

Intraoperative decision-making

A study used the [Grounded Theory Method](#) in its [study design](#). [In-depth interviews](#) were conducted with [pediatric neurosurgeons](#) about their approaches to [training](#) residents in intraoperative decision-making. Data was analyzed line-by-line with codes and categories emerging from participants' narratives.

Setting & Participants: Twenty-six pediatric neurosurgeons from 12 countries were interviewed using video-conferencing technology.

Pediatric Neurosurgeons used a variety of training approaches that included pre-surgery discussions, didactic communication during surgery, post-surgery debriefing, allowing residents to model and observe their own intraoperative behaviors, using case studies to teach, and ongoing mentorship. In addition, they encouraged residents to ask for help when needed and emphasized the importance of empathy as a surgeon. Challenges to training residents included the notion that decision-making could only be learned through personal experience, the trainee's personality, and an over-reliance on algorithms and standardized medicine.

Training [neurosurgical residents](#) about [intraoperative decision-making](#) appears to be ad-hoc and dependent on both the [institution](#) and the availability and willingness of [senior](#) surgeons to make this a part of their pedagogy. Surgical departments could use these findings to reflect on their own teaching practices and explore whether they wish to teach these [skills](#) more explicitly, and in what ways these skills can be best taught to [residents](#) ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Granek L, Shapira S, Roth J, Constantini S. Can Good Intraoperative Judgement Be Taught?: Pediatric Neurosurgeons' Pedagogical Approaches to Training [Residents](#) on Intraoperative Decision-Making. J Surg Educ. 2021 Apr 2:S1931-7204(21)00059-3. doi: 10.1016/j.jsurg.2021.03.006. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33814338.

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