

BEYOND THE MASK

AROUND THE HOSPITAL IN 60 MIN



**HDMH Grand Rounds
Derek Smith
May 6th, 2026**



GRAND ROUNDS OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the expanding role of anesthesiology beyond the operating room in managing pain, sedation, and acute physiologic issues across the hospital.
2. List practical, evidence-informed strategies for acute pain management in perioperative and non-operative settings.
3. Describe where Anesthesia is and could be used to better enhance collaborative, patient-centered care.
4. List new advancements as it relates to pain strategies, sedation and other anesthesia-focused techniques.



Ontario's Anesthesiologists

A SECTION OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Through the **Beyond the Mask** initiatives, we aim to strengthen the leadership role of anesthesiologists within the health system while delivering the highest standards of innovative, safe, and sustainable patient care.

Obstetrics: Rooms 258-260

PREGNANT? IN LABOUR?



**Welcome to the
Obstetrics Unit**

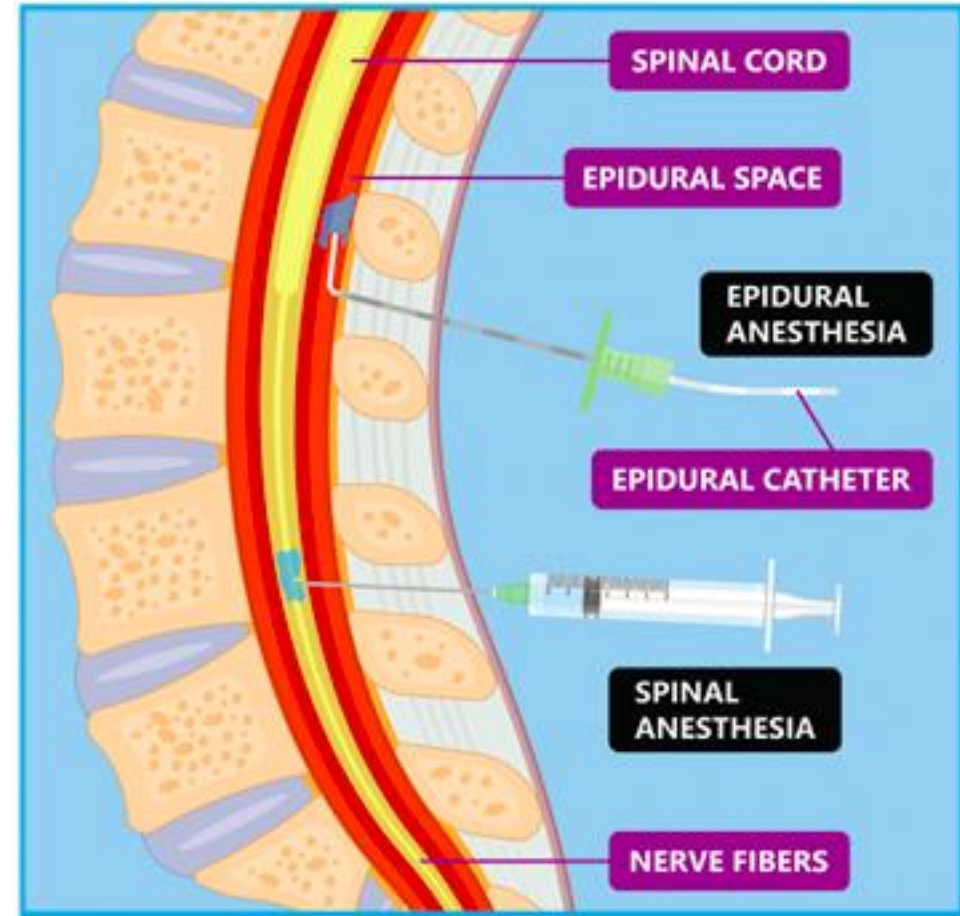
ATTENTION: SECURE AREA
Access for Obstetrics staff
and patients only.

Please use intercom to enter.
Up to two (2) support people permitted
during labour and delivery.



ANESTHESIA AND OBSTETRICS

- Epidurals
 - CSE vs. DPE
 - Studies ongoing with respect to onset, efficacy
- Timing of epidurals (earlier vs. later)
 - Little evidence of increased instrumentation
 - Secondary to modern low dose epi techn.¹
 - Delays second stage by 8-15min^{2,4}
 - Second stage lasts 1 hr longer^{2,4}
- Less concen. epidural solutions (Bupi =< 0.1%)
 - More mobility, more effective pushing, less instrumented deliveries, etc.^{1,3,4}

