

Paper Abstracts

Eleven papers were accepted for presentation during the 10th Annual Meeting. Papers were slotted into the program based on topics including brain, intrathecal therapies, and neurostimulation.

Saturday, December 9, 2006

9:15–9:25 am

Prialt, First Non-Opioid Intrathecal Medication for the Treatment of Chronic Pain.

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Prialt is the first in a new class of non-opioid analgesics known as N-type calcium channel blockers, administered intrathecally for the treatment of severe chronic pain. Prialt is 1,000 times more powerful than morphine, but, unlike morphine, it is not believed to be addictive.

Methods. Thirty three patients with intrathecal pumps underwent retrospective analysis of their pump management with supplemental pharmacological treatment that includes Prialt as an adjunctive intrathecal medication for the treatment of chronic pain. Patient selection criteria included lack of adequate pain control, excessive dosage per the poly analgesia consensus, and suboptimal therapeutic results due to side effect limitation.

Results. Pain score reduction: 28 patients (84, 8 %) reported decrease pain score from 10% to 50%. General activity: 9 patients (27, 3%) reported increase of general activity level. Intrathecal medication reduction: 3 patients (9, 1%) had decrease intrathecal opioids and 4 patients (12, 1%) had decrease adjunctive intrathecal therapy (bupivacaine and clonidine). Oral Medication reduction: 5 patients (15, 2%) reported decrease of oral opioid therapy.

Conclusion. Ziconotide (PRIALT) is effective for intrathecal treatment of patients with chronic pain. Spinally administered ziconotide produces analgesia by blocking neurotransmitter release from primary nociceptive afferents and prevents the propagation of pain signals to the brain. In our selective group of patients, over 80% reported significant efficacy with PRIALT adjunctive intrathecal therapy.

Learning Objectives. 1. Intrathecal medication therapy 2. Chronic pain management 3. New non-opioid analgetic

References:

1. Ziconotide: Neuronal Calcium Channel Blocker for Treating Severe Chronic Pain. G.P.Mijanich. *Current Medicinal Chemistry*. 2004,11,3029–3040
2. A Randomized, Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Study of Intrathecal Ziconotide in Adults with Severe Chronic Pain. Richard L. Rauck MD, Mark S. Wallace, Michael S. Leong MD, etc. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. 2006, 31,5,393–406
3. Intrathecal Ziconotide in the Treatment of Chronic Nonmalignant Pain: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial. Mark S. Wallace MD, Steven G. Charapata MD, Robert Fisher MD, etc. *International Neuromodulation Society. Neuromodulation*. 2006, 9,2,75–86