



# Holistic pain management in multiple myeloma

November 10, 2022

Chair: Mohamad Mohty

Speakers: Heinz Ludwig, Barry Quinn, Flaminia Coluzzi

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Welcome and introductions

# Disclosures

Mohamad Mohty

- The following declarations are made for the last 3 years and the following 12 months (where arrangements have already been made):
  - Research grant(s)/in kind support: Celgene, Janssen, Sanofi, Jazz Pharmaceuticals
  - Participation in accredited CME/CPD: None
  - Consultant/strategic advisor: None
  - Holder of patents/shares or stocks related or unrelated to this presentation: No
  - Non-financial interests: None

# Agenda

| Time (CET)  | Item  | Presenter        |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| 17:00–17:10 | Welcome and introductions                                       | Mohamad Mohty    |
| 17:10–17:25 | Understanding pain in early multiple myeloma                    | Heinz Ludwig     |
| 17:25–17:40 | Implementing a holistic pain treatment plan in advanced disease | Barry Quinn      |
| 17:40–17:55 | Dos and don'ts in pain management                               | Flaminia Coluzzi |
| 17:55–18:05 | Q&A session and evaluation                                      | All              |
| 18:05–18:10 | Closing remarks   | Mohamad Mohty    |

# Learning objectives

Following this symposium, participants will be able to:

Identify and use appropriate tools for **collecting patient-reported outcomes** and **assessing quality of life** in patients with multiple myeloma

Accurately **assess pain** and identify the key components of **an individualized holistic pain management plan** for patients with multiple myeloma

Select **appropriate pharmacological analgesics** for patients based on **individual needs**

Describe **key side effects** and **contraindications for analgesics**

Implement **adequate risk assessments** when **prescribing analgesics** and state practices that **minimize or prevent adverse consequences**

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# Faculty

Our expert panel



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*Chair*

Hôpital Saint-Antoine and  
Sorbonne University,  
Paris, FR



**Heinz Ludwig**

Wilhelminen Cancer  
Research Institute,  
Vienna, AT



**Barry Quinn**

Queen's University Belfast,  
Belfast, UK, and  
Mohammed Bin Rashid  
University, Dubai, AE



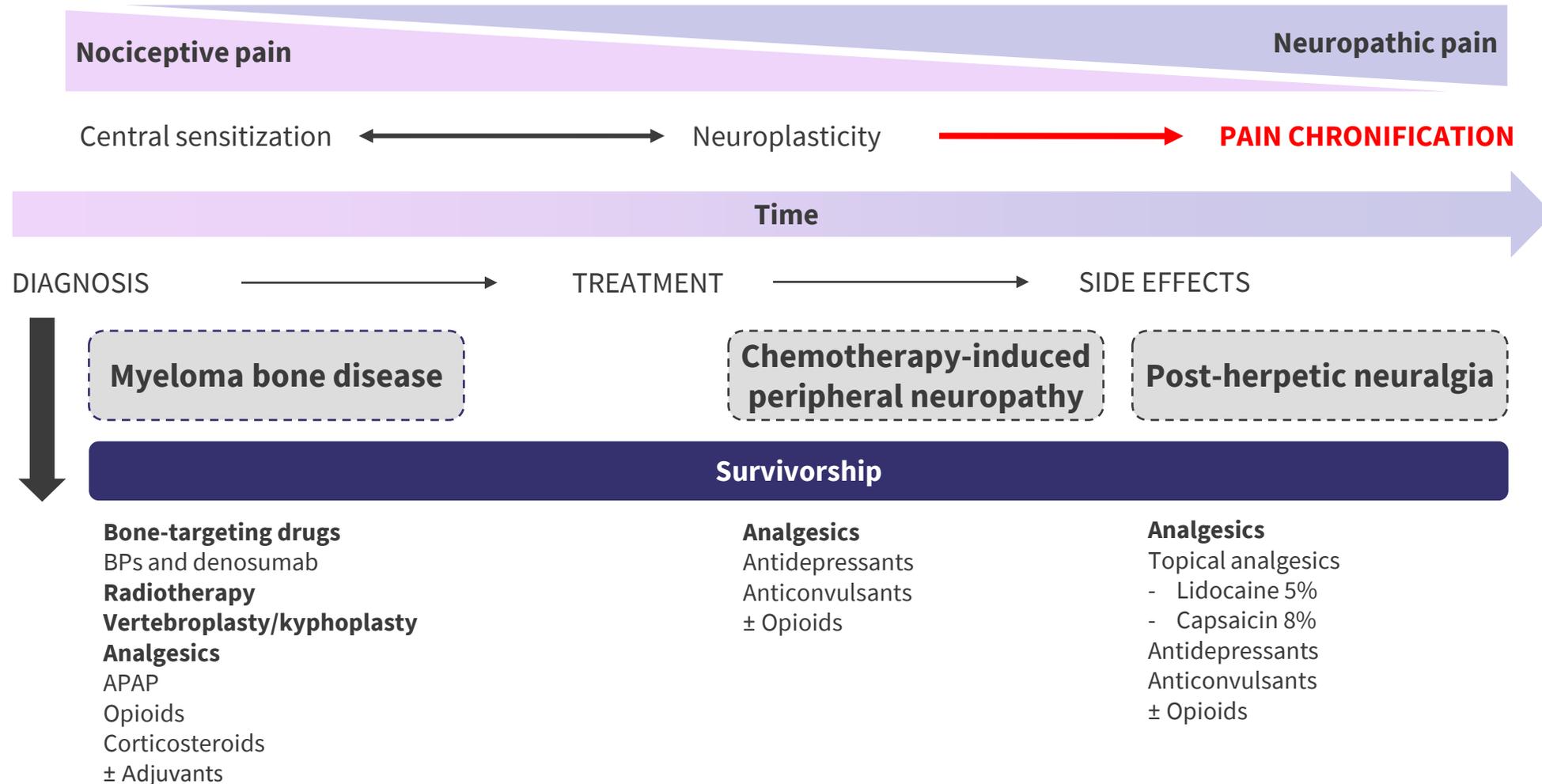
**Flaminia Coluzzi**

Sapienza University of Rome,  
Rome, IT

# Why is pain important in multiple myeloma?<sup>1-3</sup>

- Pain can have a profound adverse effect on the **HRQoL and treatment outcomes** of patients with multiple myeloma.
- Despite both pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments, **pain is often ineffectively managed** in multiple myeloma.
- Poorly managed pain can lead to **psychological distress and anxiety** for both patients with multiple myeloma and their carers.
- Pain can contribute to **increased multiple myeloma-related morbidity** and disability.
- Patients are often averse to raising pain as a problem, with different perceptions of the **priority of care** to clinicians.

# Pain and pain management evolve over the course of the disease



Adapted from Coluzzi F, et al. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2019;11(12):2037.



# Understanding pain in early multiple myeloma

Dr Heinz Ludwig

Wilhelminen Cancer Research Institute, Vienna, AT

# Disclosures

Heinz Ludwig

The following declarations are made for the last 3 years and the following 12 months (where arrangements have already been made):

- Research grant(s)/in kind support: Amgen, Takeda, Sanofi
- Consultant/strategic advisor: Amgen, Takeda, Celgene-BMS, Janssen, Pfizer, Sanofi

# Objectives

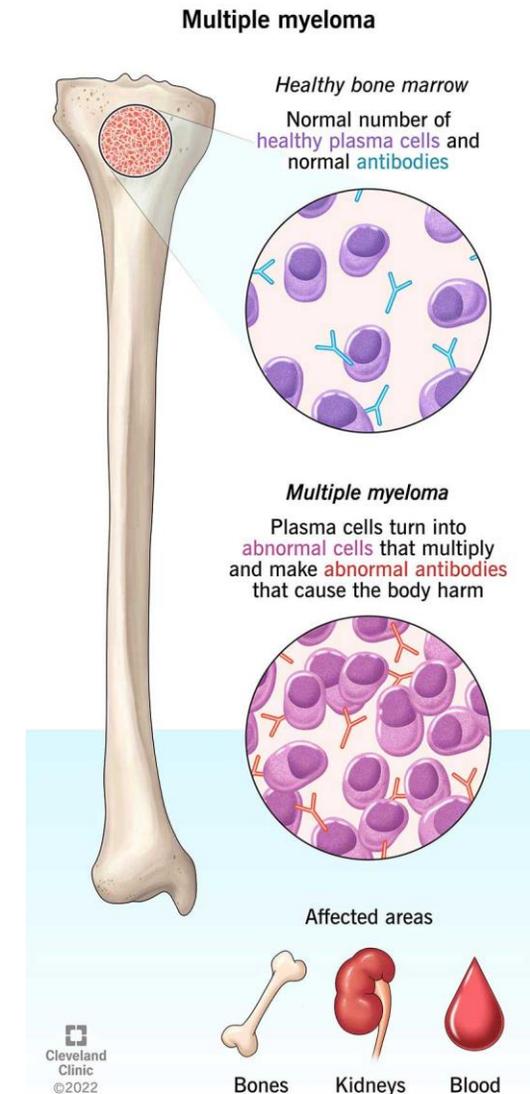
- Consider pain symptoms experienced by patients with multiple myeloma
- Provide an overview of how pain can change with disease progression
- Review common causes of pain at presentation, diagnosis, and early lines of multiple myeloma treatment
- Explore the importance of patient-reported outcomes, patient-reported outcome measures, and quality-of-life questionnaires in pain assessment
- Understand the impact of pain on patients with multiple myeloma
- Consider the pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches to pain, including bone disease

# Symptoms in patients with early multiple myeloma

- 16X times greater risk of fracture in 12 months before diagnosis<sup>1</sup>
- **70% of patients with multiple myeloma experience bone pain<sup>2</sup>**
- **Osteolytic bone lesions occur in 80–90% of patients (mostly spinal)<sup>3</sup>**

## Symptoms<sup>4</sup>:

- **Bone fractures, spinal cord compression**
- Fatigue, weakness
- Increased rate of infections
- Decrease in kidney function
- Weight loss, night sweats
- Symptoms from surplus proteins, e.g., cryoglobulinemia



Cleveland Clinic. Multiple myeloma. <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/6178-multiple-myeloma>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

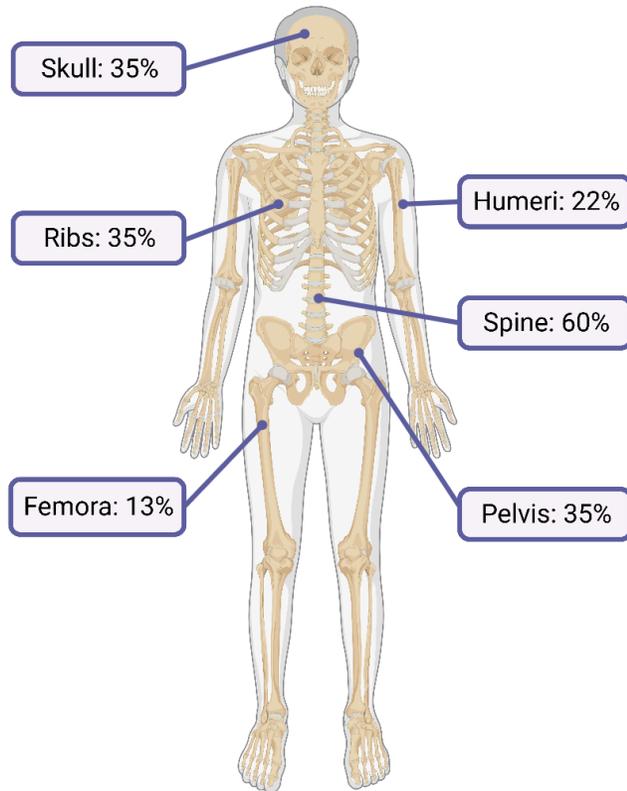
1. Melton LJ, et al. *J Bone Miner Res.* 2005;20(3):487-93. 2. Diaz-delCastillo M, et al. *Cancers (Basel)* 2021;13(7):1596. 3. Coluzzi F, et al. *Cancers (Basel)* 2019;11(12):2037.

4. Cleveland Clinic. Multiple myeloma. <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/6178-multiple-myeloma>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

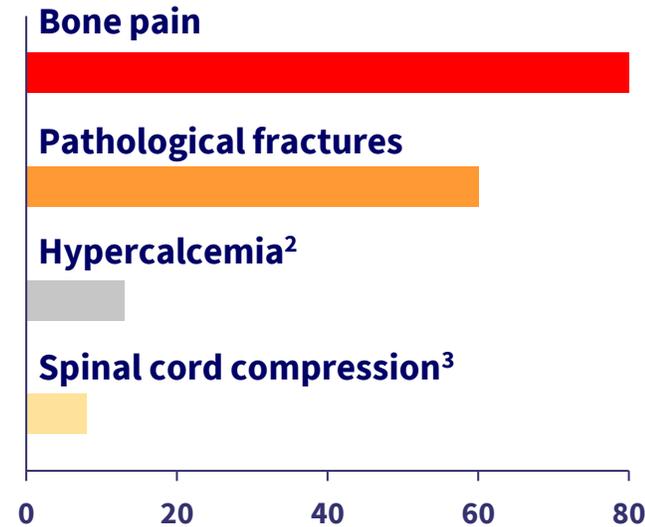
# Common causes of pain in multiple myeloma

## Bone lesions: osteoclastic lesions, fractures, microfractures<sup>1</sup>

### Position of the bone lesions



### Clinical manifestations



### Neurological<sup>1,4</sup>

- Neuropathy
- Compression
- Tension pain

### Therapy

- Mucositis<sup>5</sup>
- Surgery<sup>6</sup>
- Bone marrow biopsy

### Infections<sup>4</sup>

### Organ manifestations<sup>7</sup>

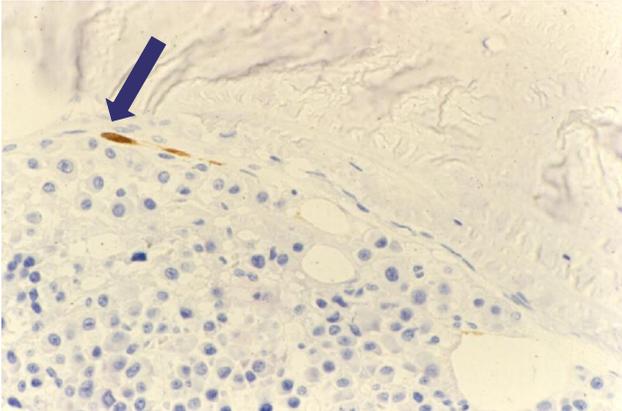
- Visceral pain
- Joint/capsular pain
- Soft tissue infiltration

Adapted from Delforge M. Educational session. 15th Congress of EHA. Jun 10, 2010; Barcelona, ES.  
Created using BioRender.com.

1. Coluzzi F, et al. *Cancers (Basel)* 2019;11(12):2037. 2. Blimark CV, et al. *Haematologica*. 2018;103(3):506-513. 3. Chen B, et al. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol*. 2021;160:103205. 4. NORD. Multiple myeloma. <https://rarediseases.org/rare-diseases/multiple-myeloma/>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022. 5. Fleming S, et al. *Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk*. 2014;14(4):291-296. 6. Myeloma UK. Surgical intervention in myeloma. <https://www.myeloma.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Myeloma-UK-Surgical-intervention-Infoguide-1.pdf>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022. 7. Myeloma UK. Pain and myeloma. <https://www.myeloma.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Myeloma-UK-Pain-and-myeloma-Infoguide.pdf>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

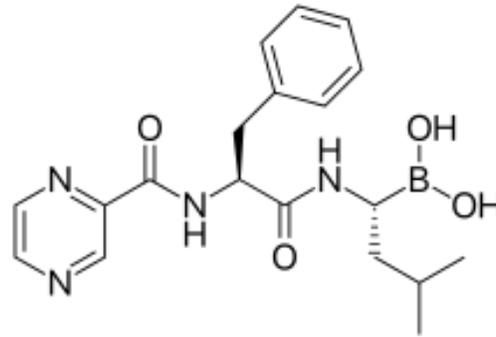
# Causes of neuropathic pain in multiple myeloma

## Bone marrow biopsy specimen



Pecherstorfer M. wie entstehen knochenmetastasen. <https://slideplayer.org/slide/867519/>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

## Bortezomib neurotoxicity<sup>1</sup>



U.S. FDA. Bortezomib prescribing information. [https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/label/2006/021602s010lbl.pdf](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2006/021602s010lbl.pdf)