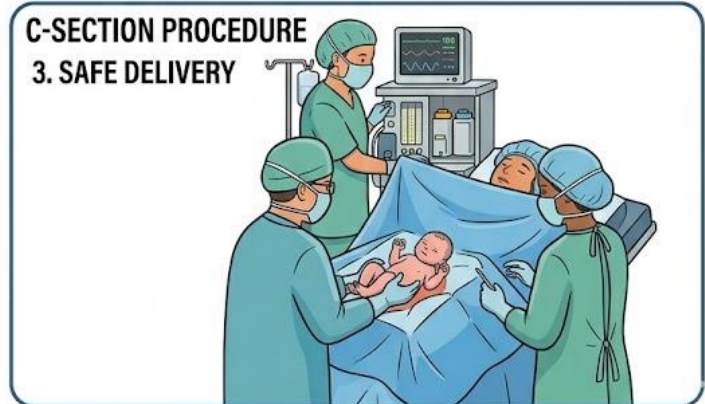
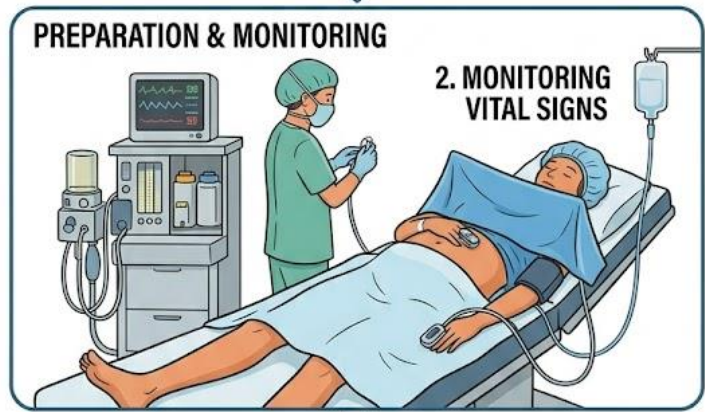
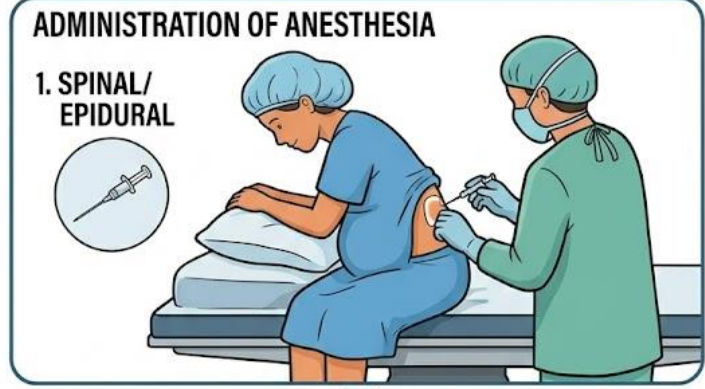




ANESTHESIA AND OBSTETRICS (CONT'D)

- Caesarean sections
 - Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS)⁵
 - "Sip till send" – clear fluids encouraged
 - IV Vasopressors
 - IV NSAIDs + IV/PO Acetaminophen
 - Adam Ling – my arch nemesis.
 - Intrathecal Morphine
 - Provides **superior** analgesia than parenteral opioids after C/S⁶
 - Carbetocin vs. Oxytocin
 - Synthetic, single dose, no further confusion as ongoing needs

C-SECTION AND ANESTHESIA INFOGRAPHIC





ANESTHESIA AND OBSTETRICS (CONT'D)

- Caesarean sections
 - Aorto-caval compression
 - Used to use 15 degree wedge
 - MRI study shows need 45 degrees to have near complete decompression⁷⁻⁹
 - RCT (Lee et al. 2017) showed no difference in neonatal acid-base status between supine and 15 degrees tilt (with concomitant vasopressor admin)
 - Modern anesthesia with vasopressor management ultimately renders any wedge unnecessary⁷⁻⁹

MRI STUDY IN PREGNANT WOMEN 45° LEFT TILT PREVENTS AORTO-CAVAL COMPRESSION

SUPINE (0° TILT)	LEFT LATERAL TILT (45°)								
AORTO-CAVAL COMPRESSION	AORTO-CAVAL COMPRESSION RELIEVED								
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">IVC AP DIAMETER</td> <td style="width: 50%;">COMPRESSION INDEX</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; color: blue;">2.1 mm</td> <td style="text-align: center; color: red;">82%</td> </tr> </table>	IVC AP DIAMETER	COMPRESSION INDEX	2.1 mm	82%	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">IVC AP DIAMETER</td> <td style="width: 50%;">COMPRESSION INDEX</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; color: blue;">12.5 mm</td> <td style="text-align: center; color: green;">6%</td> </tr> </table>	IVC AP DIAMETER	COMPRESSION INDEX	12.5 mm	6%
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12.5 mm	6%								
<p>SUPINE (0°)</p>	<p>45° TILT →</p> <p>LEFT LATERAL TILT (45°)</p>								
<p>✓ 45° LEFT LATERAL TILT PREVENTS AORTO-CAVAL COMPRESSION - IMPROVES MATERNAL HEMODYNAMICS</p>									



ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD





ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD

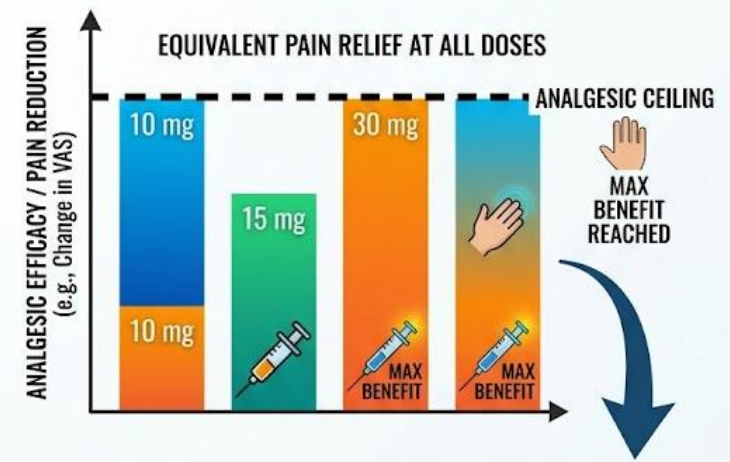
PAIN

- Regular acetaminophen dosing
- IV Ketorolac = 4mg IV Morphine¹⁰
 - Reduces opioid consumption 25-50%¹⁰
 - 10mg = 15mg = 30mg¹¹
- Indomethacin crosses BBB – has central effects
- PO Ibuprofen = lowest risk of GI complications¹²
- Nabilone (Cesamet) – approved for CINV
 - CB1/CB2 receptors – adjuv. Analgesia for pain severity
 - Biggest evidence for neuropathic pain

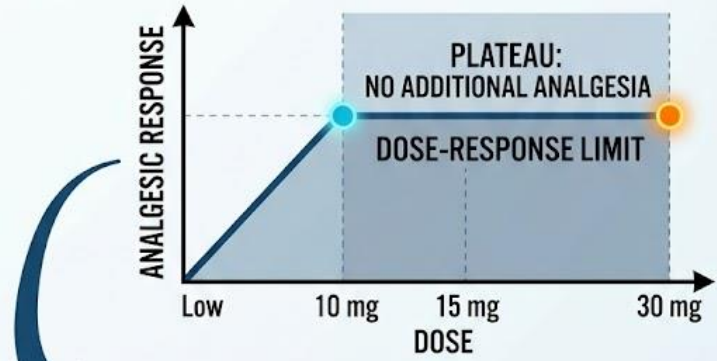
THE KETOROLAC ANALGESIC CEILING EFFECT

SOURCE: MOTOV ET AL., ANN EMERG MED, 2017

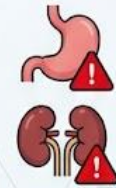
1. SPECIFIC DOSES: 10 mg vs 15 mg vs 30 mg (IV)



2. GENERAL DOSE-RESPONSE RELATIONSHIP



KEY CONCEPT: THE CEILING EFFECT



INCREASING DOSE ABOVE 10 MG DOES **NOT** INCREASE PAIN RELIEF BUT MAY INCREASE RISK OF ADVERSE EFFECTS (e.g., GI bleed, renal issues)





ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD

PAIN

- Ketamine (I hate it, but it works)
 - Oral absorption is poor (bioavailability $\leq 40\%$)
 - NMDA antagonist, dose dependent analgesia/anesthesia
 - 0.1mg – 0.3mg/kg mainly analgesia.
 - Comparable effects to morphine with similar need for rescue analgesia¹³
 - IV intermittent dosed q4h starting at 0.1mg/kg
- Topical
 - Lidocaine patches for Herpes Zoster, topical capsaicin
 - RUBA535 (substance P depletion) if you're really desperate for those folks with hard to treat, non-specific MSK pain.

