

Opioid: Preventing Opioid Use Disorders

How Can I Prevent My Patients From Developing An Opioid Use Disorder?

DAVID J. TAUBEN, MD, FACP

Chief, UW Division of Pain Medicine Hughes M & Katherine G Blake Endowed Professor Clinical Associate Professor Depts of Medicine And Anesthesia & Pain Medicine University of Washington, Seattle WA











GENERAL DISCLOSURES

The University of Washington School of Medicine also gratefully acknowledges receipt of educational grant support for this activity from the Washington State Legislature through the Safety-Net Hospital Assessment, working to expand access to psychiatric services throughout Washington State.



Speaker Disclosures

✓ No financial conflicts of interest

- Grant support from:
- NIH Pain Consortium award: UW Center of Excellence in Pain Education
- AHRQ: Team-Based Safe Opioid Prescribing in Primary Care
- Mayday Fund: "Tele-Coaching for Optimization of Pre- and Post-Operative Pain Management."
- NIH STRR: Optimization of Pre- and Post-Operative Pain Management.
- CDC Clinical Quality Improvement Implementation Package for Large Healthcare Systems: Activities to Support Guideline Dissemination and Implementation
- CDC RFA-CE15- 15010201SUPP16 Oregon Health Authority: UW TelePain/Oregon Implementation Proposal for the Prevention for States Prescription Drug Overdose Supplement.
- NIAMS P30 Core Centers for Clinical Research (CCR); Transforming Clinical Information for Learning (TCIL)





UW PACC REGISTRATION

Please be sure that you have completed the <u>full</u> UW PACC series registration.

If you have not yet registered, please email <u>uwpacc@uw.edu</u> so we can send you a link.



Objectives

Be able to...

- 1. Choose opioids wisely, based on indication and risk.
- 2. Reduce risk of transitioning from acute to chronic opioid use patients.
- 3. Differentiate between pain relief-seeking behaviors from opioid misuse, abuse, and addiction behaviors.
- 4. Describe approach to tapering opioids, when necessary and appropriate.





Accurate Diagnosis *Precedes* Effective Treatment

"In order to treat something, we must first learn to recognize it." -William Osler

- 1. Chronic pain is a complex condition which when assessed *following a structured approach*, supports diagnostic accuracy
- 2. Thorough assessment of the common *biopsychosocial* domains also adds important diagnoses that require treatment