## Inflammatory cytokines and prostaglandins irritate sensory nerves



## Various causes

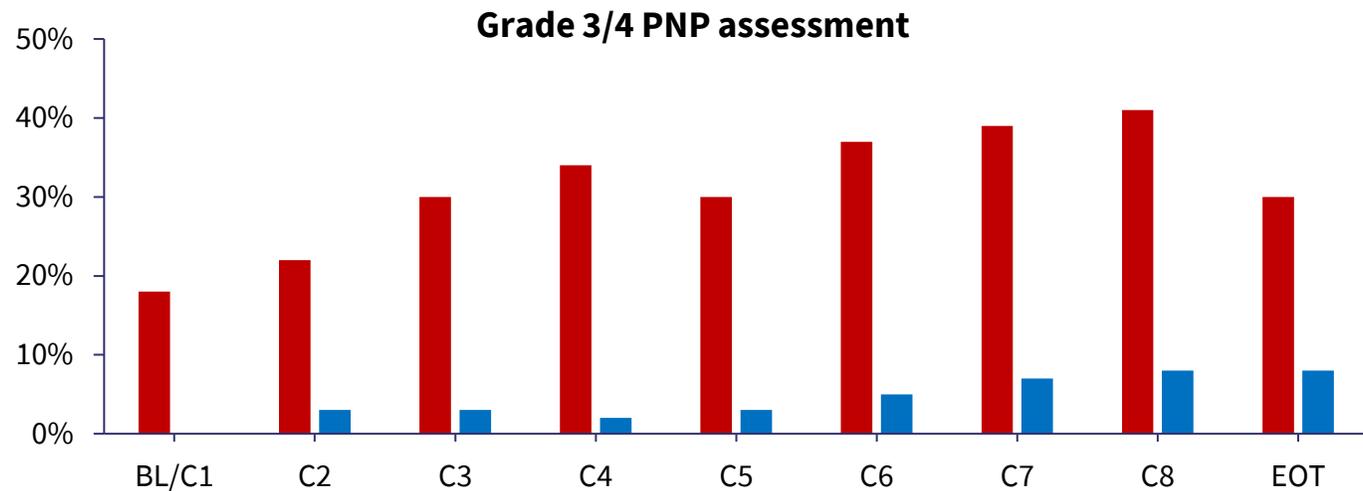
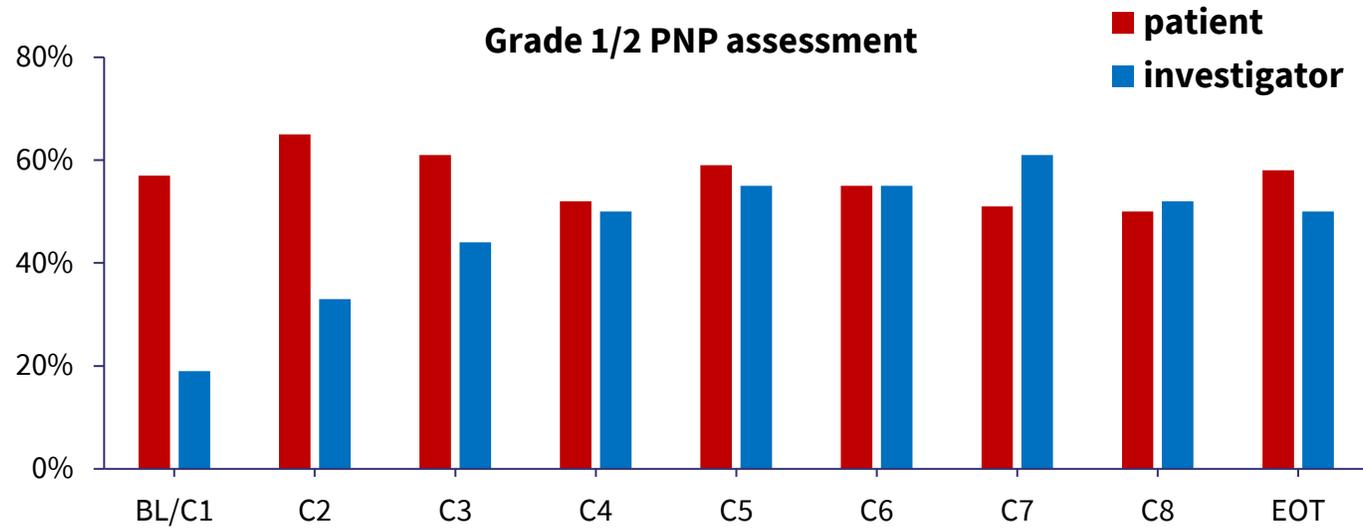
- Neurotoxic substances (e.g., bortezomib)<sup>2</sup>
- Nerve compression<sup>2</sup>
- Herpes reactivation<sup>2</sup>
- Trigeminal neuralgia<sup>3</sup>
- Joint pain<sup>4</sup>
- Paraproteinemic neuropathy<sup>4</sup>

**1.** Boyette-Davis JA, et al., *J Pain*. 2011;12(9):1017-1024. **2.** Coluzzi F, et al. *Cancers (Basel)* 2019;11(12):2037. **3.** Cureus. Uncommon presentations of multiple myeloma. <https://www.cureus.com/articles/28770-uncommon-presentations-of-multiple-myeloma>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022. **4.** Myeloma UK. Pain and myeloma. <https://www.myeloma.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Myeloma-UK-Pain-and-myeloma-Infoguide.pdf>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022. **5.** Zivković SA, et al. *Leuk Lymphoma*. 2009;50(9):1422-1433.

# Challenges in caregiver–patient communication on pain

- **Patients may be reluctant to admit pain.**<sup>1</sup>
- Less than 75% of clinical records match the level of pain reported by patients (71.5%).<sup>1</sup>
- In approximately 20% of patients with MM-related bone pain, there is **no record of pain** in their medical notes.<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately 50% of **physicians managing multiple myeloma underestimate** the severity of bone pain experienced by their patients.<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately one third of patients with cancer do not receive pain medication **adequate for the intensity of pain present.**<sup>2</sup>
- Time constraints in the clinical setting can be overcome by using self-report assessments to help patients quantify pain.<sup>3</sup>

# Peripheral neuropathy: Differences in patient and caregiver reporting



BL, baseline; C, Cycle; EOT, end of treatment; PNP, peripheral neuropathy.  
 Ludwig, et al. *Blood*. 2012;120(21):943.

# Patient-reported outcomes: Measuring pain and its impact on QoL

- Patient-reported outcomes allow direct patient report on function and health.
- They give the patient the opportunity to provide structured and guided feedback on their disease and treatment.
- Patient-reported outcomes allow data to be captured **outside of routine clinical outcomes**, such as efficacy and safety.
- Relative to clinician assessments, a direct patient report can:
  - **improve the detection of symptoms**, including the presence and quantification;
  - be more sensitive to change; and
  - provide a greater degree of association with the patient's overall health status.

# Measuring pain with the EORTC QLQ-MY20

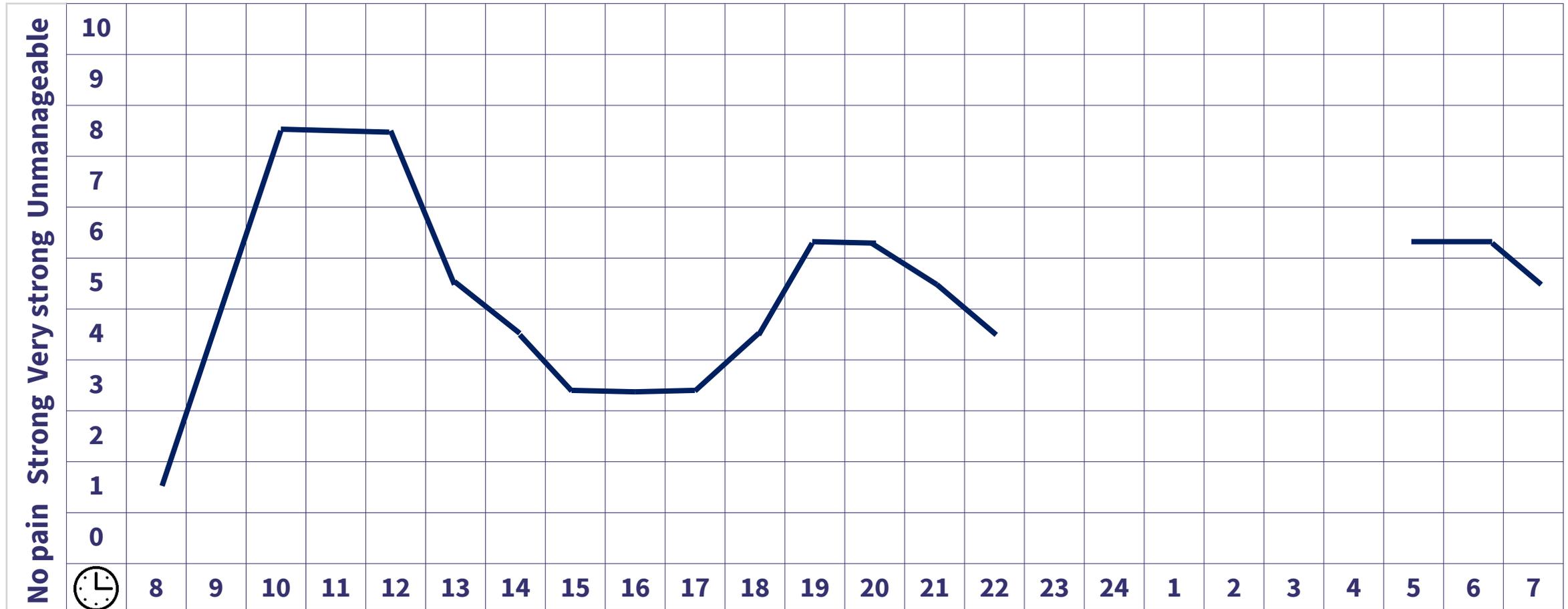
| <b>During the past week:</b> |  | <b>Not at All</b> | <b>A Little</b> | <b>Quite a Bit</b> | <b>Very Much</b> |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 31.                          | Have you had bone aches or pain?               | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 32.                          | Have you had pain in your back?                | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 33.                          | Have you had pain in your hip?                 | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 34.                          | Have you had pain in your arm or shoulder?     | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 35.                          | Have you had pain in your chest?               | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 36.                          | If you had pain did it increase with activity? | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 37.                          | Did you feel drowsy?                           | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 38.                          | Did you feel thirsty?                          | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |
| 39.                          | Have you felt ill?                             | 1                 | 2               | 3                  | 4                |



© Copyright 1999 EORTC Study Group on Quality of Life. All rights reserved.  
Engelhardt M, et al. *Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk.* 2021;21(2):e160-e175.

**Patient: XY**

**Date: November 2022**



**Pain medication**

| Morning              | Noon                 | Evening            | Night          |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Hydromorphone 2.6 mg | Hydromorphone 2.6 mg | Hydromorphone 6 mg | Zolpidem 10 mg |
| Diclofenac 75 mg     |                      |                    |                |
| Olanzapine 10 mg     |                      | Olanzapine 10 mg   |                |

# Patient-reported outcome measure tools and item banks

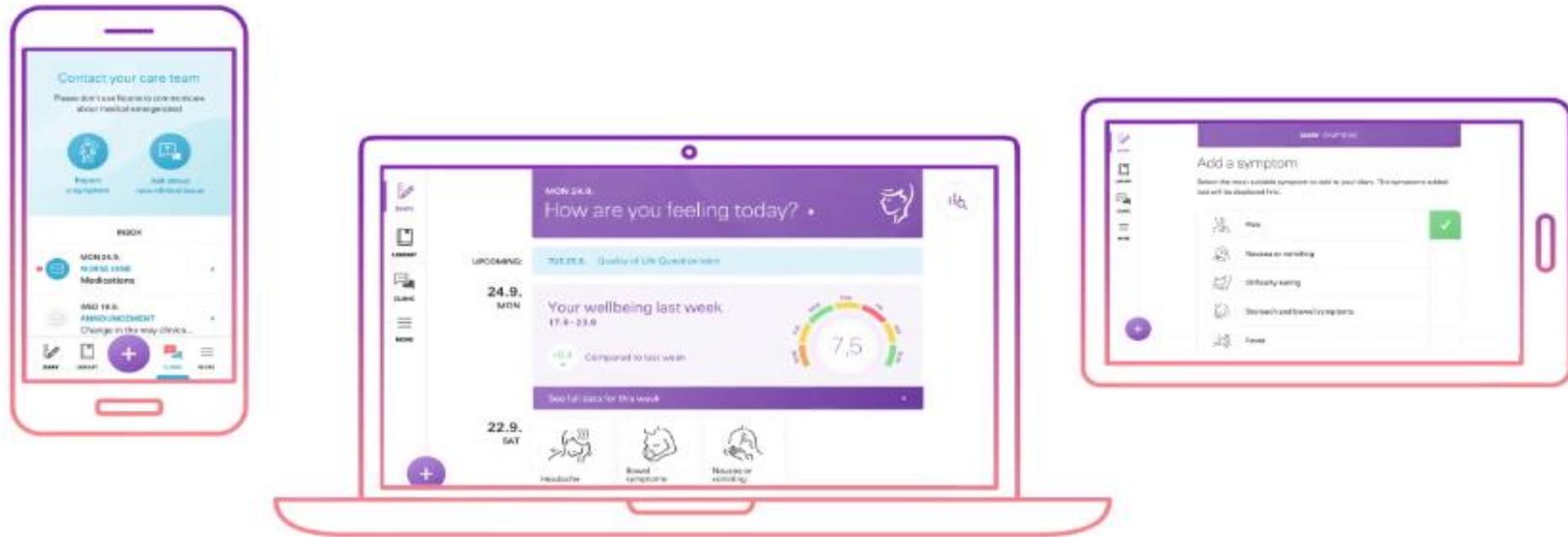
- **PROMIS** (Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System)<sup>1</sup>
  - HCPs and researchers can tailor the constructs they wish to measure using PROMIS items, thus creating an adapted measure suitable for the construct they wish to measure
- **MyPOS** (Myeloma-specific QoL questionnaire)<sup>2</sup>
  - Myeloma UK supported tool, 30 items
- **Importa Project**<sup>3</sup>
  - Defined a set of outcome measures that should be monitored in patients with NDMM
- **National Cancer Institute's (NCI) PROM-CTCAE Toolbox**<sup>4</sup>
  - Online library comprising 124 items that assess different attributes (e.g., presence, frequency, severity, or interference with usual or daily activities)
- **Noona**<sup>5</sup>
  - Hematologic malignancies-specific commercial online tool
- **eSMART**<sup>6</sup>
  - Real-time remote symptom monitoring device using the advanced symptom management system (ASyMS) remote technology (eSMART)

HCPs, healthcare professionals; NDMM, newly diagnosed multiple myeloma; QoL, quality of life.

1. Bevens M, et al. *Nurs Outlook*. 2014;62(5):339-345. 2. Osbourne TM, et al. *BMC Cancer*. 2105;15:280. 3. Blade J, et al. *BMJ Open*. 2018;8(2):e018850. 4. Basch E, et al. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2014;106(9):dju244.

5. Noona. [www.Noona.com](http://www.Noona.com). 6. Maguire R, et al. *BMJ Open*. 2017;7(5):e015016.

# Noona<sup>®</sup> electronic tool for assessment of symptoms and complications



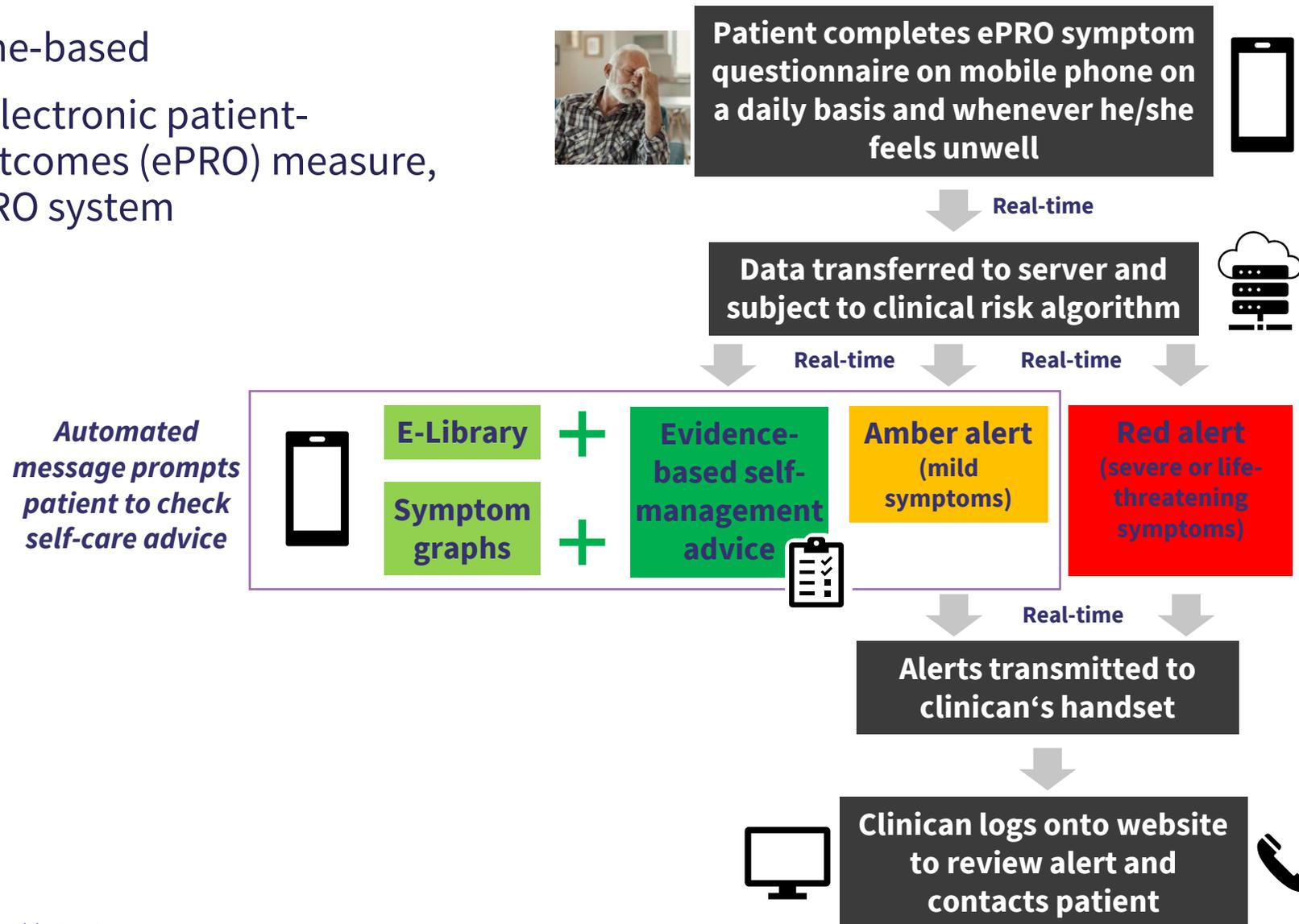
Patient reports online regularly, and at the occurrence of acute symptoms or complications, to the care provider



Created with BioRender.com.

