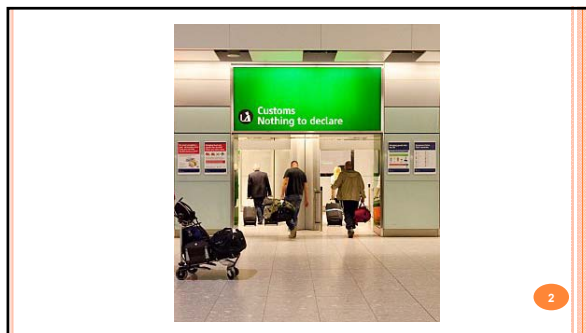


Acute Pain Management in the Opioid Dependent Patient

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OBJECTIVES

- Outline principles for management of acute pain, with focus on perioperative and trauma pain
- Evaluate the evidence supporting, and describe the clinical application of, multimodal analgesia
- With the help of a patient case, explain approaches to tailoring regimens to patients from high risk populations
- Briefly describe changes in institutional practice that incorporate current evidence

PATIENT PRESENTATION

“VS” 32 yo Caucasian M

- Admitted to trauma service post MVA
- Multiple injuries – risk of internal bleeding
- Scheduled for fracture fixation in the OR
- Despite multiple doses of opioid, continues to report 9/10 pain

SUMMARY OF H&P

- **PMH:** IV heroin abuse
- **MED:**
 - Home*
 - Methadone 28 mg po once daily
 - Inpatient*
 - Hydromorphone PCA: PCA dose = 0.2 mg; lockout interval = 8 minutes; 4-hr limit = 6 mg.
- **VS:** T 36.4 C, HR 88, BP: 138/63, RR: 16, O₂ sats room air: 96%, ht: 183 cm, wt: 102 kg, IBW: 77.6 kg, BMI: 29.9 kg/m², Pain: 9/10 (generalized), eCrCl: > 120 ml/min
- **LABS:**
 - RBC 4.37 (4.2-5.9 x10⁹/uL)
 - Hgb 12.5 (14-17 g/dL)
 - Hct 36.6% (42- 52%)
 - Plt 172 (150-350 x10³/uL)

WHY IS ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT IMPORTANT?

- Ethical need to treat pain
- Avoidance of short-term adverse events
 - Hyperglycemia
 - Cardiovascular complications
 - Pneumonia
- Risk of persistent post-surgical pain (PPSP)

QUIZ QUESTION 1

- Which of the following is a potential consequence of unrelieved acute pain?
 - A. Increased gastric and bowel motility
 - B. Elevated immune response
 - C. Hypoglycemia
 - D. Respiratory and cardiac complications

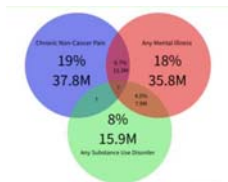
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“HIGH RISK” PATIENTS

- Growing number of opioid-dependent patients
 - Chronic pain and/or opioid maintenance
 - Prescribed and non-prescribed opioids
- Maintenance: methadone vs. buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone®)
- Abstinence: naltrexone
- (patients with use disorders with no acute pain)

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INTERSECTION OF PAIN, MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUD



<https://www.slideshare.net/OPUNITE/rx16-tpp-tues3301gavin2saddy3gastfriend>

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT

- Guidelines recommend multimodal pharmacological/non-pharmacological approach^{1,2}
- Regimens may vary by patient and surgery or condition

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PRINCIPLES FOR ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT IN OPIOID DEPENDENT PATIENTS

- Almost no evidence in this population¹⁻⁵
- Differentiate between physical and psychological dependence, but care may be similar
- May have lower pain thresholds
- Maintain uninterrupted therapy
 - Not the time for detoxification
 - Prevent withdrawal

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PRINCIPLES FOR ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT IN OPIOID DEPENDENT PATIENTS

- Multimodal and nonpharmacological therapy^{1,2}
- Interprofessional collaboration
- Reassure and involve patient
- Avoid mixed agonist-antagonists³
- Will need higher doses of opioid than naïve pts *in addition to maintenance dose*