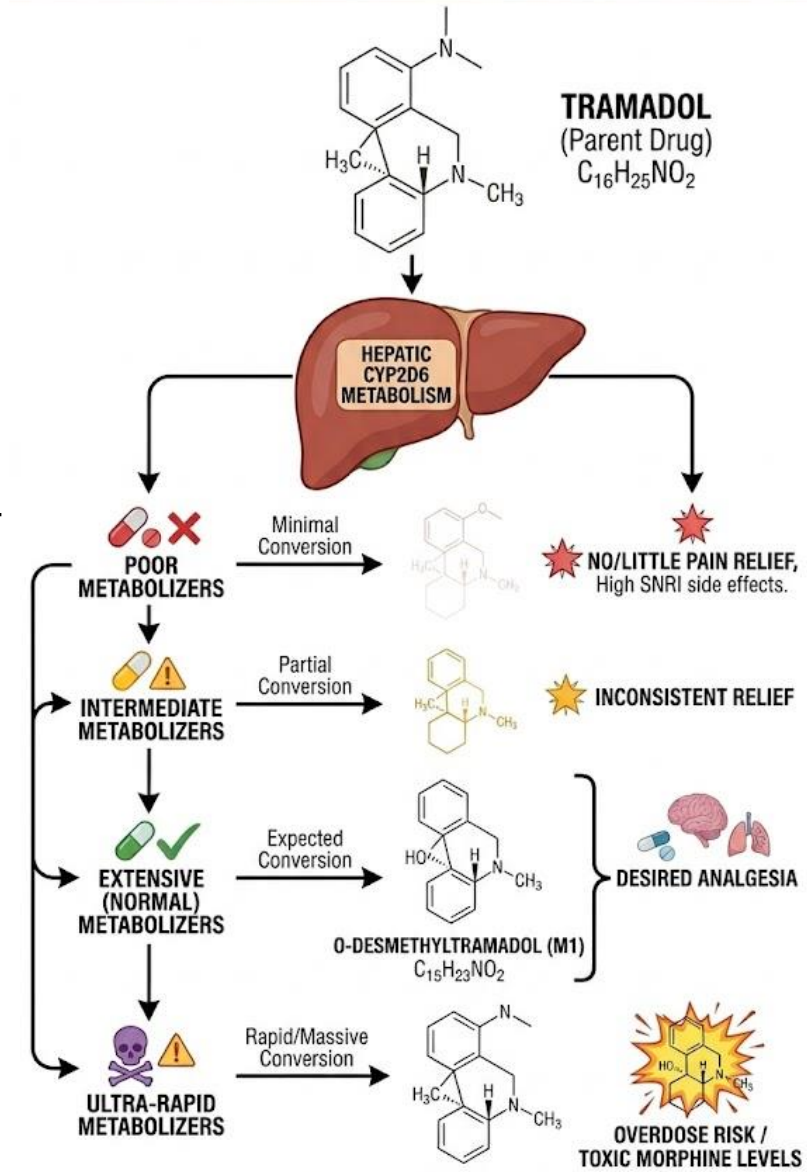


TRAMADOL: SCHEMATIC OF INEFFECTIVE ANALGESIC CONVERSION (THE CYP2D6 BOTTLE-NECK)

ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD

Some analgesics to avoid..

- Codeine
 - CYP2D6 heterogeneity
 - Lots of SEs and little benefit in low metabolization group¹⁴
- Gabapentinoids
 - Opioid sparing effect is inconsistent¹⁵
 - Safety concerns inc. recognized
 - Respiratory depression
 - Risk of delirium (age >65)
- Tramadol
 - CYP2D6 heterogeneity^{14,15}
 - SNRI, weak opioid
 - Risk of serotonin syndrome, lowers seizure threshold



KEY FINDINGS:

- Tramadol requires conversion to M1 by CYP2D6 for opioid effect.
- 2D6 genetics create high heterogeneity.
- Requires conversion to M1 in rapid side effect, the genetics for analgesic w/out morbidity.
- Result: Poor Pain Relief OR Toxic Deterioration/High Toxicity risk for millions.


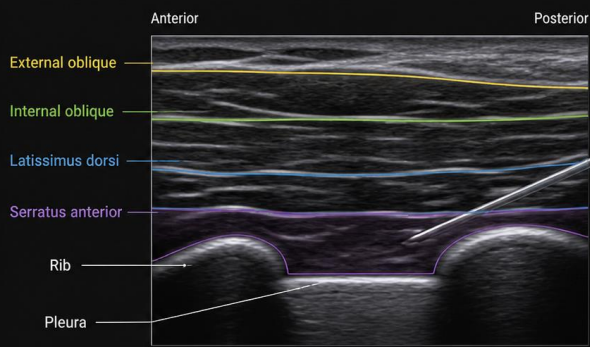
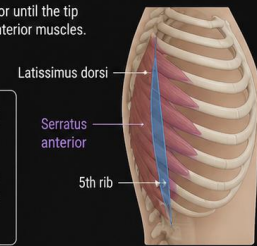


ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD

PAIN

- Specific cases:
 - Rib fractures = call us.
 - TEA vs. Fascial plane blocks
 - Indwelling nerve catheters
 - PCA
 - Hip fractures = call us.
 - Femoral nerve blocks vs. PENG vs. SIFI
 - Widespread pain (malignancy, bony metastasis)
 - Dexamethasone – dec. periosteal stretching, capsular stretching of organs¹⁶