# Electronic symptom management system remote technology (eSMART)<sup>1</sup>

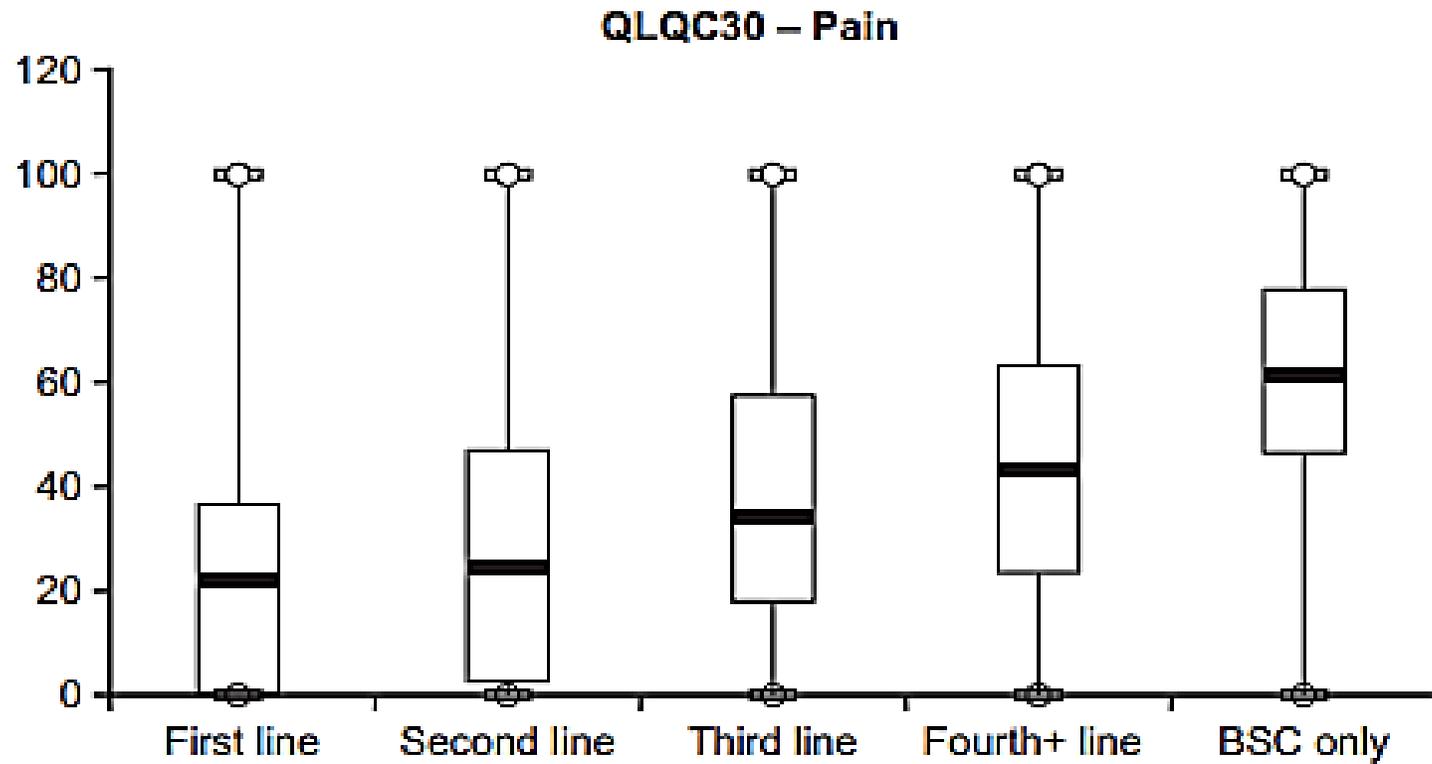
- Mobile phone-based
- Utilizes an electronic patient-reported outcomes (ePRO) measure, creating ePRO system



# Benefits of patient-reported outcome measures for patients

- Improve and facilitate communication with caregivers<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Independent of clinic visits (great benefit for those living far away)
  - More often and much more detailed
- Reduce visits to emergency departments<sup>1</sup>
- Reduce hospital admissions<sup>1</sup>
- Result in better care<sup>1</sup>
- Empower patients<sup>1</sup>
- Demonstrated improved clinical outcomes in other cancer types, e.g., lung cancer<sup>3</sup>
- And.....

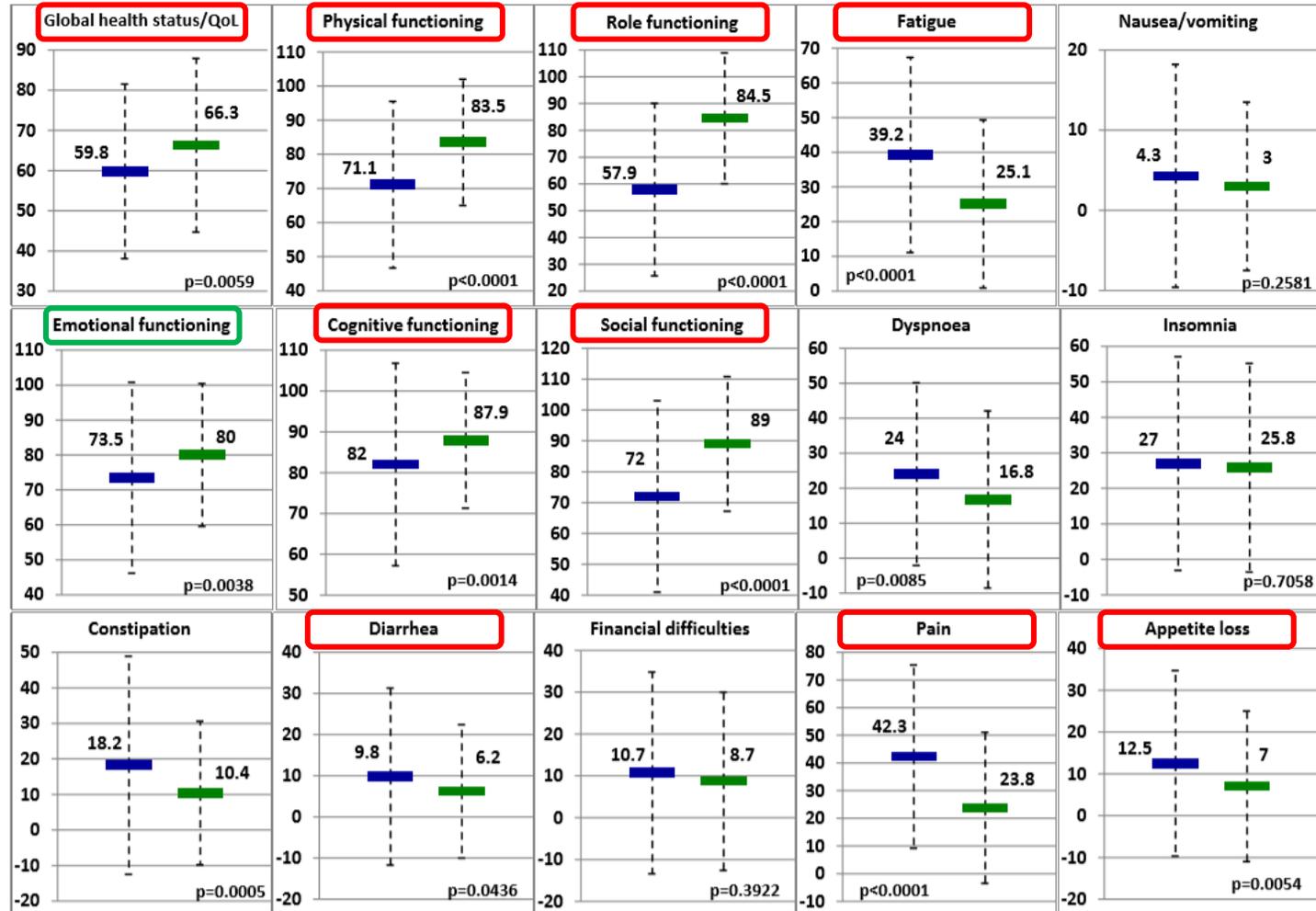
# Pain control becomes more difficult with increasing numbers of relapse



Engelhardt M, et al. *Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk.* 2021;21(2):e160-e175.

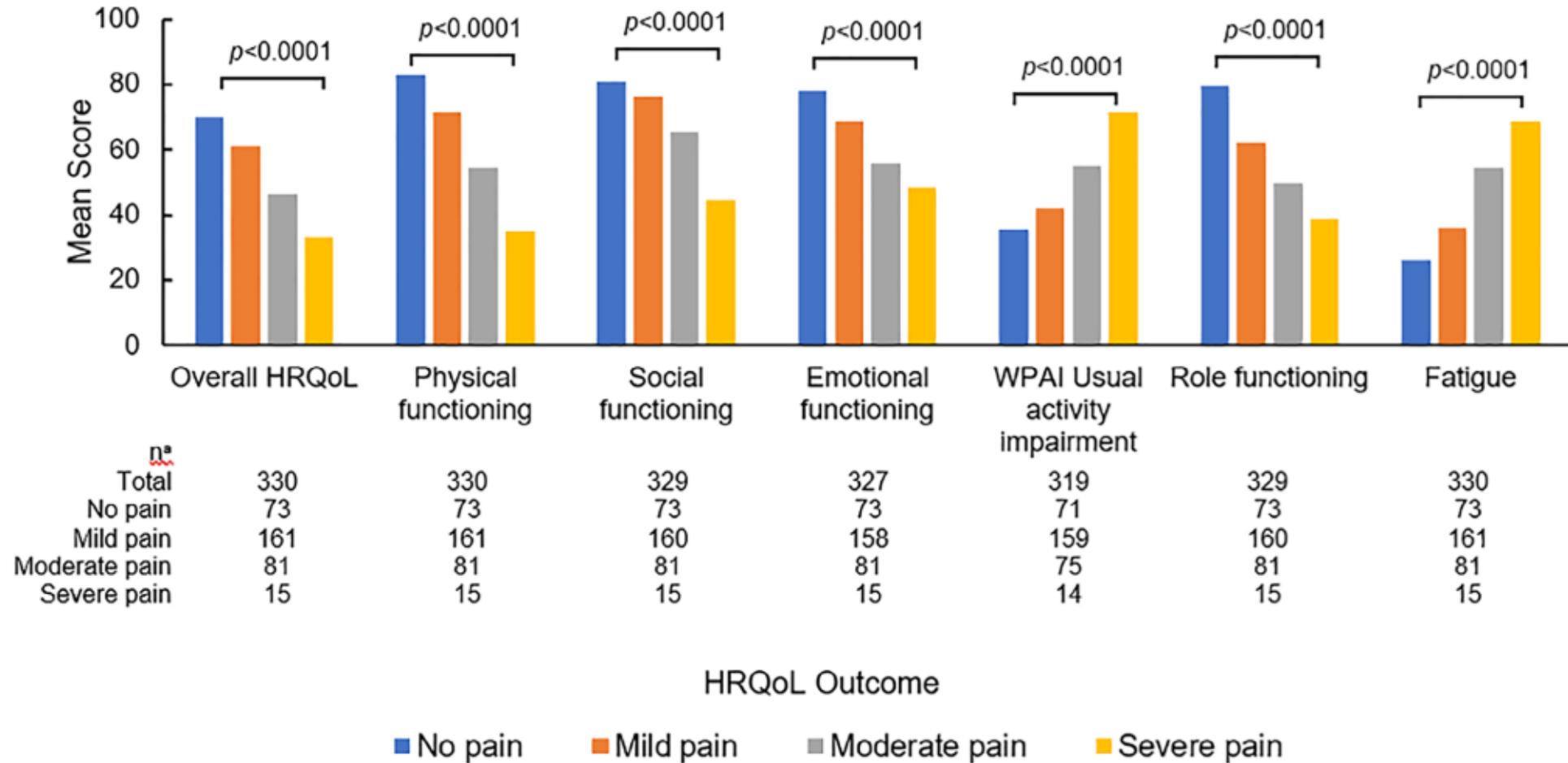
# QoL is significantly impaired in patients with RRMM compared with the general population

Comparison of several dimensions of QoL between patients (blue) and the general population (green).



Ludwig H, et al. *Leuk Lymphoma*. 2020;61(2):337-386.

# Pain intensity shows a negative correlation with QoL



Ludwig H, et al. *Cancer Rep (Hoboken)*. 2022;5(1):e1429.

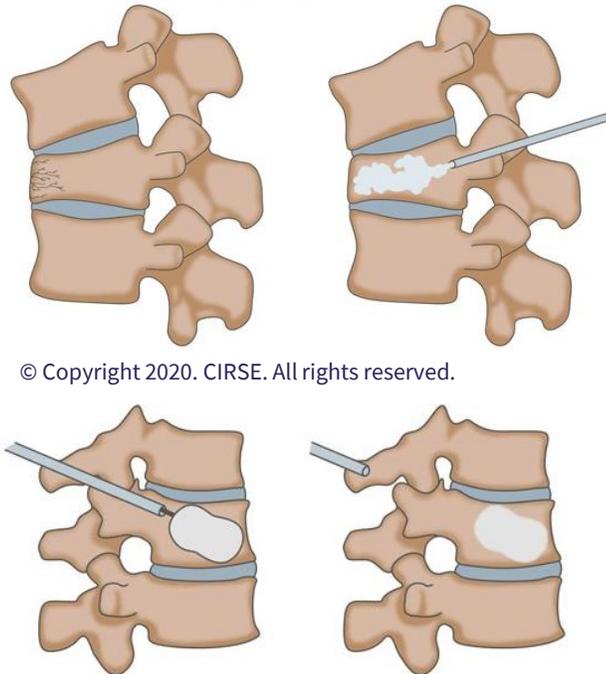
# Local pain therapy

## Fractures: Surgical fixation<sup>1</sup>



joel bubble ben. Shutterstock.com.

## Solitary bone lesions: Vertebroplasty or kyphoplasty<sup>2</sup>



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CIRSE. Vertebral augmentation.

<https://www.cirse.org/patients/ir-procedures/vertebral-augmentation/>. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

## Plasmacytoma, pain: Radiotherapy<sup>2</sup>



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Eseonu KC, et al. *Int J Spine Surg.* 2020;14(4):559-562.

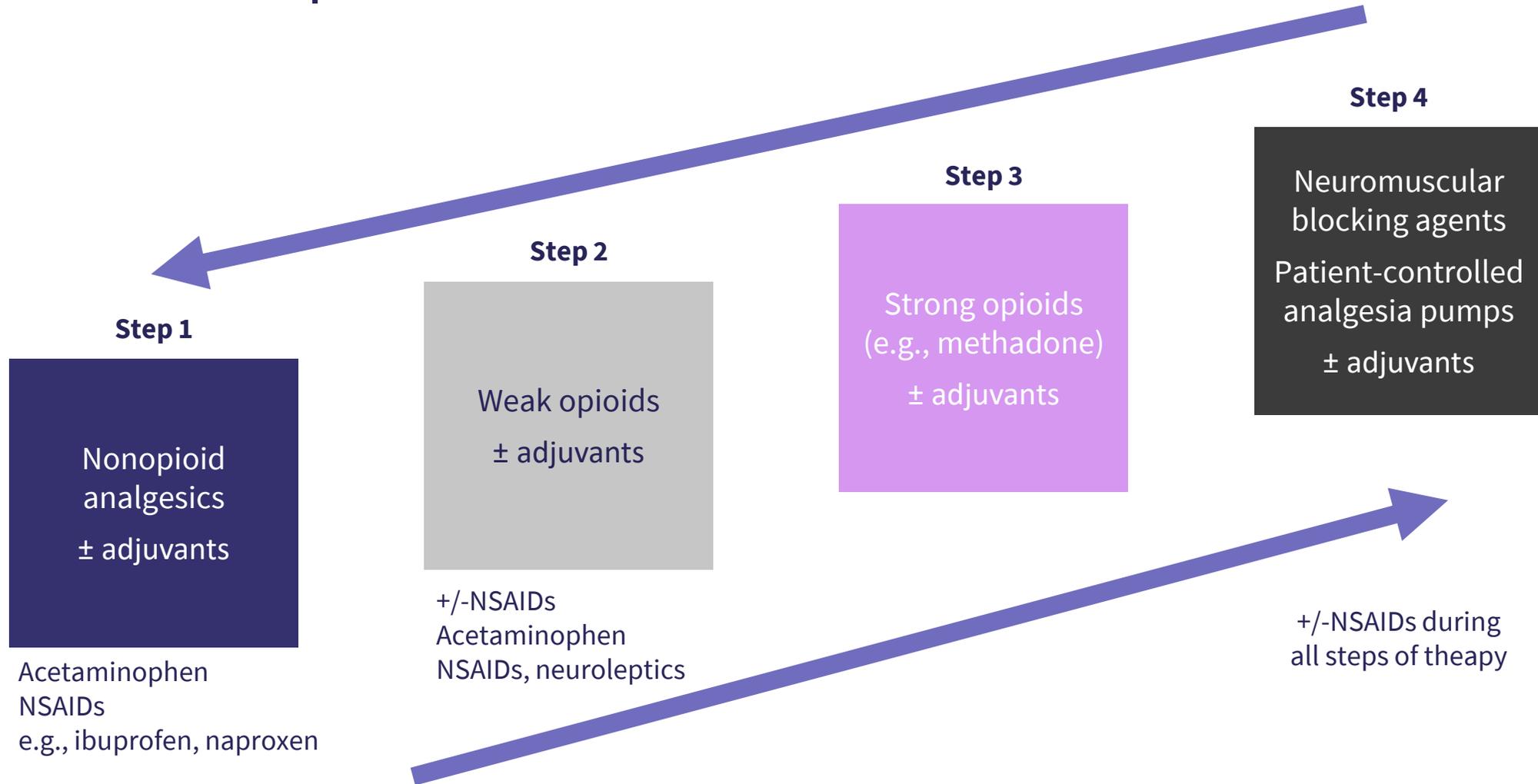


Orion Production. Shutterstock.com.

**Consider bisphosphonates in all steps of therapy**

1. Vaishya R, et al. *BMC Case Reports.* 2017:bcr2016218672. 2. Coluzzi F, et al. *Cancers (Basel)* 2019;11(12):2037.

# Modified WHO pain ladder



Adapted from Pharmacy Times. Breaking through breakthrough cancer pain. <https://www.pharmacytimes.com/view/breaking-through-breakthrough-cancer-pain>. Published Oct 20, 2017. Accessed Oct 31, 2022.

# Key practice points: Steps 1–3

## General points<sup>1</sup>

- Review patient's underlying medical illnesses
- “Ceiling” effect
- Start at lowest effective dose, and practice dose titration

## Adjuvant therapies<sup>1-4</sup>

- Choose adjuvant carefully (risk/benefit)
- Avoid initiating several adjuvants concurrently

## Opioids<sup>1-2</sup>

- If pain is constant/chronic – use long-acting opioids with short-acting for breakthrough
- Breakthrough medication – oral or nasal fentanyl
- If intractable, switch to continuous infusion

# Treatment of neuropathic pain

## Anticonvulsive drugs

- Gabapentin/pregabalin
- Carbamazepine

## Antidepressants

- Tricyclic SSRI (e.g., amitriptyline)
- Paroxetine
- Tetracyclic SSRI (e.g., maprotiline)
- Bupropion

## Topical treatments

- Lidocaine 5%/prilocaine mix
- Lidocaine 5%
- Capsaicin 0.075–8%



© Health Products Regulatory Authority 2014.  
HPRA. Introduction to neuropathic pain.  
[https://www.hpra.ie/docs/default-source/3rd-party-documents/educational-materials/qutenza\\_hcp\\_-\\_prescriber-39-s-guide\\_v1-08-15.pdf?sfvrsn=2](https://www.hpra.ie/docs/default-source/3rd-party-documents/educational-materials/qutenza_hcp_-_prescriber-39-s-guide_v1-08-15.pdf?sfvrsn=2).



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# Summary

- Pain is the most frequent symptom of myeloma at diagnosis and even more so at relapse.
- Bone lesions are the major cause of pain.
  - Other frequent causes are polyneuropathy and reactivation of herpes, as well as pain resulting from adverse events of therapy.
- Pain is associated with health-related quality of life; therefore, pain therapy is a priority of supportive care.

# Summary

- Pain should be assessed by patients using established instruments, as caregivers tend to underestimate the severity of pain.
- Patient-reported outcome measures help improve symptom assessment, patient–caregiver interaction, and patient quality of life.
- Pain treatment depends on the cause of pain and includes a broad spectrum of interventions, such as local therapy, pain medication, and adjuvants for pain therapy.

Thank you for your attention!



