

# POSTOPERATIVE ANALGESIA. OUR SIX MONTHS EXPERIENCE OF ACUTE POSTOPERATIVE PAIN UNIT

Vila M, Sifontes K, O´Farill G, Román M, García-Miguel FJ. General Hospital of Segovia, Spain.

## INTRODUCTION

The treatment of acute pain, especially in postoperative (DAP), is a management challenge. A proper coordination between health professionals, clinical services, and managers is needed. For that reason, the Acute Pain Units (APU) are created, which involves the anaesthesiologist in the patient care once he is transferred to another service. In this study, we outline the experience in General Hospital of Segovia during the first year of operation of the APU in the treatment of DAP through the continuous epidural analgesia.

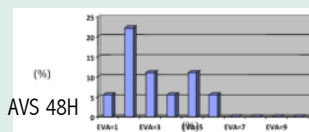
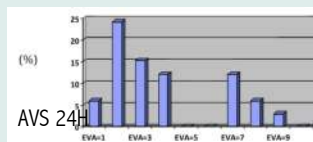
## OBJECTIVE

1. To describe the patients who received continuous epidural analgesia from November 1, 2014, to April 30, 2015.
2. To study the clinic and demographic characteristics of the target population.
3. To study the quality of analgesia achieved associated symptoms and complications.

## METHODS

Descriptive Transversal Study, the sample of 117 patients with continuous epidural analgesia for DAP control for scheduled surgery during a period of November 1, 2014, to April 30, 2015, in General Hospital of Segovia. Instrument: data collection sheet (fig. 1). Includes demographics variables (fig. 2) and pain associated variables (visual analgesic scale and Bromage)

Figure 1. Data collection sheet



## RESULTS

VARIABLES	WOMEN n=12 (10,3%)	MEN n=103 (89,7%)
AGE	61,8 ± 6,6 Mode 59 (19-89)	68,7 ± 5,9 Mode 71 (16-88)
ASA classification		
I	2 (16,7%)	19 (18,4%)
II	8 (66,7%)	65 (63,1%)
III	2 (16,7%)	17 (16,5%)
IV	-	2 (1,9%)
SURGICAL SERVICE		
General surgery	5 (41,7%) 6 (50%)	43 (40,8%) 41 (39%)
Uro	1 (8,3%)	21 (20%)
Trauma		
CV RISK FACTORS		
YES	2 (16,7%)	64 (62,1%)
NO	10 (83,3%)	39 (37,9%)
CATHETER POSITION		
LUMBAR	10 (83,3%)	83 (79,8%)
THORACIC	2 (16,7%)	21 (20,2%)

Figure 2. Demographic variables

## CONCLUSION

In our experience, the continuous epidural analgesia has been proven to be an effective treatment for acute postoperative pain. Although non-serious side effects appeared in 26% of patients, they were all controlled without further complications. A qualified team with protocols well designed to develop an effective Acute Postoperative Pain Unit was required.

### References:

Practice Guidelines for Acute Pain Management in the Perioperative Setting. Anesthesiology 2012; 116:248-73