

# **GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS**

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**ЕЖЕМЕСЯЧНЫЙ НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ**

Медицинские новости Грузии  
საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი

## GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS

Monthly Georgia-US joint scientific journal published both in electronic and paper formats of the Agency of Medical Information of the Georgian Association of Business Press.  
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**GMN: Georgian Medical News** is peer-reviewed, published monthly journal committed to promoting the science and art of medicine and the betterment of public health, published by the GMN Editorial Board since 1994. GMN carries original scientific articles on medicine, biology and pharmacy, which are of experimental, theoretical and practical character; publishes original research, reviews, commentaries, editorials, essays, medical news, and correspondence in English and Russian.

GMN is indexed in MEDLINE, SCOPUS, PubMed and VINITI Russian Academy of Sciences. The full text content is available through EBSCO databases.

**GMN: Медицинские новости Грузии** - ежемесячный рецензируемый научный журнал, издаётся Редакционной коллегией с 1994 года на русском и английском языках в целях поддержки медицинской науки и улучшения здравоохранения. В журнале публикуются оригинальные научные статьи в области медицины, биологии и фармации, статьи обзорного характера, научные сообщения, новости медицины и здравоохранения. Журнал индексируется в MEDLINE, отражён в базе данных SCOPUS, PubMed и ВИНТИ РАН. Полнотекстовые статьи журнала доступны через БД EBSCO.

**GMN: Georgian Medical News** – საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი – არის ყოველთვიური სამეცნიერო სამედიცინო რეცენზირებადი ჟურნალი, გამოიცემა 1994 წლიდან, წარმოადგენს სარედაქციო კოლეგიისა და აშშ-ის მეცნიერების, განათლების, ინდუსტრიის, ხელოვნებისა და ბუნებისმეტყველების საერთაშორისო აკადემიის ერთობლივ გამოცემას. GMN-ში რუსულ და ინგლისურ ენებზე ქვეყნდება ექსპერიმენტული, თეორიული და პრაქტიკული ხასიათის ორიგინალური სამეცნიერო სტატიები მედიცინის, ბიოლოგიისა და ფარმაციის სფეროში, მიმოხილვითი ხასიათის სტატიები.

ჟურნალი ინდექსირებულია MEDLINE-ის საერთაშორისო სისტემაში, ასახულია SCOPUS-ის, PubMed-ის და ВИНТИ РАН-ის მონაცემთა ბაზებში. სტატიების სრული ტექსტი ხელმისაწვდომია EBSCO-ს მონაცემთა ბაზებიდან.

### WEBSITE

[www.geomednews.com](http://www.geomednews.com)

## К СВЕДЕНИЮ АВТОРОВ!

При направлении статьи в редакцию необходимо соблюдать следующие правила:

1. Статья должна быть представлена в двух экземплярах, на русском или английском языках, напечатанная через **полтора интервала на одной стороне стандартного листа с шириной левого поля в три сантиметра**. Используемый компьютерный шрифт для текста на русском и английском языках - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, для текста на грузинском языке следует использовать **AcadNusx**. Размер шрифта - **12**. К рукописи, напечатанной на компьютере, должен быть приложен CD со статьей.

2. Размер статьи должен быть не менее десяти и не более двадцати страниц машинописи, включая указатель литературы и резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках.

3. В статье должны быть освещены актуальность данного материала, методы и результаты исследования и их обсуждение.

При представлении в печать научных экспериментальных работ авторы должны указывать вид и количество экспериментальных животных, применявшиеся методы обезболивания и усыпления (в ходе острых опытов).

4. К статье должны быть приложены краткое (на полстраницы) резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках (включающее следующие разделы: цель исследования, материал и методы, результаты и заключение) и список ключевых слов (key words).

5. Таблицы необходимо представлять в печатной форме. Фотокопии не принимаются. **Все цифровые, итоговые и процентные данные в таблицах должны соответствовать таковым в тексте статьи**. Таблицы и графики должны быть озаглавлены.

6. Фотографии должны быть контрастными, фотокопии с рентгенограмм - в позитивном изображении. Рисунки, чертежи и диаграммы следует озаглавить, пронумеровать и вставить в соответствующее место текста **в tiff формате**.

В подписях к микрофотографиям следует указывать степень увеличения через окуляр или объектив и метод окраски или импрегнации срезов.

7. Фамилии отечественных авторов приводятся в оригинальной транскрипции.

8. При оформлении и направлении статей в журнал МНГ просим авторов соблюдать правила, изложенные в «Единых требованиях к рукописям, представляемым в биомедицинские журналы», принятых Международным комитетом редакторов медицинских журналов - <http://www.spinesurgery.ru/files/publish.pdf> и [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform\\_requirements.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html) В конце каждой оригинальной статьи приводится библиографический список. В список литературы включаются все материалы, на которые имеются ссылки в тексте. Список составляется в алфавитном порядке и нумеруется. Литературный источник приводится на языке оригинала. В списке литературы сначала приводятся работы, написанные знаками грузинского алфавита, затем кириллицей и латиницей. Ссылки на цитируемые работы в тексте статьи даются в квадратных скобках в виде номера, соответствующего номеру данной работы в списке литературы. Большинство цитированных источников должны быть за последние 5-7 лет.