# Implementing a holistic pain treatment plan in advanced disease

Dr Barry Quinn

Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, UK

# Disclosures

Barry Quinn

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- Research grant(s)/in kind support: Educational grants from Ipsen, Colgate, VasoDynamics
- Participation in accredited CME/CPD: None
- Consultant/strategic advisor: None
- Patents/shares or stocks related or unrelated to this presentation: None
- Non-financial interests: None

# Objectives

- To explore the concept of pain
- To review our approach to assessing pain in patients with multiple myeloma
- To recognize barriers to pain management
- To apply a more holistic approach to pain management

# Background

- Pain continues to be one of the symptoms most associated with cancer and one of the symptoms that many people fear
- Pain management remains a challenge, resulting in pain being underreported, misunderstood, and often undertreated
- Pain is personal

# Assessment: Classification

## Pain classifications

### Pathophysiology

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Nociceptive</b> | Pain resulting from tissue damage, often described as sharp, an ache, or a throbbing sensation                                      |
| <b>Neuropathic</b> | Pain resulting from nerve damage or a tumor putting pressure on a nerve, often described as burning, a heavy sensation, or numbness |

### Duration

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Acute</b>   | Sudden onset, may last for days, hours, minutes, e.g., post-operative |
| <b>Chronic</b> | More than 3 months' duration, e.g., bone metastases                   |

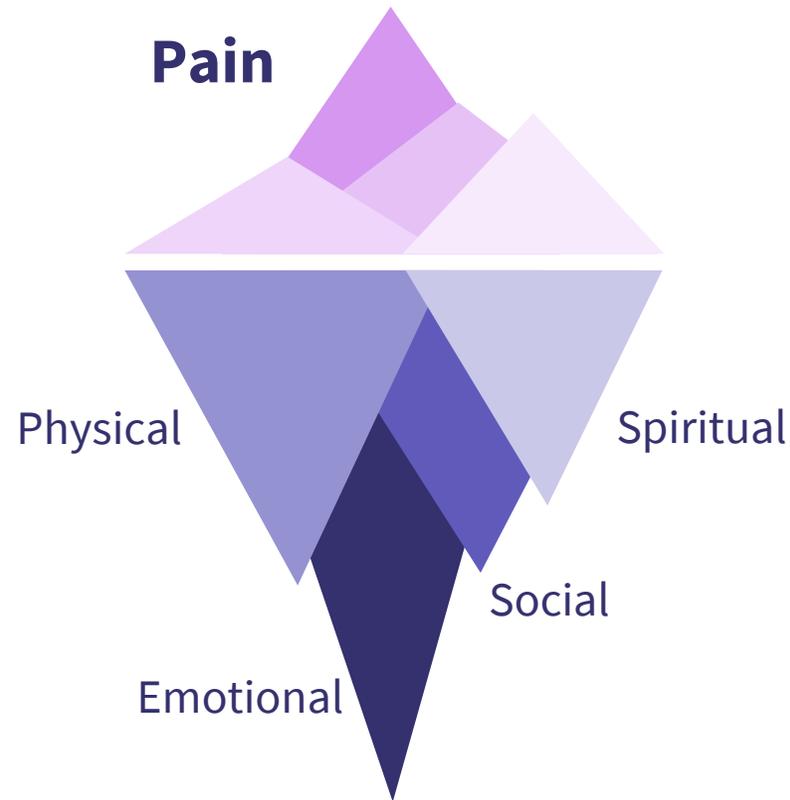
### Onset

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Refractory and intractable</b> | Cannot be adequately controlled despite interventions (not always physical in nature) |
| <b>Breakthrough</b>               | Exacerbation of pain despite adequately controlled baseline pain                      |
| <b>Incident</b>                   | Pain that arises as a result of activity  |

# Hidden pain

- Pain is not easily visible to others
- The suffering and pain that arises in patients is therefore subject to interpretation
- Patients feel that many people do not understand what they are going through
- Ultimately patients can feel alone and isolated in their pain and suffering

# Assessment: Hidden elements of pain



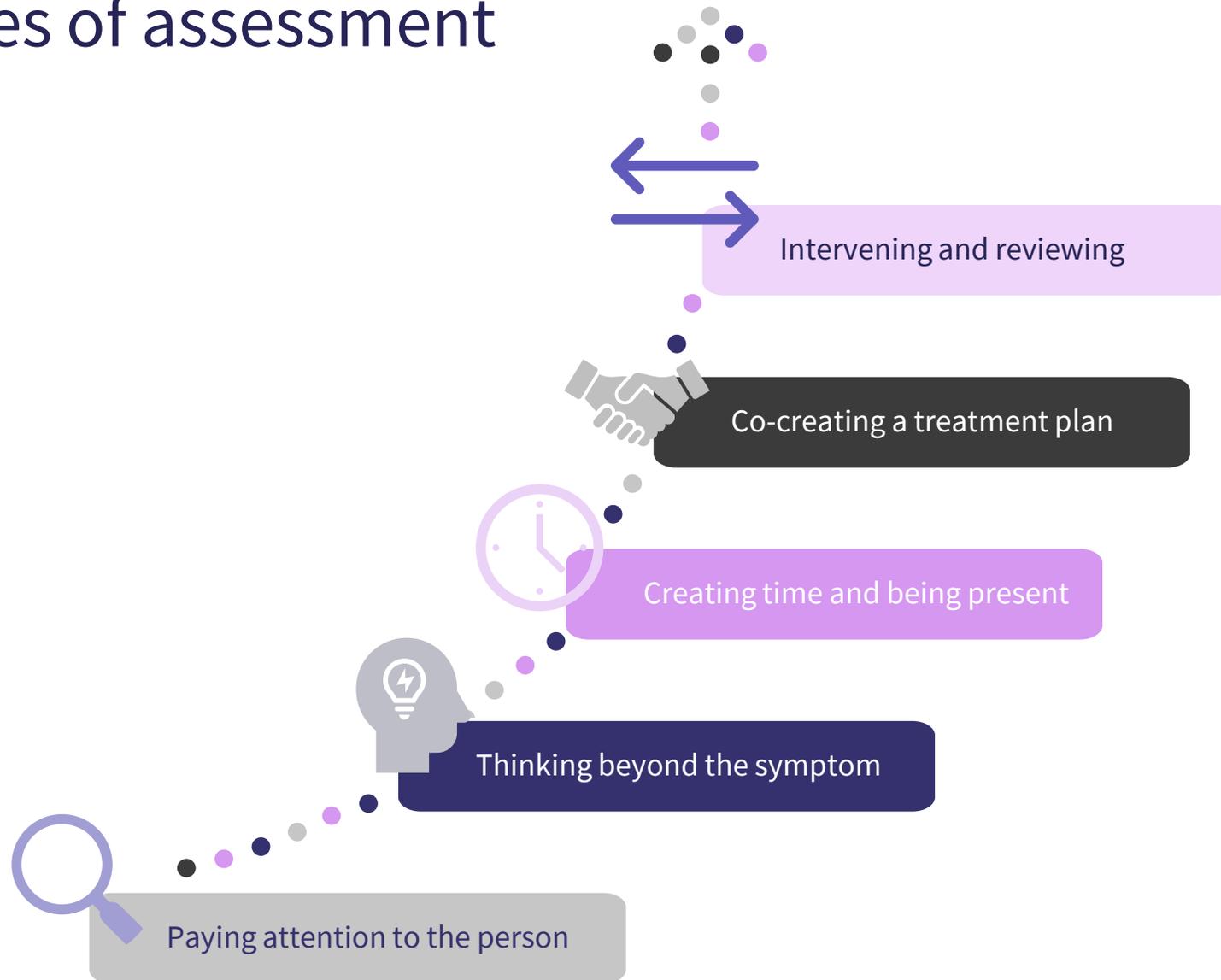
Many of the more challenging aspects of a person's pain, including the social, emotional, and spiritual elements, exist below the surface, hidden from the view of others.

# Obstacles

## Reasons for undertreatment of pain

- Lack of knowledge (HCPs and person with cancer)
- Acceptance of suboptimal pain control
- Fear of drugs, including side effects
- Reluctance to admit pain
- Failing to understand the impact of pain on the person with cancer
- Reluctance of HCPs to ask about pain or offer treatments
- HCP fear of overprescribing
- Looking at pain in isolation from other symptoms/factors

# The principles of assessment



# Assessment: Questions

Some question prompts you may wish to use

## Character and site of pain

- When did your pain start? What was happening at the time?
- Where do you feel the pain?
- Does it spread to any other places?
- What pain sensation do you experience?
- How strong is your pain now/at rest/when you move/during the last week?

## Expectations

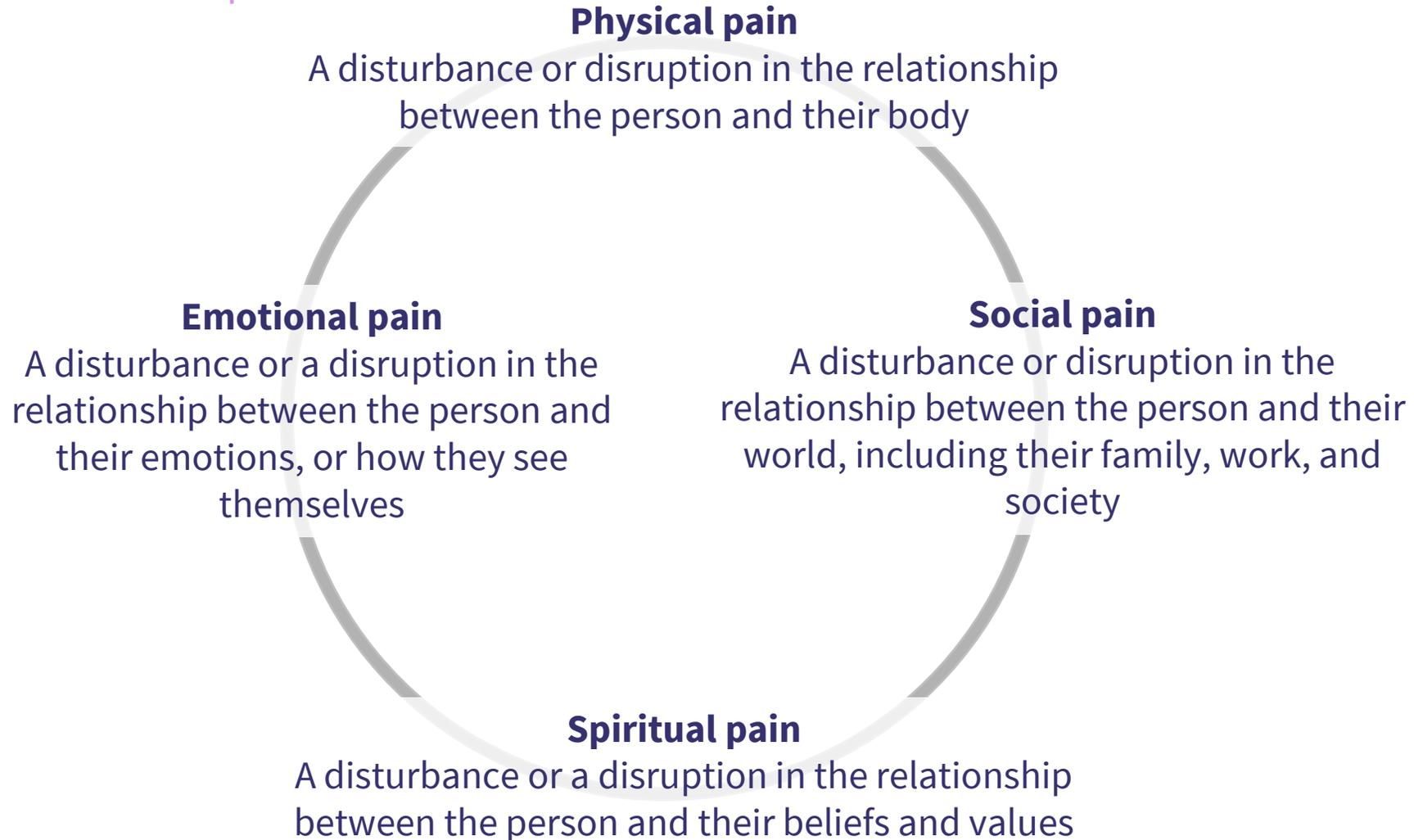
- What are you hoping for from your pain treatment?
- What do you think the causes of your pain are?
- What does your family understand about your pain?
- How much better would your pain need to get for you to resume activities that are important to you?
- How do you normally cope with pain?
- Tell me what options you are aware of for managing pain. What thoughts do you have as to what might work best for you?

## Associated factors

- What makes your pain feel better or worse?
- What other symptoms does your pain cause?
- How does your pain affect your sleep?
- How does your pain affect your social/recreational activities?
- How does your pain influence how you think about things? Your mood?

# Assessment: Pain as disturbed relations

## The human dimension of pain



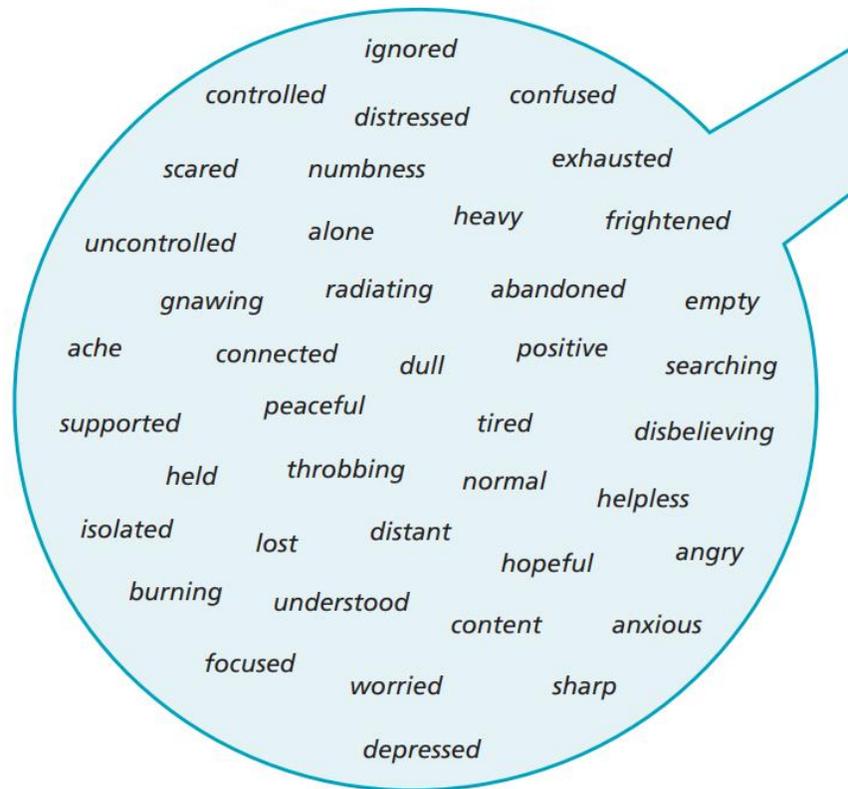
# Pain conversation tool

Looking beyond the obvious symptoms to address the more hidden aspects of pain

## Managing Advanced Cancer Pain Together conversation tool

Everyone experiences pain differently. You might find it has an impact on your body, your sense of well-being and how you feel about yourself, or your relationships with others and the world around you.

Please circle three words that best describe your recent experience of pain



MACPT conversation tool © MACPT 2016.  
May be reproduced for use in clinical practice.

The MACPT group would like to acknowledge sponsorship from Amgen (Europe) GmbH who provided an educational grant to allow the group to meet and develop the guidance. Amgen had no editorial input into the content of the guidance.

Medical writing assistance was provided by Connect2 CME Ltd (Tunbridge Wells, Kent, UK).



Managing Advanced Cancer Pain Together (MACPT) – An expert guidance | 18

# Approaches to reducing pain

## Preventative measures

### Physical pain

- Coping strategies
- Attention-diversion strategies
- Physical therapies
- Complementary therapies
- Pharmacological intervention
- Cancer treatments

### Social pain

- Addressing a possible need for increased family/social support
- Support to engage with family and social groups and to continue working, if that is important
- Provide guidance on family and/or peer support

### Emotional pain

- Support to continue things the person enjoys doing
- Provide guidance on supporting self-esteem and self-worth
- Encouragement to share their thoughts and feelings
- Keeping a diary about feelings and emotions

### Spiritual pain

- Acknowledging the person's values and beliefs
- Seeking religious or non-religious pastoral support
- Talking to a trusted friend or a member of the oncology team
- Talking with a psychologist, counsellor, or a member of the pastoral care team

# Pain management

## Systemic

- Chemotherapy
- Hormones
- Targeted therapy
- Immunotherapy

## Local

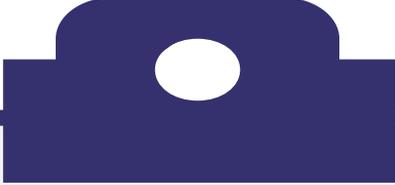
- Radiotherapy
- Surgery

- *Pharmacological interventions*
- *Non-pharmacological interventions*

## Pharmacological treatments for pain

|                         | Medication   | Examples   |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Nociceptive pain</b> |  |  |  |
| Increasing pain<br>↓    | <b>Mild pain</b><br>(WHO step 1; NRS 1–3)                | <b>Non-opioids</b><br>e.g., paracetamol, NSAIDs, COX-2 inhibitors ± adjuvant therapy | Paracetamol, ibuprofen, diclofenac, metamizole   |
|                         | <b>Mild-to-moderate pain</b><br>(WHO step 2; NRS 4–6)    | <b>Weak opioids</b><br>± non-opioid analgesic<br>± adjuvant therapy                  | Codeine, tramadol, dihydrocodeine  |
|                         | <b>Moderate-to-severe pain</b><br>(WHO step 3; NRS 7–10) | <b>Strong opioids</b><br>± non-opioid analgesic<br>± adjuvant therapy                | Morphine, methadone, oxycodone, hydromorphone, fentanyl, alfentanil, buprenorphine, levorphanol, oxymorphone, tapentadol |
| <b>Neuropathic pain</b> |  |  |  |
|                         | Anticonvulsants  | Pregabalin, gabapentin   |  |
| <b>Adjuvant therapy</b> |  |  |  |
|                         | Corticosteroids (for swelling/inflammation)              | Dexamethasone  |  |
|                         | Antidepressants  | Amitriptyline<br>Clomipramine  |  |
|                         | Benzodiazepines  | Diazepam   |  |

# Approaches to treatment

- 
- ✓ Addressing personal priorities
  - ✓ Coping strategies
  - ✓ Physical/complementary support
  - ✓ Support for family
  - ✓ Diary of thoughts and emotions
  - ✓ Address self-esteem and self-worth
  - ✓ Acknowledging values and beliefs
  - ✓ Talking with a trusted friend, member

“Amidst the uncertainty and the painful realities each person had to face, caring was perceived as occurring when another person carried out a simple act of kindness with a caring attitude, which required the other to be attentive to them”

