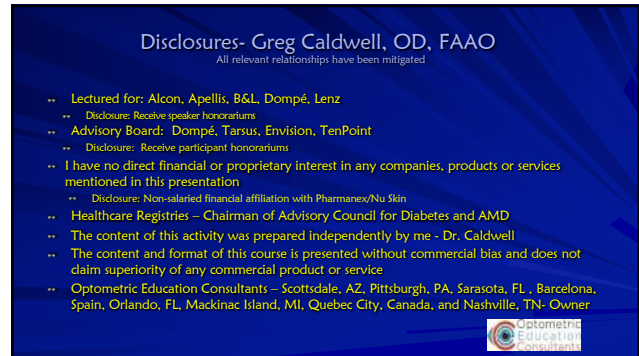
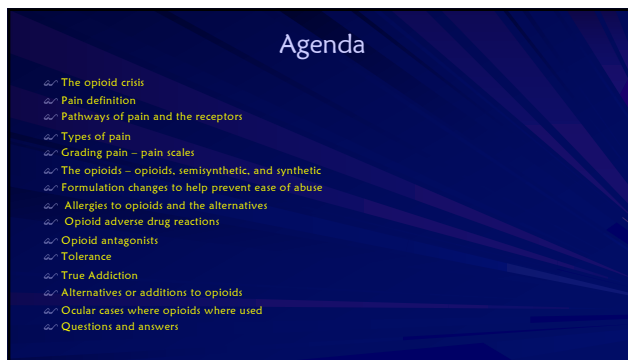




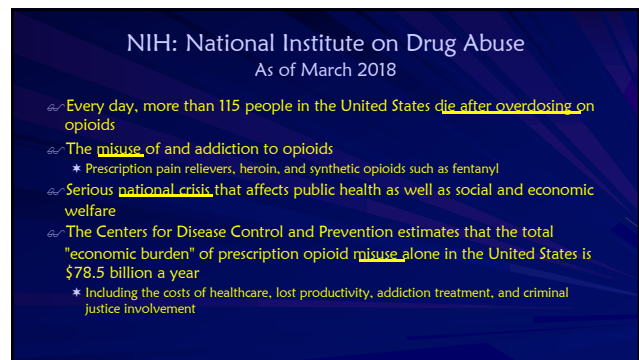
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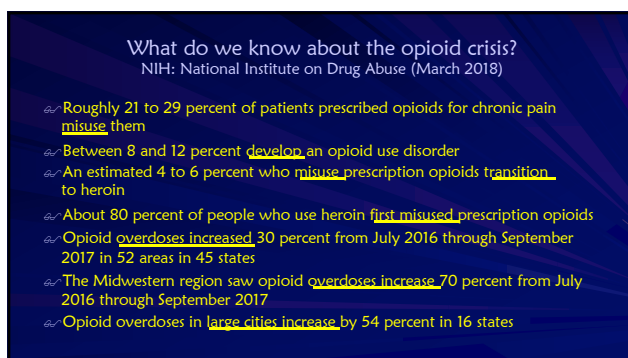
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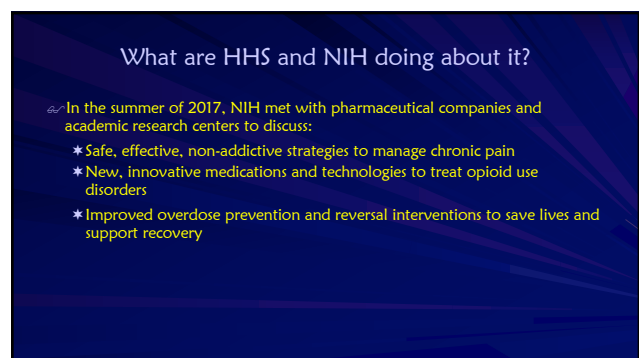
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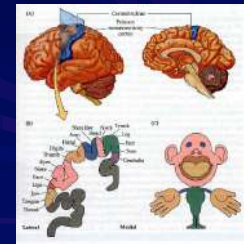
Pain



- ~ Pain is very important to our survival
- ~ Pain is defined as the perception of a noxious (harmful) stimulus
- ~ Pain can also occur in the absence of injury or long after an injury has healed
- ~ Pain provides humans with information about:
 - * Tissue-damaging stimuli
 - * Thus enables them to protect themselves from greater damage
- ~ Pain is protective in two ways:
 - * It removes a person from stimuli that cause tissue damage through withdrawal reflexes
 - * Learning associated with pain causes the person to avoid stimuli that previously caused pain
- ~ Pain often initiates the search for medical assistance and helps us to pinpoint the underlying cause of disease

8

Somatosensory System



- ~ Diverse sensory system composed of the receptors and processing centers to produce the sensory modalities:
 - * Touch
 - * Temperature
 - * Proprioception (body position)
 - * Nociception (pain)
- ~ The system reacts to diverse stimuli using different receptors
 - * Thermoreceptors
 - * Nociceptors
 - * Mechanoreceptors
 - * Chemoreceptors

9

Pain

- ~ Pain is an unpleasant sensory experience associated with actual or potential damage to the body, or perception of such damage. It is a subjective experience
- ~ Subjective experience
- ~ Memories of events associated with extreme pain persist for a long time
- ~ Mental state is known to have a powerful influence over pain
 - * An athlete may not notice a twisted ankle until after the competition is over.
 - * Soldiers in battle often continue to fight even after sustaining serious injury, and they may report afterwards that they experienced no pain until after battle
- ~ The scientific explanation for this phenomenon is that the brain not only receives pain messages, but also has a descending system of neurons that suppresses pain messages

