



# New Trends in Pain Pharmacotherapy

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## What do we want for pain medications?



- Efficacy → High
- Side effect → No
- Safety → Good
- Patient's satisfaction → Excellent





**Safety >= Efficacy > Satisfaction > Side effect**  
**Or**  
**Efficacy >= Safety > Satisfaction > Side effects**  
**Or**  
**Satisfaction > Efficacy > Safety > Side effects**  
**Or**  
**Side effects > Efficacy > Safety > Satisfaction**  
**Or**

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**An audit of postoperative intravenous patient-controlled analgesia with morphine: Evolution over the last decade**

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<p><b>ARTICLE INFO</b></p> <p><i>Article history:</i>          Received 12 August 2007          Received in revised form 24 April 2008          Accepted 21 May 2008          Available online 7 July 2008</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i>          Analgesia          Patient-controlled          Medical audit          Morphine          Pain          Post-operative</p>	<p><b>ABSTRACT</b></p> <p>The development and refinement of an acute pain service based on the increased availability of clinical evidence would be expected to improve the quality of postoperative pain control. This report reviews the application of postoperative patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) using intravenous morphine in a single institution between 2002 and 2005. More than 5000 patients were evaluated and the results were compared with a similar study performed 10 years ago. Prescription of PCA had increased by more than three-fold. Morphine consumption from post-operative day 1 to day 3 (19.1 vs. 26.1, 8.6 vs. 18.1 and 4.5 vs. 19.0 µg/kg/h, respectively), demand-to-delivery ratio (1.35–1.76 vs. 2.4–2.8) and the incidence of respiratory depression (0.06% vs. 2%) were significantly reduced (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>), but there was no improvement in pain relief. A substantial proportion of patients still experienced postoperative nausea (47%) and vomiting (18.5%) despite a reduction in morphine consumption. Most patients ranked PCA as good and only 0.3% were dissatisfied. We conclude that, in our institution over the last decade, PCA has become more popular for postoperative pain management but with no attendant improvement in pain relief or reduction in side effects. Using PCA alone may result in poorer quality postoperative analgesia. Our findings add to the growing body of evidence that postoperative pain management has not substantially improved despite increased adoption of acute pain services.</p> <p>© 2008 European Federation of Chapters of the International Association for the Study of Pain. Published by Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.</p>
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- Safety improved
- Opioid consumption much reduced
- Side effect deteriorated
- No improvement in pain relief



**Safety is the first consideration.  
Reduced opioid consumption  
without improvement in pain  
relief?**



Good safety + No side effect





# Placebo May Do!



# Beliefs





# Pre-emptive and Preventive Analgesia



# From Pre-emptive to Preventive Analgesia

Ester M, Pogatzki-Zahn and Peter K Zahn.  
Current Opinion in Anaesthesiology 2006, 19:551-555



- Timing of analgesic treatment → not important
- Duration and efficacy of analgesic intervention → important
- Preventive analgesia with multimodal analgesia → more important



## Multimodal Analgesia





# Multimodal Analgesia for Controlling Acute Postoperative Pain

Askkumar Buvanendra and Jeffrey S Kroin.  
Current Opinion in Anaesthesiology 2009, 22;588-593



- Conclusions on multimodal analgesia shows variable degree of success even using the same adjuvant medication.
- Advantages:
  - Reduce consumption of opioid and related side effects
  - Enhance recovery
  - Good for ambulatory surgery



# Conclusion

Continuing Need to Explore New  
Drug Combinations to Achieve the  
Goals of Multimodal Analgesia.