SERRATUS ANTERIOR PLANE (SAP) BLOCK

1. PATIENT POSITIONING	2. ULTRASOUND ANATOMY
<p>Supine or lateral decubitus position. Arm abducted 90° to expose the mid-axillary line.</p>  <p>Mid-axillary line</p> <p>5th rib</p> <p>• Place the ultrasound probe in a transverse orientation at the level of the 5th rib along the mid-axillary line.</p> <p>• In-plane needle approach: anterior to posterior.</p>	<p>Anterior Posterior</p>  <p>External oblique</p> <p>Internal oblique</p> <p>Latissimus dorsi</p> <p>Serratus anterior</p> <p>Rib</p> <p>Pleura</p> <p>The needle is advanced in-plane from anterior to posterior until the tip is visualized between the latissimus dorsi and serratus anterior muscles. Inject local anesthetic in this fascial plane.</p>  <p>Latissimus dorsi</p> <p>Serratus anterior</p> <p>5th rib</p> <p>Target plane: Between latissimus dorsi (superficial) and serratus anterior (deep)</p> <p>Local anesthetic spreads along the serratus anterior plane to block the lateral cutaneous branches of the intercostal nerves (T2–T9).</p>

Indications: Thoracic wall analgesia – rib fractures, thoracotomies, breast surgery, etc.

The Ottawa Hospital Pathway for Early Intervention in Rib Fracture

STEP 1: Calculate Rib # Score

Rib Fracture score <i>breaks x sides + age factor</i>		
Breaks Number of fractures	Sides Unilateral = 1 Bilateral = 2	Age factor <50 years = 0 51-60 years = 1 61-70 years = 2 71-80 years = 3 >80 years = 4
Total # of fractures to the ribs, NOT the # of ribs fractured		
Adapted from Easter's Rib fracture score and protocol (2004)		

Rib # Score ≤ 6 &
No supplemental O₂ →
Optimize multi-modal PO
analgesia

- Acetaminophen 1000mg q6h
- +/- NSAID (Celebrex 200mg BID)
- PO/SQ opioid
+/- Tramadol 50mg q8h
Hydromorphone 1-2mg PO q4h PRN
- +/- Gabapentinoid
Pregabalin 25-50mg q8h

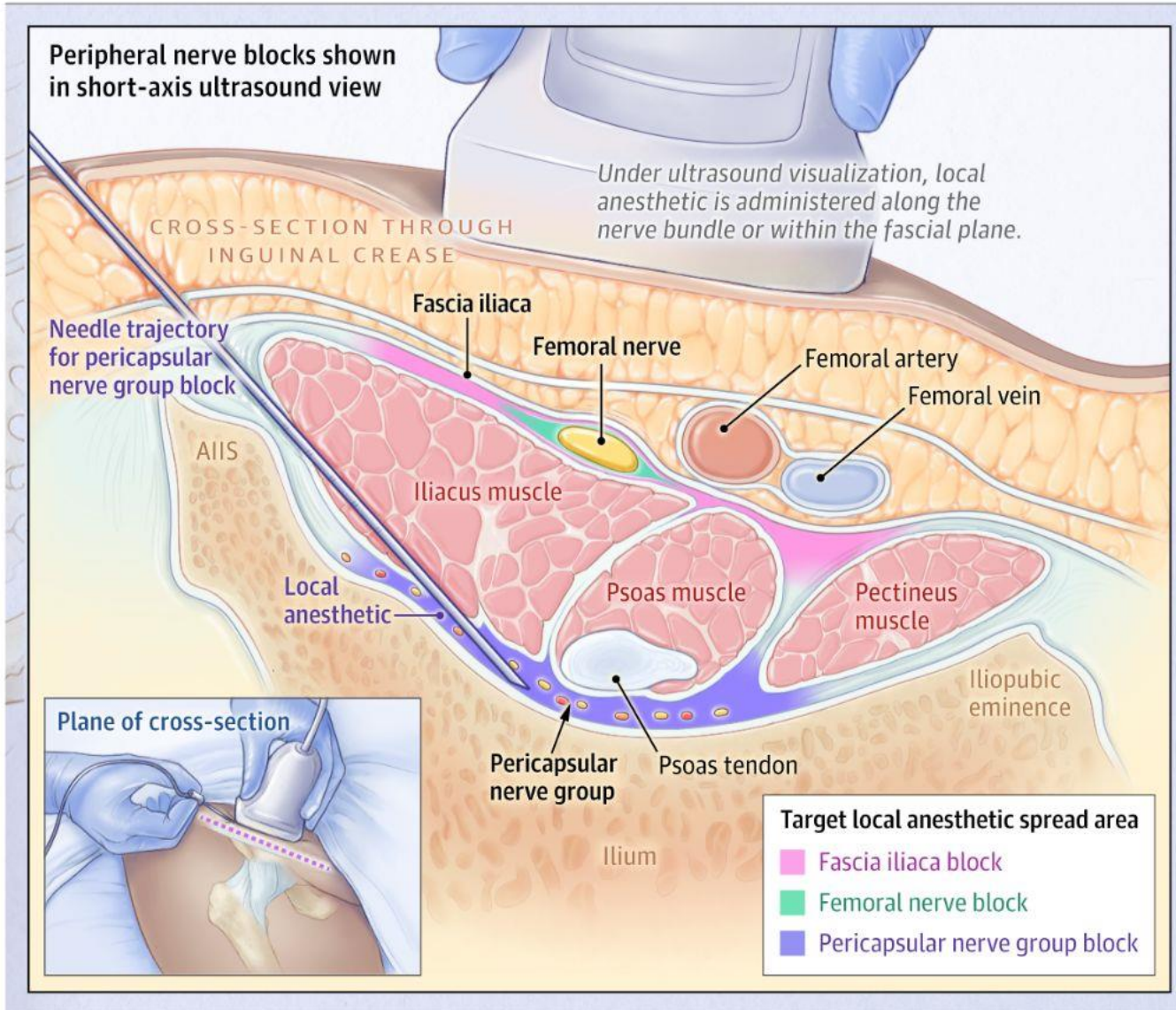
Rib # score ≥ 7
OR ≤ 6 + Supplemental O₂ →
Consult APS
+ Multi-modal analgesia
+/- Regional +/- PCA