# Summary

- Pain is frequently underreported and undertreated
- The physical, social, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of pain need to be considered
- Open, honest, and sensitive communication is essential
- Prevention is an often overlooked component of pain management and should be considered
- Aim to co-create a pain management plan with the person living with advanced disease



# Dos and dont's in pain management

Flaminia Coluzzi

Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, IT

# Disclosures

## Flaminia Coluzzi

- The following declarations are made for the last 3 years and the following 12 months (where arrangements have already been made):
  - Research grant(s)/in kind support: Epitech Group SpA, Molteni, Sandoz, Grunenthal
  - Participation in accredited CME/CPD: Epitech Group SpA, Molteni, Grunenthal
  - Consultant/strategic advisor: Epitech Group SpA, Molteni, Grunenthal
  - Patents/shares or stocks related or unrelated to this presentation: None
  - Non-financial interests: None

# Objectives

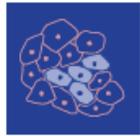
- Consider the principles of a mechanism-based approach to pain management in multiple myeloma
- Review the intensive and active approaches to pain management
- Review the approaches to tailoring pain control to symptoms and patients' needs
- Consider the approaches to preventing myeloma pain from becoming chronic
- Address the management of breakthrough cancer pain and neuropathic pain
- Consider the monitoring of opioid-related adverse events and their management

DO



USE A MECHANISM-BASED APPROACH TO PAIN





*cancers*



*Review*

# **Pain Management in Patients with Multiple Myeloma: An Update**

**Flaminia Coluzzi <sup>1,\*</sup> , Roman Rolke <sup>2</sup> and Sebastiano Mercadante <sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences and Biotechnologies, Sapienza University of Rome, Polo Pontino, 04100 Latina, Italy

# Management of bone metastases

Radiotherapy

Surgery

Chemotherapy

Analgesia

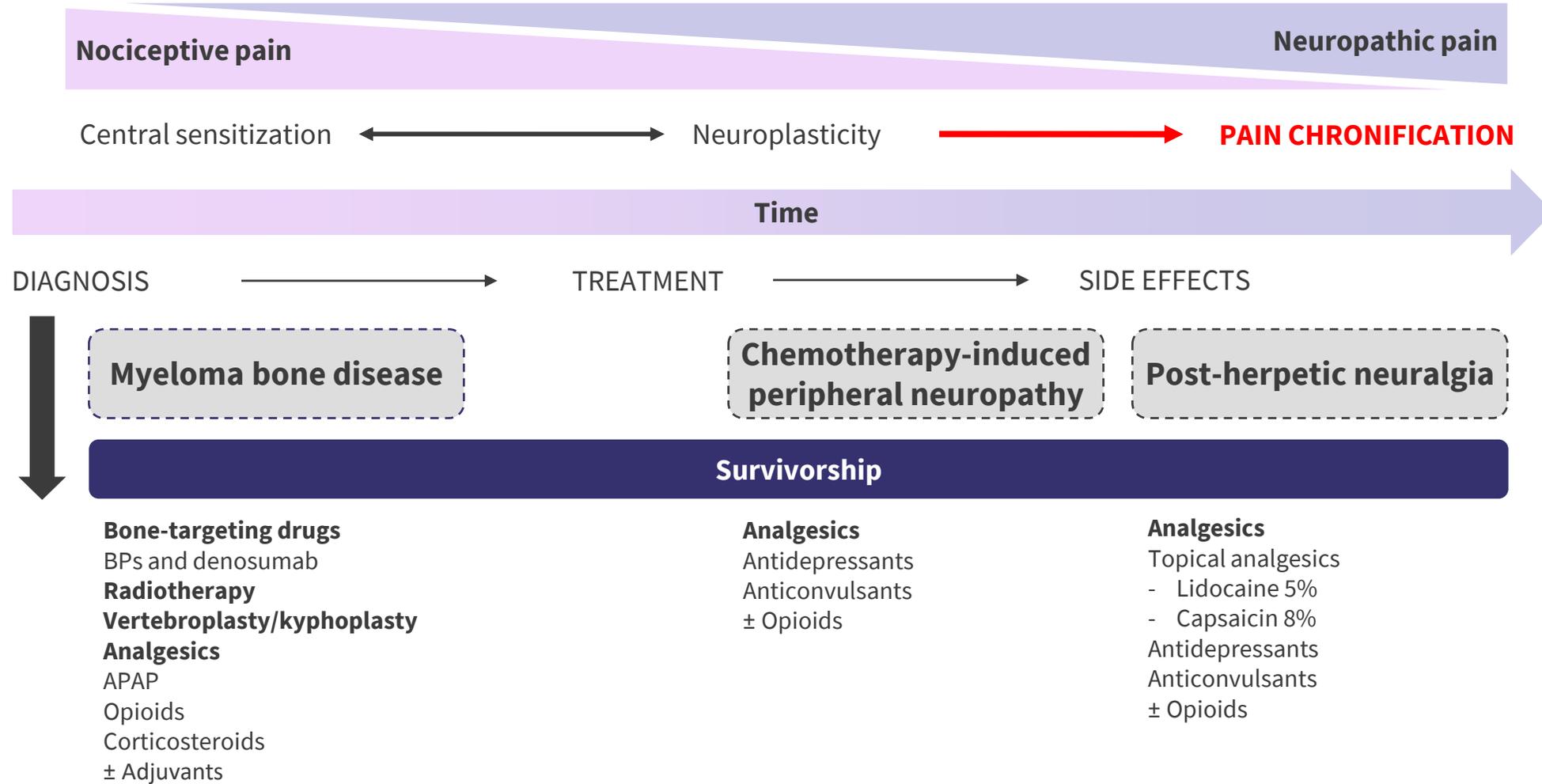


ID 65287139 © Puwadol Jaturawutthichai | Dreamstime.com

Bisphosphonates

Targeted therapy

Steroids

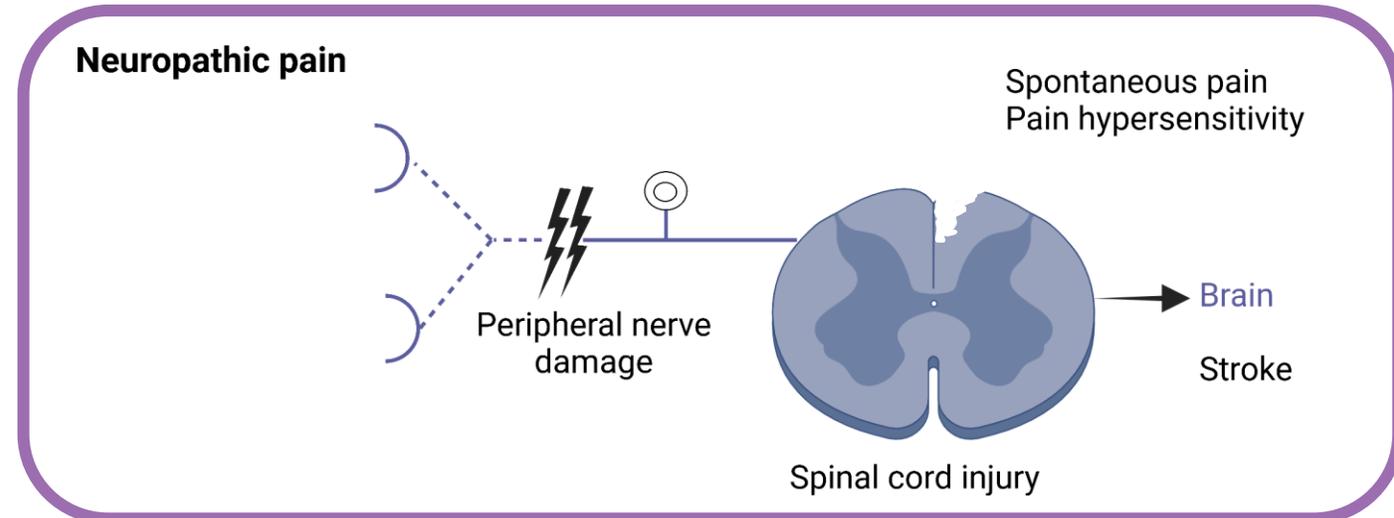


Adapted from Coluzzi, et al. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2019;11(12):2037.

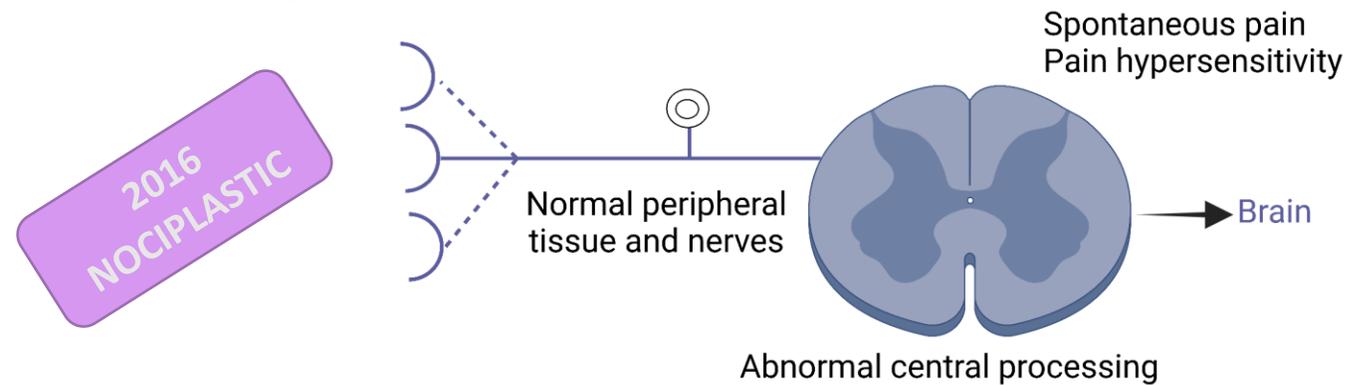
# Maladaptive pain

Absence of external potentially noxious inputs

- Maladaptive pain
- Neuropathic
- Nociplastic



**Functional pain**



Adapted from Woolf CJ, et al. *Ann Intern Med.* 2004;140(6):441-451.  
 Created using BioRender.com

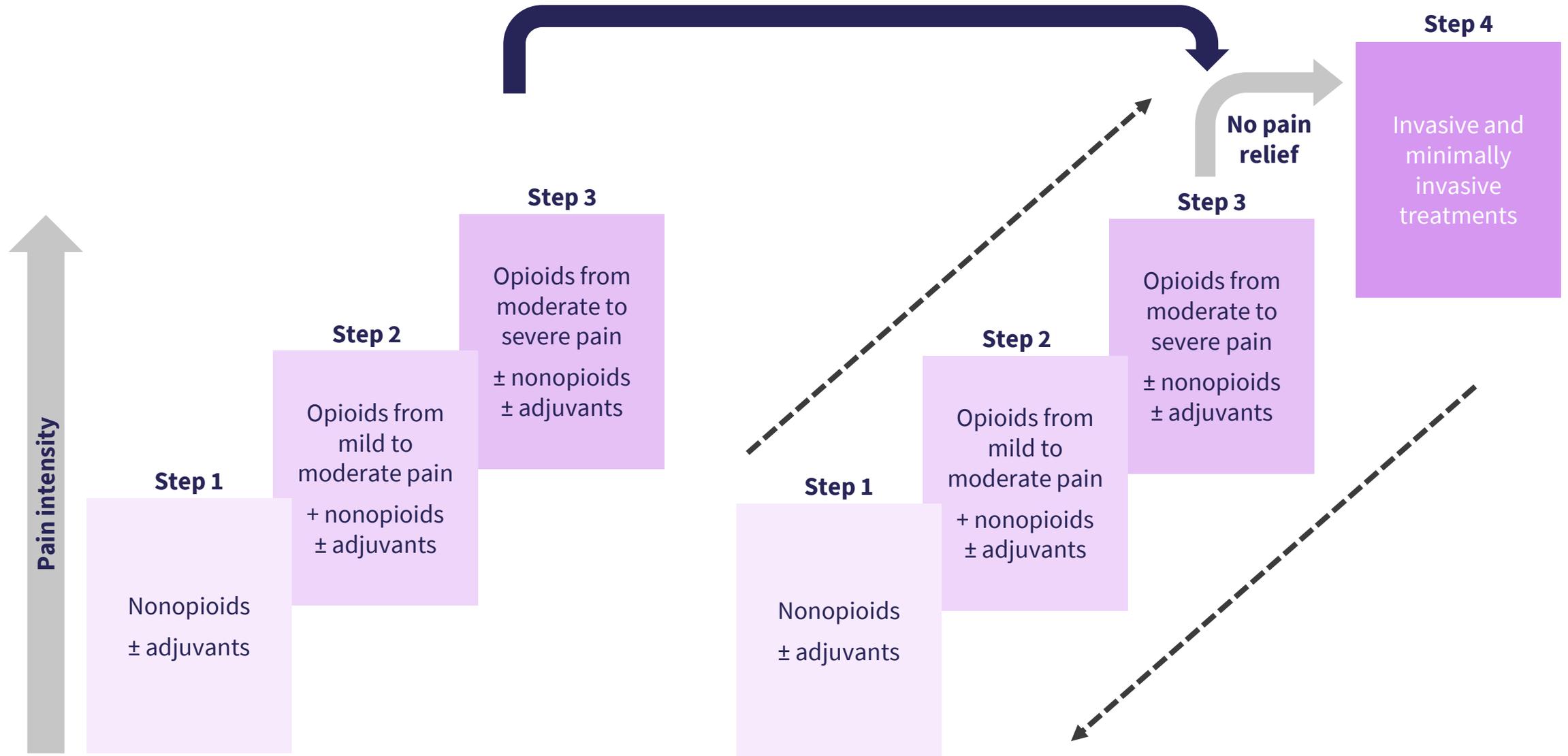
DO



TREAT PAIN AGGRESSIVELY



# Is the WHO analgesic ladder appropriate in myeloma bone disease?



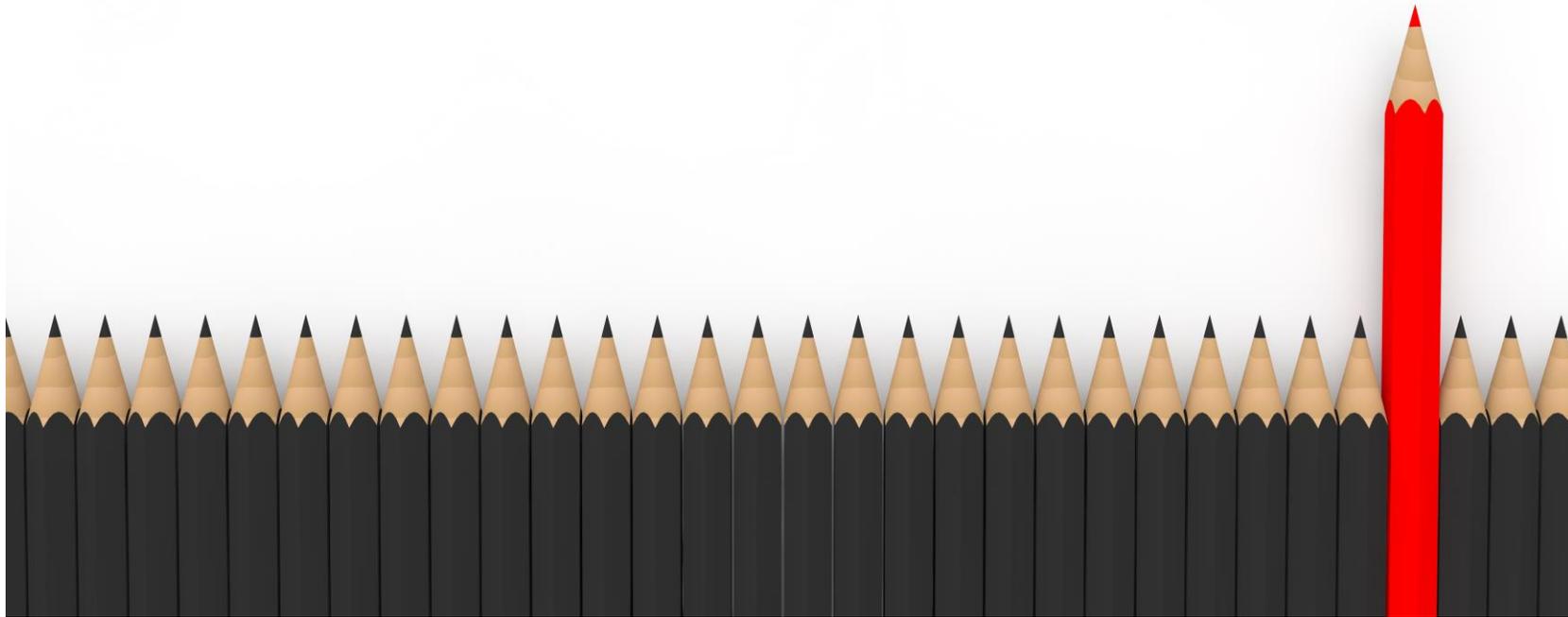
DO



PREFER A TAILORED THERAPY



# How to choose...



# Opioid classification in cancer pain<sup>1-3</sup>

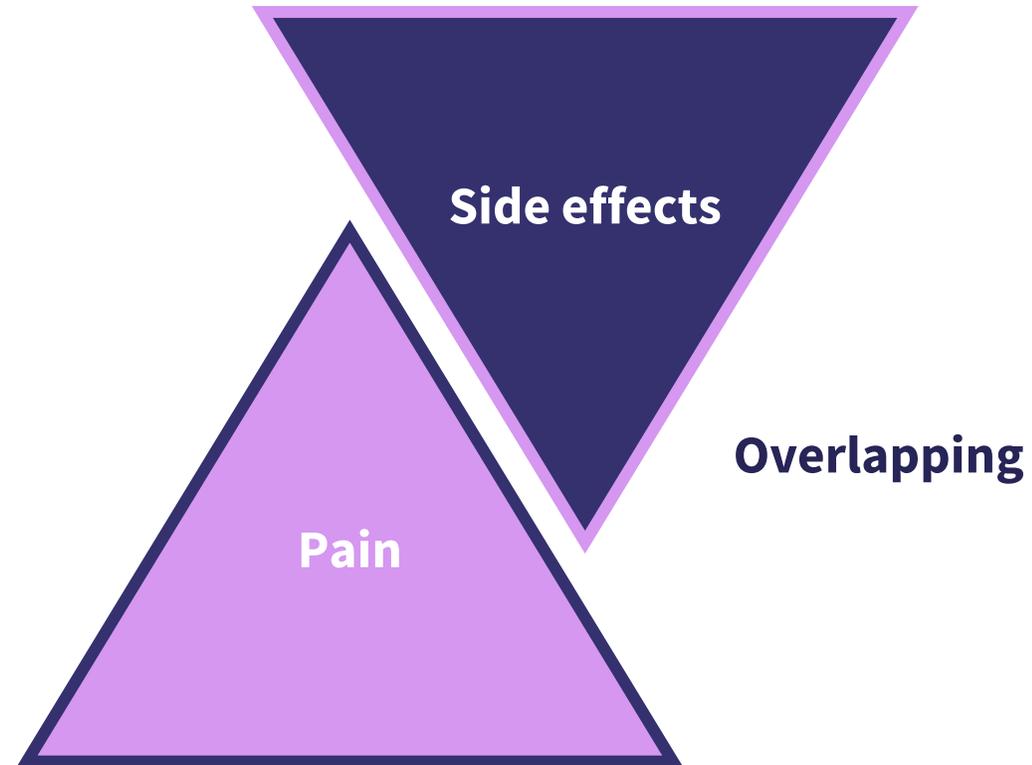
|                  | LAO                | SAO                 | ROO                |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ANALGESIA</b> | <b>Long acting</b> | <b>Short acting</b> | <b>Rapid onset</b> |
| Onset            | 1–2 hours          | 30–40 min           | 15 min             |
| Duration         | 8–12+ hours        | 4 hours             | 1–2 hours          |

LAO, long-acting opioid; RAO, rapid-acting opioid; SAO, short-acting opioid.