**PROSPECT: a practical method for formulating  
evidence-based expert recommendations for the  
management of postoperative pain**

E.A.M. Neugebauer, R.C. Wilkinson, H. Kehlet, S.A. Schug (PROSPECT Working Group).  
Surf Endosc (2007) 21: 1047-1053





- The Procedure-specific Postoperative Pain Management (PROSPECT) Working Group
- Recommendations for postoperative pain management
- Supporting evidence from systematic literature reviews and related procedures
- Different combinations for different surgeries



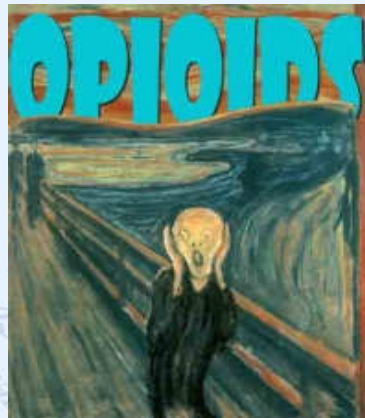
## Old Drugs



THIS STUFF IS A SNAP FOR ME. I USED TO BE A PHARMACIST.



## Chronic Opioids Therapy (COT) on Chronic Non Cancer Pain Patients (CNCPP)



## Concerns of using COT



- ✓ Labeling effect;
- ✓ Cultural belief;
- ✓ Efficacy of opioids;
- ✓ Side effect of opioids;
- ✓ Addiction and tolerance;
- ✓ Diversion of prescribed opioids;
- ✓ **Legal issues (inappropriate prescription of opioids or inadequate pain control)**

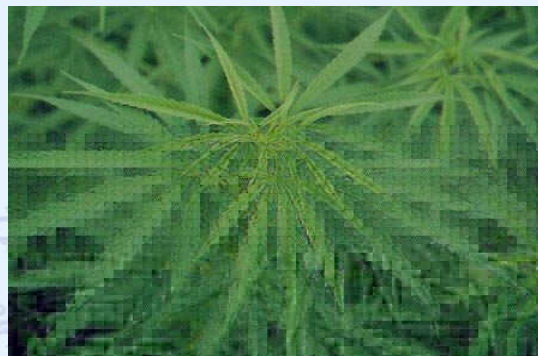


- COT is more common in western countries than in Hong Kong.
- COT can be useful for a selected group of CNCP patients.
- Guidelines are present at different regions.
- Opioid consent/ contrast

*Future Direction in Hong Kong??*



## **Cannabinoids**





- Act via neuronal pre-synaptic CB<sub>1</sub>R to ↓ neurotransmitter release
  - Potent analgesics in animal models
  - May mediate a physiological anti-nociceptive ‘tone’
  - Microglial activation and peripheral inflammation may be down-regulated
  - Synergism with opioid analgesics



- Psychoactivity may be avoided by using combinations of CB<sub>2</sub>R agonists and peripheral CB<sub>1</sub>R agonists which do not cross the blood-brain barrier
- Many clinical trials have provided negative or equivocal results
- Strongest evidence of benefit is for central neuropathic pain in MS



# Ketamine



- Inexpensive
- Invaluable in developing/ developed world
- Phencyclidine derivative described in 1965
- NMDA antagonist
- Inhibits hyperalgesia and allodynia



- Racemic mixture: S(+) and R(-)
- S (+):
  - 4 times more affinity for the NMDA receptors
  - Binds to mu and kappa opioid receptors
  - Higher potency, fewer side effects and shorter recovery time



## **Perioperative Ketamine for Acute Postoperative Pain (Review)**

Bell RF, Dahl JB, Moore RA, Kalso E.

Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2006 Jan 25;(1):CD004603. Review.



- Sub-anaesthetic dose of ketamine for acute postoperative pain:
  - Reduce rescue analgesic requirement
  - Reduce pain intensity
  - Reduce 24 hour PCA morphine consumption
  - Reduce postoperative nausea and vomiting
- Longer infusion and optimal dose?
- Anti-inflammatory effect



## **Ketamine for Chronic Non-cancer Pain**

Rae Frances Bell. Pain 2009; 141:210-214



- Sub-anaesthetic ketamine can improve short term relief to refractory neuropathic pain in some patients
- No evidence to support for long term use in chronic pain patients
- Long term safety issues
- Use only after careful evaluation of risk/benefit of individual patient



- Rapid acting routes should be avoided
- Future Clinical Trials:
  - Long term treatment
  - Benefit of oral route
  - Low dose ketamine as adjuvant
  - Optimal dose, route of administration and duration of treatment