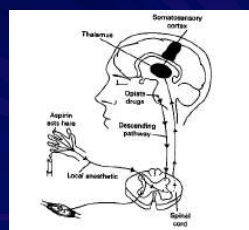
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Pharmacology of Pain Management

- ~ **Peripheral acting agents**
 - * Prevent sensitization of receptors to substance P
 - * Example: NSAIDs, ibuprofen
- ~ **Signal inhibiting agents**
 - * Prevent pain signal from travelling to cortex
 - * Example: Anesthetics, proparacaine
- ~ **Central acting agents**
 - * Act on pain perception centers in the cortex (CNS)
 - * Example: opioids/narcotics

11

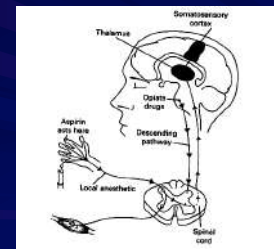
Descending Pathway



- ~ This system inhibits cells in the spinal cord that transmit pain signals
- ~ A pathway for natural pain modulation
- ~ Opioids that occur naturally such as the endorphins are important neurotransmitters in some of these descending pathways

12

Peripheral versus Central Acting



13

Four Major Types of Pain

- ✓ Nociceptive Pain
 - * Typically the result of tissue injury
- ✓ Inflammatory Pain
 - * An abnormal inflammation caused by an inappropriate response by the body's immune system
- ✓ Neuropathic Pain
 - * Pain caused by nerve irritation
- ✓ Functional Pain
 - * Pain without obvious origin but can cause pain

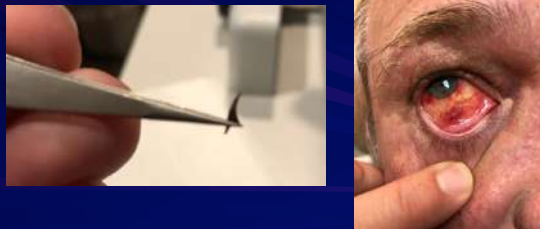
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Nociceptive Pain- I was hit in the eye with a tree branch, and I think my eye is scratched



15

Nociceptive Pain- Healing Well



16

Pain is Complex and Confusing

Nociceptive Pain and Neuropathic Pain

17

February 9, 2022



18

Zoster



19

February 16, 2022



20

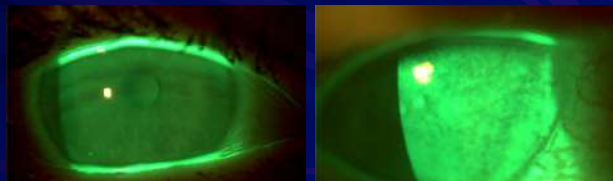
Not to Confused with

Neurotrophic

21

Stain Without Pain!

Actually, the OS is More Comfortable – What?



22

Corneal Sensitivity Testing



23

Cornea Sensitive Testing – Another Patient



24

Cornea Sensitive Testing – Yet Another Patient



25

Neuropathic Pain Drug Treatment Options

- ~ Not the focus of today's discussion...
- ~ Why is this relevant?
- ~ Adjuvants – means “add on” medications
 - * Some of them have addiction potential
 - Anti-seizure medications that address nerve damage/inflammation
 - MOA: work on the GABA system – similar to benzodiazepines (ex. Xanax)
 - Gabapentin (Neurontin) – controlled substance in multiple states
 - Pregabalin (Lyrica) – controlled substance in all 50 states
 - Anti-anxiety and sleep medications
 - Zolpidem (Ambien)
 - Alprazolam (Xanax), Lorazepam (Ativan), Diazepam (Valium)

26

Neuropathic Pain Chronic Pain

- ~ Trigeminal neuralgia
- ~ Post-herpetic neuralgia
- ~ Diabetic neuropathy
- ~ Phantom limb pain following an amputation
- ~ Multiple sclerosis
- ~ Pain following chemotherapy
- ~ HIV infection
- ~ Alcoholism
- ~ Tension headache
- ~ Migraine
- ~ Fibromyalgia
- ~ Low back pain
- ~ Tricyclic antidepressants for pain
 - * The most effective type of antidepressant used for pain
 - * Imipramine Tofranil
 - * Clomipramine Anafranil
 - * Nortriptyline Pamelor
 - * Desipramine Norpramin
- ~ Anticonvulsants for pain
 - * Gabapentin Neurontin
 - * Topiramate Topamax
 - * Pregabalin Lyrica
 - * Carbamazepine Tegretol
 - * Oxcarbazepine Trileptal

27

Acute versus Chronic Pain

- ~ **Acute**
 - * Where we are most of the time as optometrists
 - * Acetaminophen
 - * NSAIDS
 - * Opioid
- ~ **Chronic**
 - * Acetaminophen
 - * NSAIDS
 - * Opioid
 - * Tricyclic antidepressants
 - * Gabapentin (Neurontin)

28

Goals of Pain “Do” Differ

The goal for managing **acute pain** is to keep the patient as comfortable as possible while minimizing the **adverse drug reactions (ADRs)** from the pain meds

The goals for managing **chronic pain** are to keep the patient as comfortable as possible (this may not mean the patient is pain free) and integrating the patient back into a “normal life” and activities of daily living, while minimizing the ADRs from the pain meds