9. Для получения права на публикацию статья должна иметь от руководителя работы или учреждения визу и сопроводительное отношение, написанные или напечатанные на бланке и заверенные подписью и печатью.

10. В конце статьи должны быть подписи всех авторов, полностью приведены их фамилии, имена и отчества, указаны служебный и домашний номера телефонов и адреса или иные координаты. Количество авторов (соавторов) не должно превышать пяти человек.

11. Редакция оставляет за собой право сокращать и исправлять статьи. Корректурa авторам не высылается, вся работа и сверка проводится по авторскому оригиналу.

12. Недопустимо направление в редакцию работ, представленных к печати в иных издательствах или опубликованных в других изданиях.

**При нарушении указанных правил статьи не рассматриваются.**

## REQUIREMENTS

Please note, materials submitted to the Editorial Office Staff are supposed to meet the following requirements:

1. Articles must be provided with a double copy, in English or Russian languages and typed or computer-printed on a single side of standard typing paper, with the left margin of 3 centimeters width, and 1.5 spacing between the lines, typeface - **Times New Roman (Cyrillic)**, print size - 12 (referring to Georgian and Russian materials). With computer-printed texts please enclose a CD carrying the same file titled with Latin symbols.

2. Size of the article, including index and resume in English, Russian and Georgian languages must be at least 10 pages and not exceed the limit of 20 pages of typed or computer-printed text.

3. Submitted material must include a coverage of a topical subject, research methods, results, and review.

Authors of the scientific-research works must indicate the number of experimental biological species drawn in, list the employed methods of anesthetization and soporific means used during acute tests.

4. Articles must have a short (half page) abstract in English, Russian and Georgian (including the following sections: aim of study, material and methods, results and conclusions) and a list of key words.

5. Tables must be presented in an original typed or computer-printed form, instead of a photocopied version. **Numbers, totals, percentile data on the tables must coincide with those in the texts of the articles.** Tables and graphs must be headed.

6. Photographs are required to be contrasted and must be submitted with doubles. Please number each photograph with a pencil on its back, indicate author's name, title of the article (short version), and mark out its top and bottom parts. Drawings must be accurate, drafts and diagrams drawn in Indian ink (or black ink). Photocopies of the X-ray photographs must be presented in a positive image in **tiff format**.

Accurately numbered subtitles for each illustration must be listed on a separate sheet of paper. In the subtitles for the microphotographs please indicate the ocular and objective lens magnification power, method of coloring or impregnation of the microscopic sections (preparations).

7. Please indicate last names, first and middle initials of the native authors, present names and initials of the foreign authors in the transcription of the original language, enclose in parenthesis corresponding number under which the author is listed in the reference materials.

8. Please follow guidance offered to authors by The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidance in its Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals publication available online at: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform\\_requirements.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html)  
[http://www.icmje.org/urm\\_full.pdf](http://www.icmje.org/urm_full.pdf)

In GMN style for each work cited in the text, a bibliographic reference is given, and this is located at the end of the article under the title "References". All references cited in the text must be listed. The list of references should be arranged alphabetically and then numbered. References are numbered in the text [numbers in square brackets] and in the reference list and numbers are repeated throughout the text as needed. The bibliographic description is given in the language of publication (citations in Georgian script are followed by Cyrillic and Latin).

9. To obtain the rights of publication articles must be accompanied by a visa from the project instructor or the establishment, where the work has been performed, and a reference letter, both written or typed on a special signed form, certified by a stamp or a seal.

10. Articles must be signed by all of the authors at the end, and they must be provided with a list of full names, office and home phone numbers and addresses or other non-office locations where the authors could be reached. The number of the authors (co-authors) must not exceed the limit of 5 people.

11. Editorial Staff reserves the rights to cut down in size and correct the articles. Proof-sheets are not sent out to the authors. The entire editorial and collation work is performed according to the author's original text.

12. Sending in the works that have already been assigned to the press by other Editorial Staffs or have been printed by other publishers is not permissible.

**Articles that Fail to Meet the Aforementioned  
Requirements are not Assigned to be Reviewed.**

## ავტორთა საქურაღებოლ!

რედაქციაში სტატიის წარმოდგენისას საჭიროა დაიცვათ შემდეგი წესები:

1. სტატია უნდა წარმოადგინოთ 2 ცალად, რუსულ ან ინგლისურ ენებზე დაბეჭდილი სტანდარტული ფურცლის 1 გვერდზე, 3 სმ სიგანის მარცხენა ველისა და სტრიქონებს შორის 1,5 ინტერვალის დაცვით. გამოყენებული კომპიუტერული შრიფტი რუსულ და ინგლისურენოვან ტექსტებში - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, ხოლო ქართულენოვან ტექსტში საჭიროა გამოვიყენოთ **AcadNusx**. შრიფტის ზომა – 12. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს CD სტატიით.