- +/- Ketamine infusion *Consider when regional not possible*
- +/- Lidocaine infusion
- Serratus Anterior Plane Catheter^Ψ OR Thoracic epidural*
(when expertise available)
- PVB/catheter – alternative (provider discretion)
- +/- IV PCA

Rib # Score > 10

Consider CPAP/BiPAP

ΨSAP Catheter: Not well studied, but clinical benefit seen. Consider for unilateral #'s +/- position issues +/- anticoagulated patients, when expertise permits. (Run catheter at 8ml/h + 8ml bolus q30 mins OR nurse administered bolus 8ml q3h)
***Epidural:** Multiple studies show improved pulmonary function, pain control, and better clinical outcomes vs systemic opioids



- Large sys. review (19 RCTs):
- Biggest effect is ↓ delirium
- Also decreased pain scores within 30-120min¹⁷
 - Extends into post-op period
- No mortality benefit¹⁷
- Choice of block = variances in hip capsular coverage, but practically has now shown a statistical difference¹⁷

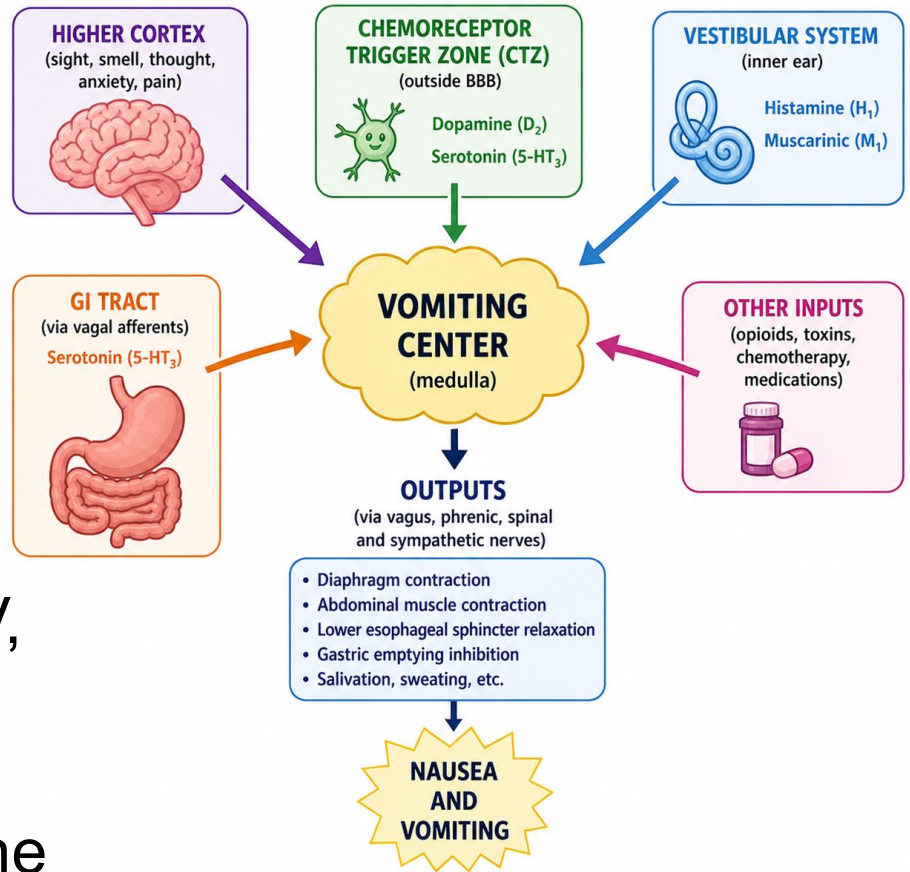


ANESTHESIA AND THE WARD

NAUSEA

- When usual fails – reach for Haloperidol or Olanzapine
 - Haloperidol blocks D2 in CTZ (opioid induced NV, PONV)
 - Olanzapine may be even better
 - D2 in CTZ, Serotonin (5HT₂, 5HT₃), Histamine (vestibular), Muscarinic (vestibular and central)
 - Strong in CINV, refractory NV.
- Gravol and Dramamine are actually two different drugs that may not be that effective for antimetic purposes...

INPUTS TO THE VOMITING CENTER





ANESTHESIA AND