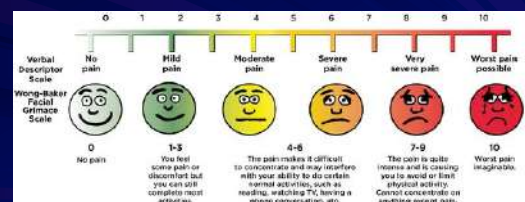
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Pain Assessments and Scales

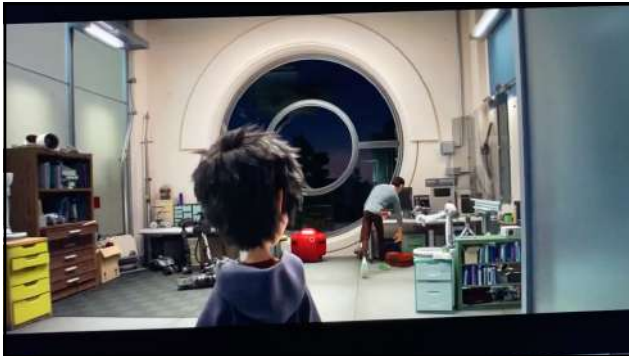
- ~ Adds objective data to a patient's feeling of pain
 - * It is a subjective problem to assess!
 - * Remember...no patient should needlessly suffer!
- ~ “Does the injury or wound or diagnosis fit the patient's presentation?”
 - * It is important to be able to assess the degree of pain in a patient

30

Combination Pain Scale



31



32

Nociceptive Pain Drug Treatment Options

Groups of analgesics

- ★ Non-opioids
 - Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
 - NSAIDs (ibuprofen, naproxen sodium)
 - Glucocorticosteroids (methylprednisolone, prednisone)
- ★ Opioids
 - Codeine (Tylenol with codeine)
 - Hydrocodone (Vicodin)
 - Tramadol (Ultram)

33

Controlled Substance Schedules

Schedule I – not considered to be medically necessary, research only

- ★ Heroin
- ★ Marijuana
 - Recreational marijuana and unauthorized products
 - High potential for abuse - no accepted federal medical use
- ★ LSD
- ★ Mushrooms
- ★ Ecstasy

Schedule II – more likely to be abused (as compared to Schedule III, IV, V)

- ★ **Opioids, AKA “Narcotics”**
 - Oxycodone (OxyContin)
 - Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lorcet, Norco)
 - Morphine (MSContin, MSR)
 - Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
 - Methadone
 - Fentanyl (Duragesic)
- ★ ADD/ADHD meds:
 - Methylphenidate (Ritalin)
 - Mixed amphetamine salts (Adderall)

34

Controlled Substance Schedules

Schedule III - Safer, less likely to be abused (as compared to Schedule II)

- ★ Combination products with APAP or ASA (codeine)
- ★ Esketamine – nasal spray for treatment resistant depression
- ★ State-licensed medical marijuana
 - Medical Marijuana - moderate-to-low potential for dependence
- ★ Hemp - Exempt from the Controlled Substances Act if delta-9 THC concentration is 0.3% or lower

Schedule IV – Safer, less likely to be abused (as compared to Schedule II and III)

- ★ Tramadol (Ultram)
- ★ Benzodiazepines (lorazepam, diazepam, oxazepam)
- ★ Sleep agents (zolpidem, etc.)

Schedule V – safest, least likely to be abused

- ★ Expectorants with codeine

35

State-By-State Restriction

~ Marijuana

- ★ Still considered to be “C1” or “Schedule I”
- ★ Federal government “ignores” it

~ Hydrocodone products

- ★ C3 to C2 as of 2014
- ★ “hydrocodone exception”
 - NJ, etc.

36

Opioids “narcotics”

- ~ Mainstay of therapy for the treatment of pain
- ~ NO maximum daily dose limitation
- ~ Useful for acute and chronic pain
- ~ They mimic the actions of endogenous opioid compounds:
 - ★ Enkephalins, dynorphins, endorphins

37

Mechanisms of Action

★ Relieve pain and induce euphoria by binding to the opioid receptors (mu, kappa, delta) in the brain and spinal cord:

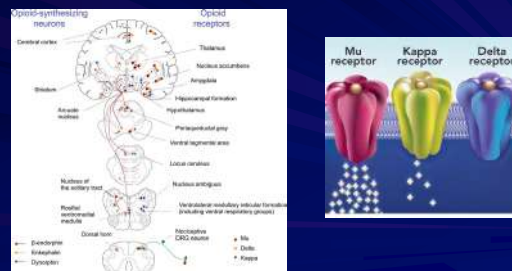
□ **Mu, kappa, delta** receptors in other places = ADRs

- Mu: analgesia, **euphoria**, miosis, sedation, constipation, respiratory depression, addiction
- Kappa: analgesia, diuresis, sedation, miosis, **dysphoria**, psychomimetic effects, respiratory depression, constipation
- Delta: analgesia

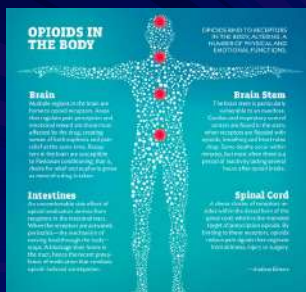
Opioid Receptors	Effects
μ	Analgesia, euphoric analgesia, respiratory depression, miosis, constipation, respiratory depression, addiction
κ	Analgesia, diuresis, sedation, miosis, dysphoria, psychomimetic effects, respiratory depression, constipation
δ	Analgesia

