Title: Propofol sedation for EBUS-TBNA in flexible bronchoscopy

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Body: Background: Propofol has been established as a reliable method for conscious sedation in flexible bronchoscopy, but there are scarce data on its safety in EBUS-TBNA. Methods: EBUS-TBNA was performed under propofol sedation administered by trained endoscopy personnel in 3 pulmonary centers in Switzerland between 2009 and 2012. Minor and major adverse events were prospectively documented. Results: Data of 783 patients (63 ± 12.4 years, 67 % male) were analyzed. The mean duration of the procedure was 38.9 min (± 23.3). Mean propofol dose was 364 mg (± 161). Minor adverse events included \( \text{SaO}_2 < 90 \% \) in 22 % and hypotension (syst BP < 100 mmHg) in 53 % patients. The intervention had to be aborted in 3 cases (0.38 %). Transient ventilatory support during flexible bronchoscopy was required in 4 cases (0.51 %) - 3 bag ventilation, 1 endotracheal intubation. There was neither need for ICU transfer nor death. Conclusions: Propofol sedation for flexible bronchoscopy with EBUS is feasible and safe if a properly trained endoscopy team is involved.