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QUIZ QUESTION 2

- General principles for acute pain management in opioid tolerant patients include all of the following **except?**
- A. Involving the patient in the plan of care
- B. Employing multimodal analgesic regimens
- C. Administering the patient's baseline opioid in addition to as needed opioids
- D. Using partial opioid agonists or mixed agonist-antagonists to reduce the risk of adverse events

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COMPONENTS OF MULTIMODAL REGIMENS

- Opioids
- Nonopioids
 - NSAIDs
 - Traditional and coxibs
 - Acetaminophen
- Adjuncts
 - Ketamine, lidocaine, magnesium, gabapentinoids, clonidine, etc.

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OPIOIDS

- Still considered cornerstone for acute severe pain
 - Multiple adverse effects/safety concerns
 - May not be necessary in all patients¹



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OPIOIDS

- Common themes in opioid tolerant patients³
 - The maintenance opioid agonist provides only limited analgesia
 - Risks for addiction relapse with both opioid administration and poorly managed pain
 - Opioid analgesic + opioid maintenance ↓ respiratory and CNS depression?
 - Reporting pain a sign of drug-seeking?

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OPIOIDS: METHADONE PATIENTS³

- Confirm dose with clinic
- Long and variable half life
- OK to prescribe without special DEA addiction license

2 options:

1. Continue and add prn opioids
 - Can split daily dose to provide some analgesia
 - If converting to parenteral, half to two-thirds of oral dose
2. Convert to short-acting opioids

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OPIOIDS: BUPRENORPHINE PATIENTS³

- Partial agonist at mu receptor with high affinity
- Long terminal half-life (~ 28 hours)
- Confirm dose with PCP, Dr. First, Mass PMP

2 options:

1. Continue and add prn opioids²
 - Can split daily dose to provide some analgesia
2. Convert to other opioid
 - If methadone: 20-40 mg daily

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OPIOIDS: (PRE)ADMISSION AND PREOPERATIVE

- Preoperative visit (if elective)
 - Discuss patient concerns and set realistic goals
- Tox screens on admission
 - opioids *plus* alcohol, benzos, THC, etc.
- Surgery:
 - *Elective*: administer daily maintenance/baseline opioid dose on morning of surgery
 - Keep fentanyl patch on?
 - *Emergent*: calculate opioid dose requirement and load with IV opioid

OPIOIDS: INTRA- AND POSTOPERATIVE


- Increase intraoperative and postoperative opioid dose 20-50%
- Maintain baseline opioids postoperatively
 - If oral, may have to convert to parenteral equivalent.

OPIOIDS: SYSTEMIC ADMINISTRATION

- Patient request
- Patient controlled analgesia (PCA)^{1,3}
 - Higher loading dose, bolus and 4 h limit in opioid tolerant
- Baseline infusion = daily maintenance dose
 - Equianalgesic conversion – adjust for incomplete cross tolerance
 - Heroin users?

OPIOIDS: REGIONAL

- Neuraxial: epidural or intrathecal
 - Reduces opioid requirements
 - Increases perfusion
 - Caution with fixed opioid/anesthetic combinations
- Regional anesthesia
- Local infiltration with anesthetics



<http://www.pain-europe.com/articles/postoperative-pain-a-review-of-evidence-for-multimodal-analgesia-epidural-analgesia-perineural-techniques-and-infiltrative-techniques>

OPIOIDS: DISCHARGE³

- Maintenance
 - If converted to another opioid, restart maintenance opioid
 - Reduce opioid dose gradually down to baseline
- Chronic pain
 - If surgery provides complete pain relief, opioids should be slowly tapered
 - 50% on first day, 25% thereafter
- Outpatient visit with patient’s addiction specialist or pain clinic follow-up, respectively (or both)

QUIZ QUESTION 3

- Which of the following is true in patients who are opioid tolerant?
 - A. Regional anesthetic and analgesic interventions are effective treatment options
 - B. All have abuse or misuse issues
 - C. “Maintenance” opioids cannot be prescribed during an inpatient stay without a special license
 - D. They typically have higher pain thresholds than opioid naive patients