17th Century "Cartesian View" of Pain

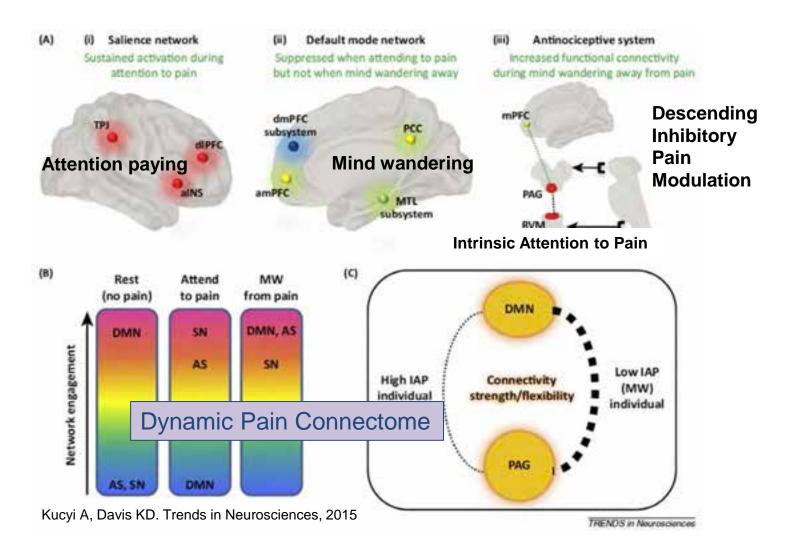








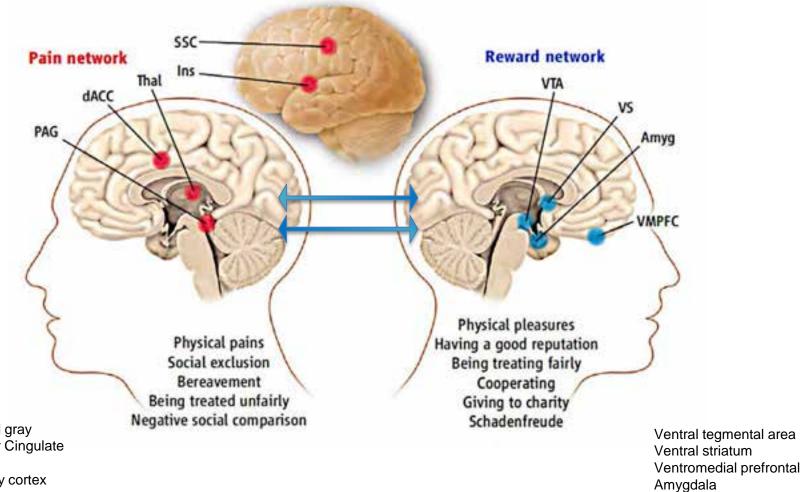
Emerging Science: "Pain Salience" Early 21st Century "Gate Theory" of Pain



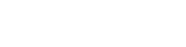




Physical and Social Pain Reward or Pleasure Network



Leiberman MD, Eisenberger NI. Science 2009



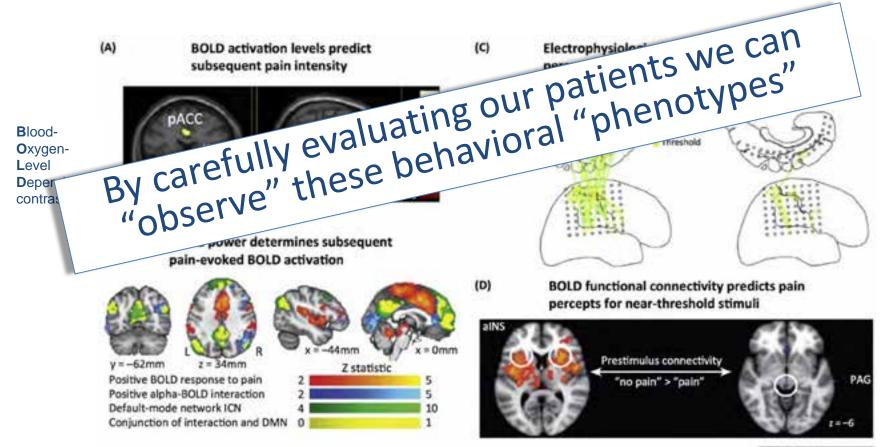


Periaqueductal gray Dorsal Anterior Cingulate Insula Somatosensory cortex Thalamus

NIH Pain Consortium

of Designed in Fact 1

Preexisting brain-states impact the experience of pain



TRENDS in Neurosciences



NIH Pain Consortium

of Description in Fact 1



History Shapes Beliefs, Behaviors, & Outcomes: Adverse Childhood Events ("ACE")

Significant Events

- Recurrent physical/emotional abuse
- Contact sexual abuse
- An alcohol and/or drug abuser in the household
- An incarcerated household
 member
- Someone who is chronically depressed, mentally ill, institutionalized, or suicidal
- Mother is treated violently
- Emotional or physical neglect

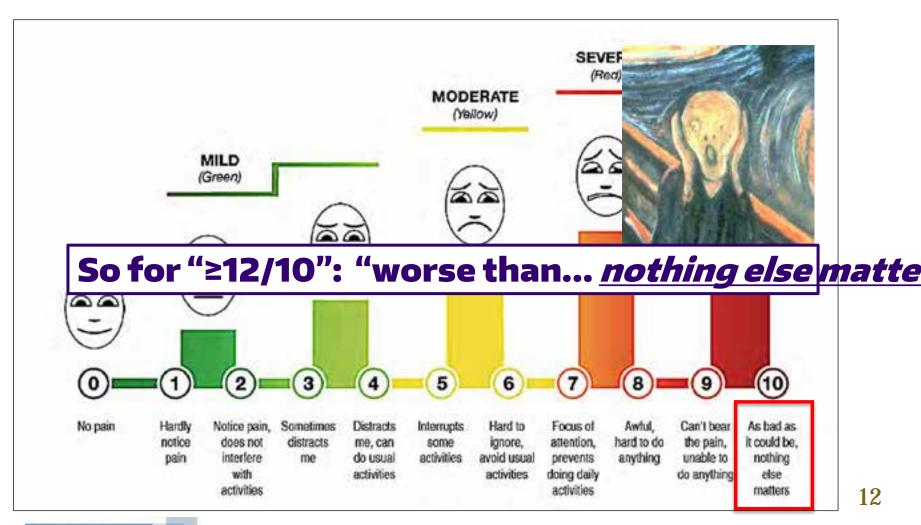
Robust Correlations

- Depressed affect, suicide attempts
- Multiple sexual partners, sexually transmitted diseases
- Smoking & alcoholism
- Social, emotional, cognitive impairment
- Disease, disability & social problems
- Chronic Pain





So then, what might "10/10" Pain mean?