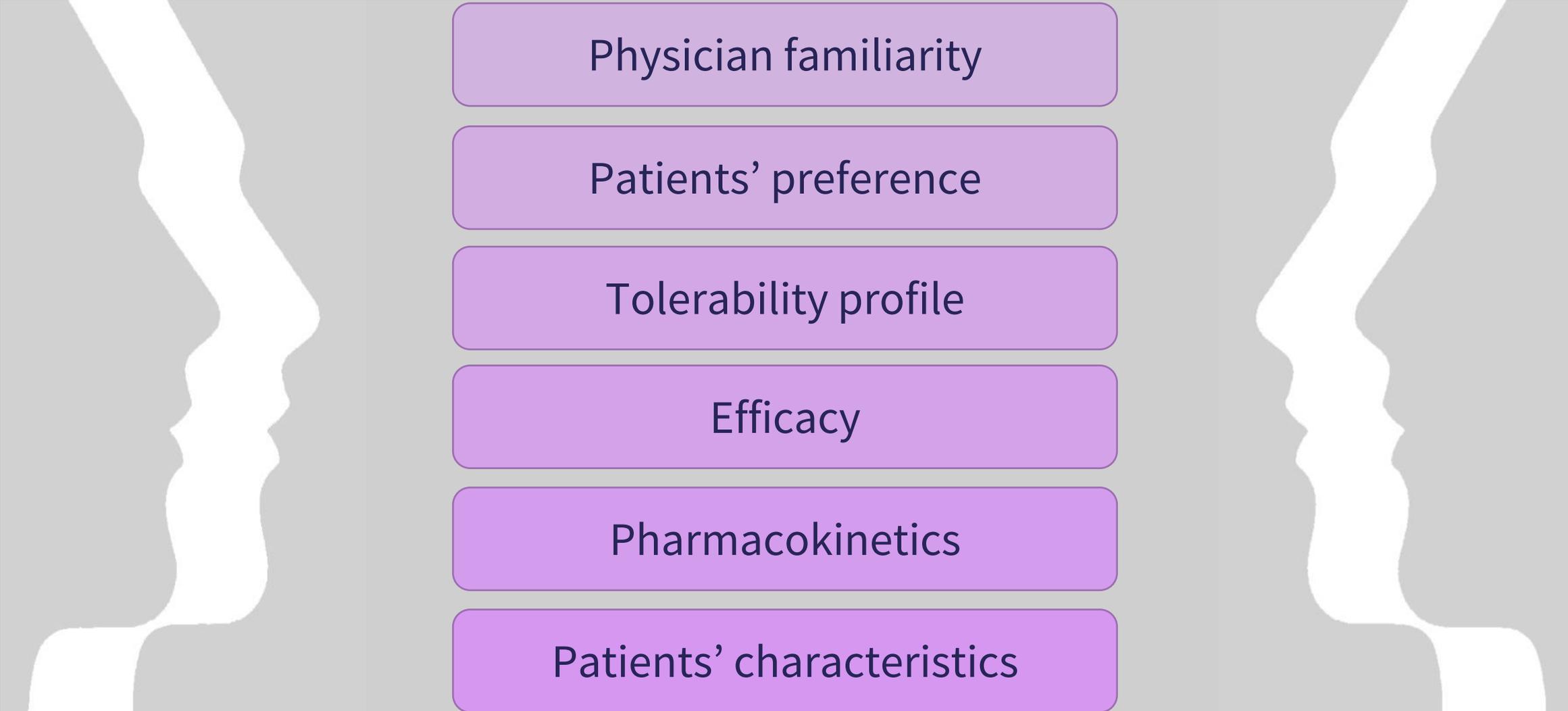
**1.** Bennet D, et al. *P T*. 2005;30(6):354-361. **2.** Texas Health and Human Services. Onset, peak and duration of common pain medications. <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/QMP/PainMedicationTable.pdf>. Accessed Nov 8, 2022. **3.** Smith HS. *Ann Palliat Med*. 2012;1(1):42-52.

# Titration is the first step

- Reach to lowest effective dose
- Minimize side effects
- Tailored therapy



# Choosing the right long-acting opioid



Physician familiarity

Patients' preference

Tolerability profile

Efficacy

Pharmacokinetics

Patients' characteristics

# Assessing and treating chronic pain in patients with end-stage renal disease



## Pharmacological treatment for chronic pain management in ESRD

| Opioids             | Route of administration | Starting dosage | Indications                                    | Clinical considerations   |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| Buprenorphine patch | Transdermal             | 5 µg/h          | Severe chronic pain                            | Safer profile   |
| Fentanyl patch      | Transdermal             | 12 µg/h         | Severe chronic pain                            | Safer profile<br>No clinically significant accumulation in CKD                  |
| Hydromorphone       | Oral                    | 4 mg bid        | Severe chronic pain<br>(second-line treatment) | Safe, but use with caution<br>Dose adjustment required                          |
| Oxycodone           | Oral                    | 5 mg bid        | Severe chronic pain<br>(second-line treatment) | Safe, but use with caution<br>Dose adjustment required                          |
| Tramadol            | Oral                    | 50 mg bid       | Severe chronic pain<br>(second-line treatment) | Safe, but use with caution<br>Dose adjustment required                          |
| Tapentadol          | Oral                    | 25 mg bid       | Severe chronic pain<br>(second-line treatment) | No dose adjustment needed for CrCl ≥30 ml/min<br>Data are not available in ESRD |
| Morphine            |                         |                 |  | Not recommended due to accumulation<br>To be avoided                            |
| Codeine             |                         |                 |  | Not recommended due to accumulation<br>To be avoided                            |

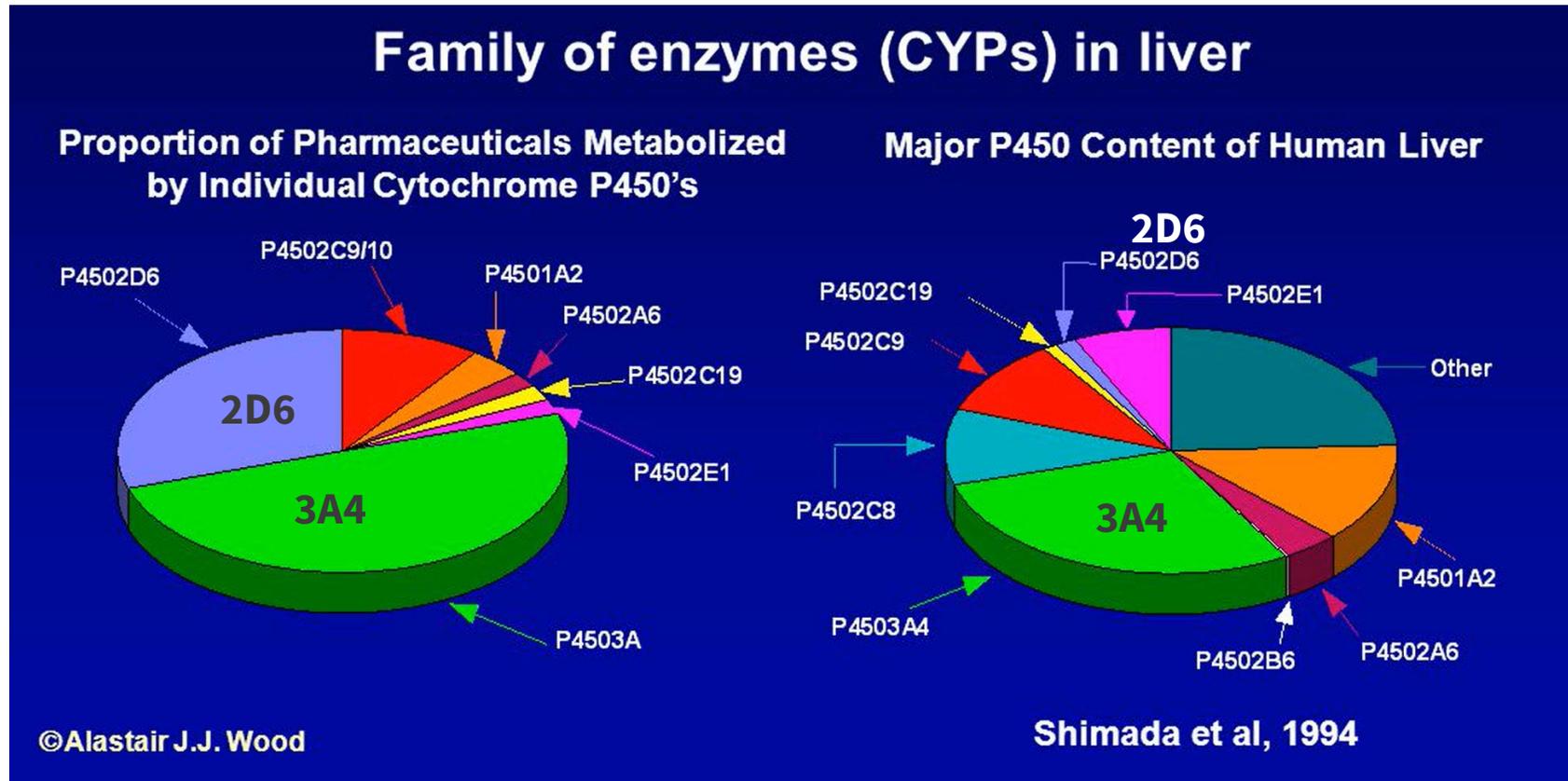
Adapted from Coluzzi F. *Drugs*. 2018;78(14):1459-1479.

# Opioids in liver failure

## Recommendations for opioids in hepatic impairment

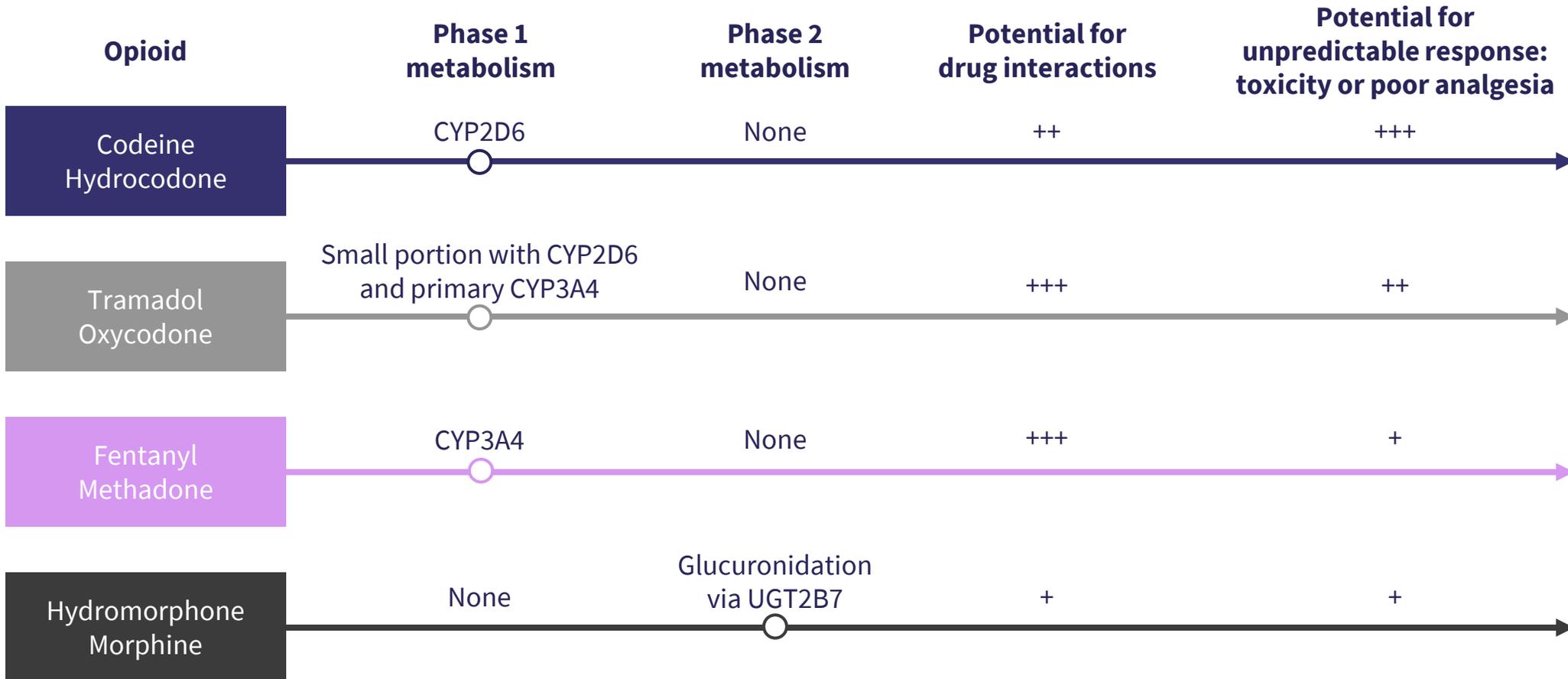
|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Codeine</b>       | Not recommended; in severe hepatic dysfunction codeine is not converted to morphine, lead to poor analgesia |
| <b>Fentanyl</b>      | 99% metabolized in liver; studies have not demonstrated PK alterations; careful monitoring is warranted     |
| <b>Hydrocodone</b>   | Use with caution; monitor for overdose due to parent compound not being converted to metabolites            |
| <b>Hydromorphone</b> | Undergoes phase II reaction; however, use with caution due to its immediate extraction ratio                |
| <b>Methadone</b>     | Use with caution; risk of accumulation because of increased free drug                                       |
| <b>Meperidine</b>    | Not recommended; toxic metabolite, normeperidine, may accumulate  |
| <b>Morphine</b>      | Use with caution; monitor for overdose due to high extraction ratio   |
| <b>Oxycodone</b>     | Use with caution; dose adjustment recommended (1/2 to 1/3 of original dose)                                 |
| <b>Oxymorphone</b>   | Contraindicated in moderate-to-severe hepatic impairment  |
| <b>Tramadol</b>      | Not recommended; significant pharmacokinetic changes in moderate-to-severe hepatic impairment               |

# Drug-drug interactions: Role of CYP450



Pruit N. Ethnic variability in drug response. <https://slideplayer.com/slide/1691484/>. Accessed Nov 3, 2022.

# Opioid metabolism



Adapted from Davison SN. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol.* 2019;14(6):917-931.

# Opioid metabolism

| CYP2D6 dependent   | CYP2D6 non-dependent   |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Codeine</li> <li>Hydrocodone</li> <li>Methadone</li> <li>Oxycodone</li> <li>Tramadol</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydromorphone</li> <li>Morphine</li> <li>Oxymorphone</li> <li>Tapentadol</li> </ul> |

Parent  
(i.e., codeine)

CYP3A4, 3A4

Metabolite  
(i.e., norcodeine)

CYP2D6

Metabolite  
(i.e., morphine)

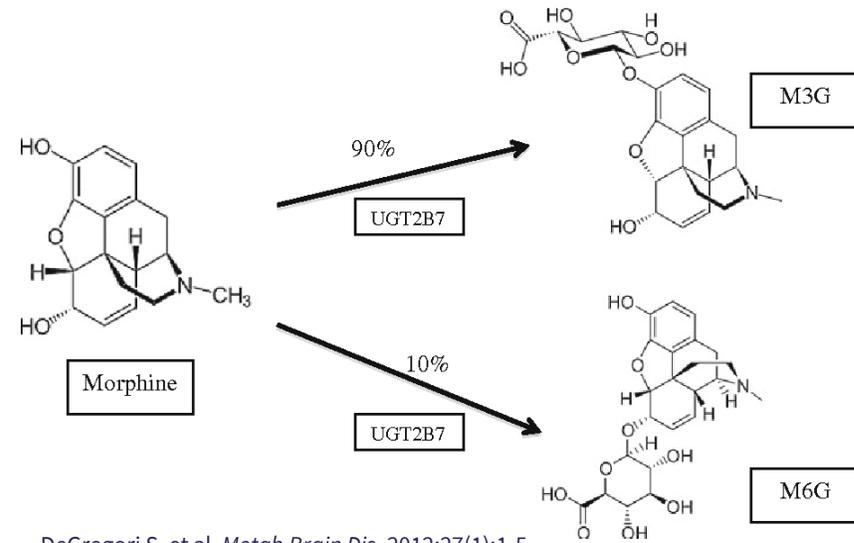
Adapted from Practical pain management. Pharmacogenetics and pain management. <https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/resources/diagnostic-tests/pharmacogenetics-pain-management>. Accessed Nov 3, 2022.



- Morphine
- Hydromorphone
- Oxymorphone
- Tapentadol

| Common drugs used in pain and their metabolism pathway |              |             |           |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| CYP2D6   | CYP2C9       | CY3A4/5     | CYP2B6    |
| Amitriptyline  | Celecoxib    | Codeine     | Methadone |
| Codeine  | Flurbiprofen | Diazepam    |           |
| Desipramine  | Ibuprofen    | Fentanyl    |           |
| Diazepam   | Meloxicam    | Hydrocodone |           |
| Hydrocodone  | Piroxicam    | Oxycodone   |           |
| Imipramine   |              | Methadone   |           |
| Methadone  |              |             |           |
| Nortriptyline  |              |             |           |
| Oxycodone  |              |             |           |
| Tramadol   |              |             |           |
| Venlafaxine  |              |             |           |

Adapted from Practical pain management. Pharmacogenetics and pain management. <https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/resources/diagnostic-tests/pharmacogenetics-pain-management>. Accessed Nov 3, 2022.



DeGregori S, et al. *Metab Brain Dis.* 2012;27(1):1-5.

