

Drug use for pain management in cancer patients

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Abstrak

Cancer pain management: is a multidisciplinary effort, where the use of drug is often greatly beneficial for the patient. Pain assessment using the visual analog scale (VAS) is very helpful. Mild pain can be managed using acetaminophen or non-steroid anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Moderate pain can be treated using mild opioids, while severe pain is treated using strong opioids such as morphine. Administration of morphine is safe, with a dose that is titrated to reach the optimal dosage, and does not produce serious side-effects. Administration of laxatives to prevent constipation should commence since the first administration of morphine.