"When your brain is on fire I can't help your pain..."







Routine Assessment of Co-occurring MOOD Disorders

PHQ- Scori	9 No ng Tally Sheet all		More Near than er G half the	AD-7			
things Feeling Troubl	0 nterest or pleasure in doing g down, depressed, or hopeless le falling asleep, staying asleep, ping too much	Over the last 2 weeks been bothered by the (Use "#" to indio 1. Feeling nervous, aro	Following problems ale your answer)		Several days More than half the days	Nearly every day	 ✓ Anxiety GAD-7 (or PHQ-4) ✓ Depression
Feeling Poor a Feeling that yo	Over the past 2 weeks	PHQ-4	Several	More days	Nearly	3	PHQ-9 (or PHQ-4) ✓ PTSD
you ha down Troubl as read	by these problems?	Not at all	dar	then not	ourou day	PC-PT	SD Screen
televis Moving other p being s have b	Feeling nervous: anxious. or on edge	0	ln y				ny experience that was so frightening, that in the past month you:
than us Thinki dead o in som	Not being able to stop or control worrying	0	1. 2. 3.	Tried hard <i>n</i> that reminde	o <i>t to think</i> ed you of it	about it o ?	about it when you did not want to? or went out of your way to <u>avoid situations</u> hful, or easily startled?
If you o questio	Feeling down, depressed or hopeless	0	4.		-		ers, activities, or your surroundings?
How d made i care of with o	Little interest or pleasure i doing things	n 0	1	2	3		





Opioids For Pain: When?

✓ Clear indications

- Acute Pain: moderate severe & severe
- "Peri-operative" Pain
- Cancer Pain, active treatment
- End-of-life Palliative Care comfort

✓ Unclear and Uncertain: Chronic pain

"No study of opioid therapy vs placebo, no opioid therapy, or nonopioid therapy evaluated long-term (>1 year) outcomes related to pain, function, or quality of life."



Chou R, et al. Ann Intern Med. 2015



Opioids for <u>Chronic Pain</u>

REVIEW

Annals of Internal Medicine

The Effectiveness and Risks of Long-Term Opioid Therapy for Chronic Pain: A Systematic Review for a National Institutes of Health Pathways to Prevention Workshop

Roger Chou, MD; Judith A. Turner, PhD; Emily B. Devine, PharmD, PhD, MBA; Ryan N. Hansen, PharmD, PhD; Sean D. Sullivan, PhD; Ian Blazina, MPH; Tracy Dana, MLS; Christina Bougatsos, MPH; and Richard A. Deyo, MD, MPH

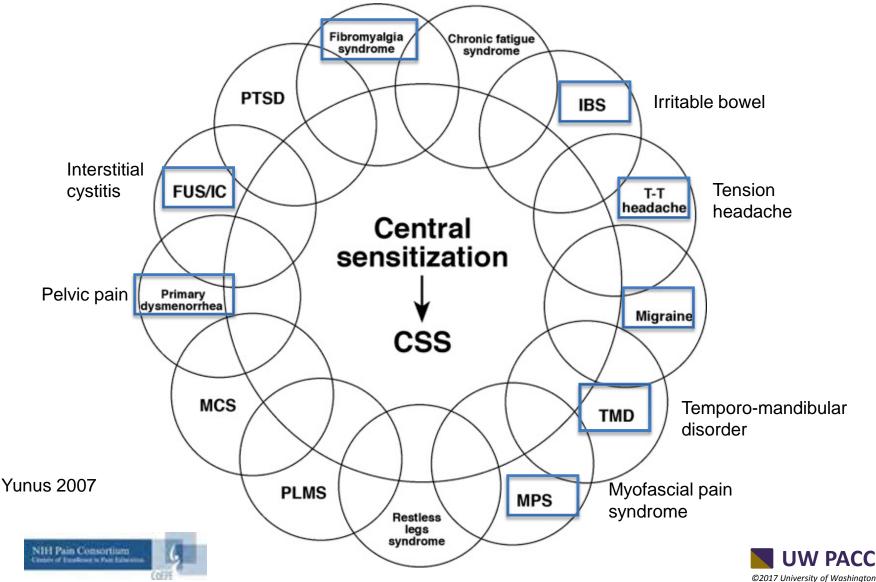
Conclusion: Evidence is insufficient to determine the effectiveness of long-term opioid therapy for improving chronic pain and function. Evidence supports a dose-dependent risk for serious harms.