38

Mu, Delta, and Kappa Receptors



39



40

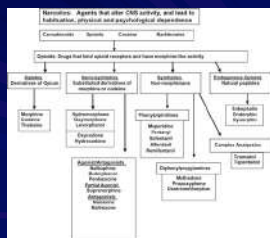
	mu (μ , MOP or OP3)	delta (δ , DOP or OP2)	kappa (κ , KOP or OP1)
Endogenous peptides			
Endorphin	+	+++	—
Leu-enkephalin	++	+++	—
Met-enkephalin	++	+	+++
Dynorphin	++	—	—
Opiate drugs			
Pure agonists			
Morphine, codeine, oxycodone, dextropropoxyphene	+++	+	+
Meperidine	+++	—	—
Pelidone	++	+	+
Etorphine, buprenorphine	+++	+++	+++
Partial/mixed agonists			
Fentanyl, sufentanil	+++	+	—
Pentazocine, ketocyclazocine	X	+	++
Nalbuphine	X	—	(++)
Nalorphine	XX	—	(++)
Buprenorphine	(+++)	—	XX
Antagonists			
Naloxone	XXX	X	XX
Naltrexone, diprenorphine	XXX	X	XXX

+: agonist activity; (): partial agonist activity; X: antagonist activity; —: weak or no activity

41

Opioid Drugs That Bind to Opioid Receptors

- ~ **Opiates**
 - ★ Morphine, codeine
- ~ **Semi-synthetic**
 - ★ Oxycodone, hydrocodone
 - ★ Naloxone, Naltrexone
- ~ **Synthetic**
 - ★ Non-morphinans
 - Fentanyl
 - Methadone
 - Tramadol



42

Formulations

- ~ **Immediate release**
 - ★ AKA short-acting
 - ★ Uses: acute pain
 - Percocet, Tylenol w/ codeine, tramadol, Vicodin
- ~ **Controlled release:**
 - ★ AKA long-acting: sustained release: extended release
 - ★ Uses: basal control of chronic pain
 - ★ Typically NOT for acute pain nor in opioid naive patients!
 - OxyContin, MS Contin, Duragesic patch

43

Morphine Products

- Standard for comparison of other agents
- Used for severe pain
- Multiple Brand/Trade names for long-acting morphine products, with very diverse delivery and release systems
 - MSIR** (IR caps) (q 3-4 hours prn)
 - MS Contin** (CR tabs) (q 8-12 hours)
 - Kadian** (CR caps) (q 12-24 hours)
 - Avinza** (CR caps) (q 24 hours)

44

Hydromorphone Products

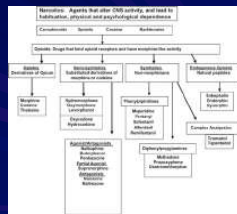
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)** tablets – immediate release
 - Take 1 – 2 tablets every 4 to 6 hours as needed for pain
- Hydromorphone ER (Exalgo)** tablets – extended release
 - Used for severe pain
- Very potent
 - Compare to morphine
 - 30mg PO morphine = 8mg PO hydromorphone



45

Codeine-Based

- Codeine – C3; Schedule III**
 - Naturally occurring opioid
- Hydrocodone – C2; Schedule II**
 - Semi-synthetic derived from codeine
 - More potent than codeine
 - Retains cough suppression
- Oxycodone – C2; Schedule II**
 - Semi-synthetic derived from codeine
 - Pain only, **no** cough suppression



46

Codeine tablets

- WEAK** analgesic: 30mg PO morphine = 200mg PO codeine
 - Weakest of morphine, hydrocodone, and oxycodone
- Add acetaminophen/aspirin – Schedule III**
 - Tylenol #2 = 300 mg acetaminophen & 15 mg codeine
 - Tylenol #3** = 300 mg acetaminophen & 30 mg codeine
 - Tylenol #4 = 300 mg acetaminophen & 60 mg codeine
- 1 – 2 tablets every 4 – 6 hours as needed for pain
 - Not to exceed **3 grams** of APAP per day
- Add expectorant – Schedule V

47

Oxycodone Products

- Long-Acting, Extended-Release**
 - OxyContin**
- Immediate Release; short-acting tablets**
 - OxyIR** (IR cap)
 - Roxicodone** solution
- Combination with acetaminophen
 - Percocet** and Endocet (oxycodone/APAP dose)
- Take 1 – 2 tablets by mouth every 4 to 6 hours as needed for pain
 - Not to exceed 3 grams of APAP per day

48

Oxycodone Products

- Percodan** (oxy + asa) – no one uses this product
- Percocet**
 - Oxycodone is combination with acetaminophen
 - Various strengths
- 30mg PO morphine = 20mg PO oxycodone

49

Hydrocodone Products

- As of August 2014, hydrocodone products are ALL CII
 - Moved from schedule III to schedule II
- Immediate-Release Products
 - Hydrocodone 7.5 mg + IBU 200 mg
 - Vicoprofen
 - Hydrocodone + acetaminophen:
 - Vicodin = 5/300; 7.5/300; 10/300
 - Lortab = 2.5/300, 5/300, 7.5/300, 10/300
 - Norco = 5/325, 7.5/325, 10/325
- Take 1 – 2 tabs/caps every 4 – 6 hours as needed for pain
 - Not to exceed 3 grams of APAP per day
- 30mg PO morphine = 20mg PO hydrocodone