Every-time you give
diphenhydramine and



David Juurlink
@DavidJuurlink



“Dimenhydrinate is actually diphenhydramine combined with a theophylline derivative intended to counteract sedation. But that didn’t work so they marketed it for motion sickness instead, and now it’s a go-to for nausea despite being mostly hot garbage.”



0:01 From Shanna Storrie

7mg of



ANESTHESIA IN THE CAFETERIA?



WELCOME TO
PINEHILL
MEDICAL CENTER
CAFETERIA
THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU DO

GOOD FOOD.
GOOD CARE.

FUELING CARE
EVERY DAY

MENU

Grilled Chicken Plate	\$6.50
Vegetable Pasta	\$5.75
Soup of the Day	\$3.75
Garden Salad	\$4.25
Sandwich	\$5.50
Beverages	\$2.00

TAKE CARE
OF YOURSELF
SO YOU CAN
TAKE CARE
OF OTHERS



ANESTHESIA IN THE CAFETERIA

ABCs of Anesthesia

 **AIRWAY**

 **BREAKFAST**

 **COFFEE**





ANESTHESIA IN THE ED/ICU





ANESTHESIA IN THE ED/ICU

AIRWAY INTERVENTION

- Induction drugs: Ketamine vs. Etomidate (so 🔥 right now)¹⁸
 - Casey et al. showed greater hemodynamic collapse with Ketamine, non-inferiority with Etomidate
 - 28 day mortality no difference
- Airway equipment
 - Video laryngoscopy unequivocally better (1st attempt success without complication)¹⁹
 - We have HAVL and Mac VL – dealers choice.
 - HAVL = better glottic view, more difficult ETT delivery
 - Mac VL = worse glottic view, easier ETT delivery



ANESTHESIA IN ED/ICU

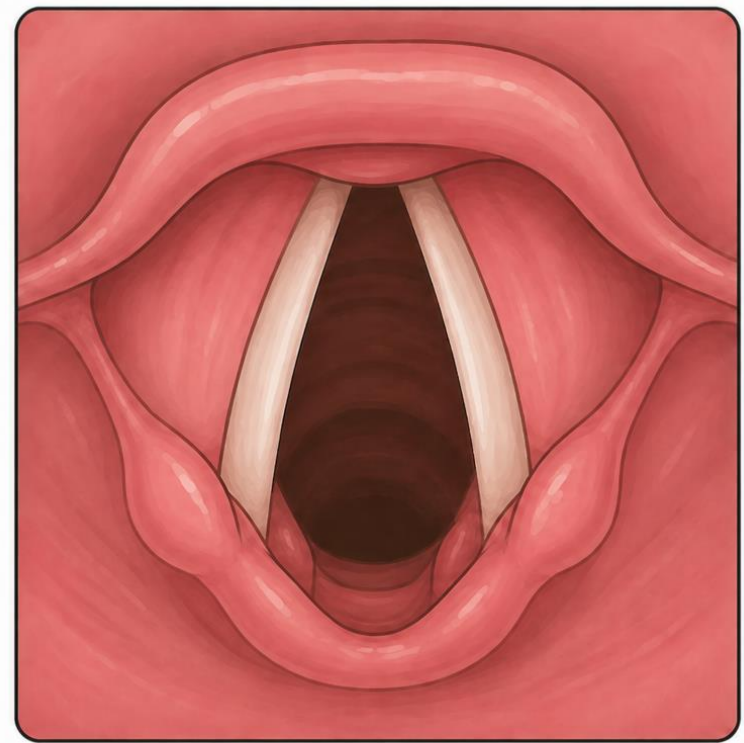
[Home](#) > [Canadian Journal](#)