Annals of Internal Medicine • Vol. 162 No. 4 • 17 February 2015



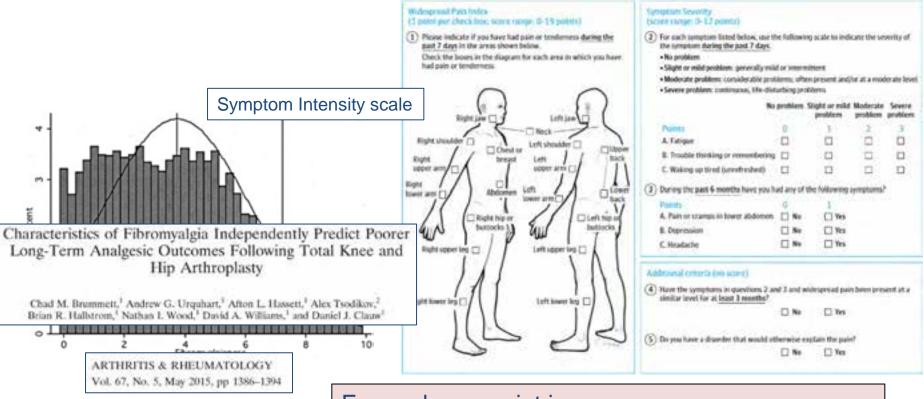


Centralized Pain Syndromes Not an Indication for Opioids!



"Fibromyalgianess"

Clauw, D. JAMA 2014



Wolfe, F. Arthritis & Rheumatism. 2009

For each one point increase:

- 25% greater likelihood of NO improvement in pain after hip or knee replacement surgery
- 9 mg greater oral morphine requirements during acute hospitalization





18

PREDOMINANTLY NEUROPATHIC

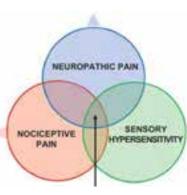
- PHN
- pDPN
- Lumbar or cervical radiculopathy
- Stenosis

- Tumor-related neuropathy
- Chemotherapy-induced neuropathy
- Small fiber neuropathy
- Persistent postoperative pain

- Multiple sclerosis pain
- Post-stroke pain
- Pain associated with spinal cord injury

PREDOMINANTLY NOCICEPTIVE

- Osteoarthritis
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- · Tendonitis, bursitis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- · Gout
- Neck and back pain with structural pathology
- Tumor-related nociceptive pain
- Sickle-cell disease
- Inflammatory bowel
 disease



Mixed pain conditions with multiple pain pathophysiologies such as chronic low back pain

PREDOMINANTLY SENSORY HYPERSENSITIVITY

- Fibromyalgia
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Tension-type headaches
- Interstitial cystitis/pelvic pain syndrome
- Tempo-mandibular joint disorder
- Chronic fatigue syndrome
- Restless leg syndrome
- Neck and back pain <u>without</u> structural pathology

Adapted from: Stanos et al. Rethinking chronic pain in a primary care setting. Postgraduate Medicine 2016





If Not Opioids, What Then?

- 1. Patient education
- 2. Non-drug *multimodal analgesia*
 - 1. Exercise (of all kinds)
 - 2. Sleep hygiene
 - 3. CBT, MBSR
 - 4. Acupuncture
 - 5. OMT, chiropractic
- 3. Non-opioid *multimodal analgesia*
 - APAP, NSAIDs, TCAs, SNRIs, ACDs...



Effectiveness of Chronic Pain Treatments

Evidence of CHANGE in some "PAIN" Measure

("intensity" mostly, sometimes includes function, mood, QoL)

• Opioids:	No Quality Evidence
 Adjuvants (Tricyclics/SNRIs/Anticonvulsants): 	30%
Cannabis:	10-30%
• Acupuncture:	10+%
 Patient education: 	15%
CBT/Mindfulness:	30-50%
 Physical fitness: 	"moderate"
 Sleep restoration: 	40-50%



Porter J, Jick H. [letter]. N Engl J Med. 1980;302:123.

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ADDICTION RARE IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH NARCOTICS

To the Editor: Recently, we examined our current files to d mine the incidence of narcotic addiction in 39,946 hospita medical patients' who were monitored consecutively. Althe there were 11,882 patients who received at least one narcotic p aration, there were only four cases of reasonably well docume addiction in patients who had no history of addiction. The ac tion was considered major in only one instance. The drugs plicated were meperidine in two patients,² Percodan in one, hydromorphone in one. We conclude that despite widespread u narcotic drugs in hospitals, the development of addiction is ra medical patients with no history of addiction.