2. სტატიის მოცულობა არ უნდა შეადგენდეს 10 გვერდზე ნაკლებს და 20 გვერდზე მეტს ლიტერატურის სიის და რეზიუმეების (ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე) ჩათვლით.

3. სტატიაში საჭიროა გაშუქდეს: საკითხის აქტუალობა; კვლევის მიზანი; საკვლევი მასალა და გამოყენებული მეთოდები; მიღებული შედეგები და მათი განსჯა. ექსპერიმენტული ხასიათის სტატიების წარმოდგენისას ავტორებმა უნდა მიუთითონ საექსპერიმენტო ცხოველების სახეობა და რაოდენობა; გაუტკივარებისა და დაძინების მეთოდები (მწვავე ცდების პირობებში).

4. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს რეზიუმე ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე არანაკლებ ნახევარი გვერდის მოცულობისა (სათაურის, ავტორების, დაწესებულების მითითებით და უნდა შეიცავდეს შემდეგ განყოფილებებს: მიზანი, მასალა და მეთოდები, შედეგები და დასკვნები; ტექსტუალური ნაწილი არ უნდა იყოს 15 სტრიქონზე ნაკლები) და საკვანძო სიტყვების ჩამონათვალი (key words).

5. ცხრილები საჭიროა წარმოადგინოთ ნაბეჭდი სახით. ყველა ციფრული, შემაჯამებელი და პროცენტული მონაცემები უნდა შეესაბამებოდეს ტექსტში მოყვანილს.

6. ფოტოსურათები უნდა იყოს კონტრასტული; სურათები, ნახაზები, დიაგრამები - დასათაურებული, დანომრილი და სათანადო ადგილას ჩასმული. რენტგენოგრამების ფოტოასლები წარმოადგინეთ პოზიტიური გამოსახულებით **tiff** ფორმატში. მიკროფოტოსურათების წარწერებში საჭიროა მიუთითოთ ოკულარის ან ობიექტივის საშუალებით გადიდების ხარისხი, ანათალების შედეგების ან იმპრეგნაციის მეთოდი და აღნიშნოთ სურათის ზედა და ქვედა ნაწილები.

7. სამამულო ავტორების გვარები სტატიაში აღინიშნება ინიციალების თანდართვით, უცხოურისა – უცხოური ტრანსკრიპციით.

8. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს ავტორის მიერ გამოყენებული სამამულო და უცხოური შრომების ბიბლიოგრაფიული სია (ბოლო 5-8 წლის სიღრმით). ანბანური წყობით წარმოდგენილ ბიბლიოგრაფიულ სიაში მიუთითეთ ჯერ სამამულო, შემდეგ უცხოელი ავტორები (გვარი, ინიციალები, სტატიის სათაური, ჟურნალის დასახელება, გამოცემის ადგილი, წელი, ჟურნალის №, პირველი და ბოლო გვერდები). მონოგრაფიის შემთხვევაში მიუთითეთ გამოცემის წელი, ადგილი და გვერდების საერთო რაოდენობა. ტექსტში კვადრატულ ფხიხლებში უნდა მიუთითოთ ავტორის შესაბამისი N ლიტერატურის სიის მიხედვით. მიზანშეწონილია, რომ ციტირებული წყაროების უმეტესი ნაწილი იყოს 5-6 წლის სიღრმის.

9. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს: ა) დაწესებულების ან სამეცნიერო ხელმძღვანელის წარდგინება, დამოწმებული ხელმოწერითა და ბეჭდით; ბ) დარგის სპეციალისტის დამოწმებული რეცენზია, რომელშიც მითითებული იქნება საკითხის აქტუალობა, მასალის საკმაობა, მეთოდის სანდოობა, შედეგების სამეცნიერო-პრაქტიკული მნიშვნელობა.

10. სტატიის ბოლოს საჭიროა ყველა ავტორის ხელმოწერა, რომელთა რაოდენობა არ უნდა აღემატებოდეს 5-ს.

11. რედაქცია იტოვებს უფლებას შეასწოროს სტატია. ტექსტზე მუშაობა და შეჯერება ხდება საავტორო ორიგინალის მიხედვით.

12. დაუშვებელია რედაქციაში ისეთი სტატიის წარდგენა, რომელიც დასაბეჭდად წარდგენილი იყო სხვა რედაქციაში ან გამოქვეყნებული იყო სხვა გამოცემებში.