# Drugs in New Routes



## Patient Controlled Analgesia

- Patient controlled analgesia
  - Effective for cancer pain control
  - Portable pump available
  - Good for incident pain, breakthrough pain, pain related to movement



- New technique of patient controlled transdermal analgesic administration:

## Inotophoresis

- Withdrawn from market recently

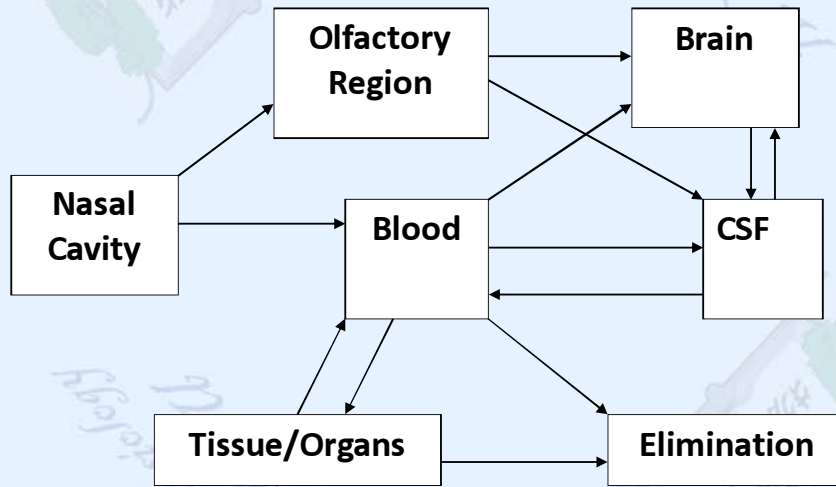


## Dexmedetomidine

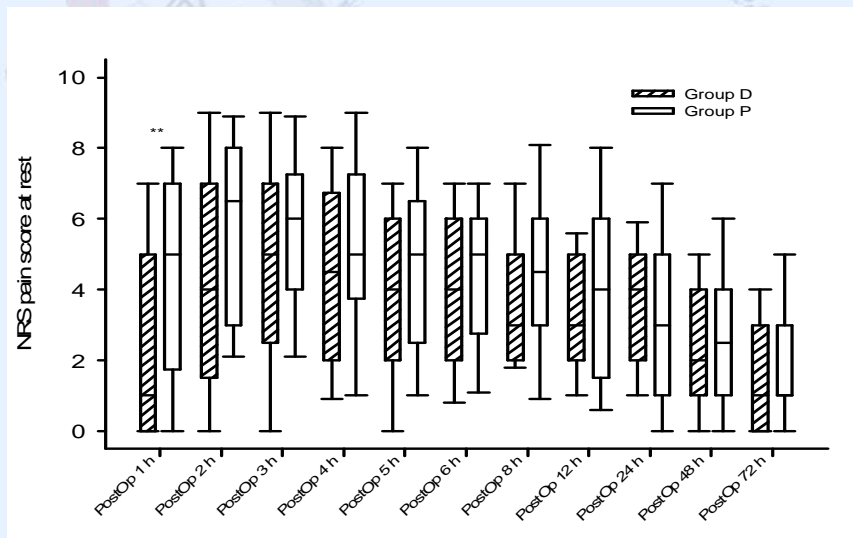
- Use primarily in hypertension
- Recently used in anaesthesia and pain management
- Alpha 2: alpha 1 receptor ratio: 1600:1
- Sedative effect and analgesic effect from action on locus ceruleus
- Pain relief not conclusive
- Opioid sparing effect