> JANE PORTER HERSHEL JICK, M.D. Boston Collaborative Drug Surveillance Program Boston University Medical Center

Waltham, MA 02154

- 1. Jick H, Miettinen OS, Shapiro S, Lewis GP, Siskind Y, Slone D. Comprehensive drug surveillance. JAMA. 1970; 213:1455-60.
- 2. Miller RR, Jick H. Clinical effects of meperidine in hospitalized medical patients. J Clin Pharmacol. 1978; 18:180-8.





The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

A Flood of Opioids, a Rising Tide of Deaths

Susan Okie, M.D.

2015: <u>3rd Largest Epidemic In America</u>

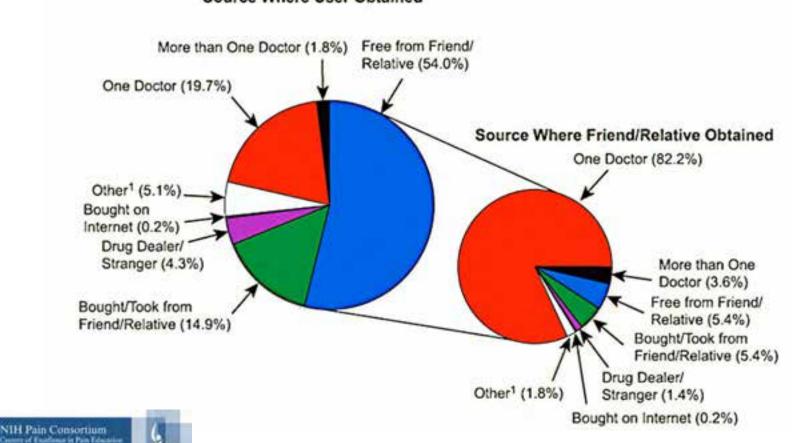
HIV (1981-2005: 550,000) Influenza Pandemic (1918: 500,000) **Prescription Opioid ODs (1999-2014: 165,000, & counting)**



Perspective

"Opioid Flood Waters"

Source where pain relievers were obtained for most recent nonmedical use (age \geq 12): 2011-2012 samhsa.gov



Source Where User Obtained



24

Opioids for Acute Pain: Too Many Pills? (Adults) Washington State Department of Health

Table 6: Number of pills by specialty: Means, medians, and selected quantiles of the number of tablets dispensed per prescription to adults age 20 and older with acute opioid prescriptions between July 1 and December 31, 2015 (N = 445,799).

Provider specialty	N	mean	median	75th %tile	90th %tile	99th %tile
State Total	445,799	29.7	20.0	30.0	60.0	144.0
Dentist	84,136	17.6	16.0	20.0	25.0	35.0
Dermatology	2,472	17.8	15.0	20.0	25.0	42.0
Emergency Medicine	35,946	16.7	15.0	20.0	21.0	45.0
Family Medicine	52,543	38.9	30.0	40.0	84.0	210.0
Internal Medicine	23,304	52.3	30.0	60.0	100.0	360.0
Obstetrics & Gynecology	19,531	29.6	30.0	40.0	50.0	80.0
Ophthalmology	2,098	18.7	20.0	25.0	30.0	56.0
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	2,048	25.5	28.0	30.0	30.0	60.0
Orthopaedic Surgery	15,622	49.5	40.0	60.0	80.0	150.0
Otolaryngology	4,591	34.1	30.0	40.0	50.0	100.0
Plastic Surgery	2,650	34.1	30.0	40.0	50.0	70.0
Podiatrist	4,660	35.7	30.0	40.0	60.0	90.0
Specialist	6,885	39.6	30.0	45.0	64.0	180.0
Student	4,617	29.9	20.0	30.0	60.0	120.0
Surgery	15,869	34.7	30.0	40.0	50.0	80.0
Urology	5,106	25.9	30.0	30.0	40.0	60.0
other	10,369	41.9	30.0	60.0	90.0	224.3
unknown	153,352	29.1	20.0	30.0	60.0	128.5



Acute Pain, by the numbers...

Washington State Department of Health

What is the average pill count for a new prescription for 14-19 year kids with no other prior opioid prescriptions?