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## GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS

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1. სტატია უნდა წარმოადგინოთ 2 ცალად, რუსულ ან ინგლისურ ენებზე დაბეჭდილი სტანდარტული ფურცლის 1 გვერდზე, 3 სმ სიგანის მარცხენა ველისა და სტრიქონებს შორის 1,5 ინტერვალის დაცვით. გამოყენებული კომპიუტერული შრიფტი რუსულ და ინგლისურენოვან ტექსტებში - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, ხოლო ქართულენოვან ტექსტში საჭიროა გამოვიყენოთ **AcadNusx**. შრიფტის ზომა – 12. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს CD სტატიით.

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3. სტატიაში საჭიროა გაშუქდეს: საკითხის აქტუალობა; კვლევის მიზანი; საკვლევი მასალა და გამოყენებული მეთოდები; მიღებული შედეგები და მათი განსჯა. ექსპერიმენტული ხასიათის სტატიების წარმოდგენისას ავტორებმა უნდა მიუთითონ საექსპერიმენტო ცხოველების სახეობა და რაოდენობა; გაუტკივარებისა და დაძინების მეთოდები (მწვავე ცდების პირობებში).

4. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს რეზიუმე ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე არანაკლებ ნახევარი გვერდის მოცულობისა (სათაურის, ავტორების, დაწესებულების მითითებით და უნდა შეიცავდეს შემდეგ განყოფილებებს: მიზანი, მასალა და მეთოდები, შედეგები და დასკვნები; ტექსტუალური ნაწილი არ უნდა იყოს 15 სტრიქონზე ნაკლები) და საკვანძო სიტყვების ჩამონათვალი (key words).

5. ცხრილები საჭიროა წარმოადგინოთ ნაბეჭდი სახით. ყველა ციფრული, შემაჯამებელი და პროცენტული მონაცემები უნდა შეესაბამებოდეს ტექსტში მოყვანილს.

6. ფოტოსურათები უნდა იყოს კონტრასტული; სურათები, ნახაზები, დიაგრამები - დასათაურებული, დანომრილი და სათანადო ადგილას ჩასმული. რენტგენოგრამების ფოტოასლები წარმოადგინეთ პოზიტიური გამოსახულებით **tiff** ფორმატში. მიკროფოტოსურათების წარწერებში საჭიროა მიუთითოთ ოკულარის ან ობიექტივის საშუალებით გადიდების ხარისხი, ანათალების შედეგის ან იმპრეგნაციის მეთოდი და აღნიშნოთ სურათის ზედა და ქვედა ნაწილები.

7. სამამულო ავტორების გვარები სტატიაში აღინიშნება ინიციალების თანდართვით, უცხოურისა – უცხოური ტრანსკრიპციით.

8. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს ავტორის მიერ გამოყენებული სამამულო და უცხოური შრომების ბიბლიოგრაფიული სია (ბოლო 5-8 წლის სიღრმით). ანბანური წყობით წარმოდგენილ ბიბლიოგრაფიულ სიაში მიუთითეთ ჯერ სამამულო, შემდეგ უცხოელი ავტორები (გვარი, ინიციალები, სტატიის სათაური, ჟურნალის დასახელება, გამოცემის ადგილი, წელი, ჟურნალის №, პირველი და ბოლო გვერდები). მონოგრაფიის შემთხვევაში მიუთითეთ გამოცემის წელი, ადგილი და გვერდების საერთო რაოდენობა. ტექსტში კვადრატულ ფხიხლებში უნდა მიუთითოთ ავტორის შესაბამისი N ლიტერატურის სიის მიხედვით. მიზანშეწონილია, რომ ციტირებული წყაროების უმეტესი ნაწილი იყოს 5-6 წლის სიღრმის.

9. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს: ა) დაწესებულების ან სამეცნიერო ხელმძღვანელის წარდგინება, დამოწმებული ხელმოწერითა და ბეჭდით; ბ) დარგის სპეციალისტის დამოწმებული რეცენზია, რომელშიც მითითებული იქნება საკითხის აქტუალობა, მასალის საკმაობა, მეთოდის სანდოობა, შედეგების სამეცნიერო-პრაქტიკული მნიშვნელობა.

10. სტატიის ბოლოს საჭიროა ყველა ავტორის ხელმოწერა, რომელთა რაოდენობა არ უნდა აღემატებოდეს 5-ს.

11. რედაქცია იტოვებს უფლებას შეასწოროს სტატია. ტექსტზე მუშაობა და შეჯერება ხდება საავტორო ორიგინალის მიხედვით.

12. დაუშვებელია რედაქციაში ისეთი სტატიის წარდგენა, რომელიც დასაბეჭდად წარდგენილი იყო სხვა რედაქციაში ან გამოქვეყნებული იყო სხვა გამოცემებში.

აღნიშნული წესების დარღვევის შემთხვევაში სტატიები არ განიხილება.

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## ASSOCIATION OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES WITH PATIENTS' COMPREHENSION AND CONTENTMENT REGARDING INFORMED CONSENT IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL SETTING: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

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### Abstract.

