction, allergy, ambulatory surgical procedures, analgesia, anaphylactic reaction, anaphylaxis, anesthesia (local), anesthetics (local), blood pressure, blood pressure determination, bupivacaine, complications (intraoperative), complications (postoperative), drug hypersensitivity, elective surgical procedures, epinephrine, Exparel, heart rate, heart rate determination, hypersensitivity, infiltration anesthesia, intraoperative complications, LAST assessment, lidocaine, lidocaine with epinephrine, liposomal bupivacaine, liposomal lidocaine, local anesthesia, local anesthetic systemic toxicity, local only anesthesia, Marcaine, minor surgical procedures, monitoring (physiologic), nurse's role, nurse's scope of practice, patient monitoring, perioperative nursing, physical examination, physical reaction, physiologic monitoring, postoperative complications, pulse, risk assessment, SALANT, Sensorcaine, sodium bicarbonate, straight local procedures no anesthesia provider, surgeon administered local or regional anesthesia, surgery (elective), surgery (operative), surgical nursing, surgical procedures (operative), topical anesthesia, vital signs, WALANT, wide awake local anesthesia, and Xylocaine*. Included were research and non-research literature in English, complete publications, and publications with dates within the time restriction when available. Excluded were non-peer-reviewed publications and those published prior to January 2013 when more recent evidence was available. Editorials, news items, and other brief items were excluded. Low-quality evidence was excluded when higher-quality evidence was available (**Figure 1**).

Articles identified in the search were provided to the project team for evaluation. The team consisted of the lead author and one evidence appraiser. The lead author and the evidence appraiser reviewed and critically appraised each article using the AORN Research or Non-Research Evidence Appraisal Tools as appropriate. The literature was independently evaluated and appraised according to the strength and quality of the evidence. Each article was then assigned an appraisal score. The appraisal score is noted in brackets after each reference as applicable.

Each recommendation rating is based on a synthesis of the collective evidence, a benefit-harm assessment, and consideration of resource use. The strength of the recommendation was determined using the AORN Evidence Rating Model and the quality and consistency of the evidence supporting a recommendation. The recommendation strength rating is noted in brackets after each recommendation.

Figure 1: PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram



Adapted from Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Atman DG; The PRISMA Group. Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med. 2009;6(6):e1000097.

Publication History

- Originally published May 1984, AORN Journal.
- Revised September 1989. Revised August 1993.
- Revised November 1997; published February 1998.
- Reformatted July 2000.
- Revised November 2001; published April 2002, AORN Journal.
- Revised 2006; published in Standards, Recommended Practices, and Guidelines, 2007 edition.
- Minor editing revisions made to omit Perioperative Nursing Data Set codes; reformatted September 2012 for publication in Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices, 2013 edition.
- Revised October 2014; published in Guidelines for Perioperative Practice, 2015 edition.
- Evidence ratings revised in Guidelines for Perioperative Practice, 2018 edition, to conform to the current AORN Evidence Rating Model.
- Evidence ratings revised and minor editorial changes made to conform to the current AORN Evidence Rating model, September 2019, for online publication in Guidelines for Perioperative Practice.
- Minor revisions to clarify symptoms of LAST made in June 2021 for online publication in Guidelines for Perioperative Practice.

Scheduled for review in 2025.