# Intranasal Dexmedetomidine



## Analgesic effect of Intranasal Dexmedetomidine in Third Molar Surgery Under Local Anaesthesia



PostOperative  
12-hour AUC

$3.6 \pm 1.9$

$4.8 \pm 1.9$

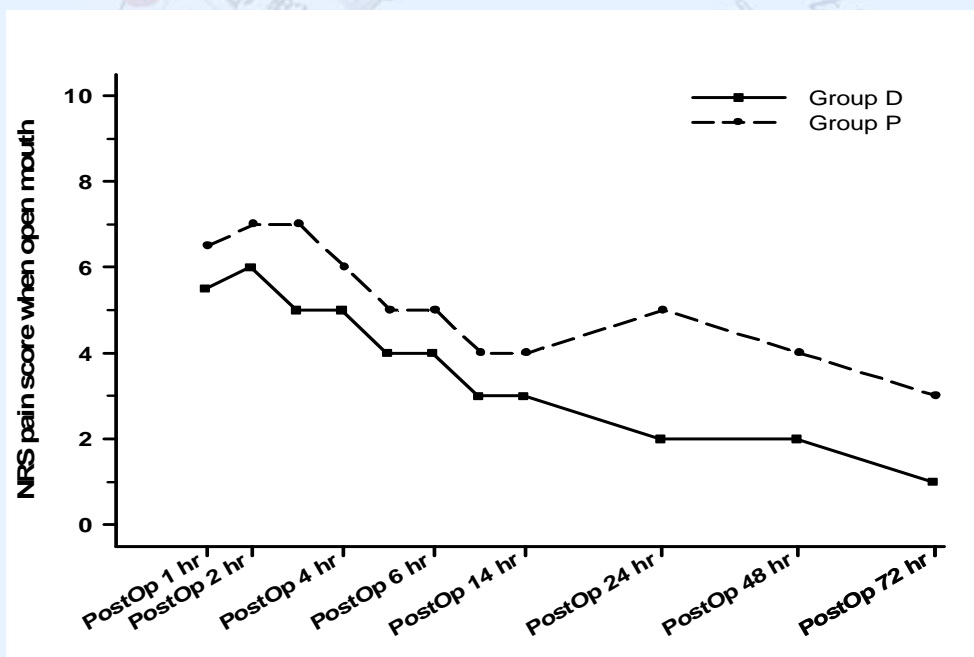
0.017\*\*



# Peripheral Dexmedetomidine



- Mechanism of actions:
  - Dorsal horn of spinal cord
  - Depress nerve fiber action potential
  - Reduce the release of nor-adrenaline at the nerve endings





## Analgesic effect of Peripheral Dexmedetomidine in Third Molar Surgery Under General Anaesthesia

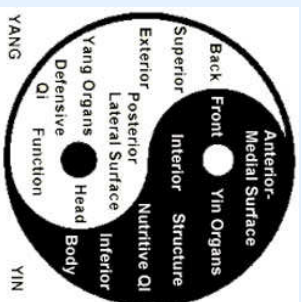
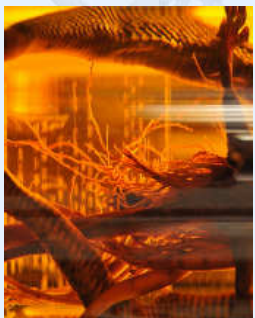


	Group D (n=33)	Group P (n=33)	<i>p</i> value
<b>NRS pain at rest</b>			
AUC NRS 1-72 h	168.2±133.7 (0-482.6)	212.2±136.1 (7.0-457.8)	0.1455
<b>NRS pain during mouth opening</b>			
AUC NRS 1-72 h	198.2±145.9 (0-491.5)	272.8±135.0 (43.5-580)	0.0278**



## Traditional Chinese Medicine





**SCHOOL OF CHINESE MEDICINE**  
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**香港大學中醫藥學院**



香港中文大學中醫藥學院  
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**Chinese Medicine**

