



Important Message from the PMSF Medical Advisory Committee

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Anesthesia Medications in Phelan-McDermid Syndrome

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Dear families in the Phelan-McDermid syndrome community,

It has come to the attention of the PMSF Medical Advisory Committee that some individuals with Phelan-McDermid syndrome experience significant adverse reaction to anesthesia in the context of medical procedures (e.g., dental; imaging). For this reason, we wanted to provide the following guidance that we hope will inform discussions of risks and benefits:

- Adverse effects from anesthesia appear to be quite rare;
- Most people with Phelan-McDermid syndrome have had anesthesia without any complications;
- Propofol is a relatively standard anesthetic and generally well tolerated;
- Benzodiazepines (e.g., lorazepam; midazolam) are also commonly used during anesthesia and are well tolerated; there are rare cases of adverse reactions with benzodiazepines (e.g., agitation) but they diminish quickly;
- Neuroleptics (i.e., antipsychotics) are sometimes used in general anesthesia and should be avoided.