TITLE: Subcutaneous Naloxone for the Management of Opiate-Induced Constipation and Nausea in Post-Operative Patients: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 10 March 2011

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of subcutaneous naloxone for opiate-induced constipation and nausea in post-operative patients?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of subcutaneous naloxone for opiate-induced constipation and nausea in post-operative patients?

3. What are the evidence based guidelines for subcutaneous naloxone in the management of opiate-induced constipation and nausea in post-operative patients?

KEY MESSAGE

No literature was identified regarding the use of subcutaneous naloxone for opiate-induced constipation and nausea in post-operative patients.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2011, Issue 3), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI (Health Devices Gold), EuroScan, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2006 and March 4, 2011. No filters were applied to limit retrieval by study type. Internet links were provided, where available.
RESULTS

No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, economic evaluations, or evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the use of subcutaneous naloxone for opiate-induced constipation or nausea in post-operative patients. Additional information concerning intravenous naloxone in post-operative patients is located in the appendix.

Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified.

Economic evaluations
No literature identified.

Guidelines and recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Randomized trials on intravenous naloxone
