PAIN:
Postoperative Analgesia in Infants and Neonates

1. Intravenous paracetamol can be administered as primary analgesic to infants under 1 year following major abdominal and non-cardiac thoracic surgery. (this thesis)

2. Minimal access surgery for congenital diaphragmatic hernia or esophageal atresia repair does not reduce neonates' postoperative morphine requirements. (this thesis)

3. Compliance to pain assessment protocols is a prerequisite for adequate pain treatment and can be achieved only by ongoing education. (this thesis)

4. Paracetamol in manufacturer recommended doses increases the risk of acute liver failure in patients with myopathies. (this thesis)

5. Frequently used drug formularies on the pediatric ICU differ widely on dosing guidelines, if guidelines even exist at all. (this thesis)

6. “The only principle of drug dosage which “survives”, is that the dose must be adjusted to the individual patient.” Dawson WT: Relations between age and weight and dosages of drugs. Ann Intern Med March 1940; 13: 1594-1615.

7. “Men worry over the great number of diseases; doctors worry over the small number of remedies.”

8. “A story can be used to effectively allay preoperative anxiety immediately before induction of general anesthesia in unpremedicated children.”

9. “There is no pharmacologic equivalent of human compassion.”

10. “Pediatrics does not deal with miniature men and women, with reduced doses and the same class of disease in smaller bodies, but has its own independent range and horizon.”

11. Fairy tales don’t teach children that dragons exist. They already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales teach children that dragons can be killed.
    G. K. Chesterton, adapted from Tremendous Trifles (1909), XVII: “The Red Angel”

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