**Background:** Effective informed consent is fundamental to ethical anaesthesia care, ensuring patient autonomy and safety. However, there is limited evidence on how patients in multicultural settings perceive the anaesthesia informed consent process. This study investigates patient understanding, satisfaction, and factors associated with perceptions at Thumbay University Hospital in Ajman, United Arab Emirates.

**Methods:** A descriptive cross-sectional design was conducted among 350 adults undergoing elective surgery at Thumbay University Hospital, Ajman UAE. Two validated instruments which are the Anaesthesia Knowledge and Satisfaction Survey (AKSS), and Anaesthesia-Specific Informed Consent Questionnaire (ASICQ) were administered to patients undergoing surgery to measure the demographics, knowledge, and satisfaction. Data were analysed using SPSS v29 with descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, and chi-square tests were conducted to examine the relationships among the study variables. Demographic and socioeconomic variables were further assessed to explore their association with patients' perceptions.

**Results:** A total of 350 patients who provided informed consent were included in the study. High satisfaction and moderate understanding of anesthesia informed consent were observed. Anesthesia knowledge ratings were considerably improved with higher education ( $p < 0.001$ ). There was a positive association between anesthetic knowledge and satisfaction ( $r = 0.38$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). After controlling demographics, education independently predicted anesthetic knowledge by correlation analyses.

**Conclusions:** Patients were satisfied yet showed incomplete comprehension of anaesthesia risks and rights. Culturally adapted consent models and clinician communication training are needed to enhance ethical, patient-centered care. The results have implications for informed consent practices in diverse healthcare settings.

**Key words.** Anaesthesia, ethics, informed consent, diverse healthcare settings, patient satisfaction, United Arab Emirates.

### Introduction.

A fundamental component of both medical ethics and legal practice, informed consent protects patient autonomy, understanding, and collaborative decision-making in clinical settings [1,2]. It includes supplying patients with adequate and understandable information about their diagnosis, suggested treatments, dangers, advantages, and available options so they may make educated decisions [3,4]. Despite its moral and legal importance, research conducted in a variety of healthcare systems regularly shows that patients do not fully understand it,

especially when it comes to surgical and anaesthetic settings [5-7]. Limited understanding of anaesthetic procedures continues to be a major challenge on a global scale. Research shows that soon after preoperative conversations, many patients are unable to remember or understand crucial information pertaining to anaesthesia [8-10]. These restrictions are frequently made worse by cultural attitudes that impact communication effectiveness, limited health literacy, and language obstacles [11-14]. Even though established methods and organized permission frameworks have been developed to enhance comprehension [15-18], implementation and efficacy differ greatly depending on the circumstance.

Informed consent in anaesthesia fosters trust, safety, and satisfaction throughout the perioperative period and goes beyond just legal compliance [19-21]. Clarity, compassion, and sufficient explanation are generally valued by patients more than technical specifics [22-24]. However, there are differences in ethical and regulatory requirements around the globe; some systems require full risk disclosure, while others let clinical judgment [25-27]. Patients also have different preferences; some want quick, reassurance-focused conversations, while others want in-depth information [28,29]. Sociodemographic factors that impact patients' capacity to process consent information include education, income, and previous surgical experience [30-33]. Cultural norms and language variation make understanding more difficult in multicultural areas [34-36].

Despite comprehensive studies on surgical informed consent, patient comprehension of anesthesia-specific permission—especially within multicultural healthcare systems—remains inadequately investigated.

In the United Arab Emirates (UAE), obtaining meaningful, morally sound consent is particularly difficult due to the diverse and multilingual patient population [37,38]. Despite national initiatives to standardize consent procedures, not much empirical research has looked at patients' satisfaction and comprehension in this setting. This study aimed to determine the influence of socioeconomic and demographic factors affect patients' comprehension and satisfaction with informed consent for anaesthesia at Thumbay University Hospital in the United Arab Emirates. Additionally, the study sought to identify communication gaps that could help develop patient-centred, culturally appropriate consent models.

### Methodology.

A descriptive cross-sectional study conducted in the preoperative area of Thumbay University Hospital, Ajman, UAE.

Using power analysis ( $r=0.3$ , 95% confidence, and 80% power), the target sample of 384 individuals was determined and 350 of these adult patients gave their assent and fulfilled the requirements for eligibility (Response Rate = 91.1). Participants had to be between the ages of 18 and 65, speak Arabic or English well, be mentally competent, and give their free and informed consent.

Most participants (41.7%) were between the ages of 29 and 38, and 53.1% were women. Of the 350 participants, 82 (23.4%) had previously undergone general anaesthesia, 19.7% had previously undergone regional anaesthesia, and 51.7% had never undergone anaesthesia. Regional anaesthesia was scheduled for 34% and general anaesthesia for 56.3% of the planned surgical procedures.

Two reliable and valid tools were employed to gather data from multicultural populations. The first instrument is the Anaesthesia Knowledge and Satisfaction Survey (AKSS), which uses 15 multiple-choice and Likert-scale items to gauge patient knowledge and satisfaction with the anaesthesia consent procedure. The current study demonstrated acceptable internal consistency reliability, with a Cronbach's alpha of 0.81 for the Anesthesia Knowledge and Satisfaction Scale (AKSS) and 0.84 for the Anesthesia-Specific Informed Consent Questionnaire (ASICQ).