50

Tramadol – another great choice

Tramadol (Ultram) tabs Tramadol with 325 mg APAP (Ultracet), Tramadol ER tabs

- tramadol (50 – 100 mg q 4 – 6 hours; do not exceed 400 mg/day)
 - Dual action: μ receptors & inhibits neuronal uptake of serotonin & norepinephrine
- Lowers seizure threshold; increases serotonin levels
 - Watch drug interactions with other meds that ↑ serotonin
 - Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs): fluoxetine/Prozac
 - Migraine meds ("triptans"): sumatriptan/Imitrex
- Not controlled
 - AS OF AUGUST 2014, NOW A C4 (Schedule IV)
 - "tramies" = abuse potential; helps decrease withdrawal symptoms

51

Miscellaneous

- Fentanyl Patch (Duragesic)
 - MOST potent opioid
 - Black Box Warning against use in acute pain and in opioid naïve patients
- Meperidine (Demerol)
 - ACTIVE metabolites = undesirable
- Methadone
 - Typically reserved for morphine/codeine allergic patients

52

Methadone Tidbits

- Chronic pain or opioid abuse deterrent
- 2-phase elimination
 - Alpha phase = 8 hrs
 - Offers pain control
 - Beta phase = 16+ hrs
 - Mitigates withdrawal symptoms
- Patient 1: On a short-acting pain med = likely being used to treat chronic pain
 - Twice per day dosing
- Patient 2: On methadone ONLY; lower doses
 - Once daily dosing

53

Analgesic Medications in Pregnancy

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
 - Analgesic of choice in pregnancy
- NSAIDs should generally be avoided in pregnancy
 - Despite Category B
 - Miscarriage risk in first trimester
 - Ibuprofen
 - Second trimester use is likely safe
 - Ibuprofen
 - Third trimester avoid ALL NSAIDs
 - Premature Ductus Arteriosus closure in third trimester
- Opioids should be avoided in pregnancy unless there is no viable alternative
 - First trimester use is associated with heart defects and spina bifida

54

Opioid Allergies

- If a patient states "codeine allergic" ask appropriate questions
 - "You have indicated that you have an allergy to codeine, can you describe what happens when you take codeine?"
- If a patient is truly allergic to codeine
 - Most likely allergic to morphine, hydromorphone, oxycodone, hydrocodone, and tramadol
- And...if they had an opioid IV after surgery, then their "reaction" may have been due to histamine release
 - NOT always an allergic reaction



55

Opioid Allergies

- Do you know what a patient can take if true codeine allergy?
 - Fentanyl
 - Methadone
 - Meperidine
- Assessing "allergies" appropriately helps practitioner sort through Actual allergy potential and "placebo allergies"
 - Fear versus drug seeking

56

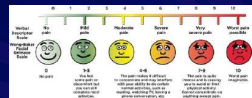


57

Specific Medications Using Numeric Pain Scale

Mild pain = 1 – 3

- Acetaminophen (APAP; Tylenol)
- Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)
- Naproxen sodium (Aleve)
- Tramadol (Ultram) - low dose



Moderate pain = 4 – 6

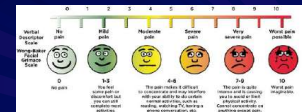
- Tramadol (Ultram) – mid to high dosing
- Tylenol with codeine (Tylenol #3)
- Acetaminophen with oxycodone (Percocet)
- Acetaminophen with hydrocodone (Vicodin) – lower dosing

58

Specific Medications Using Numeric Pain Scale

Severe pain = 7 – 10

- Tylenol with hydrocodone
 - Vicodin, etc. – higher doses
- Tylenol with oxycodone
 - Percocet, etc. – higher doses
- Morphine (MSIR)
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
- Fentanyl (Duragesic patch; Actiq lozenge on a stick)



59

“Ceiling Effect”

- Commonly used when discussing *analgesics*
- Phenomenon in which a drug reaches a maximum effect
 - Increasing the drug dosage does not increase its effectiveness
- Central Nervous System Agents
 - No ceiling effect
 - Part of the problem
- Peripheral Nervous System Agents
 - Has a ceiling effect

60

Tolerance

- Escalation of dose to maintain effect
 - Analgesia or euphoria
 - Happens to everyone
- Regarding euphoria = may be life threatening because respiratory depression does not show much tolerance

61

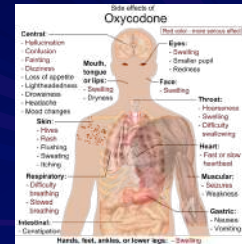
Opioid Effects/ADRs

- ~ CONSTIPATION-anticipate it!
- * **All** patients should receive a stool softener + stimulant
- * Combo: docusate + senna/Senna+S
- ~ Sedation
- ~ Euphoria – mu receptors
- ~ Dysphoria/Hallucinations – kappa receptors
- ~ Pruritis – allergy versus normal release of histamine
- ~ Nausea/vomiting
 - * Triggers CTZ
 - * Codeine “allergy”

62

Opioid Effects/ADRs

- ~ Confusion
- ~ Miosis
- ~ Respiratory depression
 - * This is what kills a patient
 - * **Mixing opioids with other CNS depressants**
 - Alcohol
 - Benzodiazepines
 - Muscle relaxers
 - Sleep agents
 - Antihistamines
 - Anti-seizure medications



63

Opioid Effects/ADRs

- ~ Withdrawal symptoms:
 - * Short half-life agents are more likely to cause abrupt withdrawal symptoms
 - * Sweating
 - * High sympathetic tone: increase in heart rate and blood pressure, mydriasis
 - * Agitation
 - * Irritation
 - * Irrational behavior
 - * Symptoms disappear with (immediate) use of an opioid

64

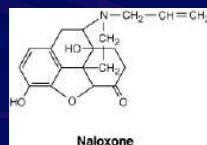
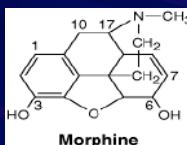
Respiratory Affects

- ~ Inhibition of cough reflex
- ~ Respiratory depression
 - * This is what kills a patient
 - * **Important to make sure that the patient doesn't**
 - Increase dose on their own
 - Add another CNS depressant with it!

