Title: Epidural Meperidine for Pain Management after Abdominal Surgery: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines for Use

Date: 20 June 2008

Research question:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of epidural meperidine with or without a local anesthetic for the management of pain after abdominal surgery?

2. What are the guidelines for the use of epidural meperidine with or without a local anesthetic for the management of pain after abdominal surgery?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 2, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 1998 and June 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials (RCTs), observational studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

Four systematic reviews, two RCTs, two observational studies and one guideline were identified pertaining to the use of epidural meperidine for the management of pain after abdominal surgery. No health technology assessments were identified. Additional information that may be of interest has been included in the Appendix.
Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations

See recommendation 26
Appendix – further information:

Systematic reviews


Observational studies


Additional references