23.7 Tablets!



Slide courtesy of G. Franklin

Opioid R_x After Surgery Can Lead to Long-term Use

Retrospective studies 1-year post surgery¹:

- Approximately one-third of all patients were still using opioids
- 18% of patients who did not use opioids before surgery were still using opioids
- older patients (>65 years of age) undergoing low-risk surgery and receiving an opioid prescription²:
 - 10.3% were still taking opioids a year later
 - There was a 44% increase in likelihood that they would become long-term opioid users, compared to patients not receiving a prescription

"...initiation of short-term opioid therapy may lead to their longer-term use"³

1. Wang M et al. *Spine J.* 2013;13:S6-S7. 2. Alam A et al. *Arch Intern Med.* 2012;172:425-430. 3. Katz MH. *Arch Intern Med.* 2012;172:430.



27

Courtesy Ivan Lesnik, MD

Chronic Prescribed Opioid Exposure ...Most are hooked for Life

Long-Term Chronic Opioid Therapy Discontinuation Rates from the TROUP Study

Bradley C. Martin, PharmD, PhD¹, Ming-Yu Fan, PhD², Mark J. Edlund, MD, PhD³, Andrea DeVries, PhD⁴, Jennifer Brennan Braden, MD, MPH², and Mark D. Sullivan, MD, PhD²

CONCLUSIONS: Over half of persons receiving 90 days of continuous opioid therapy remain on opioids years later. Factors most strongly associated with continuation were intermittent prior opioid exposure, daily opioid dose \geq 120 mg MED, and possible opioid misuse. Since high dose and opioid misuse have been shown to increase the risk of adverse outcomes special caution is warranted when prescribing more than 90 days of opioid therapy in these patients.







Prescription limits

Preventing opioid use disorder: On November 1, 2017, a new Health Care Authority (HCA) clinical policy pertaining to opioid prescriptions takes effect for Apple Health (Medicaid), both fee-for-service and managed care.

Policy implementation date moved to November 1, 2017. Read more about it. Review information from the <u>opioid policy webinar</u>.

The policy limits the quantity of opioids that can be prescribed to opiate naïve patients for non-cancer pain. The limits for new opioid prescriptions will be:

- No more than 18 doses (approximately a 3-day supply) for patients age 20 or younger.
- No more than 42 doses (approximately a 7-day supply) for patients age 21 or older.

You can override these limits if you feel this is medically necessary, by typing "Exempt" in the text of the prescription.

Exemptions

- Patients who are undergoing active cancer treatment or who are in hospice, palliative care, or end-of-life care
 are exempt from these restrictions.
- Patients who have filled 90 days of opioids in the last 120 days will be grandfathered under the policy, and do
 not require attestation/prior authorization.

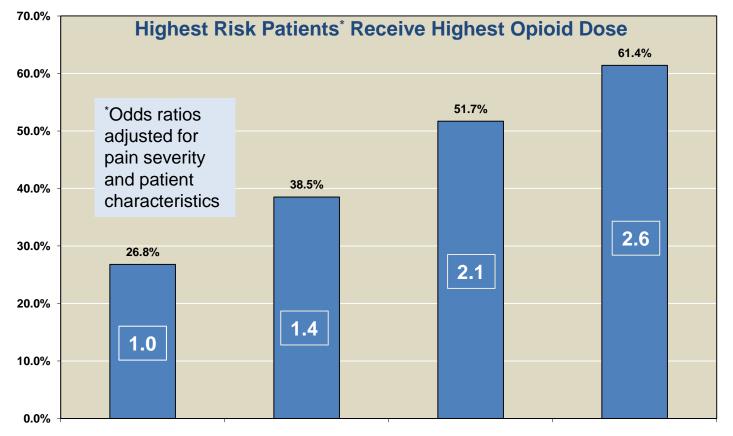




"Adverse Selection"

Patients on ER opioids 35% co-administered psychiatric medications

*Co-occurring psychiatric and addiction disorders





Merrill et al. 2011 Sullivan et al 2012 Gustavsson A, et al. 2012



Assessing Opioid Misuse Risk

Mark each box that applies		Female	Male
1. Family history of substance abuse	 Alcohol Illegal drugs Prescription drugs 	[] 1 [] 2 [] 4	[] 3 [] 3 [] 4
2. Personal history of substance abuse	 Alcohol Illegal drugs Prescription drugs 	[] 3 [] 4 [] 5	[] 3 [] 4 [] 5
3. Age (mark box if 16-45 years)		[]1	[]1
4. History of preadolescent sexual abuse		[]3	[]0
5. Psychological disease	 Attention-deficit/ hyperactivity disorder, obsessive- compulsive disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia Depression 	[] 2 [] 1	[] 2 [] 1
Low (0-3) Moderate (4-7) High (≥8)	Scoring totals	[]	[]

Administration

- On initial visit?
- <u>Prior</u> to Chronic Opioid Therapy

Scoring

- 0-3: low risk (6%)
- •<u>></u> 8: high risk (> 90%)

Copyright © Lynn R. Webster, MD. Used with permission.