65

Overdosing

- ~ Opioid antagonists
- ~ **Naloxone (Narcan) & Naltrexone (ReVia)**
 - * Used to treat opioid overdose

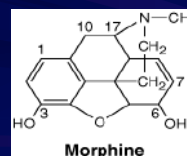


66

Opioid Antagonist

Naloxone (Narcan) & Naltrexone (ReVia)

- * Used to treat opioid overdose



67

Mixed Opioid Agonist-Antagonist For the Treatment of Abuse/Addiction

- Exhibit partial agonist or antagonist activity at the opioid receptors
- Agonist/Antagonist combinations for the treatment of opioid abuse/addiction**
 - Buprenorphine (Buprenex)
 - Buprenorphine/Naloxone (Suboxone)
- Schedule III**
- Adverse effects
 - Less respiratory depression & less abuse potential?
 - Precipitate withdrawal in an opioid-dependent patient

68

Mixed Opioid Agonist-Antagonist for the Treatment of Chronic Pain

- Exhibit partial agonist or antagonist activity at the opioid receptors
- Agonist/Antagonist combinations for the treatment of chronic pain**
 - Not appropriate for the treatment of acute pain
 - Morphine/Naltrexone (Embeda)
 - Oxycodone/Naltrexone (Troxyc ER)
- Schedule II controlled substance**

69

Substance Abuse History

- Avoid all opioids in a patient with a history of heroin use
 - This includes tramadol
 - May trigger dopamine reward and the drug "need"
 - Stick with higher doses of a NSAID +/- acetaminophen
- Patients with abuse history for other substances
 - Ex. Benzodiazepines, alcohol, amphetamines?
 - It is a judgement call
 - Some evidence to suggest that all addictive meds should be avoided!

70

"True Addiction" formerly "Psychological Dependence"

- Compulsive use despite harm
- Quality of life is not improved by the medication and eventually it becomes compulsive
 - "Wanting without liking"
- Relapse is very common even after "successful" withdrawal
 - It is a relapsing disease that is incredibly hard to treat

71

Identifying Behaviors of Abuse/Addiction

- "Fast talkers"
- Strange allergies
- Excuses for "loss" of meds
- Excuses why they need "a strong pain medication"

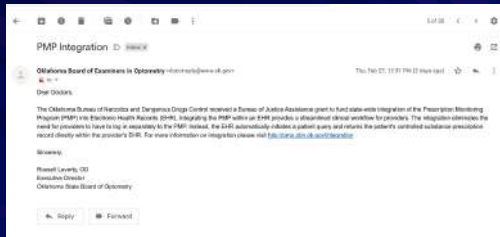
72

Ways to respond

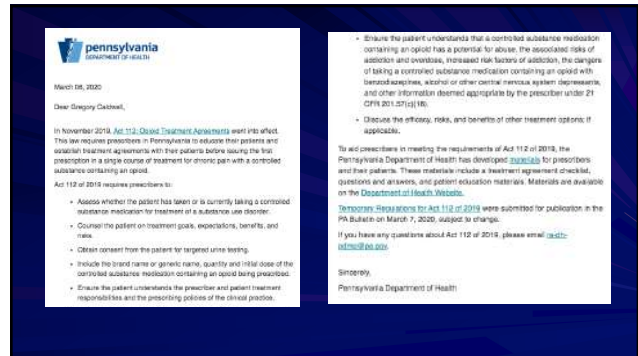
- Avoid getting "bullied"
- Avoid acting like you are judging the patient
- Use the tools that are available
 - Call your local pharmacy/pharmacist
 - State databases
 - PDMP = Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
- Legal/ethical issues
 - If you didn't write it down, then it didn't happen!

73

Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)



74



75

Ways to Combat Abuse

Drug Company Approaches

OxyCONTin (Controlled release tablets (q 12 hours...once in a while q 8 hours); new formulation is out to help control abuse

Manual Crushing Followed by Dissolution



76

77

Tampering for IV Abuse

- New formulation results in gelatinous material which cannot be drawn into a syringe for injection (the syringe is empty)



78

Alternatives/Additions to Opioids

79

Alternatives for Pain Control

- NSAIDs
- COX-2 Inhibitors
- Corticosteroids
- Integrative approach
 - * Acupuncture
 - * Surgical interventions
 - * Nerve blocks
 - * Spinal cord stimulators
- Benefits: "SYNERGY" = better control because the combination is working at multiple receptor sites!