# Cancer pain: Tapentadol in multiple myeloma

Journal of Pain Research

Dovepress

open access to scientific and medical research

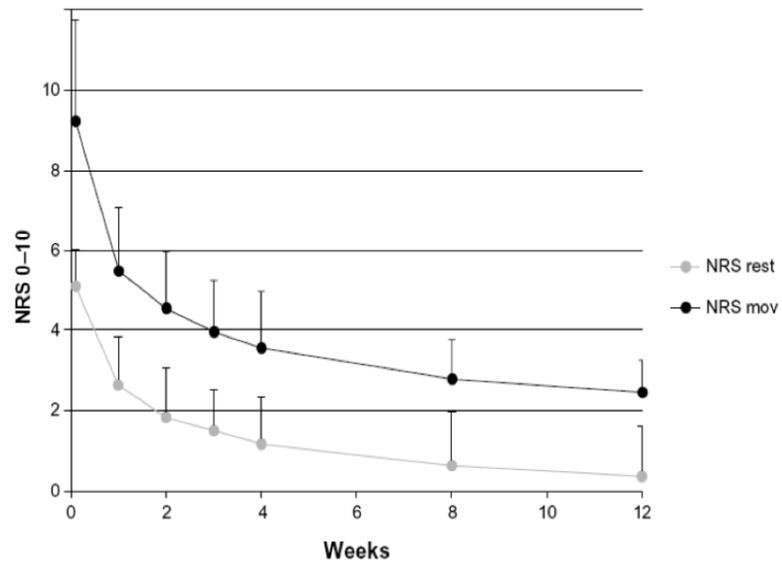
Open Access Full Text Article

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

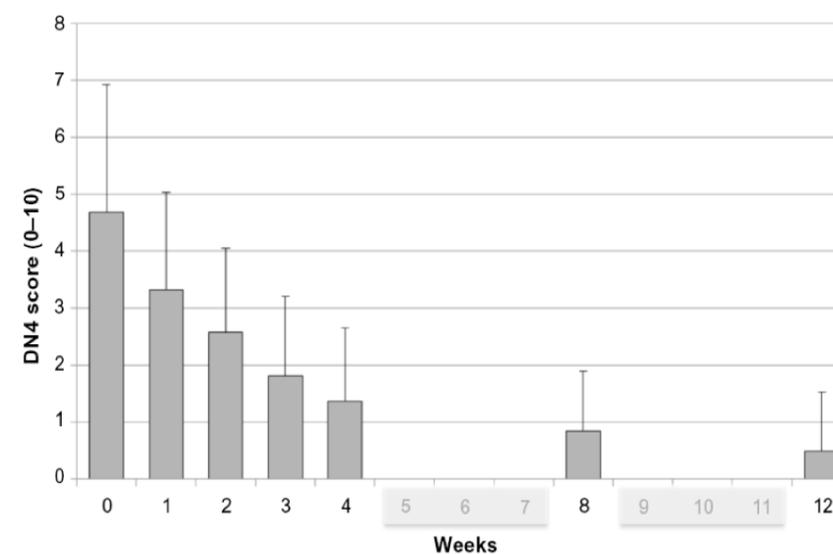
## Tapentadol prolonged release for patients with multiple myeloma suffering from moderate-to-severe cancer pain due to bone disease

Flaminia Coluzzi<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Robert B Raffa<sup>3</sup>  
 Joseph Pergolizzi<sup>4</sup>  
 Alessandra Rocco<sup>1</sup>  
 Pamela Locarini<sup>1</sup>  
 Natalia Cenfra<sup>5</sup>  
 Giuseppe Cimino<sup>5</sup>  
 Consalvo Mattia<sup>1,2</sup>

Pain intensity (NRS)



Neuropathic component (DN4)



Coluzzi F, et al. *J Pain Res.* 2015;8:229-238.

DO



PREVENT CHRONIFICATION



# Persistent opioid use in patients with multiple myeloma post-ASCT

## Frequency of opioid dose changes in active opioid users following ASCT

| Dose change | Time       |            |
|-------------|------------|------------|
|             | At Day 100 | At 1 year  |
| Decrease    | 6 (12.0%)  | 11 (25.0%) |
| Same        | 23 (46.0%) | 23 (52.3%) |
| Increase    | 21 (42.0%) | 10 (22.7%) |
| Total       | 50         | 44         |

Adapted from Danish ML, et al. *Eur J Hematol.* 2022;108(6):503-509.

DO



USE RAPID-ONSET OPIOIDS FOR  
BREAKTHROUGH CANCER PAIN



# Opioid classification in cancer pain<sup>1-3</sup>

|                  | LAO                | SAO                 | ROO                |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ANALGESIA</b> | <b>Long acting</b> | <b>Short acting</b> | <b>Rapid onset</b> |
| Onset            | 1-2 hours          | 30-40 min           | 15 min             |
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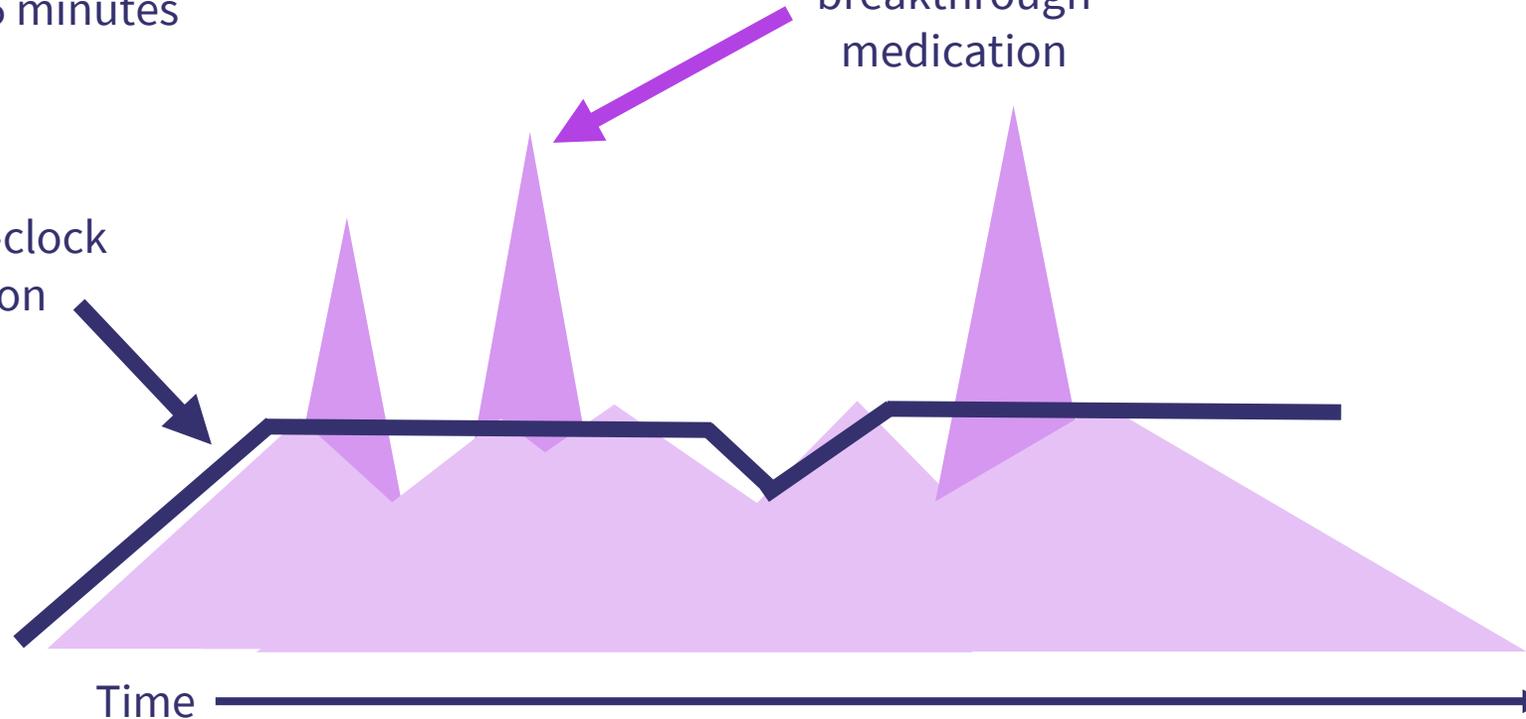
1. Bennet D, et al. *P T*. 2005;30(6):354-361. 2. Texas Health and Human Services. Onset, peak and duration of common pain medications. <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/QMP/PainMedicationTable.pdf>. Accessed Nov 8, 2022. 3. Smith HS. *Ann Palliat Med*. 2012;1(1):42-52.

# Rapid-onset opioids for breakthrough cancer pain

Breakthrough pain  
Average onset: ~15 minutes  
Duration: ~1 hour

Preferred  
breakthrough  
medication

Around-the-clock  
medication



Adapted from Alessandro Inno. Breakthrough pain: quale terapia medica? [http://web2.sacrocuore.it/oncologia/Negrar\\_10\\_aprile\\_2019/Inno.pdf](http://web2.sacrocuore.it/oncologia/Negrar_10_aprile_2019/Inno.pdf). Accessed Nov 3, 2022.

# A question of time (minutes)<sup>1-6</sup>

|                                    | ANALGESIC<br>ONSET<br>(MIN) | AVAILABILITY<br>(%) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Oral morphine                      | 30-45                       | 30                  |
| Oral oxycodone                     | 30-45                       | 40-50               |
| Oral transmucosal fentanyl citrate | 15-30                       | 50                  |
| Fentanyl buccal tablets            | 15                          | 65                  |
| Sublingual fentanyl                | 10-15                       | 70                  |
| Fentanyl buccal soluble film       | 15                          | 65                  |
| Intranasal fentanyl                | 5-10                        | 80-90               |
| Fentanyl pectin nasal spray        | 5-10                        | 70                  |



**MY TIME IS  
PRECIOUS  
PLEASE DON'T  
WASTE IT !**

# Rapid-onset opioids in special conditions

## Oral transmucosal

Xerostomia

Nausea and vomiting

Oral mucositis

Impaired GI function

---

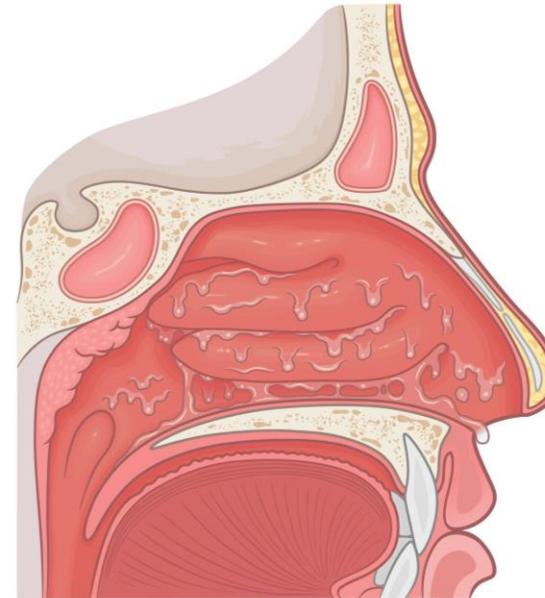


sruillk. Shutterstock.com.

## Nasal

Nasal pathology

Vasoconstrictors  
for allergic rhinitis



Reflu. Shutterstock.com.

DON'T



PREFER TRADITIONAL OPIOIDS FOR  
NEUROPATHIC PAIN CONDITIONS



# Neuropathic pain in patients with cancer

## Cancer-related neuropathic pain

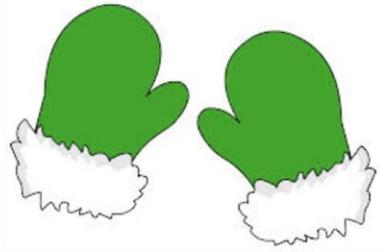
- Nerve infiltration
- Bone metastasis
- Nerve compression

## Cancer therapy-related neuropathic pain

- Radiotherapy-induced neuropathic pain
- Chemotherapy-induced neuropathic pain
- Surgery

# Neuropathic pain in multiple myeloma

Bortezomib



Myeloma  
bone disease



Rasch S, et al. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2020;30;12(8):2113

Herpes zoster  
virus



Mumemories. Shutterstock.com

# Pharmacotherapy of neuropathic pain

Pharmacotherapy for neuropathic pain in adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis  
(Nanna B Finnerup, *et al.*)



|   | Total daily dose and dose regimen  | Recommendations  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Strong recommendations for use</b>                                     |  |  |
| Gapabentin  | 1200–3600 mg, in three divided doses   | First line   |
| Gabapentin extended release or enacarbil                                  | 1200–3600 mg, in two divided doses   | First line   |
| Pregabalin  | 300–600 mg, in two divided doses   | First line   |
| Serotonin-noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors<br>duloxetine or venlafaxine* | 60–120 mg, once a day (duloxetine);<br>150–225 mg, once a day (venlafaxine extended release) | First line   |
| Tricyclic antidepressants   | 25–150 mg, once a day or in two divided doses  | First line†  |
| <b>Weak recommendations for use</b>                                       |  |  |
| Capsaicin 8% patches  | One to four patches to the painful area for 30–60 min every 3 months                         | Second line ( peripheral neuropathic pain)‡              |
| Lidocaine patches   | One to three patches to the region of pain once a day for up to 12 h                         | Second line ( peripheral neuropathic pain)               |
| Tramadol  | 200–400 mg, in two (tramadol extended release) or three divided doses                        | Second line  |
| Botulinum toxin A (subcutaneously)  | 50–200 units to the painful area every 3 months  | Third line; specialist use (peripheral neuropathic pain) |
| Strong opioids  | Individual titration   | Third line§  |



†TCAs generally have similar efficacy. Tertiary amine TCAs (amitriptyline, imipramine, clomipramine) are not recommended at dosages > 75 mg/day in older adults because of their major anticholinergic and sedative side effects and potential risk of falls. An increased risk of sudden cardiac death has been reported for doses >100 mg daily. ‡The long-term safety of repeated applications of high concentration capsaicin patches in patients has not been clearly established particularly with respect to degeneration of epidermal nerve fibres, which may be a concern in progressive neuropathy. §Sustained release oxycodone and morphine have been the most studied with maximal daily dosages of 120 mg and 240 mg, respectively, in clinical trials. Long-term opioid use may be associated with abuse particularly at high doses, cognitive impairment, and endocrine and immunologic changes.

Finnerup NB, et al. *Lancet Neurol.* 2015;14(2):162-173.

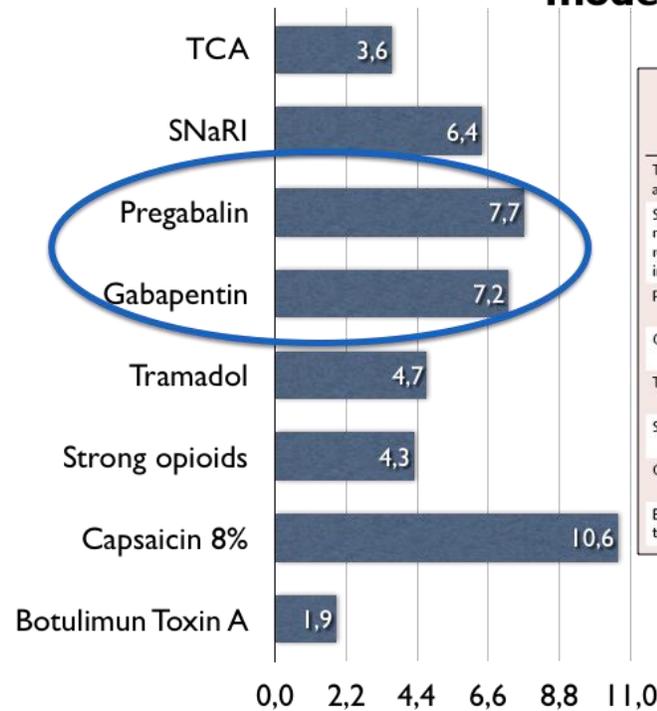
# Pharmacotherapy of neuropathic pain

Pharmacotherapy for neuropathic pain in adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis (Nanna B Finnerup, *et al.*)



## NNT

NNT for 50% pain relief range from about 4 to 10 for most positive trials; this emphasizes the **modest overall study outcomes** in NP



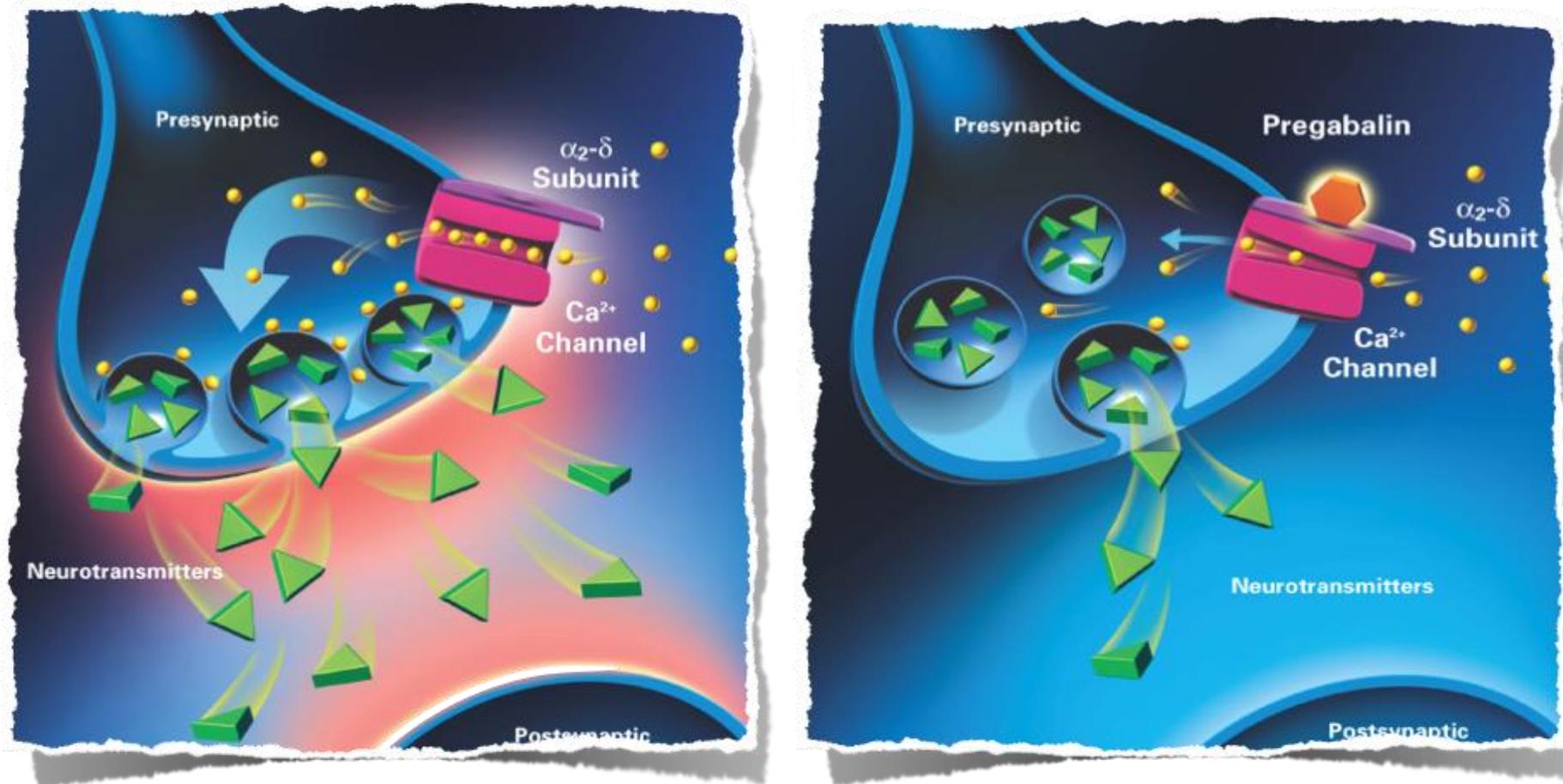
| Comparisons*                                | Participants† | Active pain relief | Placebo  | Number needed to treat (95% CI) | Susceptibility to bias‡ |
|---|---------------|--------------------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tricyclic antidepressants                   | 15            | 217/473            | 85/475   | 3.6 (3.0-4.4)                   | 1973                    |
| Serotonin-noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors | 10            | 676/1559           | 278/982  | 6.4 (5.2-8.4)                   | 1826                    |
| Pregabalin                                  | 25            | 1359/3530          | 578/2410 | 7.7 (6.5-9.4)                   | 2534                    |
| Gabapentin§                                 | 14            | 719/2073           | 291/1430 | 7.2 (5.9-9.1)                   | 1879                    |
| Tramadol                                    | 6             | 176/380            | 96/361   | 4.7 (3.6-6.7)                   | 982                     |
| Strong opioids                              | 7             | 211/426            | 108/412  | 4.3 (3.4-5.8)                   | 1326                    |
| Capsaicin 8%                                | 6             | 466/1299           | 212/774  | 10.6 (7.4-18.8)                 | 701                     |
| Botulinum toxin A                           | 4             | 42/70              | 4/67     | 1.9 (1.5-2.4)                   | 678                     |

CI, confidence interval; NNT, number needed to treat; NP, neuropathic pain; SNaRI, selective serotonin-noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor; TCA, tricyclic antidepressants.