Knowledge was classified as moderate (51–75%), high ( $\geq 76\%$ ), and poor ( $\leq 50\%$ ). A Likert scale of 1–2.4 for dissatisfaction, 2.5–3.4 for neutrality, and 3.5–5 for satisfaction was used to rate satisfaction. Anaesthesia-Specific Informed Consent Questionnaire (ASICQ): This questionnaire, which consists of 10 Likert-scale items (1–2.4 negative, 2.5–3.4 neutral, 3.5–5 positive), measures understanding and clear perception. To determine the participants' sociodemographic characteristics, demographic information was gathered, including age, gender, education, occupation, and previous surgical experience. Before premedication was given, but after the surveys had been thoroughly explained and informed consent had been obtained, they were given out prior to surgery.

Data was gathered between March 1 and May 1, 2025, a period of 90 days. Researchers ensured unbiased, uninfluenced responses and provided an explanation of the study's objectives. To ensure accuracy and uniformity, Google Forms was used to fill the questionnaires electronically.

Older participants or those unfamiliar with tablet-based surveys received technical support from research assistants. The questionnaire was formatted identically in English and Arabic. Tablets were covered to protect privacy, and data was collected in a calm waiting room. The survey took 8–12 minutes on average. Google Forms replies were encrypted and sent to a password-protected institutional server within 24 hours for data security. To protect participant privacy, survey responses were not linked to personal information.

Data analysis was done with SPSS v29. Normality and homoscedasticity assumptions were checked using residual plots. Demographics and results were summarized using descriptive statistics. Pearson's correlations, and chi-square were used to evaluate the relationships between the variables. Confidentiality was rigorously upheld, as were ethical requirements.

GMU & Thumbay Hospital Board granted ethical approval under the number (IRB-COHS-STD-102-Feb-2025). All participants provided written informed consent.

## Results.

### Participant Characteristics:

The average age of the participants was  $36.8 \pm 10.4$  years. The majority were married (62.3%) and had a college degree (48.9%). Table 1 displays all demographic data.

### Patient Understanding of Anaesthesia Consent:

Average comprehension score: moderate,  $64.8 \pm 12.5\%$ . Only 74.6% of respondents were able to recollect a specific consequence, but 83.1% were aware of the hazards associated with anaesthesia. The majority reported having enough time for questioning (89.7%) and receiving clear answers (94.3%), although just 57.4% were told of their options. Anaesthesia consent was understood by 66.9% of respondents. Table 2 displays the data.

### Patient Satisfaction with Consent form Process:

Overall satisfaction with surgical consent was  $4.0 \pm 0.7$ , but overall satisfaction with anaesthesia consent was  $3.9 \pm 0.6$ . The highest scores were for comprehension of risks ( $4.0 \pm 0.8$  for surgery and  $3.8 \pm 0.9$  for anaesthesia) and procedural clarity ( $4.1 \pm 0.8$ ). Anaesthesia satisfaction scores for time adequacy were lower ( $3.5 \pm 0.9$ ). Table 3 shows the average and standard deviation of patient scores for the surgical consent and anaesthetic processes. Supplementary tables 1 and 2 contain comprehensive answers to the Likert scales used to measure patient satisfaction with anaesthesia and surgical informed consent.

### Associations Between Demographics, Awareness, and Satisfaction:

Marital status, education, and previous surgical experience were significantly associated with both awareness and satisfaction ( $p < 0.001$ ). Employment and prior anaesthesia type also affected satisfaction. Detailed associations between demographic variables and levels of awareness and satisfaction with anaesthesia and surgical consent are presented in Supplementary Table 3. Statistically significant associations are presented Table 4.

### Correlation Analyses:

Correlation analyses are presented in Table 5. Awareness correlated strongly with anaesthesia consent satisfaction ( $r = 0.494$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ), but not with surgical consent satisfaction ( $r = 0.096$ ,  $p = 0.073$ ). Satisfaction scores for anaesthesia and surgical consent were positively correlated ( $r = 0.494$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ).

