TITLE: Patient Restraints: Clinical Effectiveness, Safety, and a Review of the Guidelines

DATE: 24 October 2008

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness and safety of patient restraints (environmental, physical, and chemical)?

2. What are the guidelines for use of patient restraints?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including OVID MedLine, OVID PsycInfo, The Cochrane Library (Issue 4, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2003 and October 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to systematic reviews, randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, and observational studies containing safety data for the MedLine results. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type for the PsycInfo results.

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, observational studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

Two systematic reviews, seven randomized controlled trials, four observational studies, and one evidence-based guideline were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness, safety, guidelines for use of patient restraints. No relevant health technology assessments were identified. Additional articles of interest are located in the appendix.
Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials

Physical restraint


Chemical restraint


Observational studies

Physical restraint


Chemical restraint


Guidelines and recommendations


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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations


Review articles


Additional references

Available for purchase at [www.ecri.org](http://www.ecri.org)