"Opioid Risk Tool" Webster & Webster 2005



Treatment Adherence Monitoring Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

- 49 of 50 States capture all scheduled medication *dispensed*, even mail order or cash purchased
- Requires prescriber registration; can delegate proxy access to any number of licensed health care assistants
- Can seek registration from neighboring states
- Possible error with name entered by pharmacists:
 - call to verify when unexpected result
- VA/DoD, Tribal, and methadone programs don't report (coming soon)





Often hard to distinguish between drug seeking and "pain relief" seeking

- For the patient with pain
 - Continuous opioid therapy may prevent opioid seeking
 - Even if the opioid seeking appears as seeking pain relief, it becomes an adaptation that is difficult to reverse
 - Often hard to distinguish between drug seeking and relief seeking

Ballantyne JC, et al. New addiction criteria: Diagnostic challenges persist in treatment pain with opioids. IASP: Pain Clinical updates, Dec 2013.





Recognizing and Treating Opioid Use Disorder

- Assess for opioid use disorder using DSM-5 criteria, or refer for a consultation with an addiction specialist if a patient demonstrates aberrant behaviors suggestive of substance use disorder
- Patients diagnosed with opioid use disorder should receive a combination of medication-assisted treatment* and behavioral therapies.
- 3. Consider prescribing naloxone as a preventive rescue medication for patients with opioid use disorder



*Medication Assisted Treatment: Methadone Maintenance or "Suboxone®"







34

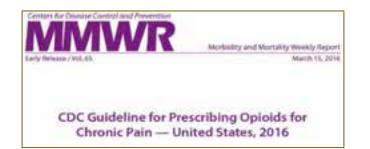
Opioid Exit Strategies:

Tapering is HARD! (...mostly for the patient)

- Discuss goals of taper
 - Reiterate the "why"
 - Delineate the "how" (dose target and time frame)
- Describe potential withdrawal symptoms
 - Temporary increase in pain: "withdrawal hyperalgesia"
- Regularly scheduled office follow-ups to support (or nurse check-ins)
- Do not retreat!
- When possible: add behavioral health support
- Identify at least one self-management goal







Centers for Disease Control and Prevention MMWR March 15, 2016; 65:p23

IW PACC

36

©2017 University of Washington

- "...tapering opioids can be especially challenging after years on high dosages because of physical and psychological dependence."
- <u>Offer</u> in a "nonjudgmental manner"... "the <u>opportunity</u> to re-evaluate their continued use of opioids at high dosages in light of recent evidence regarding the association of opioid dosage and overdose risk."
- "<u>empathically</u> review benefits and risks of continued high-dosage opioid therapy" and "offer to <u>work with the patient</u> to taper opioids to safer dosages"
- "very slow opioid tapers as well as pauses in the taper to allow gradual accommodation to lower opioid dosages."
- Be aware that anxiety, depression, and opioid use disorder "might be unmasked by an opioid taper"



Tapering / Discontinuing Chronic Opioids Analgesic Treatments

- Sequential tapers when on both chronic benzos and opioids
 - Taper off opioids first, then the benzodiazepines.
- **Do not use ultra-rapid detoxification** or antagonist-induced withdrawal under heavy sedation or anesthesia.
- Rate of taper based on safety:
 - Immediate discontinuation: diversion or non-medical use.
 - Rapid taper (≤ 3 week period) if a severe adverse outcome such as overdose or substance use disorder
 - Slow taper when no acute safety concerns: ≤ 10% per week; variably adjusted per patient response

Do not reverse taper

• MAY PRECIPITATE MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS; be alert for need of expert help





HOW TO APPROACH AN OPIOID TAPER/CESSATION

Issue	Recommended Length of Taper	Degree of Shared Decision Making about Opioid Taper	Intervention/Setting
Substance Use Disorder	No taper, immediate referral	None – provider choice alone	Intervention: Detoxification with medication assisted treatment (buprenorphine or methadone), Naloxone rescue kit Setting: Inpatient or Outpatient Buprenorphine (OBOT)
Diversion	No taper*	None – provider choice alone	Determine need based on actual use of opioids, if any
At risk for immediate harms	Weeks to months	Moderate – provider led & patient views sought	Intervention: Supportive care Naloxone rescue kit Setting: Outpatient opioid taper
Therapeutic failure	Months	Moderate – provider led & patient views sought	Intervention: Supportive care Naloxone rescue kit Setting: Outpatient opioid taper Option: Buprenorphine (OBOT)
At risk for future harms	Months to Years	Moderate – provider led & patient views sought	Intervention: Supportive care Naloxone rescue kit Setting: Outpatient opioid taper
Courtesy: Meliss	a Weimer, MD		Option : Buprenorphine (OBOT)

Free Resources

Clinicians: caring for patients with complex pain medication regimens? We're behind you.