### Results Summary.

Most participants were young adults, more than half of the population were female, the majority were married and obtained a bachelor's degree. Using descriptive statistics, high satisfaction levels were indicated, however, moderate awareness regarding anaesthesia were displayed. Higher awareness was associated with greater satisfaction levels as shown by correlation analyses. Awareness and satisfaction levels regarding anaesthesia are

**Table 1.** Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Participants (N = 350).

Variable	Category	Frequency	%
Age	18–28	92	26.3
	29–38	146	41.7
	39–48	75	21.4
	49–58	23	6.6
	>59	14	4
Gender	Male	164	46.9
	Female	186	53.1
Marital status	Single	122	34.9
	Married	210	60
	Divorced/Widowed	18	5.1
Employment status	Not employed	97	27.7
	Employed	214	61.1
	Own business	39	11.1
Education	None	4	1.1
	Primary school	12	3.4
	High school	55	15.7
	Bachelor's	276	78.9
	Master's degree	3	0.9
Previous surgery experience	Yes	169	48.3
	No	181	51.7
Type of anaesthesia in previous surgery	Not applicable	181	51.7
	General	82	23.4
	Regional	69	19.7
	Local	18	5.1
Type of anaesthesia for upcoming surgery	General	197	56.3
	Regional (Spinal/Epidural)	119	34
	Local	33	9.4
	Sedation	1	0.3

*n* = number of participants; % = percentage; previous and upcoming anaesthesia types are reported for participants who had prior surgery and those scheduled for surgery, respectively.

**Table 2.** Patient understanding of anaesthesia informed-consent items (N = 350).

Question	Yes n (%)	No n (%)
Anesthesia procedure explanation	330 (94.3)	20 (5.7)
Understanding of anesthesia risks	291 (83.1)	59 (16.9)
Possible Complications	261 (74.6)	89 (25.4)
Informed about alternative anesthesia techniques	201 (57.4)	149 (42.6)
Enough time to ask questions	314 (89.7)	36 (10.3)
<b>Confidence level</b>	Confident/Noticeably confident: 234 (66.9)	Neutral/Low: 116 (33.1)

*n* = number of participants; % = percentage; confidence rated on a five-point scale: Not confident → Very confident.

**Table 3.** Patient Satisfaction with Anaesthesia and Surgical Informed Consent (N = 350).

Question	Anesthesia Satisfaction Mean ± SD	Surgery Satisfaction Mean ± SD
The provider/surgeon explained the procedure clearly	4.1 ± 0.8	4.1 ± 0.8
The risks were explained in an understandable way	3.8 ± 0.9	4.0 ± 0.8
I felt comfortable asking questions	3.6 ± 0.8	3.9 ± 0.9
I was given enough time to make an informed decision	3.5 ± 0.9	4.0 ± 0.9
I am satisfied with the informed consent process	3.9 ± 0.6	4.0 ± 0.7
Overall Accumulative Satisfaction Score	18.59 ± 3.71	19.65 ± 3.76

Each item scored on a 5-point Likert scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree); SD = standard deviation. Full item-level responses with *n* (%) are presented in Supplementary Tables 1 (anaesthesia) and 2 (surgery).

**Table 4.** Significant Associations Between Demographic Variables, Awareness, and Consent Satisfaction (N = 350).

Demographic Variable	Higher Awareness	Higher Anesthesia Satisfaction	Higher Surgical Satisfaction	p-value
Marital status (Married vs Single/ Other)	Yes	Yes	Yes	<0.001
Education (Bachelor's vs ≤High school)	Yes	—	Yes	Awareness <0.001. Surgical = 0.035
Employment status (Employed vs Not employed)	Yes	—	Yes	Awareness = 0.003. Surgical = 0.013
Previous surgery experience (Yes vs No)	—	Yes	Yes	Anesthesia = 0.005. Surgical <0.001
Type of anesthesia (previous) (General/ Regional vs None)	Yes	Yes	Yes	<0.001

Higher awareness/satisfaction refers to higher scores. Higher awareness and satisfaction were significantly associated with marital status, education, and prior surgical experience.

**Table 5.** Correlation Analyses Between Awareness and Consent Satisfaction (N = 350).

Outcomes	r	p-value
Awareness vs Anesthesia Consent Satisfaction	0.494	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Awareness vs Surgical Consent Satisfaction	0.096	0.073
Anesthesia vs Surgical Consent Satisfaction	0.494	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

r = Pearson correlation coefficient; p < 0.05 indicates statistical significance; bold values indicate significance. Positive correlations were observed between anaesthesia and surgical consent satisfaction.

significantly influenced by demographic factors such as marital status, education, and prior surgical experience.

## Discussion.

This study shows that even when patients express high levels of satisfaction, their actual understanding of the dangers and options associated with anaesthesia is still only minimal. This is consistent with international research showing ongoing deficiencies in knowledge about anaesthesia [8-10,19]. In line with research showing that higher education is associated with better health literacy and decision-making abilities, education level was the best indicator of understanding and satisfaction [30-33]. Prior surgical experience improved confidence and memory, which is in line with research showing familiarity lowers fear and boosts interest [21,23]. Possibly because of different communication expectations or relational preferences, gender disparities paralleled regional studies that indicate women frequently report higher levels of pleasure [26,27].

There are further difficulties because of the bilingual environment in the UAE. Since several participants spoke Arabic or English as second languages, there may have been differences in comprehension and pleasure. Language discordance has been identified in previous UAE studies as a hindrance to morally sound informed consent [19,23]. The difference between substantive consent (ensuring understanding) and procedural consent (signing a document) is highlighted ethically by this gap. Modified communication techniques, such as visual aids, interpretation assistance, plain language, and comprehension confirmation, are necessary to achieve the latter.