NONOPIOIDS: NSAIDS

- Recommended (+ acetaminophen) in patients with no contraindications^{1,2}
- DC preoperatively?
 - Celecoxib 200-400 mg recommended pre-op, 200 mg bid postop¹
- Parenteral options: ketorolac (diclofenac, ibuprofen)
 - Ketorolac reduces opioid-induced AEs⁶

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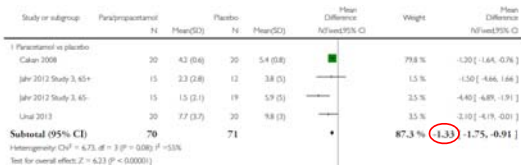
NONOPIOIDS: NSAIDS

- AEs¹
 - Bleeding, esp GI
 - Renal
 - Cardiovascular
 - Contraindicated post CABG
 - Bone non-union?
 - Anastomotic leak in intestinal surgery?

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NONOPIOIDS: ACETAMINOPHEN

- 500-1000 mg po or iv q6h
- IV reduces opioid requirements
 - Expensive, not superior to po^{1,7}



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ADJUNCTS: GABAPENTINOIDS

- Gabapentin and pregabalin
- Recommended in opioid-tolerant¹
- Only available orally
 - Gabapentin 600 mg one time pre-op; 300 mg post-op (single or multiple doses)
- Mixed efficacy data: opioid sparing ↓ pain⁸
- Good safety profile

ADJUNCTS: KETAMINE

- Often reserved for high risk patients¹
- NMDA antagonist
- Subanesthetic doses
 - 0.5 mg/kg preop; then 0.1 mg/kg/h
- Reduces pain and opioid requirements; may reduce PPSP^{9,10}
- Hallucinations, nightmares: may pre-treat with benzodiazepine
- Controlled substance (C-III)



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ADJUNCTS: LIDOCAINE

- Patch
 - Can be cut to size
 - 12 h on, 12 h off
 - Very limited data for acute pain¹¹
- Infusion
 - Efficacy in abdominal surgery¹
 - Induction dose of 1.5 mg/kg; then 2 mg/kg/h intraop
 - DC on unit/floor



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OUR PATIENT: PHARMACY RECS

- Continue methadone (7 mg bid if IV) and increase PCA dose
- Recommended ketamine infusion ± lidocaine patch ± oral acetaminophen ± gabapentin
- If NSAID prescribed:
 - Consider celecoxib if oral tolerated
 - Hold for 24 h before surgery.
 - DC postop if epidural/intrathecal placed?²

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OUR PATIENT: PHARMACY RECS

- Monitor: sedation, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation, other opioid-induced AEs
- Add bowel regimen, prn meds for nausea, itch
- Monitor platelets (DC NSAID if < 75K) and signs of bleeding
- Monitor BUN/serum creatinine

Ultimately, the decision was made to postpone surgery.

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DEVELOPING GUIDELINES AND POLICY: AMBULATORY

- Refer before elective surgery
 - Consult with patient; agree on plan
 - Stopping or continuing analgesics
 - What to expect and advocate for postop
 - Communicate plan with inpatient team
 - Follow up with patient post-discharge
- If outpatient only, follow similar principles to inpatient

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DEVELOPING GUIDELINES AND POLICY: INPATIENT

- Algorithm for opioid-dependent patients based on:
 - Acute pain complaint?
 - Chronic opioid use or misuse?
 - If misuse, is patient in opioid maintenance program?
 - If not, does patient wish to enroll in program?
- Standing naloxone orders with discharge opioid prescriptions

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INPATIENT TREATMENT GUIDELINE EXAMPLE

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SUMMARY

- Opioid dependent patients tend to have lower pain thresholds
- Multimodal analgesia is key:
 - Opioid: maintain baseline dose and expect to give higher doses of additional opioid
 - Consider PCA, neuraxial and local analgesia
 - Nonopioids and adjuncts have varying efficacy
- Individualize care before, during and after surgery or event

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THANK YOU!!
QUESTIONS?

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