The Problem of "Pain"



Saint Augustine

Life controlling / Life altering

Objectives

- Recognize the incidence and prevalence of pain in the population they serve
- Identify conditions that mask pain
- Verbalize variables and barriers resulting in poor pain management
- Differentiate between addiction, tolerance and pseudo- addiction
- Identify an indication for the use of antidepressants in pain management
- Demonstrate pain assessment in non-verbal patient
- Identify the use of opioids for pain and other EOL matters

What does pain look like in 2021?

- Pain is in the top 10 most prevalent "diseases" in the US
- Pain and chronic particularly in the elder population is 20% to 50%
- Women more likely than men to experience chronic pain
- Covid has seriously impacted an increase in chronic pain

'Pain lets you know you are still alive.'

Man, I feel so, so, so Alive right now.

Making Invisible
Disabilities Visible
someecards
user card



What does pain control in our lives?

- Weight gain
- How we do our job

How we spend time with friends

How we view others

- Weight loss
- Are we able to keep a job
- Can we maintain friendships

How we view ourselves

Pain Changes people.

It's truly a sad thing when you don't realize that you are the medicine.... And you've also been the reason for pain.



Pain is produced by:

- Stimuli (poke, stab, falls)
- Disease

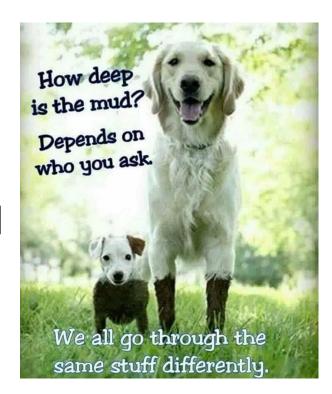
And exaggerated by:

- Loneliness
 - Despair
 - Depression



Contributing to pain misunderstanding in those experiencing it:

- Culture
- Gender
- Age
- Mental status / TBI even mild
- Societal acceptance



So, who has pain, really?
Its harder to see (at times) addiction vs pseudoaddiction

Classification of Pain Types

- Neuropathic damage to peripheral or central nerves
- Nociceptive associated with inflammatory/ biological processes
- Somatic body wall, usually easy to locate
- Visceral internal organ diffused in nature
- Break-through fleeting increase in pain with baseline persistent pain
- Phantom affecting the part of amputated limb farthest from the body
- And something we all chuckle about ... MAN PAIN

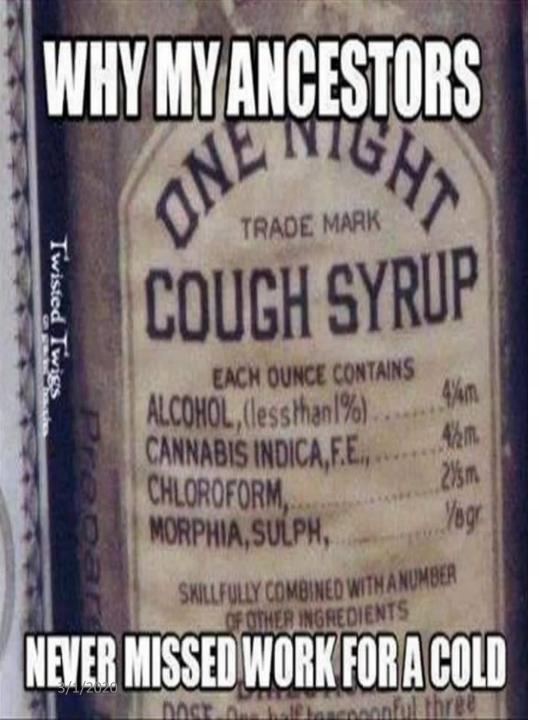
MAN PAIN is real!

- There IS a gender gap here!
- Males and females process pain response differently (MU & Kappa)
- Medication use is different as well (>30% more for females)
- Men aren't weaker, they're just different ... nuff said?

How fast does pain travel?

- Delta fibers: 40
- C- Fibers: 3
- Sensory: 275

So, if we know this, and we are supposed to understand medication, how did we get into the opioid crisis we are in today?







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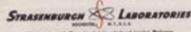
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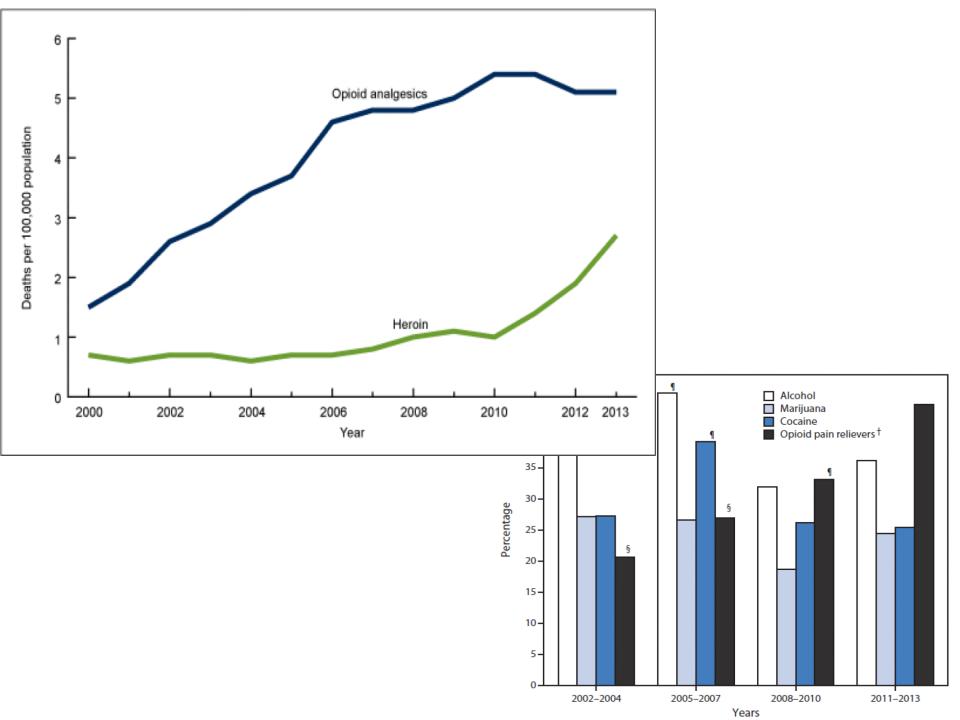
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The Role of Cannabidiol (CBD) in Comfort Care