UW Medicine Pain and Opioid Consult Hotline for Clinicians 1-844-520-PAIN (7246)

UW Medicine pain pharmacists and physicians are available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays) to provide clinical advice at no charge to you.

Consultations for clinicians treating patients with complex pain medication regimens, particularly high dose opioids:

- Interpret Washington State Prescription Monitoring Program record to guide you on dosing
- Individualized opioid taper plans
- Systematic management of withdrawal syndrome
- Evaluate/recommend non-opioid/ adjuvant analgesic treatment
- Triage and risk acceening
- Individualized case consultation for client care and medication management
- Explain/review Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) oploid guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/ volumes/65/mm6501e1.htm

- Will help identify and refer to other resources:
 - Evaluation of Substance Use Disorder, Washington Recovery Help Line 1-866-789-1511
 - Local pain clinics for patient referrals: www.doh.wa.gov/ Emergencies/PainClinicClosures/ PainClinicAvailability
 - UW TelePain Services: Available Wednesdays noon to 1:30 p.m. http:// depts.washington.edu/anesth/care/ pain/telepain

UW TelePain

A service for community-practice providers to increase knowledge and skills in chronic pain management

 UW TelePain sessions are collegial, audio/video-based conferences that include:

- Didactic presentations from the UW Pain Medicine curriculum for primary care providers.
- Case presentations from community clinicians.
- Interactive consultations for providers with a multi-disciplinary panel of specialists.
- Education in use of guidelinerecommended measurement-based clinical tools to improve diagnosis and treatment effectiveness.
- Follow-up case presentations to track outcomes and optimize treatments for ongoing care of your patients.

UW TelePain sessions for community health care providers are held each Wednesday, noon to 1:30 p.m.

You are invited to present your difficult chronic pain cases or ask questions, even if you don't present a case.

The expertise of the UW TelePain Panel spans pain medicine, internal medicine, anesthesiology, rehabilitation medicine, psychiatry, addiction medicine, and nursing care coordination.

Learn more about these sessions on the UW TelePain website http://depts.washington.edu/anasth/care/pain/telepain/

Questions? telepain@uw.edu

To register:

Download and complete the registration form and fax it to 206-221-8259. Form location http://depts.washington.edu/anethi/care/pain/telepain/TelePain-Participant-Reg-Form.pdf

Washington State Health Care Authority





10th Annual John D. Loeser Pain Conference: **Updates on Essential Issues** October 27 - 28, 2017

Friday - Saturday October 27 - 28, 2017

Shoreline Conference Center 18560 1st Avenue NE Shoreline, WA

Sponsored by UW School of Medicine Department of Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education

Credit Designation

The University of Washington School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The John D. Loeser Pain conference provides cogent, evidence-based and useful information for primary care providers of all kinds. Chronic pain is a very common complaint, and many providers find treatment challenging with or without opioid prescribing. The lectures will cover many topics, including safer approaches to opioid prescribing, the use of buprenorphine in pain and addiction, the use of complementary medicine in pain, and special topics including abdominal pain, nerve pain, and using technology in pain treatment.

COURSE FEES			
MD/DO/PhD	\$299		
Allied Health	\$249		
Resident/Fellow	\$125		

VISIT THE COURSE WEBSITE FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS AND REGISTRATION Register Online: uwcme.org UW School of Medicine | Continuing Medical Education Email onwegues edu | Phone: 200.043.1050

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this activity, attendees should be able to:

- Evaluate spinal pain in an efficient and clear manner.
- Educate patients about managing pain while staying on schedule.
- Develop a sound non-opioid pain treatment plan.
- Describe the pharmacology and use of buprenorphine for chronic pain.
- Help patients with pain-related disability negotiate the disability system.
- Understand the uses of antidepressants in pain treatment.
- Apply complementary medicine options to common pain issues.
- Evaluate and know when to refer for abdominal pain, pelvic pain, and headache.
- Appreciate the regulatory environment around pain care and opioid prescribing and describe best practices for this.

