TITLE: Opiate-Related Dental Decay: Clinical Evidence

DATE: 6 July 2010

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical evidence that the use or misuse of opiates can contribute to advanced dental decay?

2. What is the evidence that treatment of opiate-related dental decay within correctional facilities provides a benefit to patients?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 6, 2010), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI (Health Devices Gold), EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between January 1, 2000 and July 2, 2010. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links were 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 and non-randomized studies.

Four non-randomized studies were identified pertaining to the use of opiates and dental decay. No relevant health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or randomized controlled trials were identified. No relevant literature was identified pertaining to the evidence that treatment of opiate-related dental decay within correctional facilities provides a benefit to patients. Additional information that may be of interest has been included in the appendix.

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Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified.

Non-randomized studies


APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses - oral health status of inmates


Additional references


