Effectiveness of Multi-Modal Analgesia
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A Capstone Project

Introduction
Despite many advances in health care, managing pain in the post-anesthetic period continues to be a challenge. With more procedures being performed on an outpatient basis, shorter lengths of stay and drive to improve patient satisfaction, providers are looking for ways to enhance the surgical care experience and reduce opioid use. In addition, the increase burden of obesity in society has contributed to a rise in co-morbidities such as diabetes, cardiovascular, and gallbladder disease making laparoscopic cholecystectomies the second most frequently performed general surgery procedure in the United States.

Purpose
The purpose of this study was to examine if using multi-modal analgesia prior to incision time effectively reduces post-operative narcotic requirements for pain management in the laparoscopic cholecystectomy patient population.

Results
After categorizing the variables and performing a systematic evaluation of the collected information, the results demonstrated there was a rise in the number of multi-modal agents given with a decrease in the number of narcotics utilized over the course of implementing an enhanced recovery after surgery improvement program.

Conclusions
The outcome of this project reinforces using multi-modal analgesia and provides a foundation for further research to maximize the benefit of these modalities to manage pain after surgical intervention.

Applications
• Pain is a universal phenomenon and nurses must be familiar with the essential concepts of pain and methods of pain management.
• The concept of multi-modal analgesia is to reduce pain through targeting multiple receptor sites at peripheral and central nociception pathways to reduce the inflammatory response and pain sensation while simultaneously reducing narcotic utilization and their related adverse effects.
• Generate additional research into pain management.

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Brain

- Opioids
- α₂-agonists
- Acetaminophen
- NMDA antagonists

- Local anesthetics
- Opioids
- α₂-agonists
- NMDA antagonists

- Local anesthetics
  - NSAIDs
  - COXIBs
Multimodal Analgesia Attacks Different Points Along the Pain Pathway
Brain
- Opioids
- Acetaminophen

Dorsal Horn
- Local anesthetics
- Opioids

Peripheral Nociceptors
- NSAIDs
- COX-2 inhibitors
- Local anesthetics
- Ice
The Pain Pathway

PERCEPTION

Cortex

Thalamocortical projections

MODULATION

TRANSMISSION

TRANSDUCTION

Spinothalamic tract

Primary afferent nociceptor

Noxious stimulus

Available at: http://medical-dictionary.themedictionary.com/ nociception
- Perception
  - Opioids

- Modulation
  - Acetaminophen

- Transmission
  - Nerve blocks
  - Local anesthetics

- Transduction
  - NSAIDs
  - Ice