80

Bandage Contact CL 92071



81

Medrol Dose Pack (Methylprednisolone)

Convenient for patient
6 day "automatic taper"

Sometimes it is not HIGH enough of a dose or LONG enough of a treatment duration

4mg methylprednisolone = 5mg prednisone

MDP equivalent (to prednisone):

- Day 1: 30mg
- Day 2: 25mg
- Day 3: 20mg
- Day 4: 15mg
- Day 5: 10mg
- Day 6: 5mg



82

Millipred Dose Pack (Prednisolone)

5mg prednisone/prednisolone = 4mg methylprednisolone

An alternative to a Medrol dose pack

COST/AWP: **Medrol** = \$30

Millipred = \$ 400

Just give "free" **prednisone** tabs!



Clinical Pearl: The mineralocorticoid (salt and H₂O retaining properties of methylprednisone versus prednisone/prednisolone is NOT IDENTICAL!

Methylprednisolone is LEAST LIKELY to cause salt and H₂O retention = LESS LIKELY to exacerbate blood pressure

83

Adverse Reactions: Steroids

- Loss of glycemic control
 - Watch in patients with diabetes!
- Drug-Drug interaction with warfarin (Coumadin)
 - Typically ↑ INR
- GI upset: take with food!
- Fat redistribution, osteoporosis, cataracts, muscle wasting = long-term effects

84

Acetaminophen (Tylenol)

- Mechanism: largely unknown
- Mild to moderate pain
- No anti-inflammatory potential
- Available in 325mg, 500mg, and 650mg tablets/capsules
- Dosing: 1,000mg every 6 to 8 hours OR 650mg every 6 hours
 - Max daily dose: DO NOT EXCEED 3,000 to 4,000mg in 24 hours
 - OK to use ALONG with or ALTERNATING with ibuprofen or naproxen
- ADRs: avoid in patients who consume > 3 alcoholic beverages per day

85

NSAIDs – Ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin)

- Mechanism: prostaglandin inhibitors = decrease in inflammatory mediators
- Good for pain and inflammation
- Mild to moderate pain
- Available in 200mg (OTC) and 400mg, 600mg, and 800mg tablets (RX only)
- Dosing: 200mg to 800mg every 6 to 8 hours
 - Max daily dose: do not exceed 3,200mg in 24-hour period
 - MUST reach 1,200mg daily to achieve anti-inflammatory potential

86

NSAIDs – Naproxen Sodium (Aleve)

- Mechanism: prostaglandin inhibitors = decrease in inflammatory mediators
- Good for pain and inflammation
- Mild to moderate pain
- Available in 220mg, 275mg, 375mg, and 550mg tablets
- Dosing: 220 to 440mg every 8 to 12 hours OR 660mg every 24 hours OR 550mg every 12 hours
 - Acute pain: more often is BETTER
 - Maximum daily dose is 1,000 to 1,100mg in 24 hours period
 - OK to dose 1,375mg to 1,500mg on DAY 1 ONLY!
 - Anti-inflammatory potential: dose at HIGHER END of range

87

NSAIDs – Adverse Effects

- Take with food – tough on the stomach
- May cause vasoconstriction in the kidneys
- Inhibits platelet aggregation, so ibuprofen interacts with warfarin (Coumadin) = ↑ INR
- May increase risk of heart attack and stroke in patients at “high risk” and with “regular use”
- May increase blood pressure and IOP

88

SYNERGY

It is acceptable to use an ALTERNATING dosing regimen OR an ADDITIVE dosing schedule

Good in moderate to severe pain

Acetaminophen + Ibuprofen	
Ibuprofen:	
OTC: 200mg	
Rx: 400mg, 600mg, 800mg	
Acetaminophen:	
OTC: 325mg, 500mg, 650mg	
Two 200mg ibuprofen every four hours while awake.*	
Two 325mg acetaminophen every four hours while awake.	
Maximum Daily Doses:	
Ibuprofen: 3,200mg	
Acetaminophen: 4,000mg	
Take with food. Avoid in patients who drink three or more alcoholic beverages per day. See previous section regarding precautions with NSAIDs. Alternate ibuprofen and acetaminophen every two hours (e.g., ibuprofen at 8am, acetaminophen at 10am, ibuprofen at 12pm, acetaminophen at 2pm, etc.).	

89

Pain Reliever Help

Know your maximum daily allowances:

- ✓ APAP 3000 mg (4000 mg*)
- ✓ ASA 6000 mg
- ✓ Ibuprofen 3200 mg
- ✓ Naproxen Sodium 1650 mg (Aleve/Anaprox)
- ✓ Naproxen 1500 mg (Naprosyn)
- 2 ibuprofen and 2 Tylenol
- 4 ibuprofen and 2 Tylenol

90

Alternative?



91

History: Prohibition of Cannabinoids

- Prohibition has only been around for 80 years
 - * Widely used for 5000-8000 years before
- Not outlawed due to lack of efficacy or safety
- Outlawed due to political and money reasons
 - * 1937 Marijuana Act
 - * Around the same time as morphine and opioid development
- CBD and THC considered schedule I narcotic
 - * 2018 CBD not considered schedule I
- Come a long way with CBD
 - * NIH funds studies on CBD
 - * WHO: August 17, 2018 – no dependence, no public health problems
 - * FDA: May 2018: - no abuse potential

92

THC, CBD, Hemp – The Basics in more detail



Cannabinoids: THC, CBD

- **THC** (delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol): psychoactive
 - Only compound in cannabis family that will get you "high"
- Main active compound in cannabis; will give positive drug test

93

Types of Cannabinoids

Endocannabinoids (EC): brain-derived

- Sources: omega-3, omega-6
- Anandamide (AEA)- "bliss chemical"

Phytocannabinoids: plant-derived

- Sources: buds, extracts, etc. of THC, CBD

Synthetic cannabinoids: lab-derived

- Examples: THC (Dronabinol/Marinol, Syndros, Cesamet); CBD (Cannabidiol/Epidiolex)

94

Synthetic cannabinoids: lab-derived

- Not great at mimicking nature
- Peer reviewed and systematic reviews concluded
 - Lower efficacy
 - Increased risk of adverse effects than phytocannabinoids
- Much higher affinity for CB1 and CB2 receptors than THC
 - Decrease therapeutic response
 - Decrease tolerability
 - Increased psychosis, paranoia, and side effects

95

So now that EVERYONE is selling it and talking about it...