Emerging UAE projects demonstrate how technological tools like AI-driven chatbots, or bilingual multimedia consent systems can improve understanding and participation [25]. Empathy, ethical reasoning, and cultural competency training for clinicians are still vital.

Timing survey administration is important. Preoperative data were obtained before premedication but after the consent conversation, when patient anxiety is high. Preoperative anxiety is known to impair cognition, memory consolidation, and recall [39-41]. Attentional constriction and decreased working memory may diminish consent understanding in stressed patients, resulting in recall bias in our comprehension ratings [42,43]. Anxious patients may rate interactions more positively when clinicians provide reassurance and emotional support, even if informational content is incomplete, while others may criticize due to stress-related hypervigilance [44,45].

The discrepancy between high satisfaction (mean 3.9 ± 0.6) and moderate comprehension (64.8 ± 12.5%) in our study may be related to this. Preoperative anxiety patients may value emotional comfort and procedural confidence over detailed information processing, resulting in satisfaction ratings that weigh communication style and clinician empathy over informational adequacy. This view supports earlier research demonstrating that interpersonal aspects are more strongly connected with anesthetic treatment satisfaction than information retention [22-24,46]. We can't determine anxiety's impact on our findings without actual assessment. To examine the association between consent process anxiety, comprehension, and satisfaction, future research should use validated anxiety assessment measures such as the Amsterdam Preoperative Anxiety and Information Scale (APAIS) or the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) [39,47].

This study found that 42.6% of participants were not informed about alternate anesthetic procedures, revealing a major informed consent gap. As it promotes patient autonomy and collaborative decision-making, informed consent requires the revelation of realistic alternatives. International ethical principles state that patients must be informed of their alternatives and their risks and advantages before consenting. In other perioperative settings, time constraints, clinician-led decision-making, preconceptions

about patient preferences, and preoperative fear limit extensive discussions of anesthetic choices.

Despite high satisfaction scores, this study implies that pleasure may reflect communication style or comfort rather than informational completeness. The great pleasure and moderate anesthesia-specific understanding may possibly be due to a lack of alternative discussion. The lack of options hinders informed choice and may disproportionately affect patients with lesser health literacy or limited surgical expertise. Structured consent guidelines, standardized checklists, and visual or digital decision aids could ensure consistent discussion of different anesthetic techniques, improving ethical practice and patient participation in perioperative treatment.

### Limitations.

A single-center cross-sectional study has limited generalizability. Self-reported data may favor memory or social desirability. Language ability, country, and ethnicity were not fully assessed in the study, limiting our understanding of multicultural informed consent. Other languages spoken in UAE hospitals, such as Hindi and Urdu, were ignored.

No preoperative anxiety assessment is a major drawback. Preoperative surveys were given during high emotional arousal, which may impact information processing, memory accuracy, and satisfaction [39-41,48]. We cannot tell if our findings reflect actual comprehension and contentment or are confounded by anxiety-related cognitive and emotional consequences without evaluating anxiety levels with validated instruments like the APAIS or STAI [39,47]. Anxious patients may underreport comprehension due to decreased attention and working memory [42,43] or overreport satisfaction due to reassurance-seeking and comfort after supportive therapist interactions [44,45]. Response patterns may also differ between high- and low-anxiety people, concealing subgroup differences. After consent discussion but before surgery, data collection occurred at peak preoperative stress, which may have affected knowledge retention and satisfaction ratings in ways we could not quantify [48,49].

Further research should use multi-site designs, language proficiency and cultural background as assessed variables, validated preoperative anxiety measures, and mixed methodologies to better understand the complex relationship between emotional state, information processing, and satisfaction in the perioperative consent process.

### Conclusion.

Informed permission for anesthesia is both morally and practically necessary in diverse healthcare systems such as the United Arab Emirates. Despite the great level of satisfaction, comprehension gaps still exist. Patients' comprehension and contentment are greatly influenced by their educational background, gender, and previous surgical experience.

Healthcare organizations should use standardized, language-appropriate consent frameworks backed by digital resources and physician education to improve patient autonomy and ethical integrity. In culturally heterogeneous environments, these treatments can improve patient-provider trust and close understanding gaps.

### Declaration.

• **Ethics approval:** IRB-COHS-STD-102-Feb-2025 (Gulf Medical University).

• **Consent to participate/publication:** Obtained from all participants.

• **Availability of data and materials:** Available upon reasonable request.

• **Competing interests:** None declared.

• **Funding:** No external funding.

### Authors' contributions.

o **Ellen Safadi:** Conceptualization, data analysis, writing, and supervision.

o **Aparna Baburaj:** Data collection, validation, and literature review.

o **Marwan Ismail:** Statistical analysis support, critical review and editing of the manuscript.

o **Sara Musa Abdalla Elamin:** Data collection, validation, and literature review.

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