

CADTH RAPID RESPONSE REPORT: REFERENCE LIST

# Patients' and Providers' Perspectives of Patient- Controlled Systemic Analgesia for Labour: A Reference List

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## Research Question

What literature is available that explores how pregnant people in labour experience patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) versus intravenous (IV) analgesic, specifically using fentanyl?

## Key Findings

Two primary qualitative studies were found that examined how pregnant people in labour experience patient-controlled analgesia versus other routes of administration.<sup>1,2</sup>

No primary mixed method or questionnaire or survey design studies were identified. No syntheses of qualitative, mixed method, or survey or questionnaire studies were located.

## Methods

### Literature Search Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including Ovid MEDLINE, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), and SCOPUS. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concept were patient-controlled analgesia, labour, and intravenous fentanyl. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to qualitative studies, as well as surveys. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2010 and September 18, 2020. Internet links were provided, where available.

### Selection Criteria

One reviewer screened literature search results based on titles and abstracts and selected publications according to the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Inclusion Criteria**

<b>Setting</b>	Birthing units or centres
<b>Population</b>	Pregnant people in labour
<b>Intervention</b>	Patient-controlled analgesia (using fentanyl/remifentanyl if possible)
<b>Comparator</b>	Intravenous delivered analgesia (using fentanyl/remifentanyl if possible)
<b>Evaluation</b>	Patients' expectations around pain relief during labour, patients' experiences and perceptions of patient-controlled analgesia versus intravenous pain relief

## Results

Six hundred and eighty-three citations were retrieved from the literature search. Of these, two primary qualitative studies were found that examined how pregnant people in labour experience patient-controlled analgesia versus other routes of administration.<sup>1,2</sup> No relevant primary mixed method or questionnaire or survey design studies were identified. As well, no relevant syntheses of qualitative, mixed method, or survey or questionnaire studies were

located. References of potential interest that did not meet the inclusion criteria are provided in the Appendix.

## Primary Qualitative Studies

1. Moran VH, Thomson G, Cook J, et al. Qualitative exploration of women's experiences of intramuscular pethidine or remifentanyl patient-controlled analgesia for labour pain. *BMJ Open*. 2019;9(12):e032203.  
[PubMed: PM31874879](#)
2. Fleet JA, Jones M, Belan I. Taking the alternative route: Women's experience of intranasal fentanyl, subcutaneous fentanyl or intramuscular pethidine for labour analgesia. *Midwifery*. 2017;53:15-19.  
[PubMed: PM28735031](#)

## Primary Mixed-Method Studies

No literature identified.

## Primary Survey or Questionnaire Studies

No literature identified.

## Qualitative Syntheses

No literature identified.

## Mixed Method Syntheses

No literature identified.

## Syntheses of Survey or Questionnaire Studies

No literature identified.

## References

1. Moran VH, Thomson G, Cook J, et al. Qualitative exploration of women's experiences of intramuscular pethidine or remifentanyl patient-controlled analgesia for labour pain. *BMJ Open*. 2019;9(12):e032203.
2. Fleet JA, Jones M, Belan I. Taking the alternative route: Women's experience of intranasal fentanyl, subcutaneous fentanyl or intramuscular pethidine for labour analgesia. *Midwifery*. 2017;53:15-19.

## Appendix — Further Information

### Previous CADTH Reports

Intravenous Fentanyl Patient Controlled Analgesia for Patients in Labour: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines. (*CADTH rapid response report: reference list*). Ottawa (ON): CADTH; 2020: <https://cadth.ca/intravenous-fentanyl-patient-controlled-analgesia-patients-labour-clinical-effectiveness-and>. Accessed 2020 Sep 23.

### Additional References

Jelting Y, Weibel S, Afshari A, et al. Patient-controlled analgesia with remifentanyl vs. alternative parenteral methods for pain management in labour: a Cochrane systematic review. *Anaesthesia*. 2017;72(8):1016-1028.