



PHARMACEUTICAL CARE NETWORK EUROPE

Working Conference 2013 – Abstract

Collaborative pharmaceutical care in research and practice

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The above mentioned participant in the PCNE WC 2013 wishes to submit following abstract for a poster or oral communication. If accepted and presented, the abstract will be published in the International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy. Please make sure the abstract is no longer than 350 words, excl. author-details.

<p>Title A review of clinical practice guidelines for the use of opioids in chronic nonmalignant pain in primary care</p>
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<p>Type of abstract</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Practice development <input type="checkbox"/> Practice implementation</p>
<p>Aim of project/study The Institute of Medicine (IOM) defines clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) as “systematically developed statements about specific clinical problems intended to assist practitioners and patients in making decisions about appropriate health care” (1). CPGs have been developed to direct the prescribing of medications for a range of conditions such as the delivery of analgesia in chronic nonmalignant pain (CNMP). Opioids are one class of analgesics used in pain management and appear in Steps 2 and 3 of the WHO analgesic ladder (2). The use of strong opioids in CNMP has increased in recent years despite limited evidence supporting their safety and efficacy in this condition (3). The aim of the systematic review is to identify, critically appraise and compare recommendations contained within CPGs for the prescribing of opioids for CNMP in primary care.</p>
<p>Method A systematic search strategy was used to identify CPGs for the prescribing of opioids for CNMP in adults aged 18 and older in the primary care setting. The search strategy was developed to facilitate the extraction of CPGs from a variety of resources including electronic databases, guideline repositories and websites directed at healthcare professionals and patients. The themes of key recommendations contained within CPGs were used to classify the content as clinical or patient management.</p>

Result(s)

Sixteen CPGs were retained following application of the exclusion criteria; of these 6 originated in the USA, 4 from Canada, 4 from Australia and 2 from European countries. The focus of the CPG varies according to country of origin and target population of the guideline. US guidelines place an emphasis on patient management considerations particularly those to minimise the risk of aberrant opioid related behavior. CPGs differ in the extent to which certain clinical information is discussed, particularly information on dosing, frequency, drug-interactions and contra-indications. The inclusion of tramadol, a centrally acting analgesic with weak affinity for the μ -opioid receptor, as an opioid appropriate for use in CNMP also varies between CPGs (4).

+++ NB: PhD students still pay the early bird fee for their abstract is accepted ++++

References

1. IOM. Clinical Practice Guideline: Directions for a New Program. Washington D.C.: National Academy Press; 1990. p. 8-9.
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3. Warner EA. Opioids for the treatment of chronic noncancer pain. Am J Med. 2012 Dec;125(12):1155-61. PubMed PMID: 22944349. Epub 2012/09/05. eng.
4. Grond S, Sablotzki A. Clinical Pharmacology of Tramadol. Clinical Pharmacokinetics. 2004;43(13).