Assessment and Management of Acute Pain Online Course

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Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course the participants should be able to:

1. Define what is meant medically by the term "pain"
2. Outline the key principles in the management of acute pain
3. Describe what is meant by the term "maintenance" in relation to pain management
4. Describe the use of specific agents in the treatment of migraine, ischaemic chest pain and upper GI disease
5. Outline the role and uses of approaches to sedation/analgesia in acute clinical care

Summary of the e-Learning Program
The e-learning is interactive and requires the clinician to consider a series of blood gases and identify key abnormalities. The mastery quiz incorporates both formative and summative assessment components. There are 4 topics with a total course time of 6 hours.

The four topics are:

1. Clinical Approach to Acute Pain
2. Oral Analgesic Agents
3. Severe Acute Pain
4. Analgesia for Painful Procedures

Outline of the Program

1. Core Principles: Clinical Approach to Acute Pain (80 mins)

Module summary: There are a wide variety of approaches and pharmacological agents that may be used to treat acute pain. In the following section clinical case discussions are used to describe the principles for approaching the patient in acute pain and review the pharmacology, role and use of these drugs in clinical care.

Interaction/Assessment:

- Reading: Acute Pain – Core Principles in Management
- Video eTutorial: Introduction to Pain Management
- Case Simulation: Clinical Approach to Acute Pain
- Topic Quiz – Module 1

2. Oral Analgesic Agents (80 mins)

Module summary: This chapter reviews the oral agents that may be used for patient presenting with mild to moderate pain and the role of these agents in maintaining control of the pain after initial use of IV Opioids.

Interaction/Assessment:

- Reading: Acute Pain – Pharmacology of Analgesic Agents
- Video eTutorial: Oral Analgesic Agents
- Case Simulation: Oral Analgesia
- Topic Quiz – Module 2

3. Severe Acute Pain (90 mins)

Module summary: This chapter reviews the pharmacological options for managing patients presenting with severe acute pain including the use of Ketamine, Methoxyflurane, Nitrous oxide, Intranasal Fentanyl and pharmacological agents that target and treat the underlying cause of the pain.

Interaction/Assessment:

- Reading: Acute Pain – Management of Pain in Trauma
- Video eTutorial: Managing Severe Pain
- Case Simulation: Acute Severe Pain
- Topic Quiz – Module 3

4. Analgesia for Painful Procedures (80 mins)

Module summary: In the acute setting analgesia is often required to assist procedures such as IV access, suturing or reduction of a dislocation. The topic of procedural sedation and analgesia is a large topic but here will be covered in brief using a number of clinical examples to illustrate the range of approaches available to reduce the pain associated with emergency procedures.

Interaction/Assessment:

- Reading: Introduction to Procedural Sedation and Analgesia
- Case Simulation: Analgesia for Painful Procedures
- Topic Quiz – Module 4

10. Final Post Course Assessment (30 mins)

Final Course Quiz – Assessment and Management of Acute Pain