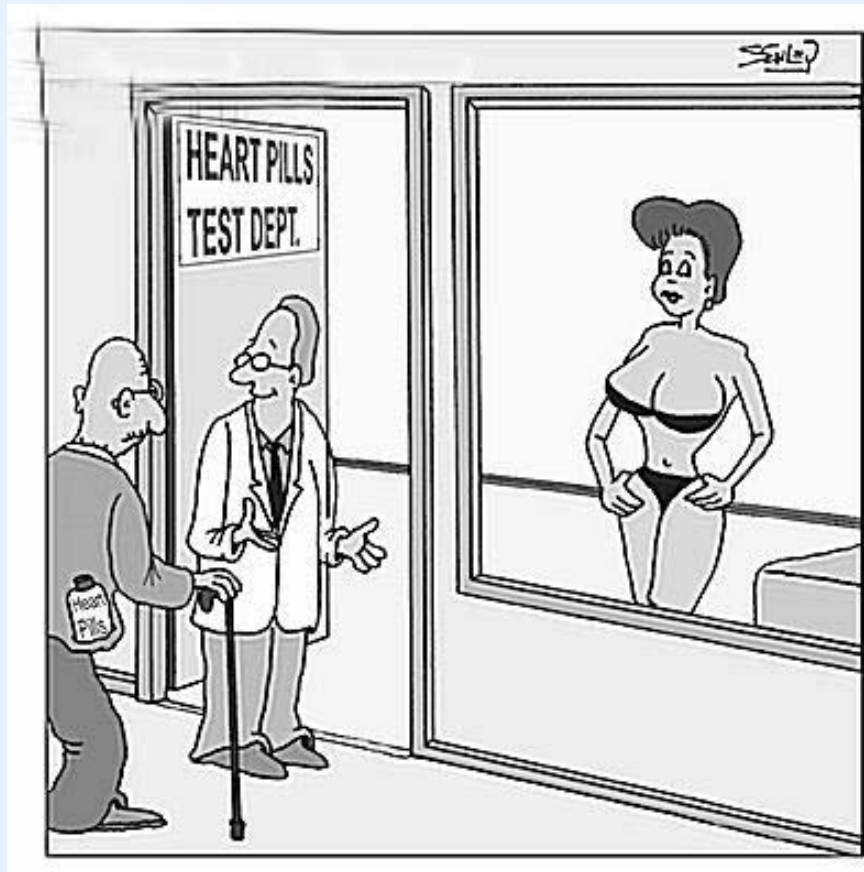


**Welcome Message**

Chinese Medicine Council of Hong Kong

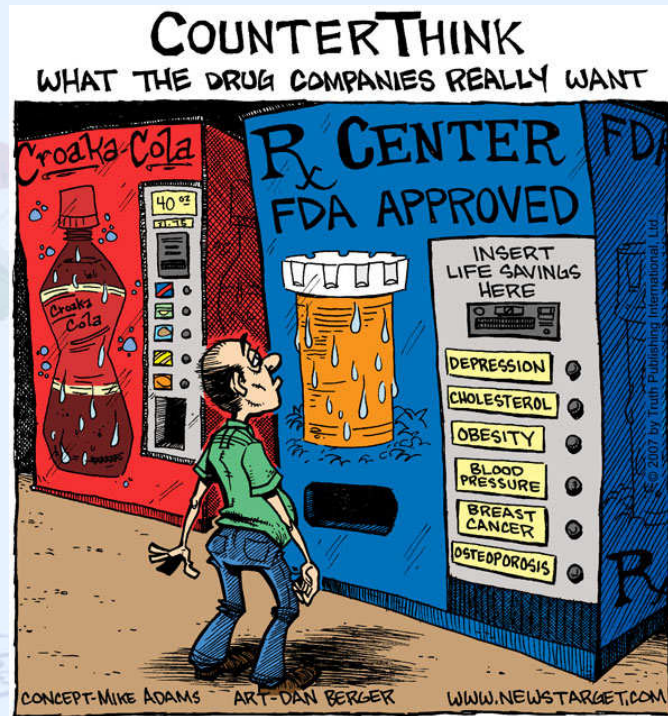


# Pharmaceutical Support





“Do a double-blind test. Give the new drug to rich patients and a placebo to the poor. No sense getting their hopes up. They couldn't afford it even if it works.”



Find a new drug again if there is money left!





Goodbye mate!  
I may reappear in the  
future...



**Thank You**

## Seeking the Dragon Pearl

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists  
Faculty of Pain Medicine  
The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists



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