\*Number of comparisons with placebo in included published trials and unpublished trials with results from registries are included if the report number of responders. †Total number of patients treated with active and placebo, patients count twice if cross-over study. ‡Number of patients in zero treatment effect trials that would make the NNT exceed 11, which is considered the cut-off for clinical relevance. §Including gabapentin ER and enacarbil. ¶Susceptible to publication bias, i.e., a new study with less than 400 participants with no effect could change the NNT to a level that is not clinically relevant.

Finnerup NB, et al. *Lancet Neurol.* 2015;14(2):162-173.

# Gabapentinoids



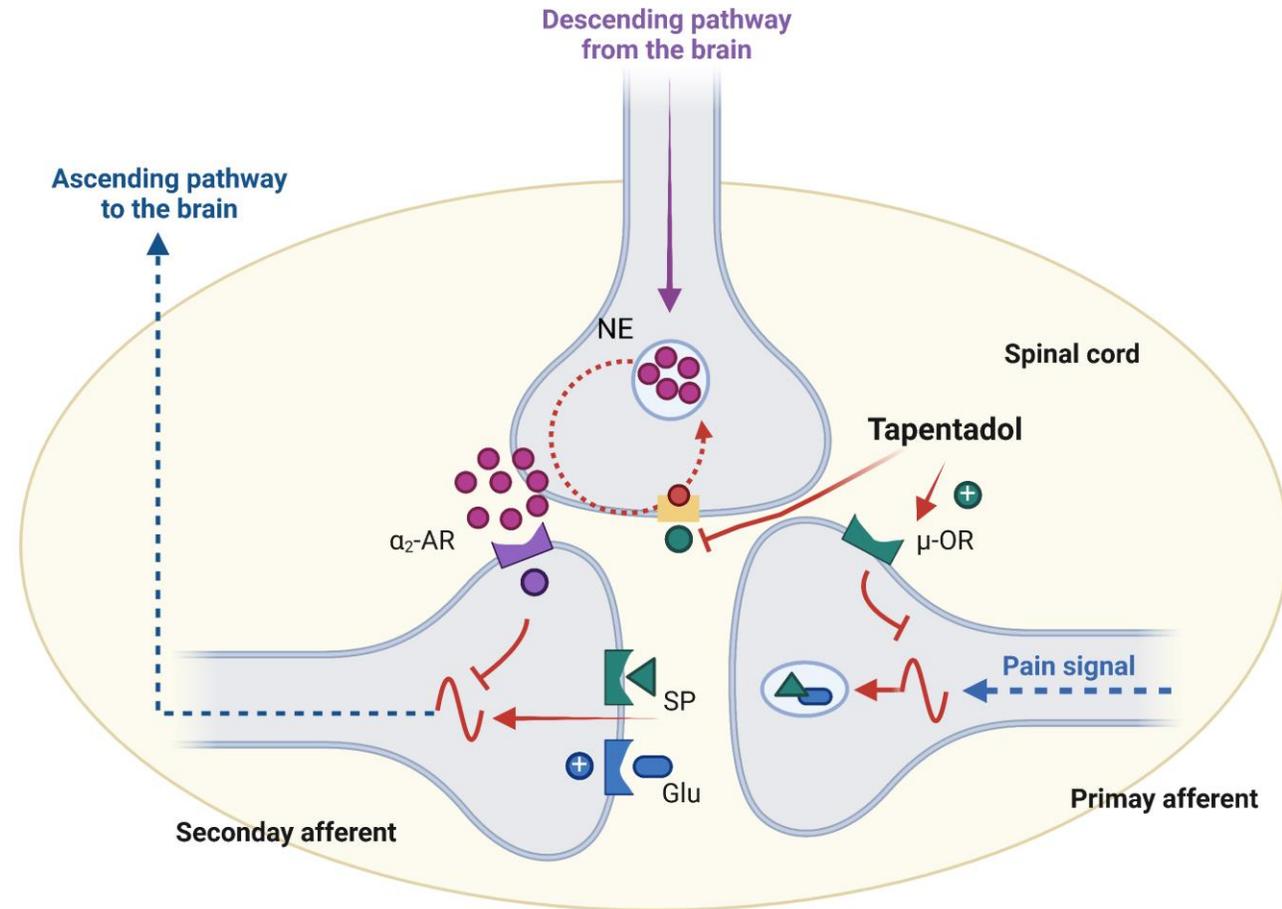
van Rensburg R, Reuter H. *South African Family Practice*. 2019; 61(3):59-62.

# CPSP: Pharmacotherapy of neuropathic pain

- Strong opioids are now recommended as **third line**, contrasting with several previous recommendations in which they were generally thought of as first or second line.
- This stems mainly from the consideration of potential risk of abuse, particularly with high doses, and concerns about a recent increase in **prescription-opioid-associated overdose** mortality, diversion, misuse, and other opioid-related morbidity particularly in the USA, Canada, and the UK.



# Tapentadol for mixed pain: **Atypical** opioid



Adapted from Seeking Alpha. A deep look at Depomed's billion-dollar bet on Nucynta.  
<https://seekingalpha.com/article/3304835-a-deep-look-at-depomed-s-billion-dollar-bet-on-nucynta>.  
 Accessed Nov 3, 2022.  
 Created using BioRender.com.

# The concept of $\mu$ -load

Adv Ther  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12325-018-0778-x>



COMMENTARY

## Does ‘Strong Analgesic’ Equal ‘Strong Opioid’? Tapentadol and the Concept of ‘ $\mu$ -Load’

Robert B. Raffa · Christian Elling · Thomas M. Tzschentke

**Table 1** Summary of the calculated estimates of the contribution of tapentadol’s opioid component to its analgesic (antinociceptive) action

| Pain type   | Source of data  | Estimate (%) |
|-------------|---|--------------|
| Nociceptive | Animal model: LITF-r (low-intensity tail-flick test, rat) | 54           |
| Neuropathic | Animal model: SNL-r (spinal nerve ligation test, rat)     | 36           |

**54%** **36%**  
 NEUROPATHIC

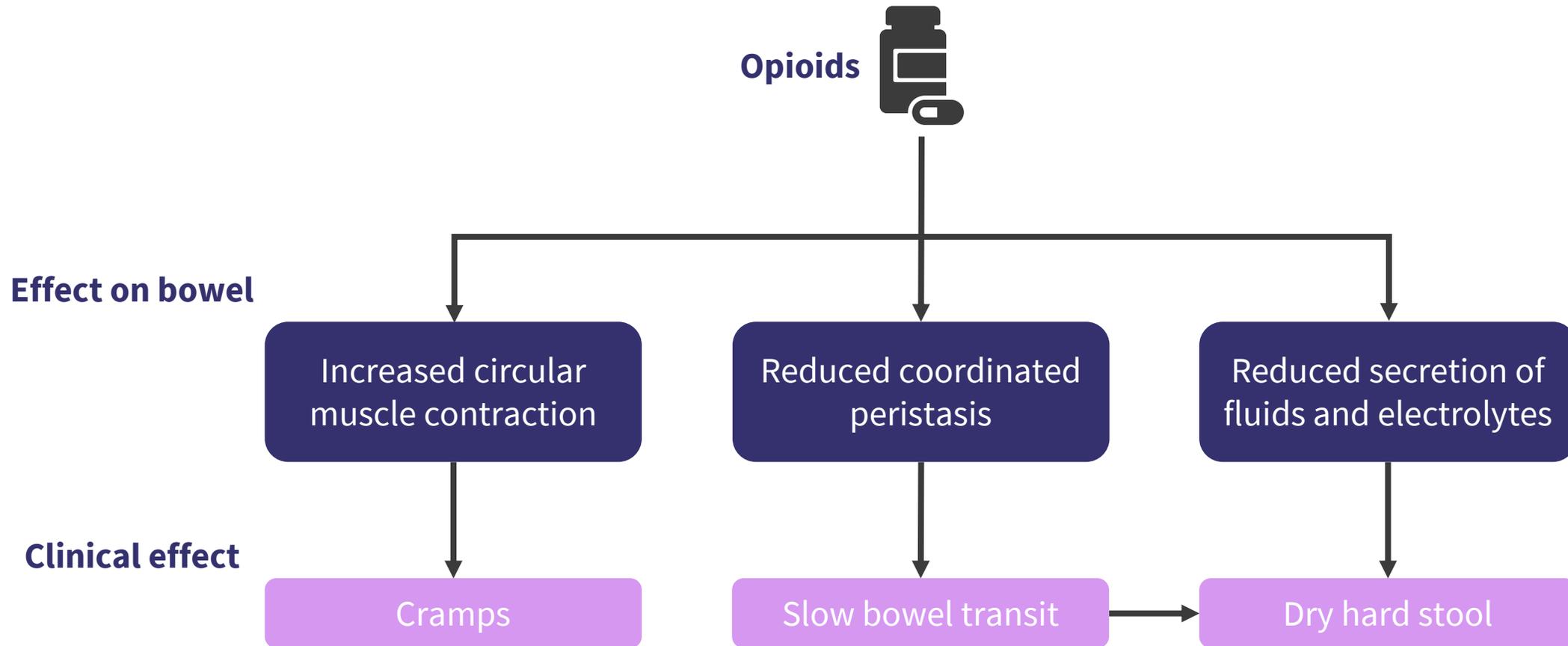
DON'T



FORGET OPIOID-INDUCED ADVERSE EVENTS



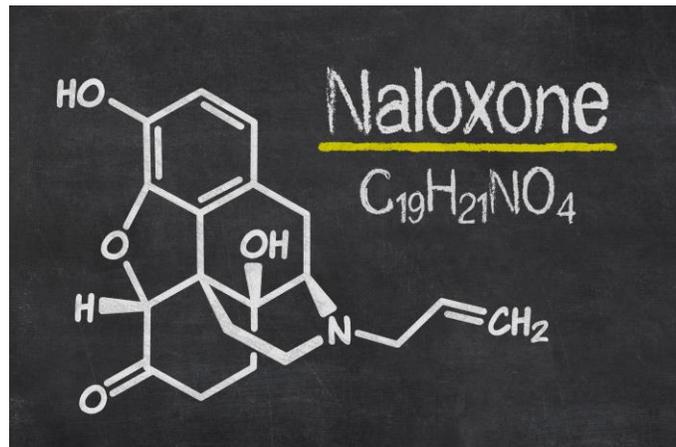
# Opioid-induced constipation



Adapted from Boland JW, Boland EG. *BMJ*. 2017;358:j3313.

# Oxycodone/naloxone

- Naloxone, when administered orally, has a very low systemic bioavailability of ~2% due to
- extensive first-pass hepatic metabolism.
- Naloxone exerts a local inhibitory effect, almost exclusively on opioid receptors in the GI tract.
- Co-administration of oral naloxone alongside oral opioids (oxycodone) improves bowel function without loss of analgesic effect.<sup>1</sup>



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asnstudio. Shutterstock.com.

# PAMORA

**P** Peripherally  
**A** Acting  
**M** Mu  
**O** Opioid  
**R** Receptor  
**A** Antagonists

Peripheral opioid antagonists dislodge an opioid from the mu-opioid receptor in the gastrointestinal tract

| <b>PAMORA</b>    | <b>Molecule</b>               | <b>Route of administration</b> | <b>Standard dose in general population</b>   |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Methylnaltrexone | Naltrexone derivative         | Subcutaneous                   | 8 mg (0.4 ml for body weight 38–61 kg)<br>12 mg (0.6 ml for body weight 62–114 kg) |
| Naloxegol        | Naloxone PEGylated derivative | Oral                           | 25 mg daily  |
| Naldemedine      | Naltrexone derivative         | Oral                           | 200 mcg daily  |

Data from NICE. British National Formulary (BNF). <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>. Accessed Nov 10, 2022.

# Naloxegol and P-glycoprotein

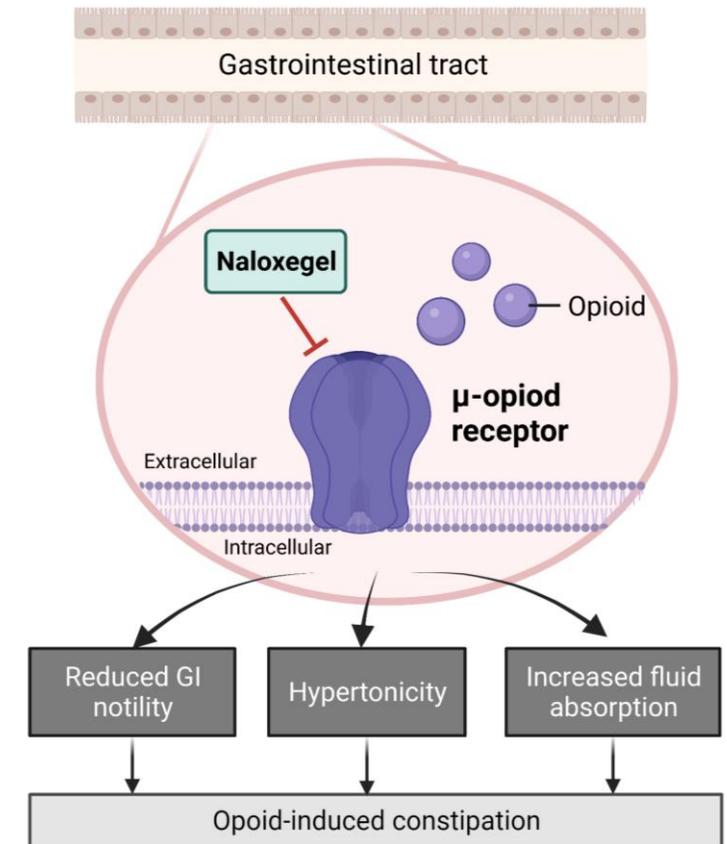
Naloxegol: polyethylene glycol derivative of naloxone

## Pegylation:

- Confers oral bioavailability

**Naloxegol is a substrate for the P-glycoprotein** efflux transporter

Reduces transport across the blood–brain barrier



Adapted from New Drug Approvals.com. Naloxegol.  
<https://newdrugapprovals.org/2016/08/25/naloxegol/>.  
 Accessed Nov 3, 2022.  
 Created with BioRender.com.

# Naldemedine

Journal of Pain Research

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EXPERT OPINION

## Naldemedine: A New Option for OIBD

This article was published in the following Dove Press journal:  
*Journal of Pain Research*

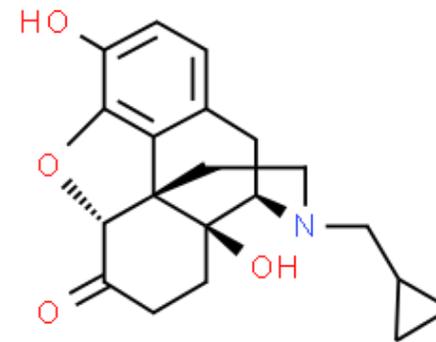
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Coluzzi F, et al. *J Pain Res.* 2020;13:1209-1222.

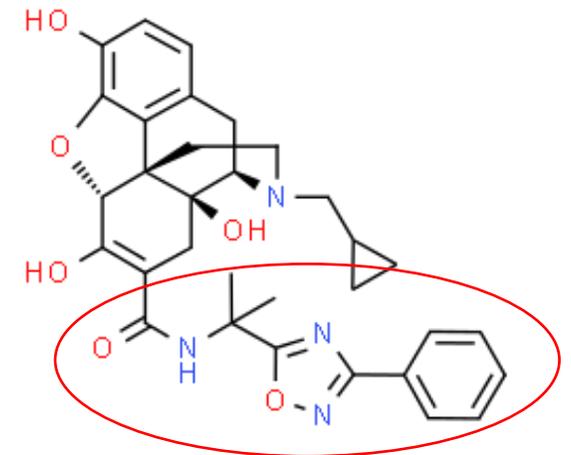
OIBD, opioid-induced bowel dysfunction.  
Coluzzi F, et al. *J Pain Res.* 2020;13:1209-1222.

### Naltrexone



ChemSpider.com. Naltrexone.  
<http://www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.4514524.html>.  
Accessed Nov 11, 2022.

### Naldemedine



ChemSpider.com. Naldemedine.  
<http://www.chemspider.com/Chemical-Structure.4514524.html>.  
Accessed Nov 11, 2022.

Dreams...





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