A deliberately
GlideScope® v
faster and easi
with a full glot

Une vue laryngée délibé
associée à une intubatio
étude clinique randomis

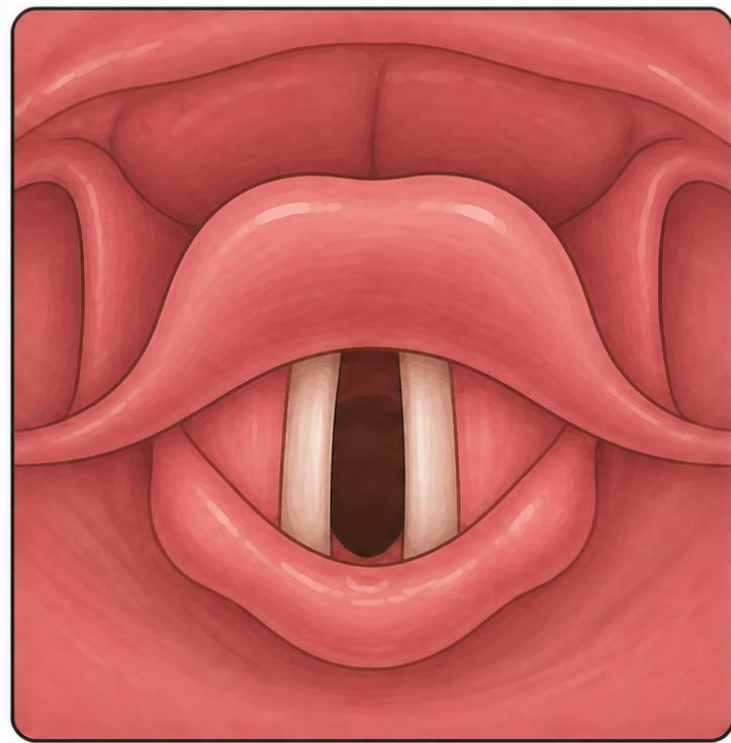
Reports of Original Investig

Grade 1 View
(Full view of the glottis)



All of the glottic opening is visible, including the anterior and posterior commissures.

50% Glottic Opening
(Partial view)



Approximately 50% of the glottic opening is visible due to the epiglottis partially obscuring the view (like a curtain).

[Anesthesia/Journal](#)
[ie](#)



ANESTHESIA IN ED/ICU

AIRWAY INTERVENTION

- Hemodynamics: best success is with not with induction medications, but giving peri-intubation vasopressors
 - Avoid hypotension – other end points (mortality, LOS, neurologic outcomes) less affected²⁰
- **PREOXI** (2024) suggests we should be pre-oxygenating our critically-ill patients with NIV whenever possible¹⁹
 - Hypoxemia during intubation reduced: 18.5% (mask) → 9.1% (NIV)
 - Longer "safe" apnea time



ANESTHESIA IN ED/ICU

SEDATIONS



- “Huntsville” Ketamine: Ideal for those patients who spontaneous vent. is paramount
- Pediatrics: mix oral midazolam with Tylenol and give in a syringe
 - Midazolam oral bioavailability low – we have concen. forms avail.
- Going to give Ketamine to a pediatric patient? Pre-treat with Glycopyrrolate (anticholin.) to minimize secretions and decrease laryngospasm risk.



ANESTHESIA IN HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE





ANESTHESIA IN HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE

- “Tunneled” epidural catheters for long-term pain solutions
 - Choice of concentration of epidural solution to suit the unique needs of every patient
- Nerve blocks
 - Catheters taped and secured – again with infusions allowing for varying levels of analgesia and mobility
- Infusions
 - Lidocaine, Ketamine
- Home visits (some providers)?
 - Sedations for withdrawal of care scenarios, IV access for MAiD



ANESTHESIA IN HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE



Trillium
Gift of Life
Network



ANESTHESIA IN THE OR – WHAT’S NEXT





ANESTHESIA IN THE OR – WHAT’S NEXT

- Better pain control, more ambulatory surgery, less admissions
 - Neuraxial morphine as an adjunct to large laparoscopic procedures and open procedures
 - Less thoracic epidurals – more fascial plane blocks (equivalency?)
- Some surgeries can be done with minimal sedation with regional anesthesia
- Our block game – getting better and better.
 - Adding adjuvants to decrease length of blockade and decrease rebound pain
 - Forthcoming study regarding follow-up these blocks and further how to optimize
- Outpatient pain clinic? TBD...



ANESTHESIA IN THE OR – WHAT’S NEXT





ANESTHESIA AROUND THE HOSPITAL – SUMMARY

- Biggest outside OR involvement – blocks
 - Decreases opioid use
 - Decreases pain and delirium – potentially dec. admissions?
- Airway intervention and sedations - such great skill throughout but happy to be involved whenever needed
- Hospice – growing involvement, novel techniques, great area to practice with wide breath of skill



OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL – IN COLLINGWOOD





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