- How do cannabinoids work?
- Endocannabinoid (EC) system
 - CB1 and CB2 receptors that impact memory, pain, inflammation, appetite, immune system
 - CB1: CNS, genitourinary system, eyes, peripheral neurons, adrenals, heart, lung
 - CB2: CNS, immune system (spleen, tonsils, lymph nodes, thymus), bones, eyes, heart, gut

96

CB1 and CB2 Receptors

- THC – agonist to the CB1 and CB2 receptors and higher affinity
 - This is why THC comes with the risk of bad side effects
 - Anxiety, dysphoria, psychosis, sedation, subjective intoxication
 - THC can slow the development of frontal lobe with binding (agonist)
 - Not good for young brains, frontal lobe not developed until 21-25 years old
 - Nociceptive pain – mask the symptoms
- CBD – antagonist activity and lower affinity
 - Safe for immature frontal lobe
 - No intoxication, euphoria, or paranoia (in normal doses)
 - Anti-inflammatory action
- THC and CBD do not cause respiratory depression or heart attack like opioid risks

97

3 Types of Products in the Market

- Full Spectrum CBD
 - Contains trace amounts of THC (delta 9 THC)
 - Should include other cannabinoid compounds
 - Multiple cannabinoids and terpenes
 - Lower dose than isolate by 5-10 times
 - Stable shelf life
 - Might fail a work or drug recovery program drug test -- avoid
- Broad Spectrum CBD
 - No detectable THC
 - Other phytocannabinoids, terpenes
 - Won't fail a drug test
- Isolate CBD
 - Only CBD
 - Least medical benefits
 - Won't fail a drug test
 - Need high doses -- 5-10 times more than full spectrum
 - Unstable shelf life

Doesn't work for everyone and everything
But CBD has a broad spectrum of uses

Starting to See Outcomes of Studies

Remember illegal until 2018

98

99

Fibromyalgia

- Allopathic way to treat is Cymbalta, Lyrica, and Savella
 - 8-10% say really effective
- Full spectrum cannabinoids -- 62% very effective

Hemp Derived CBD Full Spectrum with Opioids

- 97 patients
- 15 mg softgels, average dose 30 mgs
- 53% of patients stopped or decreased opioid use in 8 weeks
- 94% reported better sleep or decrease pain
- CBD could significantly reduce opioid use and improve sleep quality

100

101

CBD with Drug Addiction

- Decreases reward facility effect and seeking behavior in opioid dependence
 - Not cocaine
- Decreases opioid seeking behavior
- Potential for relapse prevention in cocaine and alcohol

CBD to Recommend Need

- Dosing
- Delivery
- Interactions
- Monitoring
- Side effects
- Tolerability
- Risks
- Product selection

102

103

What to Look in a Company

- "Medical grade CBD"
- Certificate of Analysis (COA) – ask questions
 - Lot specific, comprehensive, is the lab iso-certified for cannabinoids
 - Checking heavy metals
 - Checking for molds, fungus, and bacteria
 - Manufacturing process
 - Planting process
 - Indoor or outdoor
 - Using pesticides
- The spectrums they have
 - If have isolate – does they do stability testing

104

Practical Application- Side Effects

- Elevated LFTs (liver function tests)
 - AST and ALT – why *THESE*???
 - High doses of CBD
- Drowsiness/Dizziness
- Diarrhea
- Dry mouth
- Hypotension
- Increase in IOP
- Change in appetite

Generally, side effects are most often seen in people taking HIGH doses of CBD

105

Our Associations Fought Hard

We took this course for a reason

106

Cases Where I Recently Used My DEA

107

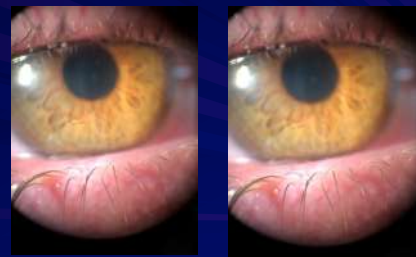
Conditions Which May Require Pain Management

- Large cornea abrasions
 - Cornea burn
 - PRK/PTK
- Orbital trauma
- Orbital blowout fractures
- Scleritis



108

A "bit" Too Close



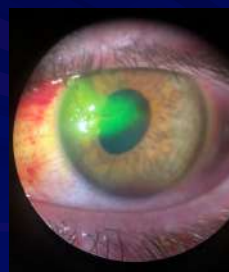
109

How Deep



110

Ouch



111

I was hit in the eye with a tree branch, and I think my
eye is scratched – it's very painful



112

DSEK



113



Question and Thank You!
Opioid Prescribing
Integrating Patient Care and Practitioner Responsibility

Greg Caldwell, OD, FAAO
Optometric Education Consultants
Southwestern Optometric Society
September 23, 2026



114