- Is CBD legal?
- Hemp oil versus CBD
- Research on CBD for pain
- What can CBD be used for?
- Side effects of CBD: Elevated Liver Er
- Is CBD addictive?
- There is presently no "appropriate"
- Labeling is an issue



The Difference between addiction and pseudo-addiction

Addiction

- Medications stimulate the reward center in the brain
- Impaired control over drug use
- Compulsive use despite evidence of harm
- This harm may be physical, mental, and/or social
- May begin by overprescribing by physician

Psuedo-addiction

- Patient may be undertreated and appear to have a craving for a drug
- May become anxious or easily agitated
- Medication may be correct, but dosage schedule too far between
- Issues resolve once pain is treated effectively

ADDICTION Case Study #1

A 54-year-old woman with chronic pain due to inflammatory arthritis presents to the emergency department (ED) stating that she is having a "flare" of her arthritis, but is out of her Oxycontin® and immediate-release oxycodone. She is aware that it is too early to fill her prescriptions, but she insists that she will be traveling out of state and "really needs" her medications. She presents on a Saturday when her clinic is closed, and her primary care physician is "on vacation."

3/1/2020



PSEUDO-ADDICTION Case Study #2

17-year-old man with acute leukemia, who was hospitalized with pneumonia and chest wall pain.

5 mg of intravenous morphine every 4 to 6 h on an asneeded dosing schedule but received additional doses and analgesics over time.

After a few days the young man began requesting medication prior to scheduled dosing, requesting specific opioids, and engaging in pain behaviors (e.g., moaning, crying, grimacing, and complaining about various aches and pains) to elicit drug delivery.

3/1/2020

How dependence and tolerance differ

Dependence

- A person who uses opioids despite the resolution of pain may experience withdrawal symptoms.
- It is often a choice to want something different in life and desire to quite using drugs.

Tolerance

- Tolerance is when the body adjusts to the desired and undesired effects of the drug.
- Develops more slowly to pain relief than to respiratory depression and the constipating effects of the drug.

Antidepressants for pain management

Positives

- Mechanism not fully understood, but requires smaller dose to treat pain than to treat depression
- Mainstay treatment for chronic pain
- Dose to treat pain is often less that to treat depression

Negatives

- Takes time to get into the system
- May have unpleasant sideeffects in certain populations
- May be associated with increased suicide risks
- Must be tapered when withdrawing patient from medication

Alternatives to medications

- Aromatherapy
- Massage
- Hypnotism
- Acupuncture
- Let any other medical practitioners you see know about any massage or other natural therapies you are using to treat your chronic pain.

End-of-life doesn't always mean end of pain

 The rule is: If someone required pain medication before they went into a semi or full comatose state, they probably still need pain management.

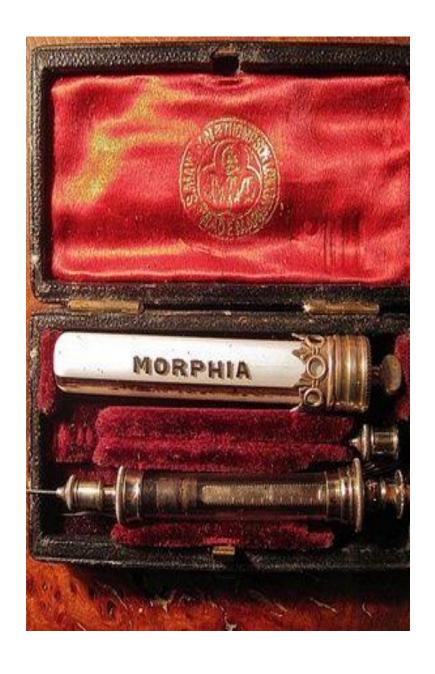


Assessing comatose or non-verbal patient for pain

- Facial action (at rest and with repositioning)
- Body movement and with repositioning
- Vocalizations (groan with repositioning)
- Increased heart rate
- Respiratory rate
- Blood pressure
- Decreased heart rate with oxygen desaturation

Morphine at end-of-life

- Pain management
- Eases breathing even with lower respirations
- The fear of Morphine
- Explaining "Double effect"



The often vilified hero of pain control



Am. J. Ph.]

December, 1901

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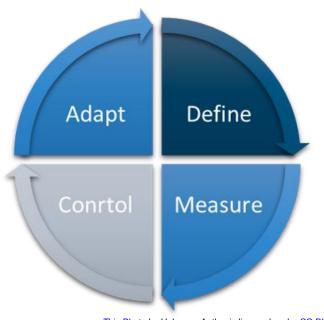
Fentanyl is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine



This is the amount of Fentanyl needed to kill the average adult.

Keys to meeting the pain challenge

- Knowledge
- Listening skills
- Proper assessment
- Patience



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In Conclusion

- Pain is "what they say it is"
- Be a good listener
- Be a good detective!
- Know ourselves and our bias'
- Always be compassionate



Thank you for your time!

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